



## Geneva Initiative Public Opinion Poll

November 2020

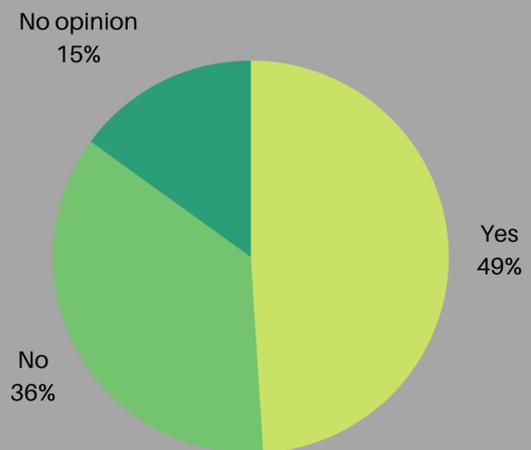
The poll was commissioned by the [Geneva Initiative](#) and conducted on **November 16-17, 2020** by the Midgam Institute, headed by Mano Geva. The poll included 505 respondents, representative of the general population in Israel over the age of 18, with a maximum margin of error of  $\pm 4.3\%$ . It was conducted as part of the GI's Two-State Index project, in partnership with the European Union.

### Summary of Main Findings:

Israelis want the US to advance negotiations (49% to 36%), support a reconciliation process between Fatah and Hamas (39% to 30%) and are in favor of a normalization agreement with Saudi Arabia that is conditioned upon a settlement freeze (40% to 36%). They **overwhelmingly** prefer a two-state solution (48% in favor, compared to 11% supporting a one-state solution with equal rights for all and another 11% supporting a one-state solution with less rights for Palestinians), and when asked what country they would like to see Israel reach a peace agreement with next, there was a slim margin between the preference for Saudi Arabia (29%) and the Palestinians (28%).

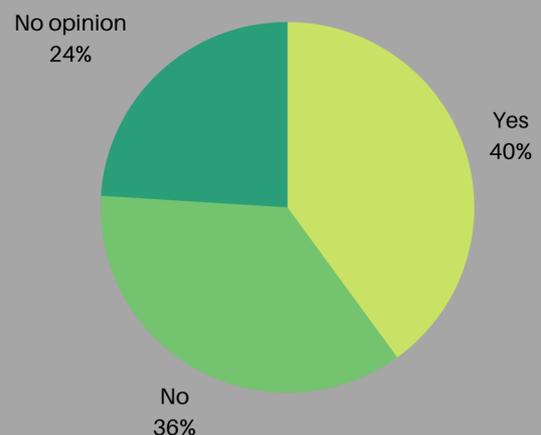
Geneva Initiative Director Gadi Baltiansky points out that *“the Israeli public is much more pragmatic and moderate than its government. Israelis want to see a Biden initiative to renew negotiations, an internal Palestinian reconciliation process, and the two-state solution. It’s time for the government to work towards realizing the will of the people.”*

### Should president-elect Biden work to advance negotiations between Israelis and Palestinians?



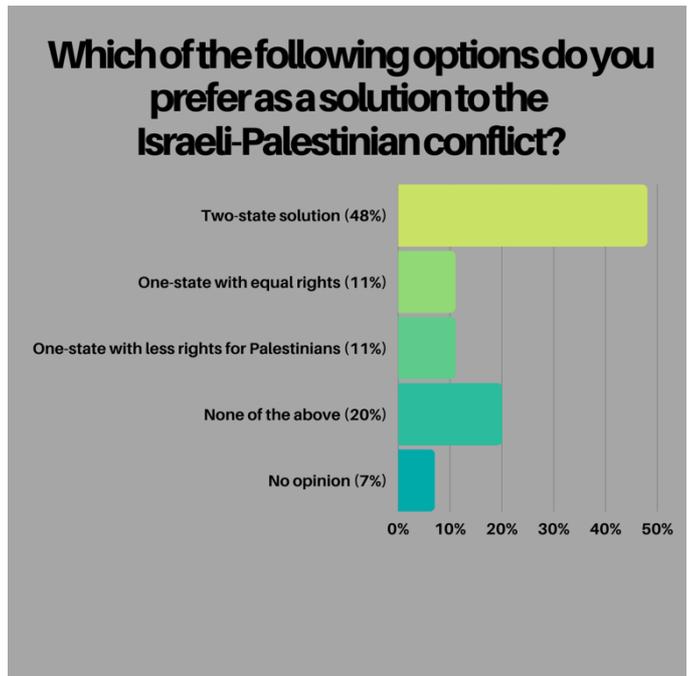
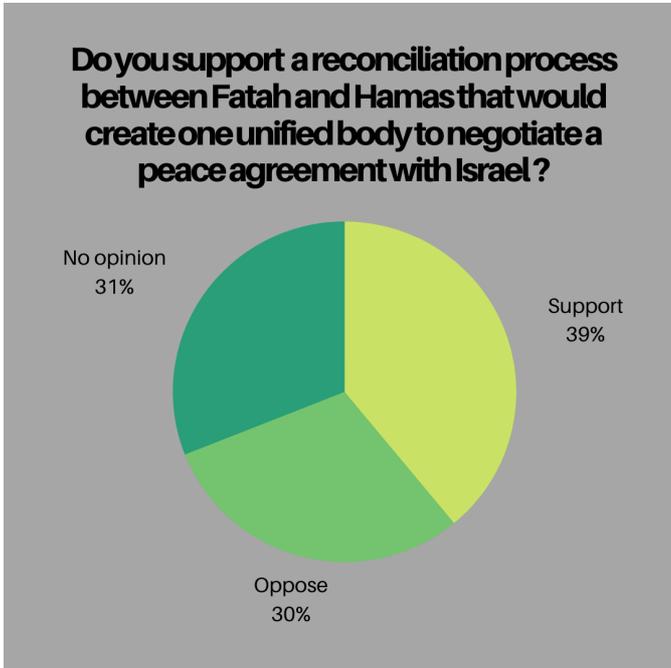
A plurality of 49% support the relaunching of negotiations with the Palestinians under an incoming Biden administration. Of those supporting negotiations, 38% were described as Likud voters, and 65% were Blue and White Party voters.

### If Saudi Arabia agrees to normalize ties with Israel in exchange for a freeze on settlement expansion, should Israel sign the agreement with the Saudis?



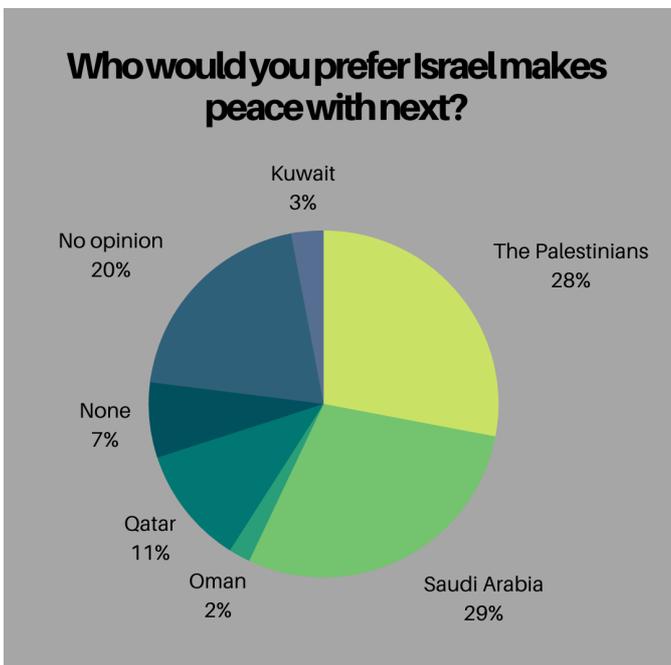
A plurality of 40% of respondents support a normalization agreement with Saudi Arabia in exchange for an Israeli freeze on settlement expansion. Of those expressing support for the agreement, 26% are Likud voters and 62% are Blue and White party voters.

The public want to see Israel make a peace agreement with Saudi Arabia next (28%), followed by the Palestinians (28%) with a very small margin. Any advancement towards a normalization agreement with Saudi Arabia that is also linked to progress on the Israeli-Palestinian front, would receive support from the Israeli public.



More Israelis support a reconciliation process between Fatah and Hamas (39%) than oppose it (30%). Of the respondents supporting reconciliation, 28% are Likud voters and 51% are Blue and White party voters. Reconciliation between the two parties is likely to increase Israeli public support for a peace agreement.

The two-state solution is the most preferred option, receiving a plurality of support (48%). Of this figure, 37% of those who prefer the two-state solution are right-wing voters. One-state with equal rights received only 11%. Just over a quarter of respondents (27%) selected 'none of the above' or have 'no opinion'. This can be partly explained by a lack of belief in the viability of the two-state solution due to previously unfavorable political circumstances, which feeds into a lack of support.



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