

New Geneva Initiative Israeli Public Opinion Poll

December 2021

Most Israelis support a meeting between Bennett and Abbas, advancing a political process will increase public approval of the government

A majority of Israelis (51%) want to see a meeting take place between Prime Minister Bennett and Palestinian Authority Chairman Mahmoud Abbas, while a minority of 39% oppose it. Of those that support the holding of a meeting, this includes: 40% of right-wing voters, 82% of Yesh Atid voters and 93% of Blue and White voters. **The Israeli public thinks that Abbas' successor will adopt a more negative attitude towards Israel than the current approach taken (50% compared to only 16% who think the next Palestinian President will adopt a more positive approach).**

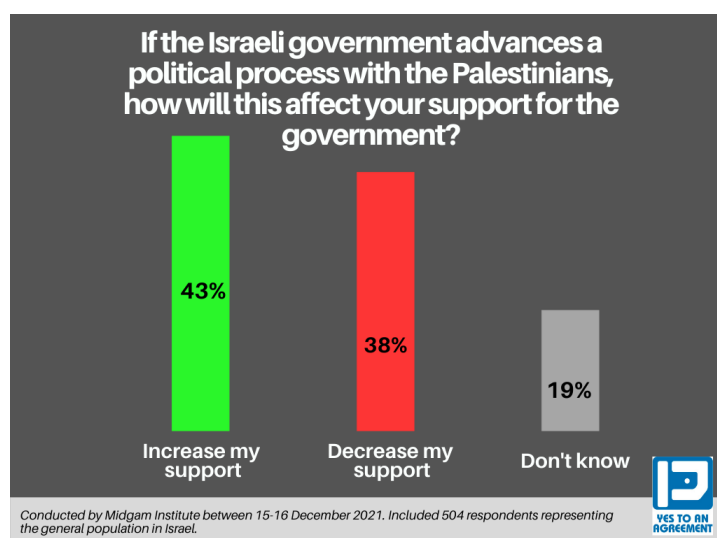
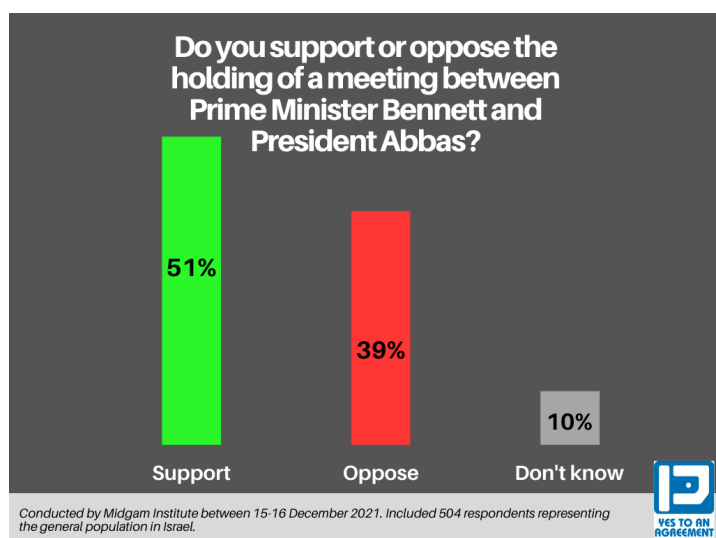
A survey commissioned by the Geneva Initiative, conducted last week by the reputable Midgam Institute among a representative sample of 504 members of the Israeli public, revealed that **if the Bennett-led government promotes a political process with the Palestinians, support among the public for the government will increase (43% in comparison to decrease in support among only 38%).** Of those that support efforts to advance along the political track, the survey found that this was the case among 77% of Yesh Atid voters, 75% of Blue and White voters and 92% of Labor party voters.

The survey also showed that about **half of Israelis (49%) support the Israeli government conducting an open and direct dialogue with Hamas; while 40% oppose this.** Most Israelis want to know more about what is happening within Palestinian society (57% want to know more, 43% do not want to know more) and 67% believe former US President Trump's comments to journalist Barak Ravid that Netanyahu was never interested in forging an agreement with the Palestinians.

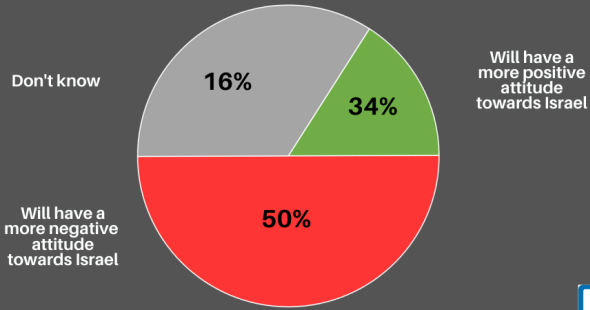
Commenting on the results, the GI's Director-General, Gadi Baltiansky said that:

"The Israeli public does not buy into the government's conflict management policy, and is more realistic than its leaders. Bennett and Lapid should listen to the public and immediately start a political process with the Palestinian leadership."

Graphic depiction below



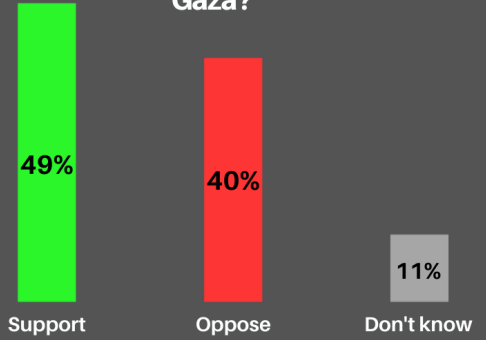
Do you think the next Palestinian leader after President Abbas will have a more positive or negative attitude towards Israel?



Conducted by Midgam Institute between 15-16 December 2021. Included 504 respondents representing the general population in Israel.



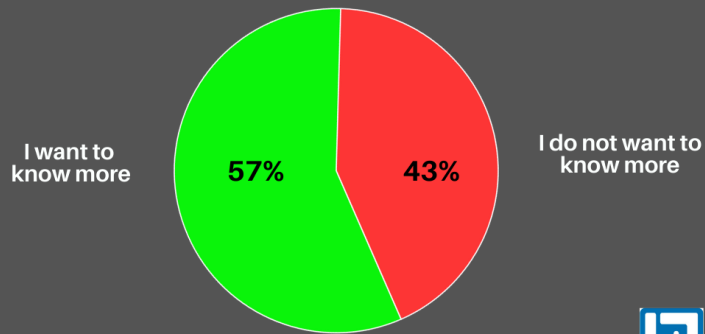
Do you support or oppose an open and direct dialogue between the Israeli government and Hamas in Gaza?



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Do you want to know more about what is happening within Palestinian society?



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