



An-Najah National University
Center for Opinion Polls and Survey Studies
Tel: (972) (9) 2345113 Fax: (972)(9) 2345982
Nablus – Palestinian: P.O. Box 7, 707

Email: Polls@najah.edu husein596@yahoo.com

Results of Palestinian Public Opinion Poll
No. 56
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Background

The US President, Donald Trump, declared his recognition of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and gave orders to move the US Embassy to Jerusalem. Following this recognition, the Palestinian Authority declared freezing all communication with the US Administration. The US Administration, however, declares every once in a while that it will launch the “deal of the century” which, as they think, will be the solution for the Palestinian question.

A huge explosion targeted the Prime Minister’s (Dr. Rami Hamdallah) motorcade in the area of Beit Hanoun during his visit to the Gaza Strip to inaugurate some projects.

President Mahmoud Abbas called for establishing a multilateral international mechanism emanating from an international conference and based on the international decisions. Such conference would launch new and real negotiations that would lead to the two-state solution.

The Results

Following are the results of the Palestinian Public Opinion Poll no. 56 conducted by the Center for Opinion Polls and Survey Studies at An-Najah National University during the period from 22-24 March 2018. **The University sponsors all polls conducted by its Center.**

This poll undertakes the new political realities, particularly Donald Trumps’ recognition of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and moving the US embassy there. The poll also undertakes the explosion that targeted the Prime Minister’s (Dr. Rami Hamdallah) motorcade during his visit to the Gaza Strip, the possibilities of conducting presidential and legislative elections in addition to the political affiliations of Palestinian people.

The sample included 1361 persons whose age group is 18 and above and who have the right to vote. The enclosed questionnaire was distributed on 861 persons from the West Bank and 500 persons from the Gaza Strip. The sample was drawn randomly and the margin of error is about $\pm 3\%$; still 2.3% of the members of the sample refused to answer the questionnaire.

The opinions represented in the results reflect those of the study; they do not, by any means, represent the opinion of An-Najah National University.



The General Results:

- 81.3% of respondents believed that the explosion that targeted the motorcade of Prime Minister, Dr. Rami Hamdallah, during his visit to Gaza aimed at hindering the reconciliation process.
- 17.2% of respondents said that the side that bears responsibility for the explosion that targeted the motorcade of Prime Minister, Dr. Rami Hamdallah, during his visit to Gaza is Hamas, 8.7% said it is Fateh, 24.9% said it is a group outside Hamas and Fateh, and 32.2% said it is Israel.
- According to the respondents' viewpoint, 61% said the aim of the side that carried out the explosion that targeted the motorcade of Prime Minister, Dr. Rami Hamdallah, during his visit to Gaza is to abort the national reconciliation efforts, 9.4% said the explosion was to protest against the policy of the Palestinian government, and 22.6% said the explosion was a call to a complete separation between the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.
- 14.5% of respondents expected that the reconciliation will succeed after the explosion that targeted the motorcade of Prime Minister, Dr. Rami Hamdallah, during his visit to the Gaza Strip, 39.9% expected reconciliation to falter during this period, and 39.3% expected it to fail.
- 71.4% of respondents assessed the performance of the Prime Minister in pushing forward the national reconciliation efforts as "good" and higher than "good".
- 23.9% of respondents believed that there is a possibility for the creation of a Palestinian state on the 1967 borders while 68% said that there is no such possibility.
- 39.7% of respondents supported the creation of a Palestinian state on the entire area of the 1967 borders as a final solution for the Palestinian cause while 53.9% said that there is no such possibility.
- 22.2% of respondents supported the creation of a Palestinian state on the 1967 borders with some land exchange as a final solution for the Palestinian cause while 71.3% rejected.
- 18.7% of respondents supported the creation of a binational state for Arabs and Jews on historic Palestine as a final solution for the Palestinian cause while 76.7% rejected.
- After the US declaration to move its embassy to Jerusalem, 20.4% of respondents believed that the two-state solution is still viable; 71.3% believed it is not anymore viable.
- After the US declaration to move its embassy to Jerusalem, 93.5% of respondents believed that the USA is not any more an impartial peace broker between Israel and the Palestinians.
- 48.6% of respondents supported the Palestinian Authority's call for enlarging the negotiation sponsorship between the Palestinians and Israel or finding a new international mechanism to sponsor negotiation with Israel.
- 72.4% of respondents believed that the "deal of the century" that the US president intends to launch aims at ransacking the Palestinian issue.



- 73.5% of respondents supported the position of the Palestinian leadership to freeze communications with the US administration following the US president's declaration that Jerusalem is the Capital of Israel and the imminent moving of the US embassy there.
- 52.1% of respondents supported President Mahmoud Abbas' call for establishing a multilateral international mechanism emanating from an international conference and based on the international decisions to launch serious and real negotiation that would eventually lead to the two-state solution and the establishment of a Palestinian state on the 1967 borders with Jerusalem as its capital.
- From among the decisions made by the Palestinian Central Council (PCC) of the Palestinian Liberation Organizations (PLO) that I support are the following:
 - 69.4% Freezing the Oslo Agreement
 - 76.8% Filing a complaint at the International Criminal Court
 - 71.6% Stopping the security coordination with Israel
- Of respondents believed that stopping the US financial support of the UNRWA aims at:
 - 81.4% Putting pressure on the Palestinian leadership so that they accept "the deal of the century"
 - 81.5% Closing the file of refugees and cancelling "the right of return"
 - 80.8% Weakening the Palestinian position in their demands for the right of refugees.
 - 78.9% Weakening the Palestinian Authority's general stand.
- 68.6% of respondents supported the convening of the Palestine National Council in the near future.
- 51.1% of respondents believed that it is possible to reach a political program that will be agreed upon by all Palestinians.
- 68.3% of respondents supported the accession of Hamas and Islamic Jihad to the PLO.
- 48.3% of respondents believed that Fateh is faithful in its intentions towards the national reconciliation.
- 37.2% of respondents believed that Hamas is faithful in its intentions towards the national reconciliation.
- 59.2% of respondents supported providing international protection for the Palestinian people who have been under occupation since 1967.
- 54.6% of respondents supported the rise of a peaceful, unarmed intifada in the Palestinian Territories; 41.3% rejected that
- 38.1% of respondents supported the rise of an armed intifada in the Palestinian Territories; 56.1% rejected that.
- 26.6% of respondents saw that if a Palestinian intifada takes place, a peaceful and unarmed intifada will be the best form of resistance that would serve the Palestinian cause, 19.8% said that an armed intifada would serve the Palestinian cause better, 24.3% said that both forms are useful for the Palestinian cause; 25.2% said that both forms are useless.



- 64.2% of respondents assessed the performance of the National Unity Government as “good” and better than “good”.
- 65.2% of respondents assessed the performance of the Palestinian Presidency as “good” and better than “good”
- 33.1% of respondents expected that if elections are conducted in the present time in the Palestinian Territories, they will be fair.
- 79.9% of respondents said that they will participate in the coming presidential elections. From among those who said they will participate, 38.4% said that they will give their votes to Fateh's candidate; 12.3% said they will give their votes to Hamas' candidate.
- 79.1% of respondents said that they will participate in the coming legislative elections. From among those who said they will participate, 38.4% said that they will give their votes to Fateh's candidates; 12.9% said they will give their votes to Hamas' candidates.
- If PLC elections are to be conducted, 41.2% of respondents expected the winning of Fateh movement; 13.3% expected the winning of Hamas.
- 81.5% of respondents said that they will participate in the coming municipality and local council elections. From among those who said they will participate, 31.2% said that they will give their votes to Fateh’s candidates, 8.9% said they will give their votes to Hamas' candidates and 14.8% said they will give their votes to the representative of their family or clan.
- 33.7% of respondents said that the current political, security and economic circumstances compel them to desire to emigrate.
- 51.7% of respondents expressed fear for their lives under the present circumstances.
- 62.8% of respondents said that they are pessimistic about the general Palestinian situation at this stage.
- 79.1% of respondents said that they neither feel safe for themselves nor for their families and properties under the current circumstances.
- As for political affiliation, respondents gave the following results:

People’s Party	1.4%
Democratic Front	0.5%
Islamic Jihad	1.2%
Fateh	34.9%
Hamas	10.7%
Fida	0.1%
Popular Front	1.8%
Palestinian National Initiative	1.0%
An independent nationalist	8.2%
An independent Islamist	2.1%
None of the above	36.2%
Others	1.8%



The General Results of the Poll

Do you believe the explosion that targeted the motorcade of Prime Minister, Dr. Rami Hamdallah, during his visit to Gaza aimed at hindering the reconciliation process?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	81.3	82.4	79.4
No	10.0	8.1	13.2
No opinion/I do not know	8.7	9.4	7.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

From your point of view who bears the responsibility for the explosion that targeted the motorcade of Prime Minister, Dr. Rami Hamdallah, during his visit to Gaza?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Hamas	17.2	10.2	29.1
Fateh	8.7	7.1	11.4
A group oust side Fateh and Hamas	24.9	23.8	26.7
Israel.	32.2	40.8	17.4
No opinion/I do not know	17.0	18.0	15.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

From your point of view what is the aim of the side that carried out the explosion that targeted the motorcade of Prime Minister, Dr. Rami Hamdallah, during his visit to Gaza?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
To abort the national reconciliation, ***% said the explosion was	61.0	61.2	60.7
To protest against the policy of the Palestinian government,	9.4	8.4	11.2
To call for a complete separation between the West Bank and the Gaza Strip	22.6	23.5	21.0
No opinion/I do not know	7.1	7.0	7.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0



What are your expectations of the reconciliation after the explosion that targeted the motorcade of Prime Minister, Dr. Rami Hamdallah, during his visit to Gaza?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
It will succeed	14.5	18.0	8.6
It will falter during the coming period	39.9	33.7	50.5
It will fail	39.3	42.8	33.3
No opinion/I do not know	6.2	5.5	7.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

How do you assess the performance of Prime Minister Dr. Rami Hamdallah in pushing forward the endeavors for the national reconciliation?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Excellent	12.6	15.5	7.8
Good	58.8	62.8	51.9
Fair	9.1	7.4	12.0
Bad	14.2	9.7	22.0
No opinion/I do not know	5.3	4.7	6.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Under the current circumstances, do you think that there is an opportunity for the creation of a Palestinian state on the 1967 borders?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	23.9	31.6	10.6
No	68.0	65.7	72.1
No opinion/I do not know	8.1	2.7	17.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do you support or reject the creation of a Palestinian state on the 1967 borders as a final solution for the Palestinian cause?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	39.7	44.4	31.5
No	53.9	53.7	54.3
No opinion/I do not know	6.4	1.9	14.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0



Do you support or reject the creation of a Palestinian state on the 1967 borders with some land exchange as a final solution for the Palestinian cause?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	22.2	25.9	15.8
No	71.3	71.3	71.5
No opinion/I do not know	6.5	2.8	12.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do you support or reject the creation of a binational state for both Arabs and Jews as a final solution for the Palestinian cause?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	18.7	22.2	12.6
No	76.7	75.6	78.6
No opinion/I do not know	4.6	2.2	8.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

After the US declaration to move its embassy to Jerusalem, do you believe that the two-state solution is still viable?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	20.4	22.6	16.6
No	71.3	72.3	69.7
No opinion/I do not know	8.3	5.1	13.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

After the US declaration to move its embassy to Jerusalem, do you think that the US is an impartial peace broker between Israel and the Palestinians?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	2.9	2.8	3.2
No	93.5	95.8	89.4
No opinion/I do not know	3.6	1.4	7.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0



The Palestinian Authority called for enlarging the negotiation sponsorship between the Palestinians and Israel or finding a new international mechanism to sponsor negotiations with Israel. Do you support or reject that?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
I support	48.6	51.3	43.9
I reject	43.0	42.6	43.7
No opinion/I do not know	8.4	6.2	12.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do you believe that the "deal of the century" that the US president intends to launch aims at ransacking the Palestinian cause?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	72.4	74.7	68.5
No	20.4	18.7	23.2
No opinion/I do not know	7.3	6.6	8.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do you support or reject the position of the Palestinian leadership to freeze communications with the US administration following the US president's declaration that Jerusalem is the capital of Israel and moving the US embassy there?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
I support	73.5	75.7	69.7
I reject	20.7	20.6	21.0
No opinion/I do not know	5.8	3.7	9.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do you support or reject President Mahmoud Abbas' call for establishing a multilateral international mechanism emanating from an international conference and based on the international decisions to launch serious and real negotiation that would eventually lead to the two state solution and the establishment of a Palestinian state on the 1967 borders with Jerusalem as its capital?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
I support	52.1	58.3	41.5
I reject	33.7	32.7	35.3
No opinion/I do not know	14.3	9.1	23.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0



In its last meeting, the Palestinian Central Council (PCC) of the Palestinian Liberation Organizations (PLO) endorsed some decisions. Do you support or reject these decisions?

	Total			
	I support	I reject	No opinion/I do not know	Total
Freezing the Oslo Agreement	69.4	22.3	8.4	100.0
Filing a complaint at the International Criminal Court	76.8	17.8	5.4	100.0
Stopping the security coordination with Israel	71.6	22.3	6.1	100.0
	West Bank			
	I support	I reject	No opinion/I do not know	Total
Freezing the Oslo Agreement	70.5	21.6	7.9	100.0
Filing a complaint at the International Criminal Court	77.1	19.4	3.5	100.0
Stopping the security coordination with Israel	71.2	23.5	5.3	100.0
	Gaza Strip			
	I support	I reject	No opinion/I do not know	Total
Freezing the Oslo Agreement	67.5	23.4	9.2	100.0
Filing a complaint at the International Criminal Court	76.2	15.0	8.8	100.0
Stopping the security coordination with Israel	72.5	20.2	7.4	100.0



What do you think the aim of stopping the US financial support of the UNRWA is?

(Give your opinion on a 0-10 scale)

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Putting pressure on the Palestinian leadership so that they accept “the deal of the century”	8.1345	8.1535	8.1018
Closing the file of refugees and cancelling “the right of return”	8.1506	8.5198	7.5170
Weakening the Palestinian position in their demands for the right of refugees.	8.0786	8.2721	7.7465
Weakening the Palestinian Authority’s general stand	7.8861	8.0116	7.6707

Do you support or reject the convening of the Palestine National Council in the near future?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
I support	68.6	73.4	60.5
I reject	20.2	18.5	23.2
No opinion/I do not know	11.2	8.1	16.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do you believe that it is possible to reach a political program that will be agreed upon by all Palestinians.

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	51.1	56.7	41.5
No	39.7	38.3	42.1
No opinion/I do not know	9.2	5.0	16.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do you support or reject the accession of Hamas and Islamic Jihad to the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO).

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
I support	68.3	76.7	53.7
I reject	23.1	19.3	29.7
No opinion/I do not know	8.6	4.0	16.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0



Do you believe that Fatch is faithful in its intentions towards the national reconciliation?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	48.3	46.5	51.5
No	38.8	42.2	32.9
No opinion/I do not know	12.9	11.3	15.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do you believe that Hamas is faithful in its intentions towards the national reconciliation?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	37.2	38.7	34.5
No	47.5	46.6	48.9
No opinion/I do not know	15.7	14.7	16.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do you support or reject providing international protection for the Palestinian people who have been under occupation since 1967

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
I support	59.2	59.0	59.7
I reject	35.9	39.1	30.3
No opinion/I do not know	4.9	2.0	10.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do you support or reject the rise of an unarmed peaceful intifada in the Palestinian Territories?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
I support	54.6	56.4	51.5
I reject	41.3	41.5	40.9
No opinion/I do not know	4.1	2.1	7.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0



Do you support or reject the rise of an armed intifada in the Palestinian territories?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
I support	38.1	35.6	42.5
I reject	56.1	61.5	46.7
No opinion/I do not know	5.8	2.9	10.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

From your point of view at the present time, which of the following forms of resistance will serve the Palestinian cause best?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
An unarmed peaceful intifada	26.6	27.6	25.0
An armed intifada	19.8	18.3	22.6
Both forms are useful	24.3	22.9	26.7
Both forms are useless	25.2	28.6	19.4
No opinion/I do not know	4.0	2.7	6.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

How do you assess the performance of the National Unity Government?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Excellent	7.8	9.5	4.8
Good	56.4	60.8	48.7
Poor	30.0	23.1	41.7
No opinion/I do not know	5.9	6.5	4.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

How do you assess the performance of the National Unity Government?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Excellent	10.8	12.2	8.4
Good	54.4	60.3	44.1
Poor	31.5	24.9	42.9
No opinion/I do not know	3.3	2.6	4.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0



If elections are to be conducted in the Palestinian Territories at the present time, do you think they will be fair?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	33.1	35.1	29.7
No	53.8	57.8	46.9
No opinion/I do not know	13.1	7.1	23.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

If presidential elections are held at the present time, to whom from among the following do you give your vote?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
An independent candidate	7.9	7.7	8.2
A candidate from the left	1.9	1.4	2.8
A candidate from Hamas	9.8	10.2	9.2
A candidate from Fateh	30.7	29.4	32.9
A national independent candidate	5.5	4.1	8.0
An Islamic independent candidate	3.4	2.3	5.2
I will not participate in the elections	20.1	24.4	12.6
I have not decided yet	20.7	20.5	21.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

If new PLC elections are conducted, who do you vote for?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
An independent ticket	8.2	7.6	9.4
A ticket from the left	2.3	1.4	3.8
A ticket from Hamas	10.2	10.8	9.2
A ticket from Fateh	30.4	28.6	33.5
A national independent ticket	5.2	4.0	7.4
An Islamic independent ticket	3.5	2.7	4.8
I will not participate in the elections	20.9	24.8	14.2
I have not decided yet	19.3	20.2	17.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0



If new legislative elections are to be held today, which of the following will win?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
An independent Islamists bloc	4.0	4.2	3.8
An independent Nationalist bloc	9.3	7.0	13.2
A Fateh bloc	41.2	44.2	36.1
A Hamas bloc	13.3	14.8	10.8
A bloc from leftist organizations	1.6	1.4	2.0
No opinion/I do not know	30.6	28.5	34.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

If municipality and local council elections are to be held, who do you vote for?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
A block that represents the family or clan	12.0	16.1	5.4
An independent ticket	7.5	8.4	6.0
A ticket from the left	2.0	1.4	3.0
A ticket from Hamas	7.2	5.9	9.4
A ticket from Fateh	25.4	20.8	32.9
A national independent ticket	5.2	4.1	7.0
An Islamic independent ticket	3.0	2.9	3.2
I will not participate in the elections	19.2	21.0	16.2
I have not decided yet	18.6	19.5	17.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do the current political, security and economic circumstances compel you to desire to emigrate abroad?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	33.7	23.6	50.9
No	63.3	75.9	41.5
No opinion/I do not know	3.1	0.5	7.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0



Are you worried about your life under the present circumstances?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	51.7	44.0	64.9
No	46.1	55.8	29.3
No opinion/I do not know	2.3	0.2	5.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Are you pessimistic or optimistic towards the general Palestinian situation at this stage?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Optimistic	33.9	41.5	21.0
Pessimistic	62.8	56.9	73.1
No opinion/I do not know	3.2	1.6	6.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Under the present circumstances, do you feel that you, your family and your properties are safe?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	19.5	23.8	12.2
Maybe	38.6	41.6	33.3
No	40.5	34.3	51.1
No opinion/I do not know	1.4	0.2	3.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0



Which of the following political affiliations do you support?

PARTY	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
People's Party	1.4	0.7	2.6
Democratic Front	0.5	0.1	1.2
Islamic Jihad	1.2	0.5	2.4
Fateh	34.9	34.5	35.5
Hamas	10.7	11.2	10.0
Fida	0.1	0.1	0.2
Popular Front	1.8	1.3	2.6
Palestinian National Initiative	1.0	0.9	1.2
An independent nationalist	8.2	6.5	11.0
An independent Islamist	2.1	2.0	2.4
None of the above	36.2	41.9	26.5
Others	1.8	0.3	4.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0