



**Online Survey: The Seventh Fatah Congress  
January 3, 2017**

The following are findings from AWRAD's most recent online survey, conducted from the 19<sup>th</sup> to the 27<sup>th</sup> of December. 230 Palestinian opinion leaders in the West Bank and Gaza participated in the survey, which measured perceptions of the recent Fatah Congress. Respondents included political leaders, civil society leaders, academics, youth and women leaders, journalists, and Fatah-Congress members. For the full results, please refer to [www.awrad.org](http://www.awrad.org).

**Results of Fatah's Congress:** Respondents are divided on the significance and impact of Fatah's 7<sup>th</sup> Congress. Respondents split almost evenly with approximately one-third believing the Congress strengthened, weakened or had no effect on the party. Respondents are less divided when assessing the Congress' broader impact on Palestine with a plurality believing it had no impact (40 percent). A plurality (43 percent) is also doubtful that the Congress was a positive expression of democracy. Respondents in the West Bank are more positive than those in Gaza when assessing these issues.

**Fatah's Internal Elections:** 44 percent of respondents believe that Fatah is more democratic than other political parties, though 39 percent believe it is roughly the same. A majority also believes Fatah's internal elections were to some extent transparent and fair. However, a majority (51 percent) is dissatisfied with the overall representation, as well as the representation of women (54 percent). Again, responses in Gaza are less positive than in the West Bank.

**Fatah's Platform:** The majority of respondents (51 percent) do not believe that the platform adopted by the Congress represents a significant change from the previous one. 23 percent believe it is a regression with respondents in Gaza more likely to believe this is the case.

**Congress' Beneficiaries:** When asked who gained the most from the Congress, a majority (60 percent) of respondents identifies President Abbas.

**Fatah Leaders:** The most respected figure in Fatah's Central Committee is Marwan Barghouti (38 percent), followed by Jibril Rajoub (11 percent) and Nasser al Qidwa (10 percent).

**The Future:** With the conclusion of the Congress, a plurality (40 percent) of respondents believes Abbas should focus on new elections at all levels. Roughly one-quarter (24 percent) believes he should focus on reconciliation with Hamas. Three percent believes the peace process should be the President's goal.

## Tables and Full Results:

### 1. Do you believe that the recent Fatah Congress...?

	West Bank	Gaza Strip	Total
<b>Strengthened Fatah</b>	36.7%	25.0%	33.8%
<b>Weakened Fatah</b>	29.6%	30.4%	29.8%
<b>Had no impact</b>	27.8%	44.6%	32.0%
<b>Don't know</b>	5.9%	0.0%	4.4%

### 2. Do you believe that the Congress will have a positive, negative or no impact on short-term developments in Palestine?

	West Bank	Gaza Strip	Total
<b>Positive</b>	27.2%	26.8%	27.1%
<b>Negative</b>	30.2%	26.8%	29.3%
<b>No impact</b>	37.3%	46.4%	39.6%
<b>Don't know</b>	5.3%	0.0%	4.0%

### 3. Do you believe that the Congress was a positive expression of Palestinian democracy?

	West Bank	Gaza Strip	Total
<b>Yes</b>	21.3%	12.5%	19.1%
<b>To some extent</b>	37.3%	33.9%	36.4%
<b>No</b>	39.1%	53.6%	42.7%
<b>Don't know</b>	2.4%	0.0%	1.8%

### 4. Do you believe that the elections at the Congress were fair and transparent?

	West Bank	Gaza Strip	Total
<b>Yes</b>	22.5%	21.4%	22.2%
<b>To some extent</b>	38.5%	19.6%	33.8%
<b>No</b>	26.0%	51.8%	32.4%
<b>Don't know</b>	13.0%	7.1%	11.6%

**5. Compared to other Palestinian parties/factions, do you believe that Fatah is more or less democratic?**

	West Bank	Gaza Strip	Total
<b>More democratic</b>	47.3%	32.1%	43.6%
<b>Less democratic</b>	15.4%	19.6%	16.4%
<b>Same as others</b>	36.1%	46.4%	38.7%
<b>Don't know</b>	1.2%	1.8%	1.3%

**6. Who gained the most from the Congress?**

	West Bank	Gaza Strip	Total
<b>President Abbas</b>	59.2%	62.5%	60.0%
<b>Other personalities within Fatah</b>	11.8%	16.1%	12.9%
<b>Fatah</b>	13.6%	3.6%	11.1%
<b>All Palestinians</b>	10.1%	8.9%	9.8%
<b>No one</b>	3.0%	8.9%	4.4%
<b>Don't know</b>	2.4%	0.0%	1.8%

**7. Would you say that you are satisfied or dissatisfied with the results of Fatah's internal elections in terms of representation?**

	West Bank	Gaza Strip	Total
<b>Satisfied</b>	9.5%	7.1%	8.9%
<b>Somewhat satisfied</b>	30.2%	28.6%	29.8%
<b>Not satisfied</b>	49.1%	55.4%	50.7%
<b>Don't know</b>	11.3%	8.9%	10.7%

**8. Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the representation of women in the results of Fatah's internal elections?**

	West Bank	Gaza Strip	Total
<b>Satisfied</b>	13.0%	12.5%	12.9%
<b>Somewhat satisfied</b>	27.8%	35.7%	29.8%
<b>Dissatisfied</b>	55.0%	50.0%	53.8%
<b>Don't know</b>	4.1%	1.8%	3.6%

**9. Do you believe that the Fatah platform adopted at the Congress is an improvement, regression, or no change from the previous one?**

	West Bank	Gaza Strip	Total
<b>Improvement</b>	18.3%	17.9%	18.2%
<b>No change</b>	52.1%	46.4%	50.7%
<b>Regression</b>	20.1%	32.1%	23.1%
<b>Don't know</b>	9.5%	3.6%	8.0%

**10. From the following list of members in the Central Committee, whom do you have the most respect for?**

	West Bank	Gaza Strip	Total
Marwan Al-Bargouthi	34.3%	50.0%	38.2%
Jibril Rajoub	13.6%	1.8%	10.7%
Naser Al-Qidwa	11.2%	7.1%	10.2%
Sabri Seidam	2.4%	12.5%	4.9%
Mahmoud Al-Aloul	4.7%	3.6%	4.4%
Tawfic Tirawi	4.1%	1.8%	3.6%
Mohammad Shtayah	4.1%	0.0%	3.1%
Saeb Erekat	3.0%	1.8%	2.7%
Abass Zaki	3.0%	0.0%	2.2%
Dalal Salameh	2.4%	0.0%	1.8%
Ahmad Hilles	0.0%	3.6%	0.9%
Hussein Alsheikh	0.6%	1.8%	0.9%
Rawhi Fattouh	0.0%	3.6%	0.9%
Azzam Al-Ahmad	0.6%	0.0%	0.4%
Sameer El Rifai	0.6%	0.0%	0.4%
Mohammad Al-Madani	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Haj Ismaeel Jaber	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Jamal Muheisen	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
No one	10.7%	12.5%	11.1%

Don't Know	4.7%	0.0%	3.6%
------------	------	------	------

**11. Now that the Congress is over, what should President Abbas focus on?**

	West Bank	Gaza Strip	Total
<b>New elections at all levels</b>	37.9%	48.2%	40.4%
<b>Reconciliation with Hamas</b>	26.6%	17.9%	24.4%
<b>PA reform</b>	11.8%	10.7%	11.6%
<b>Fighting corruption</b>	10.7%	5.4%	9.3%
<b>The economy</b>	7.7%	8.9%	8.0%
<b>Peace process</b>	3.0%	3.6%	3.1%
<b>Don't know</b>	2.4%	5.4%	3.1%

**12. Do you believe the president is justified in revoking the immunity of some parliamentarians as recently reported in the media?**

	West Bank	Gaza Strip	Total
<b>Yes</b>	25.4%	35.7%	28.0%
<b>No</b>	59.2%	55.4%	58.2%
<b>Don't know</b>	15.4%	8.9%	13.8%

**13. What is your political affiliation?**

	West Bank	Gaza Strip	Total
<b>Fatah</b>	53.8%	55.4%	54.2%
<b>Other factions/independent</b>	46.2%	44.6%	45.8%

## Sample Distribution

### **Gender**

Male	71.1%
Female	28.9%

### **Age category:**

18-30 years	43.1%
31-50 years	38.7%
More than 50 years	18.2%

### **Region:**

West Bank (including Jerusalem)	75.1%
Gaza Strip	24.9%