

PIPA-Knowledge Networks Poll: Americans on North Korea

Questionnaire

Dates of Survey: Jan. 21-26, 2003
 Sample Size: 1063 Respondents

Margin of Error: +/- 3%

Q1. Here are five foreign policy problems that the US is facing these days. Thinking about the long term, please select the one that you feel is the most important. *[order randomized; question repeated with remaining problems until all rated.]*

	First Response	Mean Rating
The situation in Iraq	40%	2.11
The Israeli-Palestinian conflict	12	3.59
The situation with North Korea	15	2.98
Osama bin Laden's terrorist group al Q'aeda	31	2.32
The situation in Afghanistan	2	3.99
(No answer).....	1	-

Q2. How well do you think the US government is dealing with the following international problems and issues? Please answer on a scale of 0 to 10, with 0 being very poorly and 10 being very well...The situation with North Korea. *[question is part of longer list; other data to be released separately]*

Negative (0-4)	35%
Neutral (5).....	24
Positive (6-10).....	36
(No answer).....	5
 Mean	 4.91

[The following three questions were presented in random order]

Q3. Just based on what you know, do you think the world does or does not have a system of international law that says when it is legal for a country to use military force against another country?

The world has such a system.....	49%
The world does not have such a system	47
(No answer).....	4

Q4. Do you think the UN Security Council does or does not have the right to authorize the use of military force to prevent a country that does not have nuclear weapons from acquiring them?

US Security Council has the right.....76%
 US Security Council does not have the right 19
 (No answer).....5

Q5. Do you think that a country, without UN approval, does or does not have the right to use military force to prevent another country that does not have nuclear weapons from acquiring them?

Countries have the right 46%
 Countries do not have the right48
 (No answer).....6

Q6. Do you think that the US, without UN approval, does or does not have the right to use military force to prevent a country that does not have nuclear weapons from acquiring them?

US has the right..... 48%
 US does not have the right48
 (No answer).....5

Q7. Putting aside what you would favor the US doing, do you think the US would or would not have the right, without UN approval, to bomb a nuclear power plant in North Korea if it thought the North Koreans were using it to make nuclear weapons?

US would have the right..... 45%
 US would not have the right51
 (No answer).....5

Q8. North Korea has said that they renounced their commitments to not build nuclear weapons because President Bush’s “axis of evil” speech made them think that the US was going to attack North Korea. Do you think the US should or should not reassure North Korea by agreeing to the US and North Korea signing a formal declaration that they will not attack each other, provided that North Korea gives up its ability to develop nuclear weapons?

Should agree to sign declaration 76%
 Should not agree to sign declaration17
 (No answer).....7

Q9. As you may know North Korea, in violation of its agreement with the US, recently expelled international inspectors, thus making it possible to restart its nuclear weapons program. Some people argue that the US should not talk with North Korea until it first proves it is not developing nuclear weapons, because talking first would be submitting to blackmail. Others argue that it is important to talk with North Korea, because communication holds out the best prospect for resolving the standoff. Do you think the US should or should not talk with North Korea at this time?

Should talk 83%
 Should not talk 13
 (No answer).....4

Q10. Do you think that if North Korea was confident that it would not be attacked, it would be willing to forego having nuclear weapons?

Would be willing..... 43%
 Would not be willing46
 (No answer).....11

Q11. As you may know, South Korea in recent years has dramatically increased its economic and diplomatic engagement with North Korea as part of what it calls its “sunshine policy.” Do you think the US should encourage this policy, discourage this policy, or not take a position one way or the other?

Encourage this policy..... 34%
 Discourage this policy.....6
 Not take a position53
 (No answer).....7

Q12. Which of the following statements is closer to your point of view:

The US government should withhold food aid to North Korea so as to put pressure on it to stop building nuclear weapons. 39%

The US government should not withhold food aid from starving civilians in North Korea because food aid should not be a political weapon. 56

(No answer)..... 6

Q13. In 1994 the US and its allies and North Korea reached an agreement under which the North Koreans halted their nuclear program and allowed in international inspectors in exchange for shipments of food aid and energy assistance. As you may know, this agreement has recently broken down. Do you think that the US should or should not try to get this agreement back on track?

Should try to get the agreement back on track..... 79%
 Should not try to get the agreement back on track..... 15
 (No answer)..... 6

Demographics (from respondent profile)

Q. Gender

Male 48%
 Female..... 52

Q. Age (calculated from birth date)

18-29 21%
 30-44 31
 45-59 26
 60+ 22

Q. Party Affiliation

Republican 20%
 Lean Republican 9
 Independent..... 22
 Lean Democrat..... 8
 Democrat..... 30
 Other 7

Q. Education level (collapsed categories)

Less than High School 15%
 High School Graduate..... 33
 Some College 28
 College Graduate 24

Q. Region

Northeast 19%
 Midwest..... 23
 South 36
 West 23

Q. Race/Ethnicity

White, non-Hispanic 73%
 Black 12
 Hispanic 11
 Other 5