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Israeli Voice Index - PRESS RELEASE

IDI launches new 'Israel Voice' Index

82% of Israelis: Israel's Achievements Outweigh its Failures

62% of Israelis: Netanyahu's Reelection Should Not Halt Legal Proceedings

May 6, 2019 – The Israel Democracy Center's Guttman Center launched the inaugural edition of a new monthly survey titled the 'Israeli Voice Index,' which replaces, the "Peace Index", conducted in previous years in cooperation with Tel Aviv University. The new Index will focus each month on one or two issues of relevance that highlight particular aspects of Israeli public opinion. When possible, IDI will make use of data from past Guttman Center surveys to emphasize key trends in Israeli public opinion.

Independence Day

On the eve of Israel's 71st Independence Day, 82% of the Israeli public thinks that the national balance of achievements shows more successes than failures. 54% of Jewish Israelis and 39% of Arab Israelis are optimistic of the future of democratic governance in Israel. Segmentation revealed a clear correlation between levels of religiosity and the aforesaid optimism. In addition, 57% of the Israeli public is optimistic about Israel's security situation in the foreseeable future.

	Optimistic about democratic governance in Israel in the foreseeable future
Haredim	77%
Religious	83%
Traditional religious	65%
Traditional nonreligious	61%
Secular	36%

Benjamin Netanyahu's Legal Problems – In this first survey focusing on the aftermath of April's elections, Israelis were asked if legal proceedings against Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's should be stopped after his re-election and the clear majority his new coalition will likely enjoy in the Knesset. 62% percent of the public believes that the election should not stop the legal proceedings. When asked to self-identify according to their political affiliation, overwhelming majorities of Jewish Israelis on the left (95.5%) and the center (84%) felt this way, while only 44% of those who identify with the right agreed that the legal process should continue unhindered. When Likud voters were polled, 67% responded that in light of the election results the legal actions against the Prime Minister should be suspended completely.

Distrust in the Election Process – 32% of Israelis voiced overall distrust in the election process and said they do not believe that the final results accurately reflected the public's vote. Moreover, 64% of Jewish Israelis and 60% of Arab Israelis indicated that they agreed that this election was in fact 'dirtier' – compared with previous elections.

Unhappy with the Election Outcome – Altogether, a majority of Israelis are unhappy with the final election outcome. 52% of Jewish Israelis and 63% of Arab Israelis said that they are dissatisfied with the results. Segmentation revealed a clear correlation between levels of religiosity and the aforesaid satisfaction. Among the ultra-Orthodox only 11% are dissatisfied; from that point the rate rises: religious—19%, traditional religious—37.5%, traditional nonreligious—50%, secular—74%.

The survey was conducted by the Guttman Center for Public Opinion and Policy Research of the Israel Democracy Institute. In the survey, which was conducted on the internet and by telephone (supplements of groups that are not represented proportionally on the network) from April 30 to May 2, 621 men and women were interviewed in the Hebrew language and 163 in the Arabic language, constituting a representative national sample of the entire adult population of Israel aged 18 and older. The maximum sampling error for the entire sample was $\pm 3.6\%$ at a confidence level of 95%. The fieldwork was done by the Rafi Smith Institute. For the full data file see: <https://dataisrael.idi.org.il/>