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PRESS RELEASE

The Israeli Voice Index

Majority of Israelis Have Low Expectations for 'Deal of the Century' but Believe in Economic Peace

Israelis are less optimistic about the future of democratic rule and of the national security | 50% of those polled: Don't allow social networks to censor content unless there is threat of harm

July 9, 2019 – The Monthly June 2019 **Israeli Voice Index**, conducted by the Guttman Center at the Israel Democracy Institute, finds that the majority of the Israeli public does not think the process begun in Bahrain will lead to a peace agreement with the Palestinians, but Israelis do believe that steps towards economic peace can bring stability to the region.

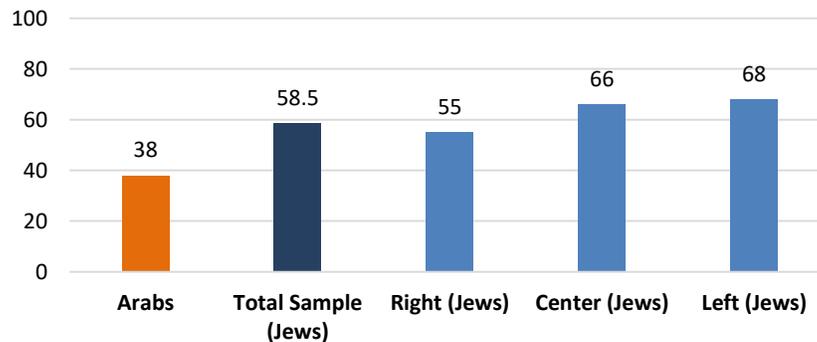
The survey also found that there is a continuing decline in the rate of the public who are optimistic about the future of democratic rule in Israel (47% in June as opposed to 54% in April) as well as the country's national security situation (50% in June compared to 59% in April). Additional data from the survey shows that 50% of the Israeli public say people should be allowed to express themselves freely on social networks, as long as their posts do not cause harm to individuals or organizations.

Main Findings

“The Deal of the Century” – 70% of the Israeli public (55% of Israeli Jews and 74% of Israeli Arabs) think there is a small chance that President Trump’s peace initiative will lead to the signing of a peace agreement between Israel and the Palestinians. Conversely, 58.5% of Jewish Israelis agree with the idea

that 'economic peace' – as opposed to withdrawal from territory – is key to achieving calm and stability in the region.

(% that agree, Arabs, Jews, and by political camp- Jews)



Declining public confidence in democracy and security – the trend of declining public confidence in the future of democratic rule in Israel (47% – down from 54% in April) and the national-security situation (50% down from 59% in April) continued.

Public Discourse and Censorship –Most Israelis think that public discourse in Israel is more violent (74%) 72%) than in the past. Nevertheless, 50% of Israelis would not want to give the social networks the authority to censor items unless they cause actual harm to other individuals or organizations. 38% of Israeli think that social network companies should be required to remove offensive statements while 12% do not have an opinion on the matter.

Netanyahu is the preferred candidate for Prime Minister –Two months ahead of September's election, 45% of Jewish Israelis prefer Benjamin Netanyahu as prime minister while 23% of the population would prefer Benny Gantz and 7% wish to see Ehud Barak as the country's leader. Among Arab Israelis, Gantz is the preferred candidate with 31% support, Barak with 20% and Netanyahu with only 5%.

The Israeli Voice Index is a project of 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 sufficiently represented on the network) from June 30 to July 2, 640 men and women were interviewed in Hebrew and 154 in Arabic, 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 3.7%± at a confidence level of 95%. The fieldwork was done by the Rafi Smith Institute under the direction of Rafi Smith. For the full data file see: <https://dataisrael.idi.org.il/>