**Press Release
War in Gaza Survey 11**

**Most Israelis: an "Absolute Victory" to the War is Unlikely**

*While plurality across all groups believe such an outcome is unlikely, there is a great deal of variance across political orientations and between Jewish and Arab Israelis.*

This is the Israel Democracy Institute's eleventh War in Gaza survey, part of a special series conducted by our Viterbi Family Center for Public Opinion and Policy Research. Given Prime Minister Netanyahu's recent statements that Israel is aiming to achieve an "absolute victory" in the war in Gaza, we asked Israelis what they think the likelihood is that the war will end with such a victory.

Both Jewish (51%) and Arab (77.5%) Israelis said there is a low likelihood of achieving such an outcome. Among Jews, the majority on the Left (84%) and in the Center (63%) say there is a low likelihood, while on the Right, most say there is a high likelihood of achieving "absolute victory" (55%).

**Additional Findings:**

**A majority of Jewish Israelis remain opposed to the establishment of a Palestinian state**

Given Israeli media reports of a forthcoming international "blitz" to advance the establishment of an independent and demilitarized Palestinian state, we asked whether Israelis support, in principle, the idea. 63% of Jewish Israelis oppose the establishment of a Palestinian state, while 73% of Arab Israelis support it. Israelis are likewise divided across political orientations, with a large majority on the Left (77%) **supporting**, in principle, the establishment of a Palestinian state and a large majority on the Right (78%) **opposing**. The largest share in the Center (48%) is in opposition.

**Overwhelming majority of Israelis think a renewed Palestinian Authority is unlikely** We asked: “The US president has been talking about renewal of the Palestinian Authority with international aid as a condition for reaching a political agreement. In your opinion, what is the likelihood that in the near future, the Palestinian Authority will undergo a substantive reform that will enable it to effectively manage, in civilian and military terms, the areas currently under its control as well as the Gaza Strip?” A large majority (81%) believe this is unlikely—a view held by both Jewish (83%) and Arab (70%) Israelis.

**Most Jewish Israelis: establishment of a Palestinian State would not reduce terrorism**

We asked: “In your opinion, if a Palestinian state is established in the foreseeable future, how will this affect Palestinian terrorism against Israel?” Among Arab respondents, the most common response (though not a majority opinion) was that terrorism will cease if a Palestinian state is founded (41%). A particularly large share of Arab Israelis (35%) said they don't know. Among Jews, the most common view is that terrorism will become even stronger (44%).

**If a Palestinian state is established in the foreseeable future, how will this affect Palestinian terrorism against Israel? (%)**

**Israelis sharply divided on how to handle the northern front**

When asked what course of action will better ensure the security of Israeli residents of the north and the return home of evacuees, 46% of Israelis support an all-out attack against Hezbollah, while 42% support a diplomatic agreement. Responses vary by population group – 53% of Jewish Israelis support an all-out attack, while 69% of Arab Israelis support a political agreement. Responses of the Jewish sample vary across political orientations: a majority of those on the Left (61.5%) support a political agreement that distances Hezbollah from the border, a view held by around half of those in the Center (51%) and only about a quarter of those on the Right (24.5%).

**Which option will better ensure the security of residential localities in the north in the future and the return home of all the residents who were evacuated? (Jewish sample; %)**

**Large wave of protests is expected; most say they would not participate**

We asked: “In recent weeks, the number of demonstrations against the government headed by Netanyahu has been growing. In your estimation, will this trend develop in the near future into widescale public protests against the government?" 60% believe protests will break out, compared to 30% who do not. Among Jewish Israelis, a large majority on the Left (92%) expect there to be an outbreak of protests, as do around two-thirds of those in the Center (66%) and around half of those on the Right (51%). When asked whether they would participate in such protests, low shares of Israelis said they would (24% of the total sample), with a majority only on the Jewish Left (59%).

**A minority of Jewish Israelis support a political agreement to end the war**

We asked (with some modifications) a question posed in January 2024, “Would you support or oppose an agreement to end the war which includes the release of all the hostages, long-term military quiet with guarantees from the United States, and a peace agreement with Saudi Arabia, in return for the release by Israel of large numbers of Palestinian prisoners, an extended ceasefire, and agreement to the establishment of a demilitarized Palestinian state in the long term?” Whether due to changes in the wording of the question or to changes in the circumstances, the general trend is toward a greater degree of support for such an arrangement. Among Jewish Israelis, a majority (55%) remains opposed to an agreement, but the share of those who would support it has risen from 29% to 37%. Among Arab Israelis, a majority of 77% (up from 69%) support an agreement, and only 9% are now opposed. Among Jewish Israelis, the political breakdown is as follows: on the Left:74% support an agreement (up from 78% in January). In the Center, 56% support an agreement (up from 39% in January). On the Right, while a majority are still opposed (69%), the share of supporters has risen from 14% to 22%).

**Israelis divided on the matter of sending humanitarian aid to Gaza**

We asked our respondents whether Israel should allow the transfer of humanitarian aid to Gaza residents, via international bodies that are not linked to Hamas or to UNRWA. A majority of Jewish respondents (68%) oppose the transfer of humanitarian aid under these conditions, while a large majority of Arab respondents support it (85%). On the political Left, a majority support the transfer humanitarian aid to Gaza, while the Center is divided on this issue, and a majority on the Right is against allowing the transfer.

**Israelis divided on Moody's credit rating downgrade**

We asked: “In response to the decision by Moody’s to downgrade Israel’s credit rating, the prime minister said that Israel’s economy is very strong and its credit rating will be restored when we win the war. In your opinion, to what extent does this assessment by Netanyahu properly reflect reality?” Unsurprisingly, the majority of those on the Left and in the Center think that Netanyahu’s assessment does not reflect reality (Left, 75%; Center, 68%). By contrast, half of those on the Right (50%) consider his assessment to be realistic, while only 39% take the opposite view.

*This eleventh flash survey on the war in Gaza was conducted by the Viterbi Family Center for Public Opinion and Policy Research at the Israel Democracy Institute. Data collection was carried out between February 12–15, 2024, with 510 men and women interviewed via the internet and by telephone in Hebrew and 102 in Arabic. The maximum sampling error was ±4.04% at a confidence level of 95%. Field work was carried out by the Lazar Research Institute headed by Dr. Menachem Lazar.*