



Press Release

Americans Maintain a Robust View of American Leadership

Ipsos Survey on Behalf of National Public Radio

Washington, DC, May 16, 2017 — ‘America First’ is one of those slogans with a nebulous meaning. Our latest NPR/Ipsos poll attempted to investigate how Americans perceived foreign policy in the era of Trump’s ‘America First’ ideology. Our data indicated several distinct strains in American belief. First, Most American believe our foreign policy should be focused on maintaining the existing order with us at the center. Second, Americans are almost evenly split on the relative importance of democracy vs wealth in guiding foreign policy. Third, a bare majority of Americans think the U.S. should let other countries work out their own affairs rather than intervening to promote peace.

Although Trump’s upcoming foreign policy trip is dominating headlines, Americans proved to lack concrete knowledge of American foreign affairs. Many incorrectly assumed that American defense aid to Israel declined under the Obama administration (39%). Only 15% correctly estimated that the US pays 22% of the United Nations regular budget. A similarly small group knew that U.S. foreign aid to Egypt is higher than the U.S. dues for NATO administration in 2016 (18%).

In the wake of campaign promises to disrupt foreign trade agreements, a majority of Americans think international trade should be used as a tool of American diplomacy (74%). Seven in ten Americans think US diplomacy should prioritize supporting democratic nations (70%). The same amount believe America should provide humanitarian aid to foreign countries (70%). With four in ten believing the US is the leading economic power in the world today (40%), it is not surprising that over half believe American foreign policy should be focused on maintaining the current global order with the US at the center (55%).

1. To the best of your knowledge are the following statements TRUE or FALSE? * Denotes correct answer
 - a. American defense aid to Israel declined under the Obama administration

	Total N= 1009	Democrat N= 354	Republican N=353	Independent N= 179
True	39%	32%	59%	41%
False*	26%	35%	17%	27%
Don't know	35%	33%	24%	32%

Address: 2020 K Street NW, Suite 410
Washington, DC 20006
Tel: +1 202 463-7300

Contact: **Chris Jackson**
Vice President, U.S., Ipsos Public Affairs
Email: chris.jackson@ipsos.com
Tel: +1 202 420-2025



Press Release – continued –

b. The United States has taken in more Syrian refugees than the European Union

	Total N= 1009	Democrat N= 354	Republican N=353	Independent N= 179
True	26%	24%	31%	26%
False*	44%	51%	42%	41%
Don't know	30%	24%	26%	33%

c. The United States is the driving force behind most major multilateral trade agreements

	Total N= 1009	Democrat N= 354	Republican N=353	Independent N= 179
True*	54%	57%	62%	47%
False	18%	20%	19%	13%
Don't know	28%	23%	19%	40%

d. American military involvement in Syria has increased in the last six months

	Total N= 1009	Democrat N= 354	Republican N=353	Independent N= 179
True*	63%	64%	67%	65%
False	13%	15%	14%	7%
Don't know	25%	20%	19%	28%

2. Based on everything you know, is the recent human rights records of the following countries better or worse than that of the United States? * Denotes correct answer

a. Egypt

	Total N= 1009	Democrat N= 354	Republican N=353	Independent N= 179
Better	7%	9%	6%	6%
About the same	18%	22%	22%	10%
Worse*	52%	51%	55%	61%
Don't know	23%	18%	17%	23%

Address: 2020 K Street NW, Suite 410
Washington, DC 20006
Tel: +1 202 463-7300

Contact: **Chris Jackson**
Vice President, U.S., Ipsos Public Affairs
Email: chris.jackson@ipsos.com
Tel: +1 202 420-2025



Press Release – continued –

b. Saudi Arabia

	Total N= 1009	Democrat N= 354	Republican N=353	Independent N= 179
Better	8%	12%	8%	5%
About the same	14%	16%	16%	9%
Worse*	59%	59%	61%	66%
Don't know	19%	13%	15%	20%

c. Israel

	Total N= 1009	Democrat N= 354	Republican N=353	Independent N= 179
Better	11%	12%	13%	12%
About the same	33%	34%	41%	26%
Worse*	36%	36%	34%	41%
Don't know	20%	18%	12%	22%

d. Turkey

	Total N= 1009	Democrat N= 354	Republican N=353	Independent N= 179
Better	8%	10%	7%	10%
About the same	17%	20%	20%	8%
Worse*	51%	51%	54%	61%
Don't know	24%	19%	20%	20%

e. United Kingdom

	Total N= 1009	Democrat N= 354	Republican N=353	Independent N= 179
Better*	26%	36%	16%	24%
About the same	49%	46%	57%	49%
Worse	9%	8%	13%	9%
Don't know	16%	10%	14%	18%

Address: 2020 K Street NW, Suite 410
Washington, DC 20006
Tel: +1 202 463-7300

Contact: **Chris Jackson**
Vice President, U.S., Ipsos Public Affairs
Email: chris.jackson@ipsos.com
Tel: +1 202 420-2025



Press Release – continued –

f. Germany

	Total N= 1009	Democrat N= 354	Republican N=353	Independent N= 179
Better*	26%	34%	18%	23%
About the same	43%	41%	55%	36%
Worse	13%	11%	14%	19%
Don't know	19%	13%	13%	22%

g. Canada

	Total N= 1009	Democrat N= 354	Republican N=353	Independent N= 179
Better*	44%	55%	32%	46%
About the same	37%	28%	55%	34%
Worse	6%	6%	6%	9%
Don't know	13%	11%	8%	11%

h. Russia

	Total N= 1009	Democrat N= 354	Republican N=353	Independent N= 179
Better	7%	7%	9%	5%
About the same	21%	22%	22%	17%
Worse*	57%	61%	56%	65%
Don't know	15%	10%	13%	13%

i. Mexico

	Total N= 1009	Democrat N= 354	Republican N=353	Independent N= 179
Better	8%	13%	6%	4%
About the same	25%	30%	24%	20%
Worse*	50%	48%	56%	54%
Don't know	17%	10%	13%	23%

Address: 2020 K Street NW, Suite 410
Washington, DC 20006
Tel: +1 202 463-7300

Contact: **Chris Jackson**
Vice President, U.S., Ipsos Public Affairs
Email: chris.jackson@ipsos.com
Tel: +1 202 420-2025



Press Release – continued –

3. To the best of your knowledge, how much of the United Nations regular budget is paid by the United States? * *Denotes correct answer*

	Total N= 1009	Democrat N= 354	Republican N=353	Independent N= 179
7%	5%	8%	2%	5%
22%*	15%	17%	18%	12%
43%	22%	25%	27%	14%
70%	16%	12%	20%	21%
Don't know	42%	39%	33%	47%

4. To the best of your knowledge, which of the following is higher: * *Denotes correct answer*

	Total N= 1009	Democrat N= 354	Republican N=353	Independent N= 179
U.S. foreign aid to Egypt in 2016*	18%	20%	17%	19%
U.S. dues for NATO administration in 2016	32%	31%	40%	27%
Don't know	51%	49%	44%	54%

5. Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?
a. The United States should be the moral leader of the world

	Total N=504	Democrat N=165	Republican N=177	Independent N=99
Strongly agree	39%	44%	44%	32%
Somewhat agree	31%	33%	28%	33%
Somewhat disagree	14%	12%	18%	14%
Strongly disagree	7%	6%	7%	8%
<i>Agree</i>	<i>69%</i>	<i>78%</i>	<i>72%</i>	<i>66%</i>
<i>Disagree</i>	<i>21%</i>	<i>18%</i>	<i>25%</i>	<i>22%</i>
Don't know	10%	4%	3%	13%

Address: 2020 K Street NW, Suite 410
Washington, DC 20006
Tel: +1 202 463-7300

Contact: **Chris Jackson**
Vice President, U.S., Ipsos Public Affairs
Email: chris.jackson@ipsos.com
Tel: +1 202 420-2025



Press Release – continued –

b. The United States is the moral leader of the world

	Total N=504	Democrat N=165	Republican N=177	Independent N=99
Strongly agree	25%	26%	36%	16%
Somewhat agree	35%	37%	36%	32%
Somewhat disagree	18%	15%	20%	26%
Strongly disagree	15%	20%	5%	18%
<i>Agree</i>	<i>60%</i>	<i>64%</i>	<i>73%</i>	<i>47%</i>
<i>Disagree</i>	<i>32%</i>	<i>35%</i>	<i>24%</i>	<i>45%</i>
Don't know	8%	2%	3%	8%

c. American diplomacy should prioritize supporting democratic nations

	Total N=505	Democrat N=189	Republican N=176	Independent N=80
Strongly agree	29%	35%	32%	19%
Somewhat agree	40%	38%	38%	53%
Somewhat disagree	13%	13%	12%	11%
Strongly disagree	4%	4%	8%	-
<i>Agree</i>	<i>70%</i>	<i>73%</i>	<i>70%</i>	<i>73%</i>
<i>Disagree</i>	<i>17%</i>	<i>18%</i>	<i>20%</i>	<i>11%</i>
Don't know	14%	9%	10%	17%

d. American diplomacy prioritizes supporting democratic nations

	Total N=505	Democrat N=189	Republican N=176	Independent N=80
Strongly agree	18%	19%	25%	14%
Somewhat agree	42%	47%	38%	48%
Somewhat disagree	17%	15%	17%	17%
Strongly disagree	4%	7%	3%	-
<i>Agree</i>	<i>60%</i>	<i>65%</i>	<i>63%</i>	<i>62%</i>
<i>Disagree</i>	<i>21%</i>	<i>22%</i>	<i>19%</i>	<i>17%</i>
Don't know	19%	12%	18%	22%

Address: 2020 K Street NW, Suite 410
Washington, DC 20006
Tel: +1 202 463-7300

Contact: **Chris Jackson**
Vice President, U.S., Ipsos Public Affairs
Email: chris.jackson@ipsos.com
Tel: +1 202 420-2025



Press Release – continued –

e. International trade should be used as a tool of American diplomacy

	Total N= 1009	Democrat N= 354	Republican N=353	Independent N= 179
Strongly agree	31%	33%	34%	29%
Somewhat agree	43%	46%	45%	42%
Somewhat disagree	9%	9%	8%	8%
Strongly disagree	3%	3%	3%	5%
<i>Agree</i>	74%	79%	79%	71%
<i>Disagree</i>	12%	12%	11%	13%
Don't know	14%	9%	10%	16%

f. The United States should not hesitate to use its military power

	Total N= 1009	Democrat N= 354	Republican N=353	Independent N= 179
Strongly agree	20%	14%	36%	14%
Somewhat agree	29%	26%	34%	28%
Somewhat disagree	28%	33%	21%	32%
Strongly disagree	16%	24%	6%	19%
<i>Agree</i>	49%	40%	69%	41%
<i>Disagree</i>	44%	57%	27%	51%
Don't know	7%	3%	4%	8%

g. America should provide humanitarian aid to foreign countries

	Total N= 1009	Democrat N= 354	Republican N=353	Independent N= 179
Strongly agree	29%	43%	16%	21%
Somewhat agree	41%	39%	43%	47%
Somewhat disagree	17%	11%	26%	23%
Strongly disagree	5%	2%	10%	3%
<i>Agree</i>	70%	83%	60%	67%
<i>Disagree</i>	22%	13%	36%	26%
Don't know	7%	4%	4%	7%

Address: 2020 K Street NW, Suite 410
Washington, DC 20006
Tel: +1 202 463-7300

Contact: **Chris Jackson**
Vice President, U.S., Ipsos Public Affairs
Email: chris.jackson@ipsos.com
Tel: +1 202 420-2025



Press Release – continued –

6. Which of the following statements is closer to your opinion?

	Total N= 1009	Democrat N= 354	Republican N=353	Independent N= 179
American foreign policy should look out for Americans, even if it harms people in other countries.	24%	21%	35%	23%
American foreign policy should be focused on maintaining the current global order with the US at the center	55%	66%	50%	53%
Don't know	21%	14%	15%	24%

7. Which of the following statements is closer to your opinion?

	Total N= 1009	Democrat N= 354	Republican N=353	Independent N= 179
American foreign policy should prioritize promoting democracy and human rights in other countries.	42%	55%	32%	38%
American foreign policy should focus on enriching America and Americans.	41%	34%	57%	41%
Don't know	17%	11%	11%	21%

8. Which of the following statements is closer to your opinion?

	Total N= 1009	Democrat N= 354	Republican N=353	Independent N= 179
America should actively intervene in foreign conflicts to try to bring peace	29%	37%	27%	24%
America should stay out of the affairs of other countries	51%	48%	58%	53%
Don't know	20%	16%	15%	22%

Address: 2020 K Street NW, Suite 410
Washington, DC 20006
Tel: +1 202 463-7300

Contact: **Chris Jackson**
Vice President, U.S., Ipsos Public Affairs
Email: chris.jackson@ipsos.com
Tel: +1 202 420-2025



Press Release – continued –

9. Which one of the following do you think is the leading economic power in the world today?

	Total N= 1009	Democrat N= 354	Republican N=353	Independent N= 179
United States	40%	44%	46%	33%
China	38%	40%	36%	43%
Japan	5%	4%	4%	7%
European Union	3%	6%	1%	3%
Russia	1%	1%	3%	*
India	*	*	*	-
Don't know	13%	6%	10%	14%

10. In your own words, what does “America First” meant to you? *See verbatims*

11. How do you get most of your news?

	Total N= 1009	Democrat N= 354	Republican N=353	Independent N= 179
Television	65%	68%	71%	58%
Online / internet	52%	51%	50%	56%
Social media (Twitter, Facebook)	31%	40%	29%	20%
Print newspapers / magazines	27%	32%	28%	29%
Radio	24%	25%	24%	27%
Mobile News apps	16%	23%	13%	12%
None of the above	4%	2%	2%	2%

12. Of the choices listed below, which is your main source of television news?

	Total N= 1009	Democrat N= 354	Republican N=353	Independent N= 179
CNN	20%	31%	12%	14%
FOX News	18%	6%	38%	15%
CBS	13%	16%	12%	11%
ABC	12%	17%	9%	13%
NBC	10%	10%	12%	10%
MSNBC	4%	6%	1%	2%
Public Television	3%	4%	2%	5%
None of the above	16%	8%	13%	26%
Other	3%	2%	1%	4%

Address: 2020 K Street NW, Suite 410
Washington, DC 20006
Tel: +1 202 463-7300

Contact: **Chris Jackson**
Vice President, U.S., Ipsos Public Affairs
Email: chris.jackson@ipsos.com
Tel: +1 202 420-2025



Press Release – continued –

13. With which political party do you most identify?

	Total N=1009
Strong Democrat	15%
Moderate Democrat	16%
Lean Democrat	8%
Lean Republican	8%
Moderate Republican	13%
Strong Republican	10%
Independent	17%
Other	3%
Don't know/Refuse	9%

14. How would you describe the area in which you live?

	Total N= 1009	Democrat N= 354	Republican N=353	Independent N= 179
Rural	16%	9%	21%	19%
Suburban	50%	47%	52%	56%
Urban	34%	44%	27%	25%

Address: 2020 K Street NW, Suite 410
Washington, DC 20006
Tel: +1 202 463-7300

Contact: **Chris Jackson**
Vice President, U.S., Ipsos Public Affairs
Email: chris.jackson@ipsos.com
Tel: +1 202 420-2025



Press Release – continued –

About the Study

These are findings from an Ipsos poll conducted May 15-16, 2017 on behalf of National Public Radio. For the survey, a sample of roughly 1,009 adults age 18+ from the continental U.S., Alaska and Hawaii was interviewed online in English. The sample includes 354 Democrats, 353 Republicans, and 179 Independents.

The sample for this study was randomly drawn from Ipsos's online panel (see link below for more info on "Access Panels and Recruitment"), partner online panel sources, and "river" sampling (see link below for more info on the Ipsos "Ampario Overview" sample method) and does not rely on a population frame in the traditional sense. Ipsos uses fixed sample targets, unique to each study, in drawing sample. After a sample has been obtained from the Ipsos panel, Ipsos calibrates respondent characteristics to be representative of the U.S. Population using standard procedures such as raking-ratio adjustments. The source of these population targets is U.S. Census 2013 American Community Survey data. The sample drawn for this study reflects fixed sample targets on demographics. Post-hoc weights were made to the population characteristics on gender, age, race/ethnicity, region, and education.

Statistical margins of error are not applicable to online polls. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error and measurement error. Where figures do not sum to 100, this is due to the effects of rounding. The precision of Ipsos online polls is measured using a credibility interval. In this case, the poll has a credibility interval of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points for all respondents. Ipsos calculates a design effect (DEFF) for each study based on the variation of the weights, following the formula of Kish (1965). This study had a credibility interval adjusted for design effect of the following (n=1,009, DEFF=1.5, adjusted Confidence Interval=5).

The poll also has a credibility interval plus or minus 5.9 percentage points for Democrats, plus or minus 5.9 percentage points for Republicans, and plus or minus 8.4 percentage points for Independents.

For more information about conducting research intended for public release or Ipsos' online polling methodology, please visit our [Public Opinion Polling and Communication](#) page where you can download our brochure, see our public release protocol, or contact us.

For more information on this news release, please contact:

Chris Jackson
Vice President, U.S.
Ipsos Public Affairs
+1 202 420-2025
chris.jackson@ipsos.com

Address: 2020 K Street NW, Suite 410
Washington, DC 20006
Tel: +1 202 463-7300

Contact: **Chris Jackson**
Vice President, U.S., Ipsos Public Affairs
Email: chris.jackson@ipsos.com
Tel: +1 202 420-2025



Press Release – continued –

About Ipsos Public Affairs

Ipsos Public Affairs is a non-partisan, objective, survey-based research practice made up of seasoned professionals. We conduct strategic research initiatives for a diverse number of American and international organizations, based not only on public opinion research, but elite stakeholder, corporate, and media opinion research.

Ipsos has media partnerships with the most prestigious news organizations around the world. In Canada, the U.S., UK, and internationally, Ipsos Public Affairs is the media polling supplier to Reuters News, the world's leading source of intelligent information for businesses and professionals. Ipsos Public Affairs is a member of the Ipsos Group, a leading global survey-based market research company. We provide boutique-style customer service and work closely with our clients, while also undertaking global research.

About Ipsos

Ipsos is an independent market research company controlled and managed by research professionals. Founded in France in 1975, Ipsos has grown into a worldwide research group with a strong presence in all key markets. Ipsos ranks fourth in the global research industry.

With offices in 89 countries, Ipsos delivers insightful expertise across five research specializations: brand, advertising and media; customer loyalty; marketing; public affairs research; and survey management.

Ipsos researchers assess market potential and interpret market trends. They develop and build brands. They help clients build long-term relationships with their customers. They test advertising and study audience responses to various media and they measure public opinion around the globe.

Ipsos has been listed on the Paris Stock Exchange since 1999 and generated global revenues of €1,782.7 million in 2016.

GAME CHANGERS

« Game Changers » is the Ipsos signature.

At Ipsos we are passionately curious about people, markets, brands and society.
We make our changing world easier and faster to navigate and inspire clients to make smarter decisions.
We deliver with security, speed, simplicity and substance. We are Game Changers.

Ipsos is listed on Eurolist – NYSE-Euronext.
The company is part of the SBF 120 and the Mid-60 index
and is eligible for the Deferred Settlement Service (SRD).

ISIN code FR0000073298, Reuters ISOS.PA, Bloomberg IPS:FP
www.ipsos.com

Address: 2020 K Street NW, Suite 410
Washington, DC 20006
Tel: +1 202 463-7300

Contact: **Chris Jackson**
Vice President, U.S., Ipsos Public Affairs
Email: chris.jackson@ipsos.com
Tel: +1 202 420-2025