

Anwar Sadat Chair for Peace and Development
University of Maryland

2011

Public Opinion Polls of Jewish and Arab Citizens of Israel

Poll of Jewish citizens conducted with Dahaf Institute, Nov. 10-16, 2011
Sample size: 510, Margin of error +/- 4.4%

Poll of Arab/Palestinian citizens conducted with JZ Analytics, Nov. 13-20, 2011
Sample size: 500, Margin of error +/- 4.5%

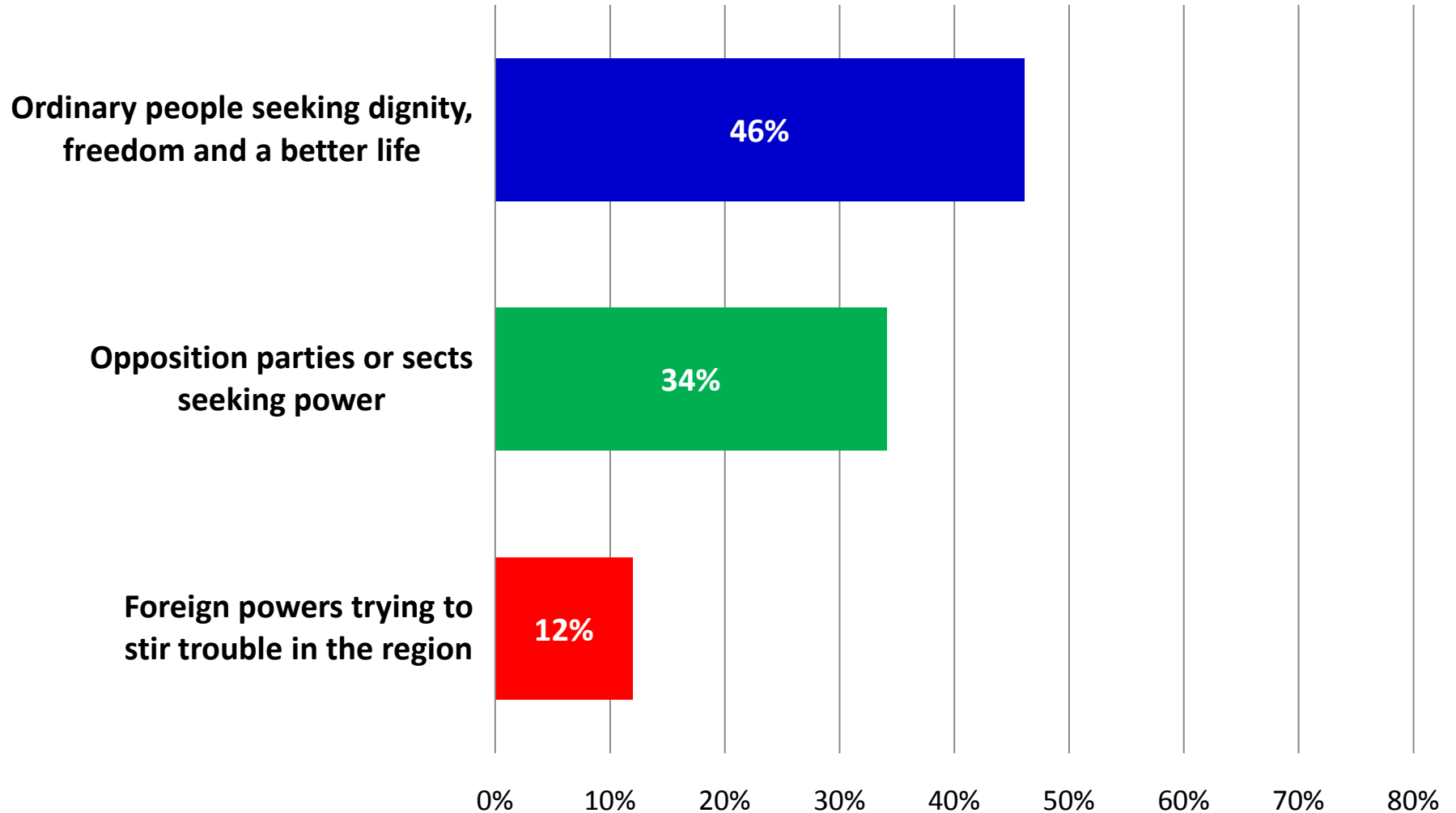
Professor Shibley Telhami, Principal Investigator
Special thanks to the Carnegie Corporation of New York

Mike Lebson, Evan Lewis and Abe Medoff assisted in preparation of this study

Jewish Citizens of Israel

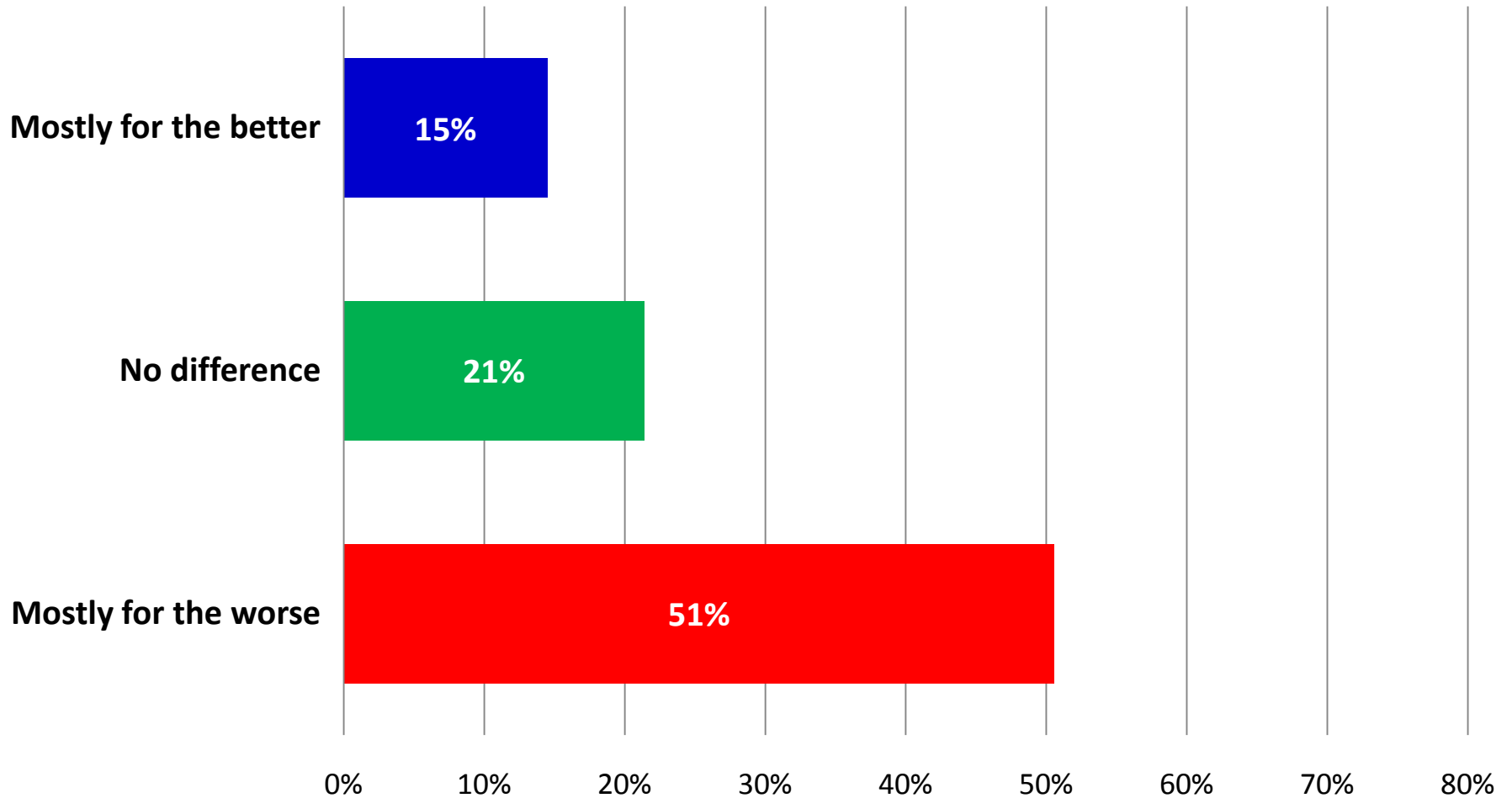
Arab Awakening

Thinking about the Arab Spring, is it mostly:



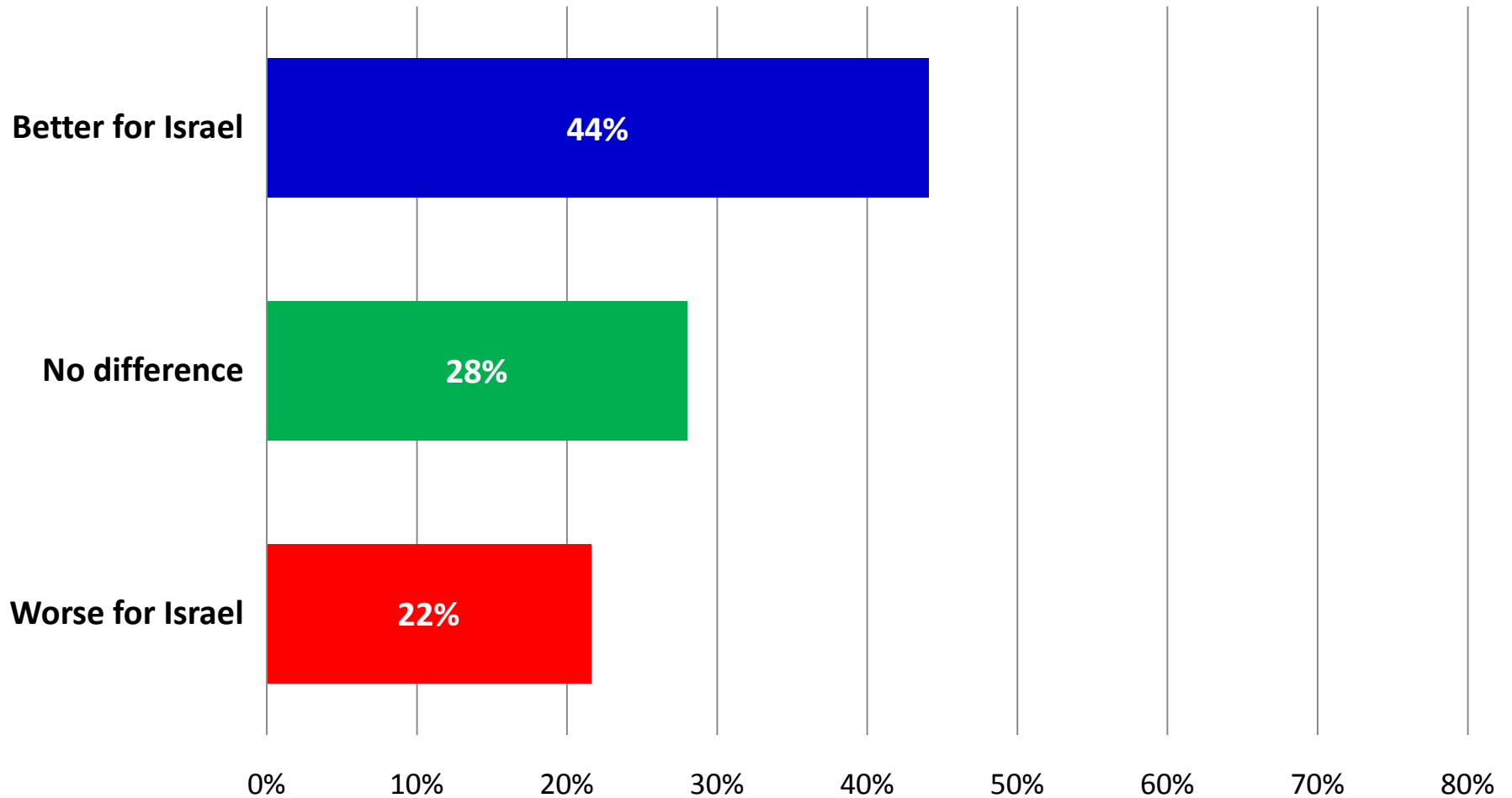
Arab Awakening

Which of the following is closer to your view about the impact of the Arab Spring on Israel?



Arab Awakening

If the Arab Spring does in fact lead to more democracy in the Arab world, would that be:



United States & the Middle East

How would you describe your views of President Barack Obama of the United States?

2011

2010

Positive

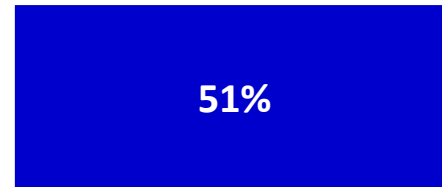
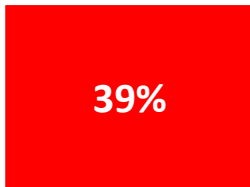
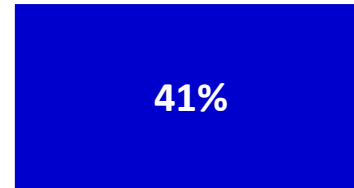
54%

41%

Negative

39%

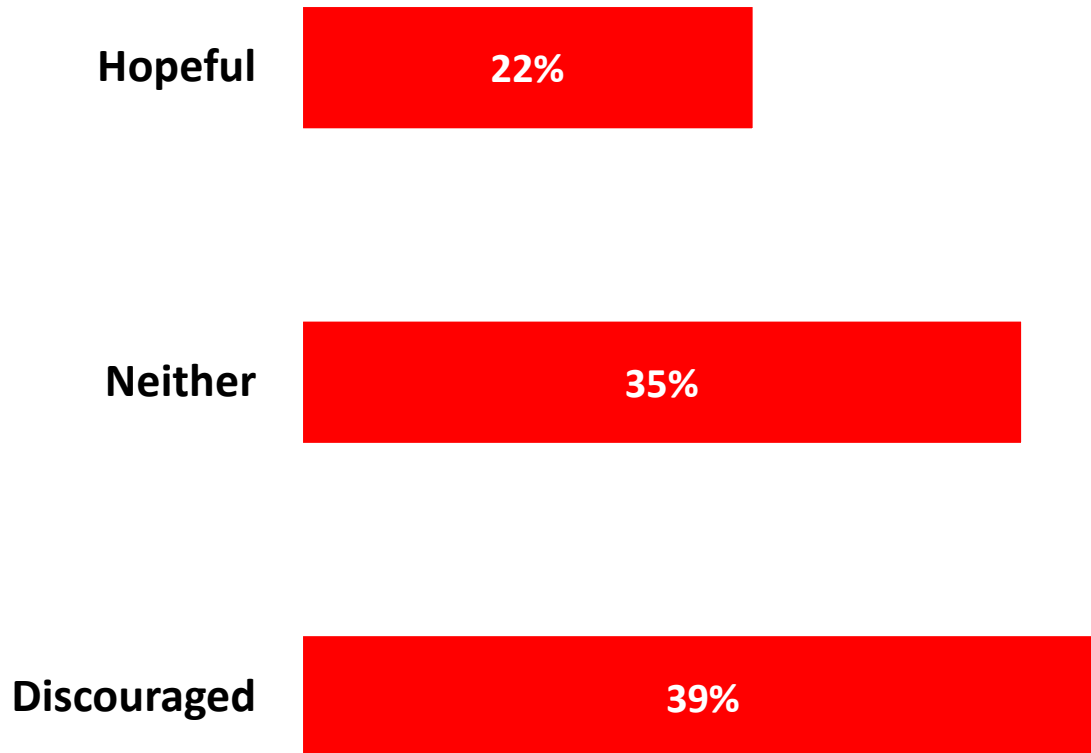
51%



United States & the Middle East

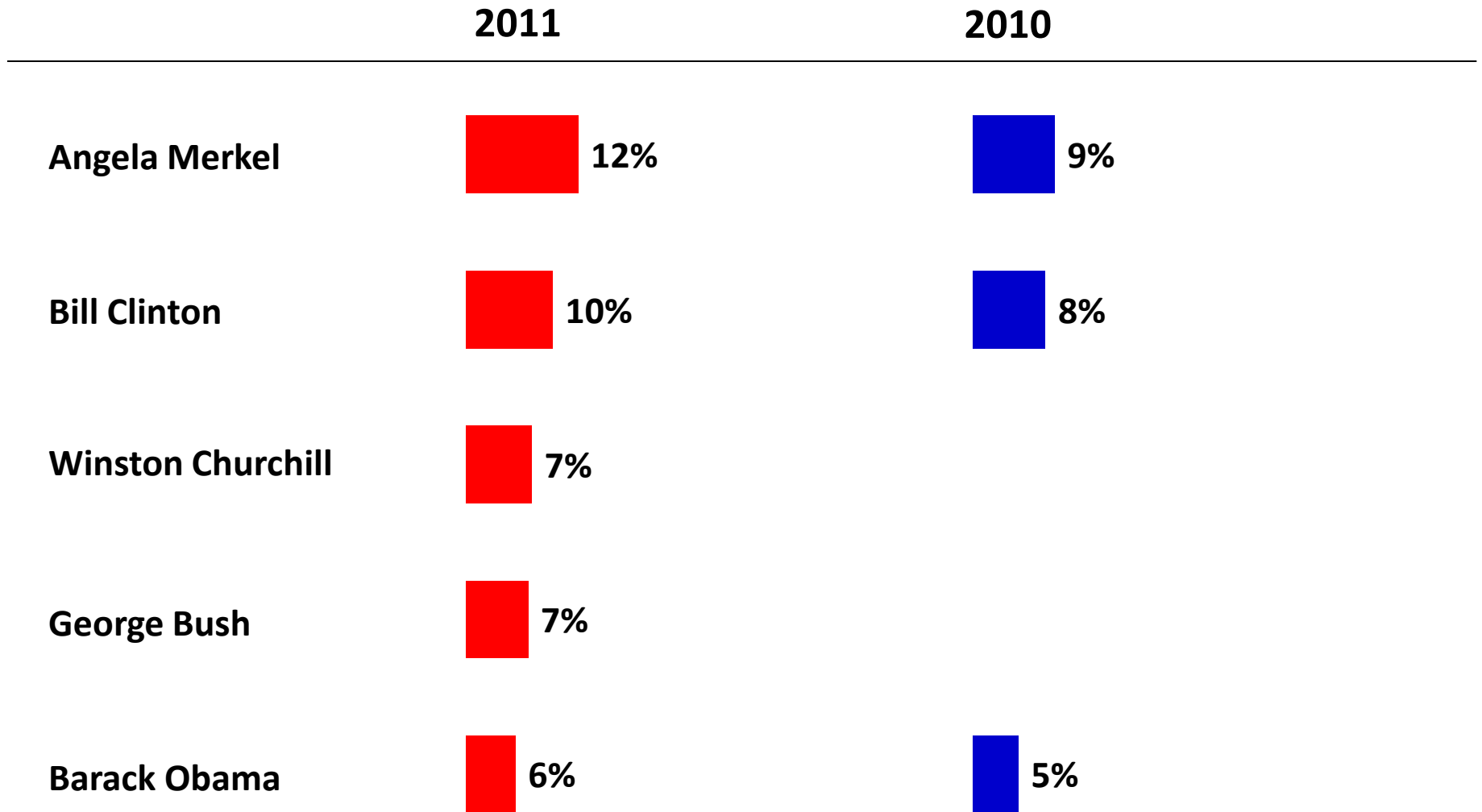
How would you describe your attitudes toward the Obama administration policy in the Middle East so far?

2011



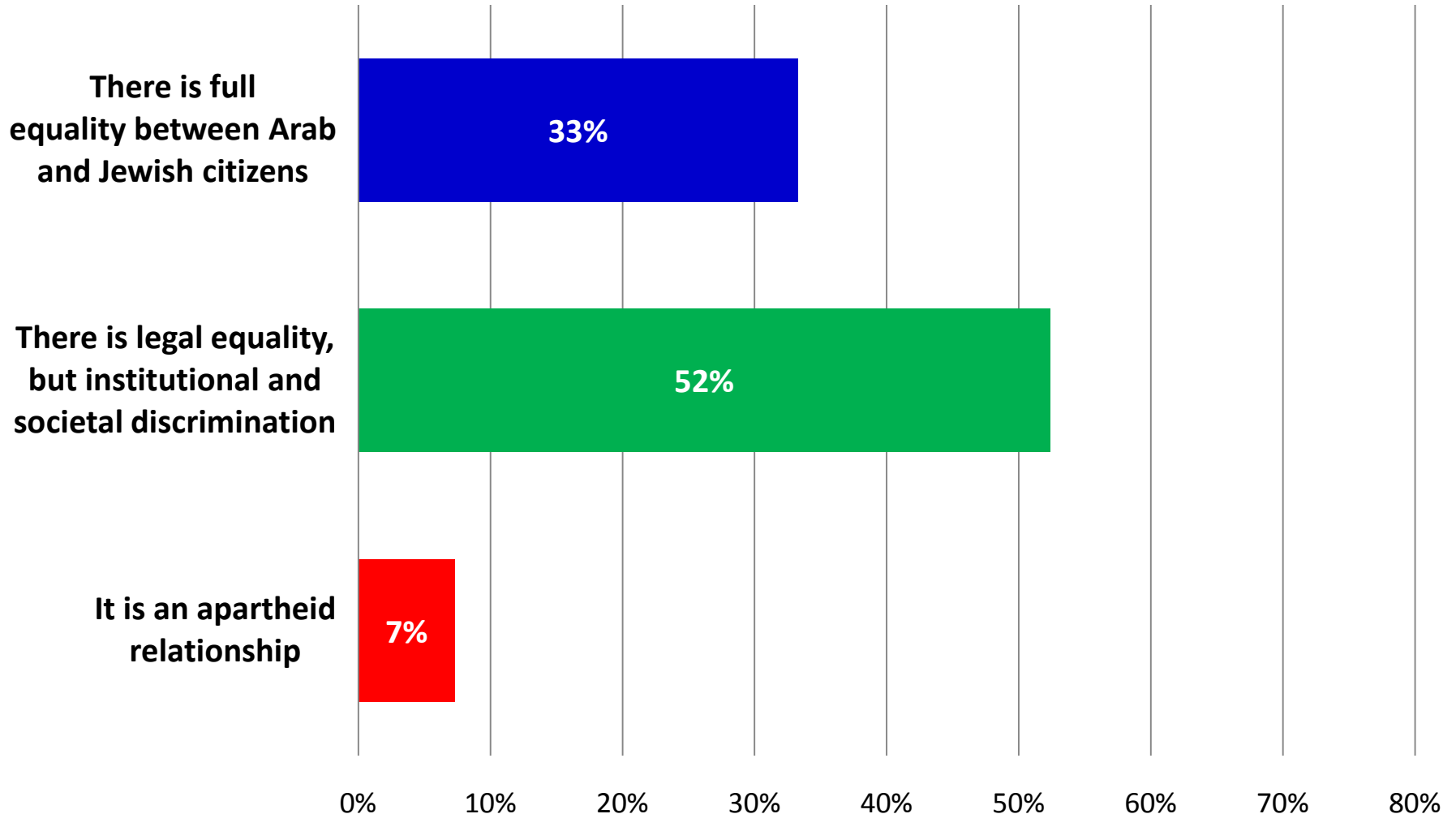
Global Perceptions

Which world leader (outside your own country) do you admire most?



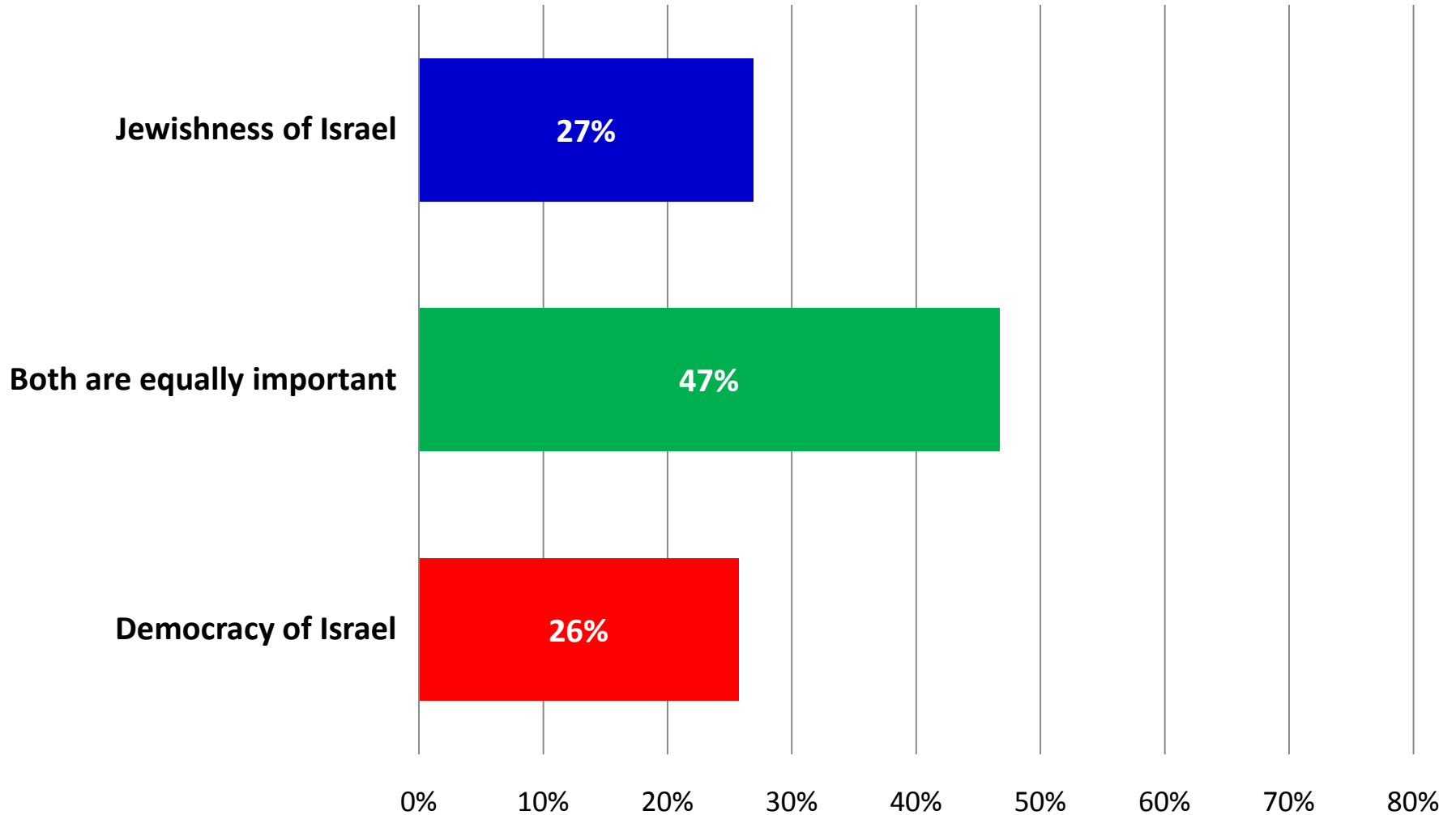
Arab-Israeli Conflict

How would you describe the current status of Arabs in Israel?



Arab-Israeli Conflict

Which of the following is more important in your view:



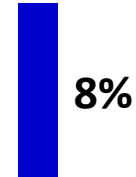
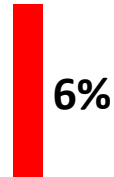
Arab-Israeli Conflict

Which of the following statements is closest to your view about the prospects of lasting peace between Israel and the Palestinians?

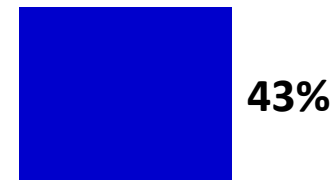
2011

2010

Will happen in the next five years



Inevitable, but it will take more time

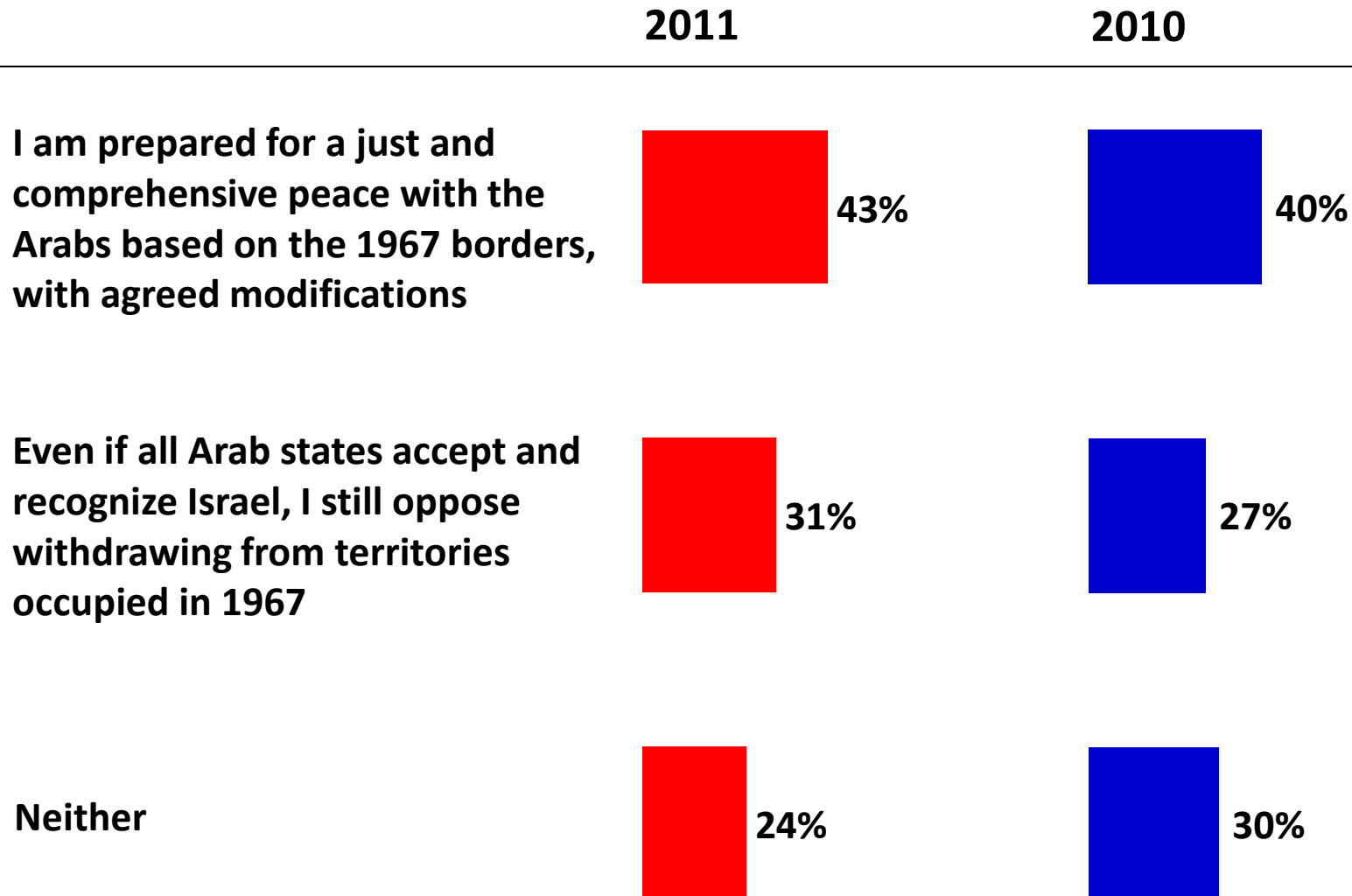


Don't believe it will ever happen



Arab-Israeli Conflict

Which of the following statements is closer to your view:



Arab-Israeli Conflict

Which of the following is closer to your position on the demand that the Palestinians accept Israel as a Jewish state:

2011

2010

I support it and demand as a precondition for negotiations or settlement freeze



39%



36%

I support it but would accept as part of a final peace agreement



40%



39%

I do not support this demand



17%



23%

Arab-Israeli Conflict

Given that 25% of Israelis are non-Jews, which of the following is closer to your position on defining Israel as “the homeland of the Jewish people and all its citizens”:

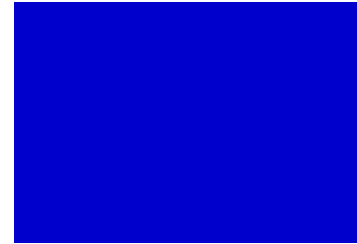
2011

2010

I support it



71%



71%

I reject it



25%



27%

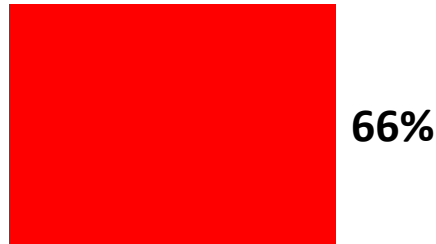
Arab-Israeli Conflict

Should or shouldn't Israel do more than it does today to promote comprehensive peace with the Arabs based on the 1967 borders with agreed modifications and the establishment of a peaceful Palestinian state?

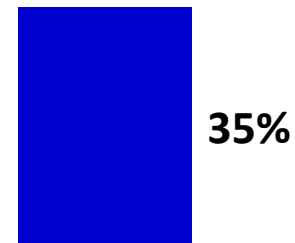
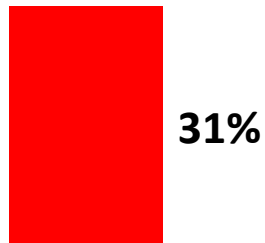
2011

2010

Israel should

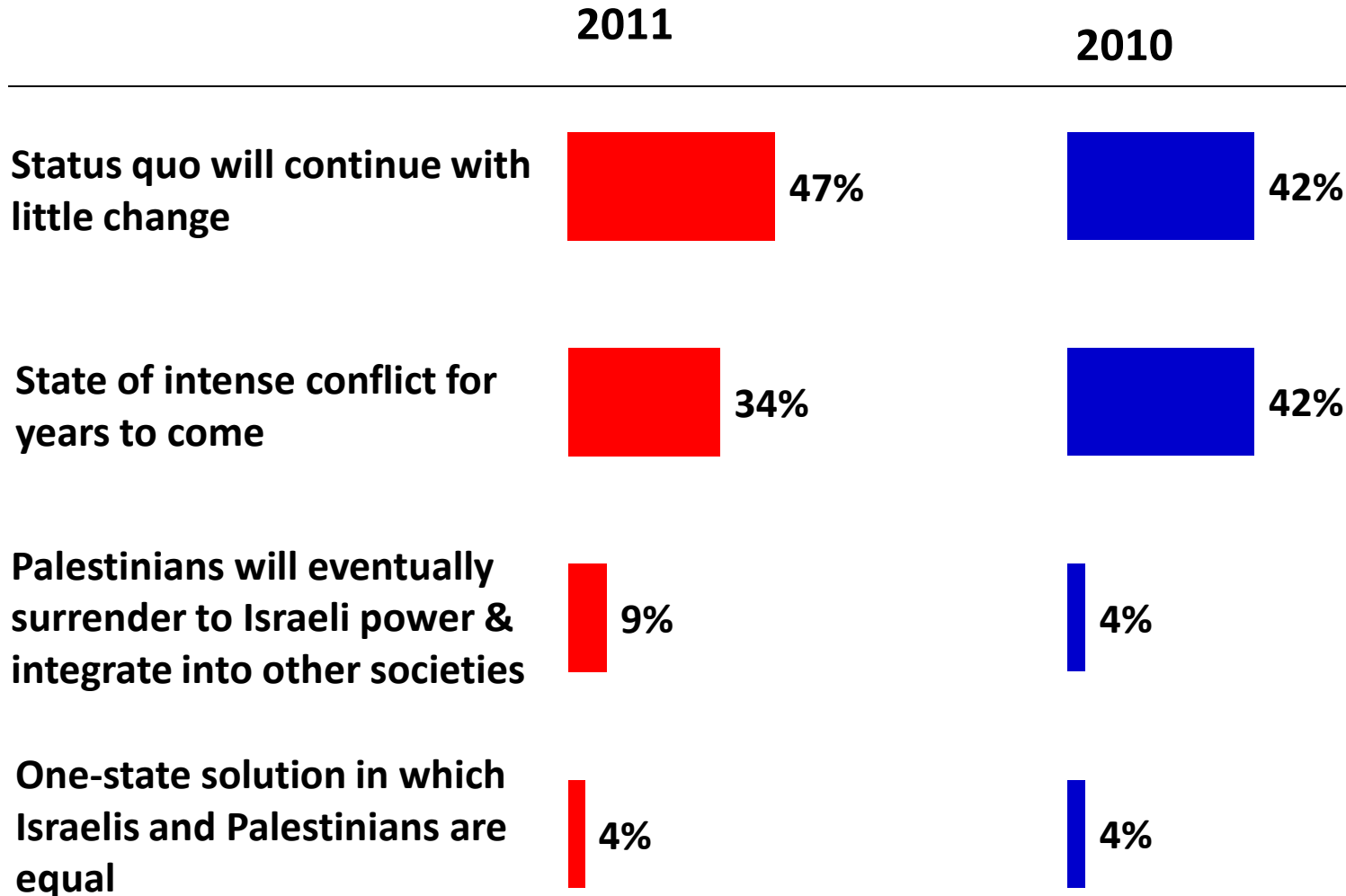


Israel shouldn't



Arab-Israeli Conflict

What do you believe is the likely outcome if prospects of a two-state solution to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict collapse:



Iran & Nuclear Weapons*

* The section on Iran's nuclear weapons is part of a joint project of the Sadat Chair at the University of Maryland and the Program on International Policy Attitudes and its director, Dr. Steven Kull

Iran & Nuclear Weapons

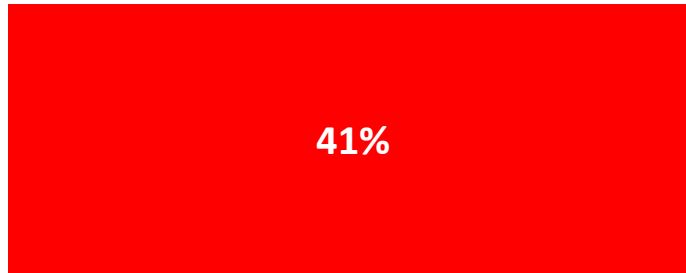
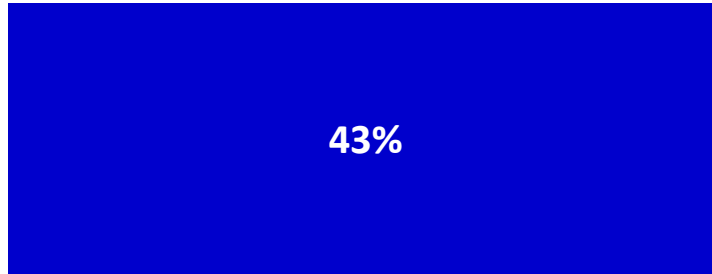
There is talk of a possible Israeli attack on Iran's nuclear facilities. Do you:

Support such an attack

43%

Oppose such an attack

41%



Iran & Nuclear Weapons

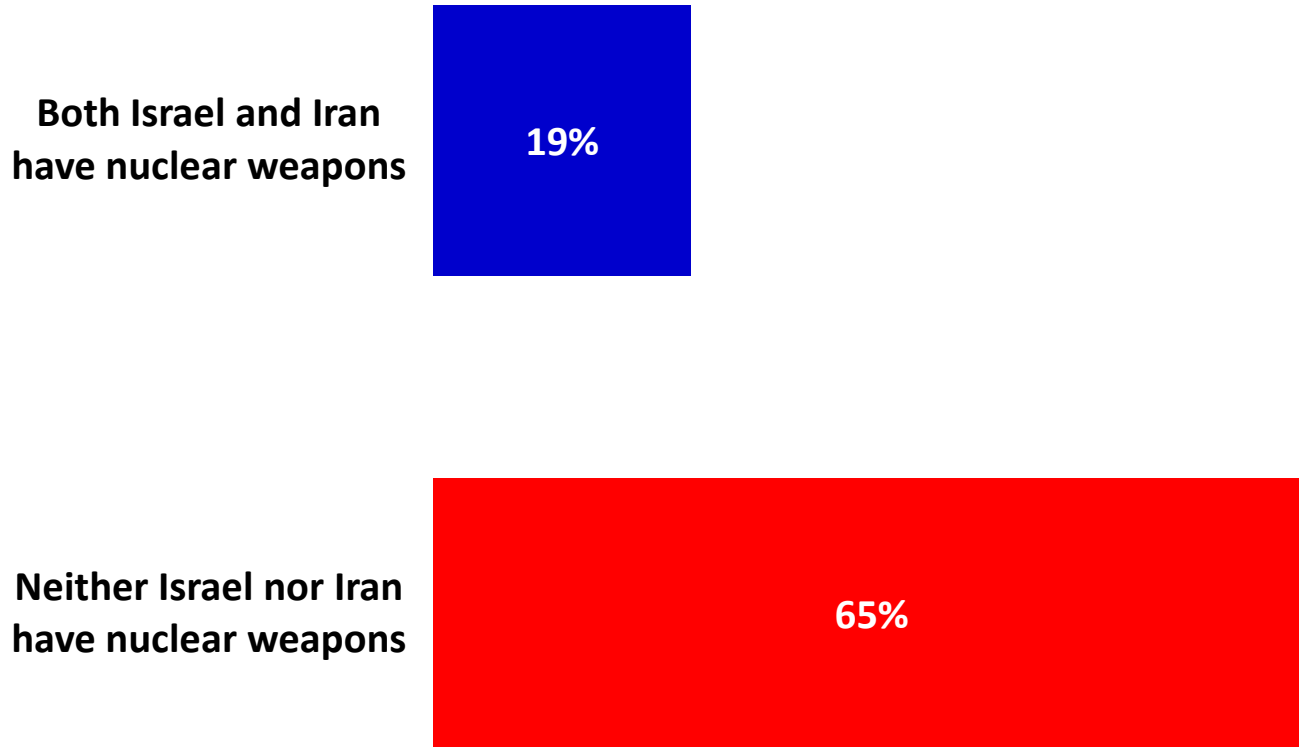
Assuming that these are the only two options, which do you think would be a better situation for Israel:

Both Israel and Iran
have nuclear weapons

19%

Neither Israel nor Iran
have nuclear weapons

65%



Iran & Nuclear Weapons

How likely do you think it is that Iran will eventually develop nuclear weapons?

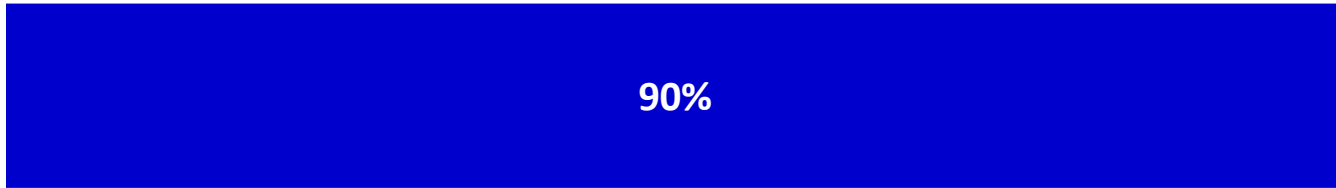
2011

Likely

90%

Unlikely

6%



Iran & Nuclear Weapons

So in total, do you support or oppose the idea of having a nuclear weapons-free zone in the Middle East that would include both Islamic countries and Israel?

2011

Support

64%

Object

31%

Identity

Which of the following is your most important identity?

2011

2010

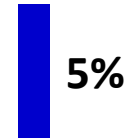
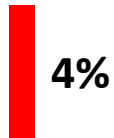
Jewish



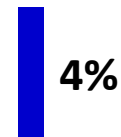
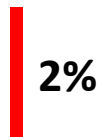
Israeli



Citizen of the world



My family's
country of origin



Arab/Palestinian Citizens of Israel

Iran & Nuclear Weapons

There is international pressure on Iran to curtail its nuclear program. What is your opinion?

5 Arab Countries

Arab/Palestinian Israelis

Iran has the right to its nuclear program



64%



53%

Iran should be pressured to stop its nuclear program



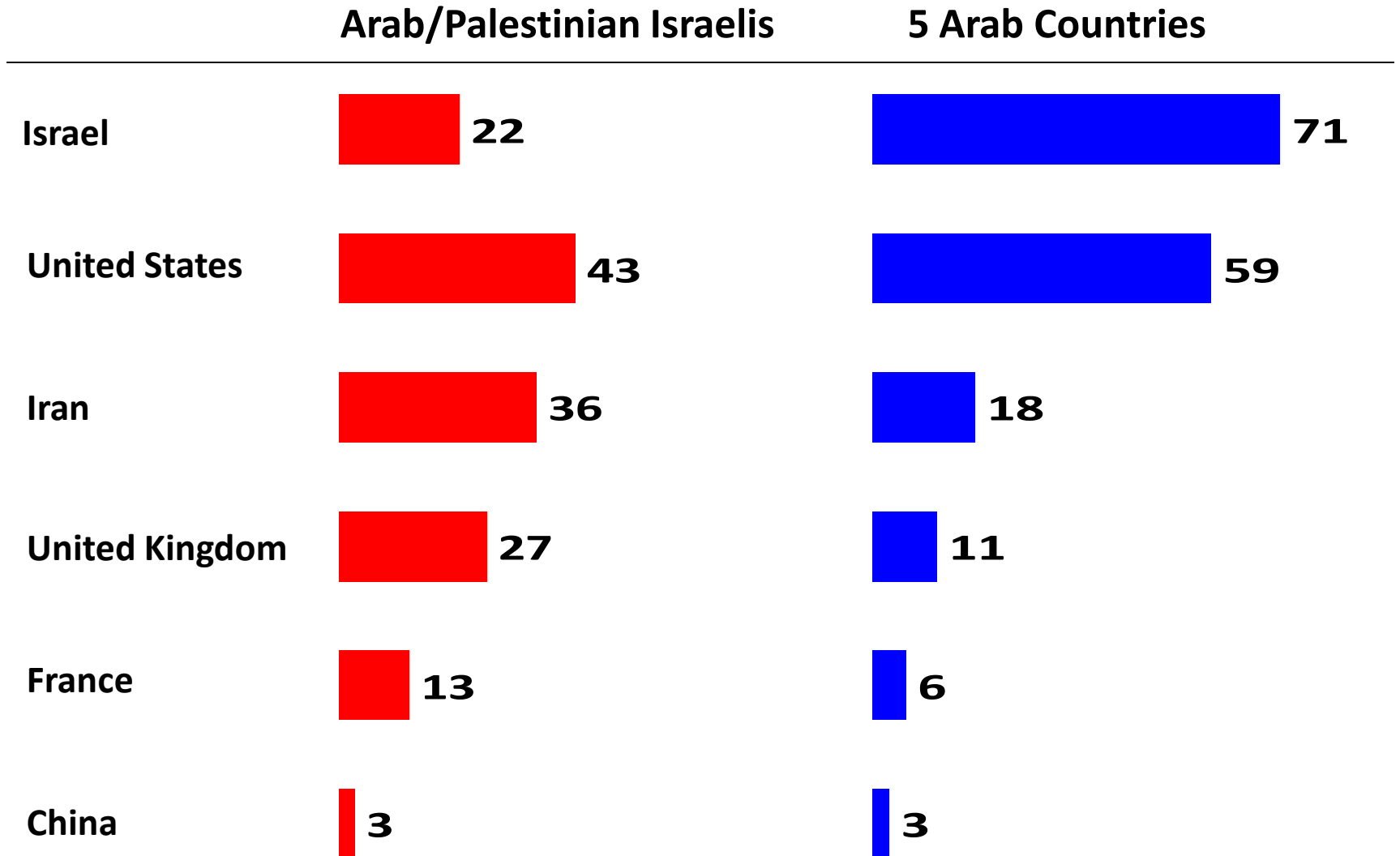
25%



32%

Iran & Nuclear Weapons

Name TWO countries that you think pose the biggest threat to you.



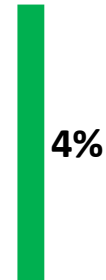
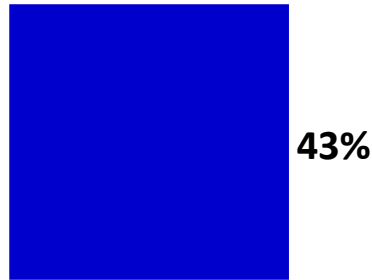
Iran & Nuclear Weapons

There is talk of a possible Israeli attack on Iran's nuclear facilities. Do you:

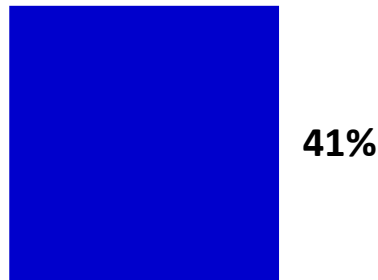
Jewish Israelis

Arab/Palestinian Israelis

Support such an attack



Oppose such an attack



Global Perceptions

Which world leader (outside your own country) do you admire most?

Arab/Palestinian Israelis

5 Arab Countries

Recep Erdogan



22



22

Yasser Arafat



22

N/A

Hassan Nasrallah



8



13

Barack Obama



7



4

Fidel Castro



6



3

Hugo Chavez



5



5

Saddam Hussein



4



6

Hillary Clinton



4



2

Nicolas Sarkozy



4



5

Mahmoud Ahmadinejad



3



13

Identity

Which of the following is your most important identity?

Arab/Palestinian Israelis

Israeli Jews

5 Arab Countries

Citizen of your country



Religious identity
(Muslim or Jew)



Arab



Citizen of the world



Palestinian



Arab-Israeli Conflict

Would you accept the transfer of some Arab/Palestinian towns currently in Israel to a new Palestinian state, when established?

 Yes

 No

2011



2010



Arab-Israeli Conflict

Your opinion of possible recruitment of Israeli Arab/Palestinian citizens into non-military national service program:

Reject under any circumstances

Accept if Arabs granted equal rights to Jews

Accept only after Palestinian state established

2011



2010



Arab-Israeli Conflict

How do you feel about Palestinian refugees' right to return?

Not too important **Important but a compromise should be found** **Important and cannot be compromised in any way**



Arab-Israeli Conflict

How would you describe the current status of Arabs in Israel?

Jewish Israelis

Arab/Palestinian Israelis

There is full equality between Arab and Jewish citizens



33%



3%

There is legal equality, but institutional and societal discrimination



52%



57%

It is an apartheid relationship



7%



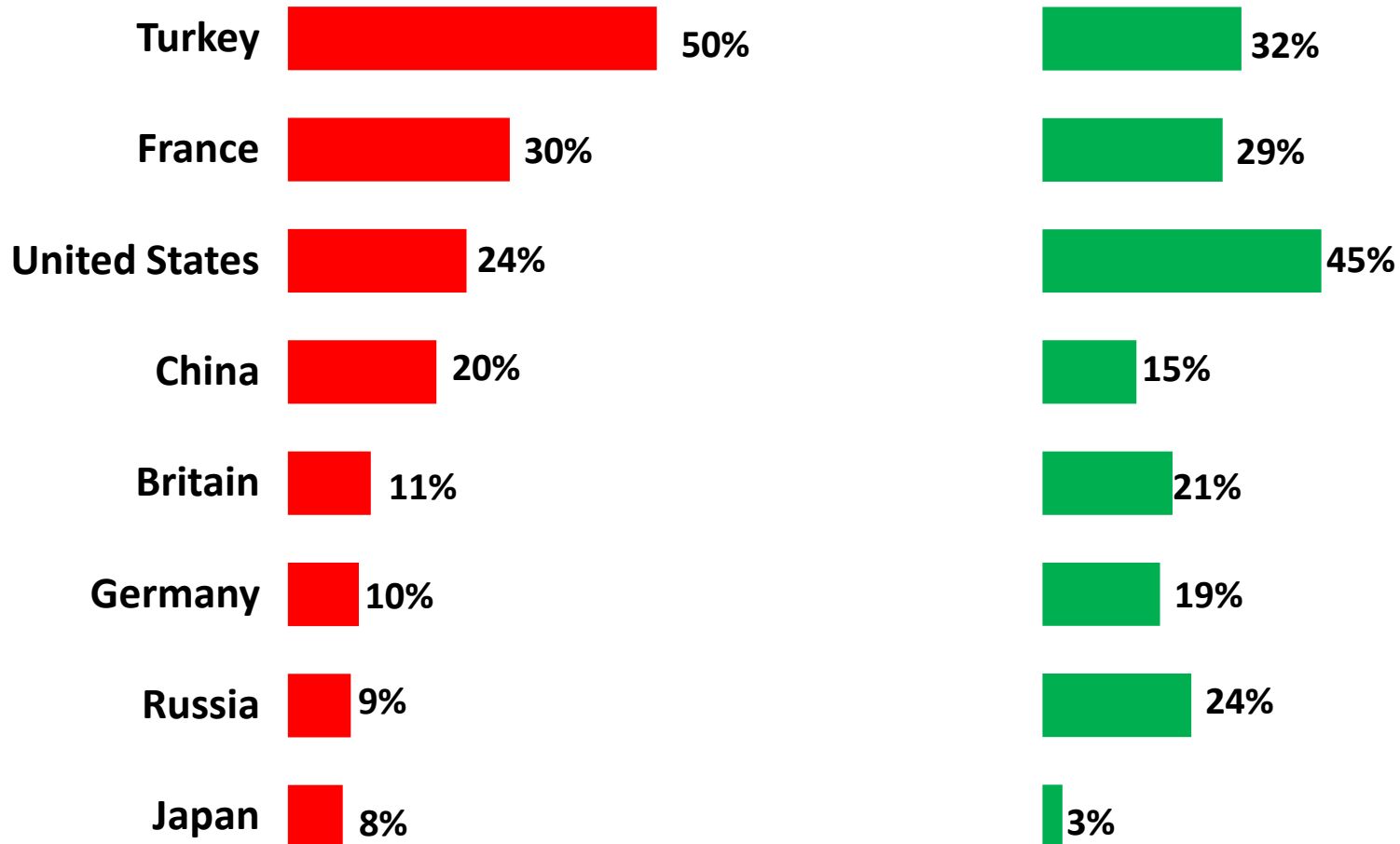
36%

Arab Awakening

Looking at the international reaction to the events in the Arab world in the past few months, which TWO countries do you believe played the most constructive role?

5 Arab Countries

Arab/Palestinian Israelis



Arab Awakening

In retrospect, do you believe that the international intervention in Libya was:

Arab/Palestinian Israelis

5 Arab Countries

The right thing to do

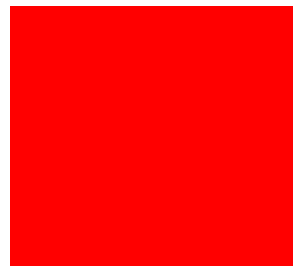


35

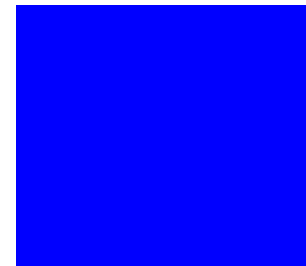


35

The wrong thing to do



44



46

Arab Awakening

When you watch events in Syria, are your sympathies mostly with the government or the rebels seeking government change?

Arab/Palestinian Israelis

5 Arab Countries

Rebels



75



86

Government



17



9

Arab Awakening

When you watch events in Yemen, are your sympathies mostly with the government or the rebels seeking government change?

Arab/Palestinian Israelis

5 Arab Countries

Rebels



88



89

Government



6



5

Arab Awakening

When you watch events in Bahrain, are your sympathies mostly with the government or the rebels seeking government change?

Arab/Palestinian Israelis

5 Arab Countries

Rebels



85



64

Government



8



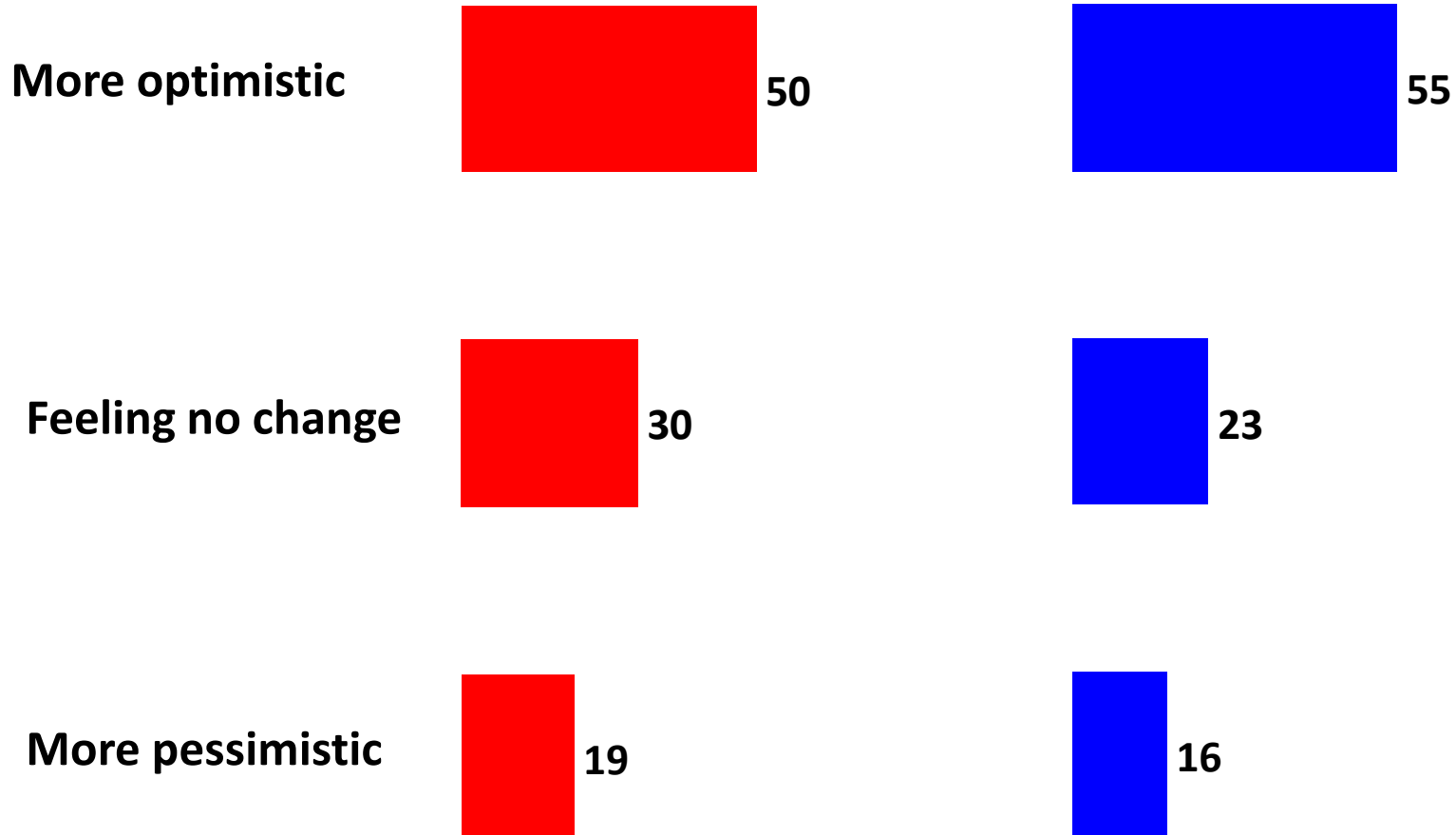
24

Arab Awakening

When you reflect on the Arab Spring, are you more optimistic or more pessimistic than before about the future of the Arab world?

Arab/Palestinian Israelis

5 Arab Countries



Arab Awakening

As you look ahead toward the Presidential elections in Egypt, which of the following leaders would you like the next President to look like most?

Arab/Palestinian Israelis

5 Arab Countries

