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|   | [Opinion Polls](http://home.birzeit.edu/dsp/opinionpolls/)Poll No. 20, Part 2**Increase in Support for Negotiations; Support for Fateh on the Rise** **[ Analysis of Results ] [** [**Detailed Results**](http://home.birzeit.edu/cds/opinionpolls/poll202/results.html) **] [** [**Sample Distribution**](http://home.birzeit.edu/cds/opinionpolls/poll202/sample.html) **] [** [**PDF Format**](http://home.birzeit.edu/cds/opinionpolls/poll202/poll202.pdf) **] [** [**In Arabic**](http://home.birzeit.edu/dsp/arabic/opinionpolls/poll202/) **]** Analysis of Results  **Part One: The Peace Process** **Sharp increase in support for negotiations, and low confidence in American policy**-         Support for negotiations with Israel increased from 45% last July to 69% today. -         Respondents from Gaza are more supportive (73%) than their counterparts in the West Bank (66%). -         In addition, 64% of the respondents support a lasting solution to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict based on UN resolutions. -         72% of those sampled believe that the re-election of President George W. Bush will result in increased pressure on the Palestinian leadership to make concessions to the Israeli position; whereas, 12% think that the re-election of President Bush will reinforce the status quo. About 16% view Mr. Bush’s re-election as a positive push to the peace process. -         75% believe that the United States is not serious about its calls for the establishment of a Palestinian state.   **Part Two: The Aftermath of the Passing of President Yaser Arafat** ***1.  The passing of President Arafat*** When people were asked about their expectations of the consequences of Arafat's death, their responses reflected both fear and hope. Some expect an increase in political conflict and an increase in the power of religious groups. Others expect serious institutional reform of the Palestinian Authority.  Data regarding the passing of Arafat are as follows:**A- Greater decentralization of authority, but with political conflict** Peaceful political conflict among the political forces                                           59% Distribution of authority among a number of leaders in the PA                           54%     Violent conflict among the political forces                                                         39%**B- Increased commitment toward reform versus a decline in services** More interest in institutional reform                                                                    54% An opportunity to reorganize Palestinian institutions;                                          52% And improve their performance More democracy                                                                                              39% Decline in the performance of the PA                                                                35%  **C- Increase in the power of religious movements** Increase in the power of Islamist groups                                                            59% Decline in international interest regarding the Palestinian situation                        39% End of the Israeli occupation                                                                             20%       ***2. Palestinian fears after the passing of President Arafat*** The following political, social, economic, and security issues represent the fears of those polled.  **Issue                                                                                   % saying it is a fear**Continuation of the occupation                                                  80% Economic decline                                                                      74% Internal security                                                                         73%     Use of weapons in resolving conflicts                                         68%Continuing division between Gaza and the West Bank                67% Abandoning Palestinian national rights                                        60% Increasing conflict between Palestinian factions                          60% Decline in the performance of the Palestinian Authority               58%Increasing conflict within Fatah                                                 55%  **Part Three:  Weapons**  -         66% of those sampled oppose the idea of disarming Palestinian militias by the Palestinian Authority, whereas 29% were supportive of the idea. -         In contrast, 70% of the respondents support disarming those with illegal weapons by force if necessary, whereas 27% oppose such an idea. -         A majority of the sample (79%) support a ban on carrying weapons in public areas, events, and funerals. **Part Four: An Evaluation of Fatah and Hamas** The majority of the respondents believe that Fateh represents a more realistic and concrete program compared to Hamas. They believe that Fateh is more capable of implementing social, political, and diplomatic programs.

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| **Which political group presents the most concrete and realistic program in the following areas:** |
|  | **Total WBG** | **West Bank**  | **Gaza Strip**  |
| **Area of Interest** | **Fateh**  | **Hamas**  | **Others**  | **Fateh**  | **Hamas**  | **Others**  | **Fateh**  | **Hamas**  | **Others**  |
| **Reaching a satisfactory political solution to the Palestinian- Israeli conflict**  | 50.7 | 24.4 | 24.9 | 49.6 | 23.4 | 27.1 | 52.5 | 26.2 | 21.3 |
| **Reaching a solution for social and economic problems**  | 44.2 | 25.0 | 30.7 | 41.7 | 24.2 | 34.1 | 48.4 | 26.5 | 25.1 |
| **Promoting Palestinian - Arab relations**  | 63.5 | 16.7 | 19.7 | 60.3 | 16.1 | 23.6 | 68.8 | 17.7 | 13.5 |
| **Promoting  Palestinian - International relations** | 65.6 | 12.9 | 21.4 | 62.4 | 13.0 | 24.5 | 70.9 | 12.7 | 16.4 |

           **Part Five: Living Conditions*****1-***      ***Further deterioration in living conditions***-         7% of Palestinian families in the sample lack a monthly income. -         The monthly income of 31% of Palestinian families is less than $160.00. -         77% of Palestinian families’ monthly income is less than $385.00.-         41% of the sample described their family's economic situation as “bad or very bad,” whereas 43% described their family’s economic situation as “fair,” and 16% described it as “good or very good”. ***2-***      ***Absence of security***-         55% feel insecure about their families and their property, whereas 24% feel secure. -         47% feel insecure about the future of their children, whereas 28% feel secure. 26% of the sample stated that they are pessimistic about the future, whereas 51% were optimistic about the future.  An additional 21% stated that they are neither optimistic nor pessimistic about the future. Moreover, the rate of optimism is higher in Gaza (62%) when compared with the West Bank (45%).      [Top of this page](http://home.birzeit.edu/cds/opinionpolls/poll202/analysis.html#top)    |    [DSP Home](http://home.birzeit.edu/dsp/)  |   |
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