



# World Public Opinion on Political Tolerance

**A Study of 24 Nations**

Conducted by [WorldPublicOpinion.org](http://WorldPublicOpinion.org)

Sponsored by the Inter-Parliamentary Union

International Day of Democracy, September 15, 2009

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**WorldPublicOpinion.org** is a project managed by the Program on International Policy Attitudes at the University of Maryland

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This study was sponsored by the **Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)**. Established in 1889, the IPU is the world organization of parliaments. In September 2009, 153 parliaments were Members of the IPU and eight regional parliamentary assemblies were associate Members. The IPU is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, and has an Office in New York that acts as its Permanent Observer to the United Nations.

The IPU promotes democracy, in particular by strengthening the institution of parliament. Over the years, it has helped to develop democratic principles of governance and international standards for free and fair elections, and has helped to strengthen parliamentary systems in more than 50 countries. It has developed guidelines for good practices in parliaments, and methods for assessing parliamentary performance.

For more information about the International Day of Democracy, please visit: <http://www.ipu.org/idd/>

The study was conducted by **WorldPublicOpinion.org (WPO)**, an international collaborative project, managed by the Program on International Policy Attitudes at the University of Maryland, with the aim of giving voice to public opinion around the world on international issues. As the world becomes increasingly integrated, problems have become increasingly global, pointing to a greater

need for understanding between nations and for elucidating global norms. With the growth of democracy in the world, public opinion has come to play a greater role in the foreign policy process. [WorldPublicOpinion.org](http://WorldPublicOpinion.org) seeks to reveal the values and views of publics in specific nations around the world as well as global patterns of world public opinion.

The **Program on International Policy Attitudes (PIPA)** was established in 1992 with the purpose of giving public opinion a greater voice in international relations. PIPA conducts in-depth studies of public opinion that include polls, focus groups and interviews. It integrates its findings together with those of other organizations. It actively seeks the participation of members of the policy community in developing its polls so as to make them immediately relevant to the needs of policymakers. PIPA is a joint program of the Center on Policy Attitudes and the Center for International and Security Studies at Maryland (CISSM).

Steven Kull, Clay Ramsay, Stephen Weber, and Evan Lewis of PIPA designed the questionnaire and wrote the report with input from the Inter-Parliamentary Union.

Abe Medoff of PIPA managed the production of the report, with contributions from Aaron Karako.

Richard Jones (Studio Exile) designed the cover and layout of the report.

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# Overview

In anticipation of the second International Day of Democracy the Inter-Parliamentary Union commissioned WorldPublicOpinion.org to conduct an international survey to explore public attitudes on democracy, especially on a key element thereof: political tolerance.

Political tolerance is critical to democracy and fundamental to the workings of parliaments and other legislative bodies. It means accepting and respecting the basic rights and civil liberties of persons and groups whose viewpoints differ from one's own. These rights include the freedom to express ideas, including those that are unpopular. It is also about being able to participate in political processes and doing so freely, regardless of sex, race, religion, ethnicity, or creed.

The purpose of the study was to determine public support for political tolerance, and to assess the level of political tolerance in their societies. Many political philosophers have worried that the masses of people are not tolerant of minority points of view and thus have the potential to favor a tyranny of the majority. But is this true?

Respondents were asked to give their opinion on:

- How important is it for people to be able to express diverse political views?
- How free are people to express unpopular views without fear of being harassed or punished?
- How much are opposition parties able to influence government decisions?

- How free are legislators to diverge from the positions of their parties?
- How well are women represented in legislatures?
- How well are minorities, and (where appropriate) indigenous peoples, represented in legislatures?

The list of nations to be polled was developed in order to satisfy the three following criteria—with all criteria held as equal and none taking precedence:

- to include, taken together, a clear majority of the world's population;
- to include one or more countries from North America, South America, Europe, Eurasia, Africa, South Asia and East Asia; and
- to include economically developed countries, middle-tier countries, and less developed countries.

WorldPublicOpinion.org conducted the poll of 21,285 respondents in 24 nations that comprise 64 percent of the world's population. This includes most of the largest nations—China, India, the United States, Indonesia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Russia and South Africa—as well as Argentina, Chile, Mexico, Germany, Great Britain, France, Israel, Poland, Azerbaijan, Ukraine, Kenya, Egypt, Turkey, Iraq, the Republic of Korea, and the Palestinian territories (Palestine). The margins of error range from +/-2 to 4 percentage points. The surveys were conducted across the different nations between April 4 and June 30, 2009.

# Key Findings

**The overall finding is that there is strong support for political tolerance, however, there is a widespread perception of a serious lack of political tolerance in practice.**

## **Right to Express Diverse Political Views**

Majorities in every nation polled said it was important to have the right to express diverse political views, including those that are unpopular. This is related to support for democracy in general: those who support political tolerance are more likely to support democracy and vice versa. These findings reinforce other polls that have found strong support around the world for the right to express diverse ideas.

## **Degree of Freedom of Expression**

No nation polled has a majority that thinks its people are completely free to express unpopular views.

## **Role of Opposition Political Parties**

People in most countries express concern that opposition parties do not get a fair chance to influence government policies.

## **Freedom of Legislators to Express Divergent Views**

In nearly every country, people perceive that their legislators have limited freedom to express views that differ from their political party.

## **Representation of Women**

Though none of the nations polled have parity in gender representation in their national legislatures, views are mixed on whether women are fairly represented. On average, a modest majority of men think women are fairly represented, but a plurality of women think they are not.

## **Representation of Minorities**

There is wide variation in perceptions of how fairly minorities are represented in national legislatures, though overall views lean in the direction that minorities are not fairly represented.

## **Representation of Indigenous Peoples**

In several nations with significant indigenous populations, large majorities in all cases see these populations as not being fairly represented.

# Support for the Right to Express Diverse Political Views

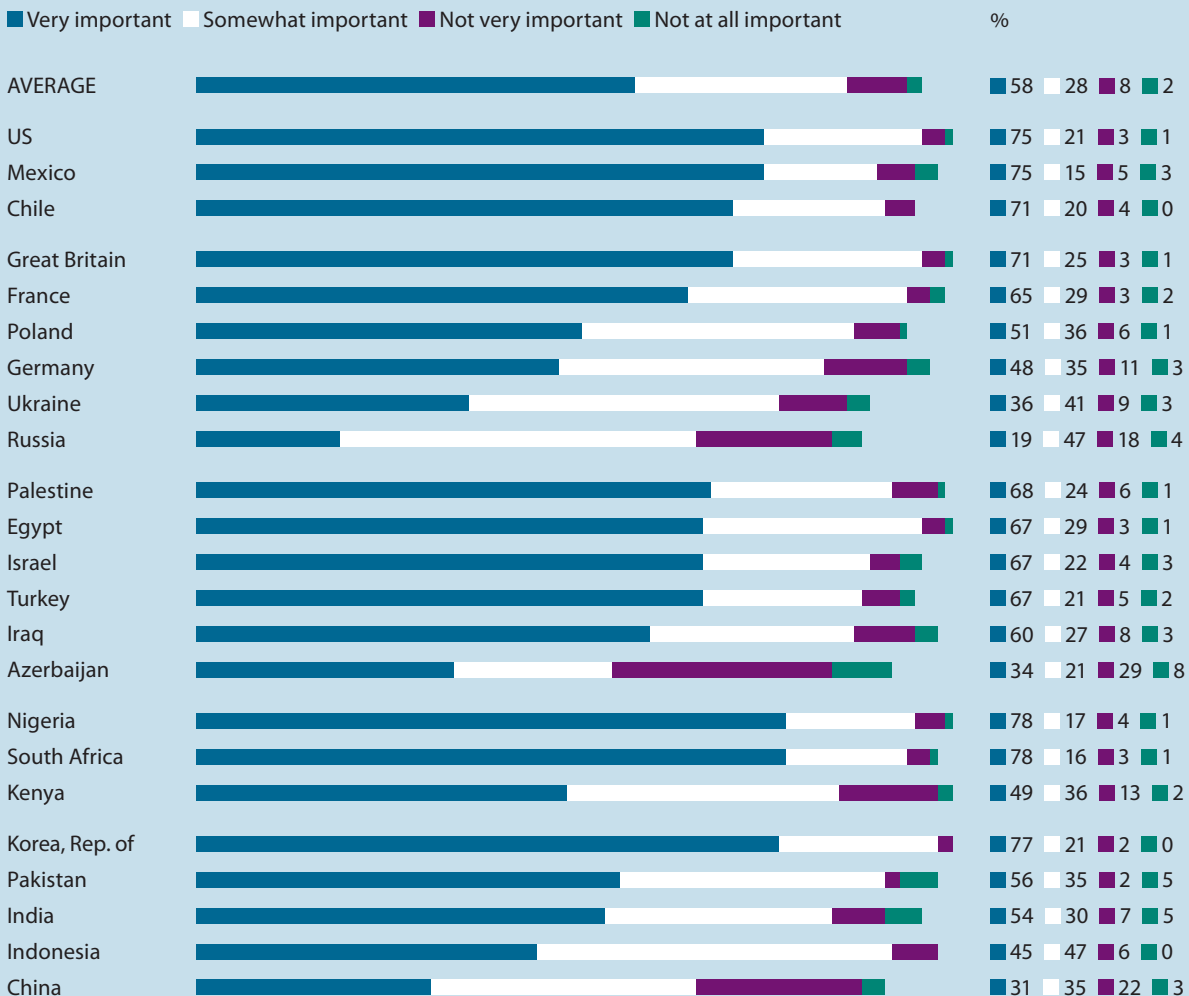
**Majorities in every nation polled said it was important to have the right to express diverse political views, including those that are unpopular. This is related to support for democracy in general: those who support political tolerance are more likely to support democracy and vice versa. Other polls have found strong support around the world for the right to express diverse ideas, and for the fulfillment of equality of rights for women and minorities.**

Respondents were asked, “How important do you think it is for people to be free to express unpopular political views, without fear of being harassed or punished—very important, somewhat important, not very important, or not at all important?” In all 23 nations asked this question, majorities said such freedom is very or somewhat important.

In 16 nations, majorities called such freedom of expression very important, and in 13, majorities of 60 percent or more said so.

## Expressing Unpopular Political Views

How important do you think it is for people to be free to express unpopular political views, without fear of being harassed or punished?





On average across all countries polled, 86 percent said this freedom is important, and 58 percent called it very important.

The only significant variation between countries and regions was in the magnitude of the number saying that freedom of expression of unpopular ideas is *very* important, as compared to just *somewhat* important. The largest majorities were found in the Americas and in Middle Eastern countries. There were no significant differences on a worldwide basis by gender or age.

In post-Soviet countries, majorities placed somewhat less emphasis on freedom of political expression. While majorities in Russia, Ukraine, and Azerbaijan all called it important, only 19 to 36 percent in these countries said it was very important.

Asian countries were also relatively lower in the number saying that freedom of expression is very important.

## Political Tolerance and Views of Democracy

People who support greater political tolerance are also more apt to support democracy. Among those who said it is very important for people to be free to express unpopular political views, 80 percent said it is very important to live in a country that is governed democratically, but this dropped to 48 percent among those who said such freedom is just somewhat important and to 41 percent among those who said it is not important at all.

Not surprisingly the opposite holds as well. Among those who said living in a democracy is very important 71 percent said that freedom of expression is very important—dropping to 37 percent among those who said living in a democracy is somewhat important and to 27 percent among those who said it is not very important.

### Findings from Other Polls

Other polls have also found strong support for the freedom to express varying points of view. A 2008 WorldPublic Opinion (WPO) poll asked how important it is that people have the right “to express any opinion, including criticisms of the government or religious leaders.” Majorities in all 20 nations polled said that it is important, while in 16 a majority said that this right is “very important.” On average, across all nations polled, 66 percent judged this right to be “very important” and an additional 22 percent saw it as somewhat important; only 7 percent saw it as either not very important (5%) or not important at all (2%).

A Pew Global Attitudes Project poll in 2007 asked people in 35 nations whether or not the ability to openly say what you think, or to criticize the state or government, was important. Majorities in every country felt that freedom of speech was important. On average 87 percent of respondents felt that it was either “very important” or “somewhat important,” and 11 percent felt that it was “not too important” or “not important at all.”

Between 2005 and 2006, Afrobarometer surveyed 18 African countries about whether the government should allow the expression of political views that are fundamentally different from the views of the majority. Majorities in every country except one believed that government should allow free speech. In the average of the 18 countries, 71 percent believed that people should be able to speak their minds about politics free of government influence, no matter how unpopular their views may be, while 23 percent believed that government should restrict free speech when it is fundamentally different from the views of the majority.

The right to free expression can also be examined from the perspective of whether the government has the right to prohibit the discussion of certain views. The 2008 WPO poll also asked people in 20 nations whether the government should “have the right to prohibit certain political or religious views from being discussed.” Majorities in 14 nations and pluralities in three said that the government should not have such a right. On average only 36 percent of people polled worldwide said the government should have such a right, while 57 percent said that the government should not.

WPO asked publics in 19 nations in 2008 if they favored the people’s right to peacefully demonstrate against the government or if “the government should have the right to ban peaceful demonstrations that it thinks would be politically destabilizing.” Majorities in all cases said people should have the right to demonstrate. On average across all nations, 75 percent felt that the people should have the right to demonstrate peacefully against the government, whereas 20 percent believe that the government should have the right to ban peaceful demonstrations that it thinks would be politically destabilizing.

## Support for Democracy

**Majorities in all nations polled, said it is important to live in a country that is governed democratically—and for majorities in most nations, this is very important.**

Asked “How important is it for you to live in a country that is governed democratically” majorities in all 24 nations said it was very or somewhat important. In no country did those saying this was unimportant exceed about one in four.

In 20 of the 24 nations, majorities said it is very important to live in a country that is governed democratically. In 16 countries these majorities were three-fifths or more.

On average across all nations polled, 90 percent said it was important to live in a democratically governed country, and 67 percent said it was very important. There were no significant differences on a worldwide basis by gender or age.

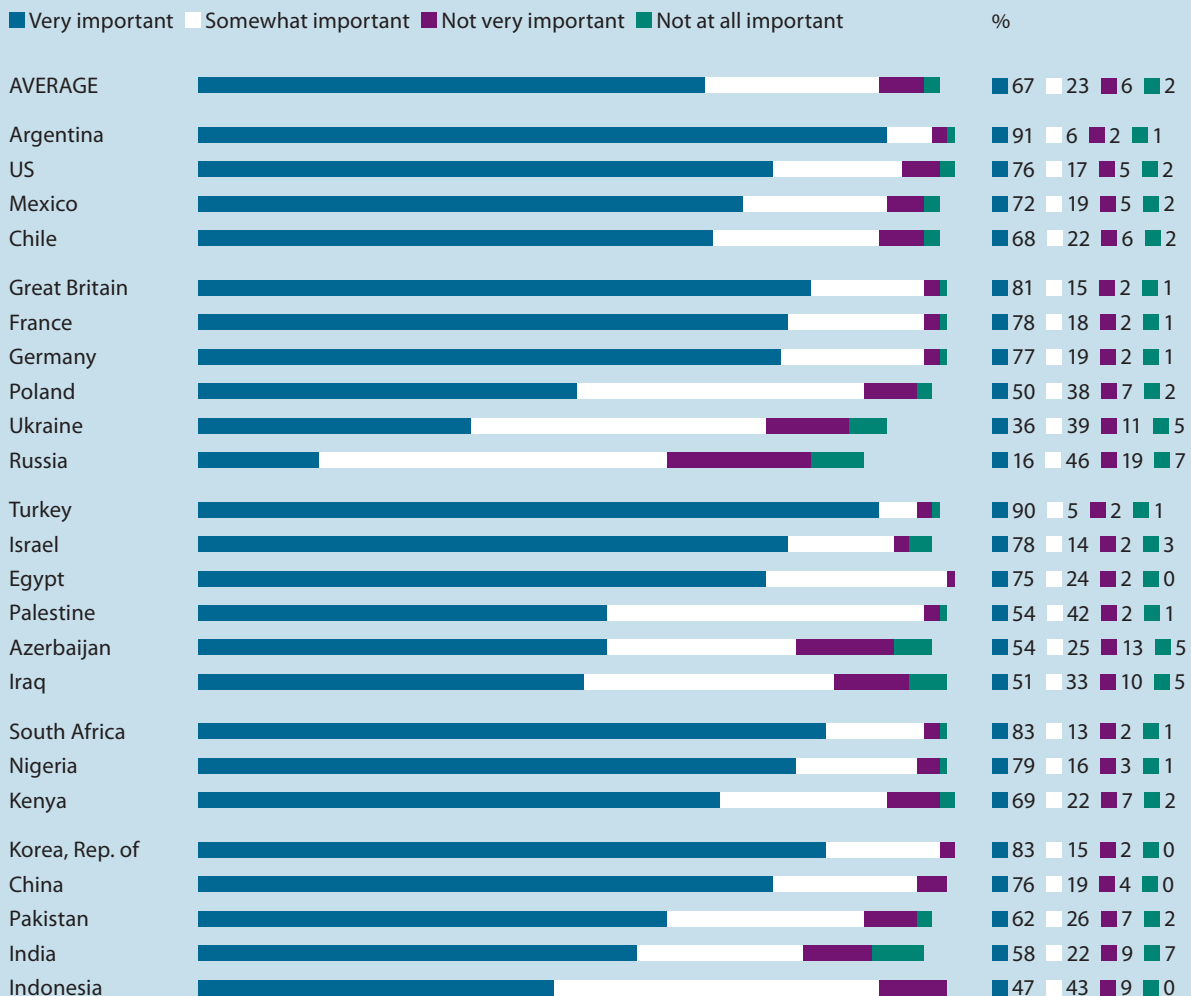
Argentina and Turkey were exceptionally enthusiastic about democracy with 90 percent or more saying it was very important.

Relatively moderate enthusiasm could be seen in the post-Soviet states polled. In Russia, Ukraine, and Azerbaijan, majorities calling democracy important to them were in a 60-to-80 percent range. However the numbers saying it is very important were just 16 percent in Russia and 36 percent in Ukraine.

## Importance of Democracy

How important is it for you to live in a country that is governed democratically?

Would you say it is:



# Dissatisfaction with Degree of Freedom of Expression

**No nation polled has a majority that thinks its people are completely free to express unpopular views.**

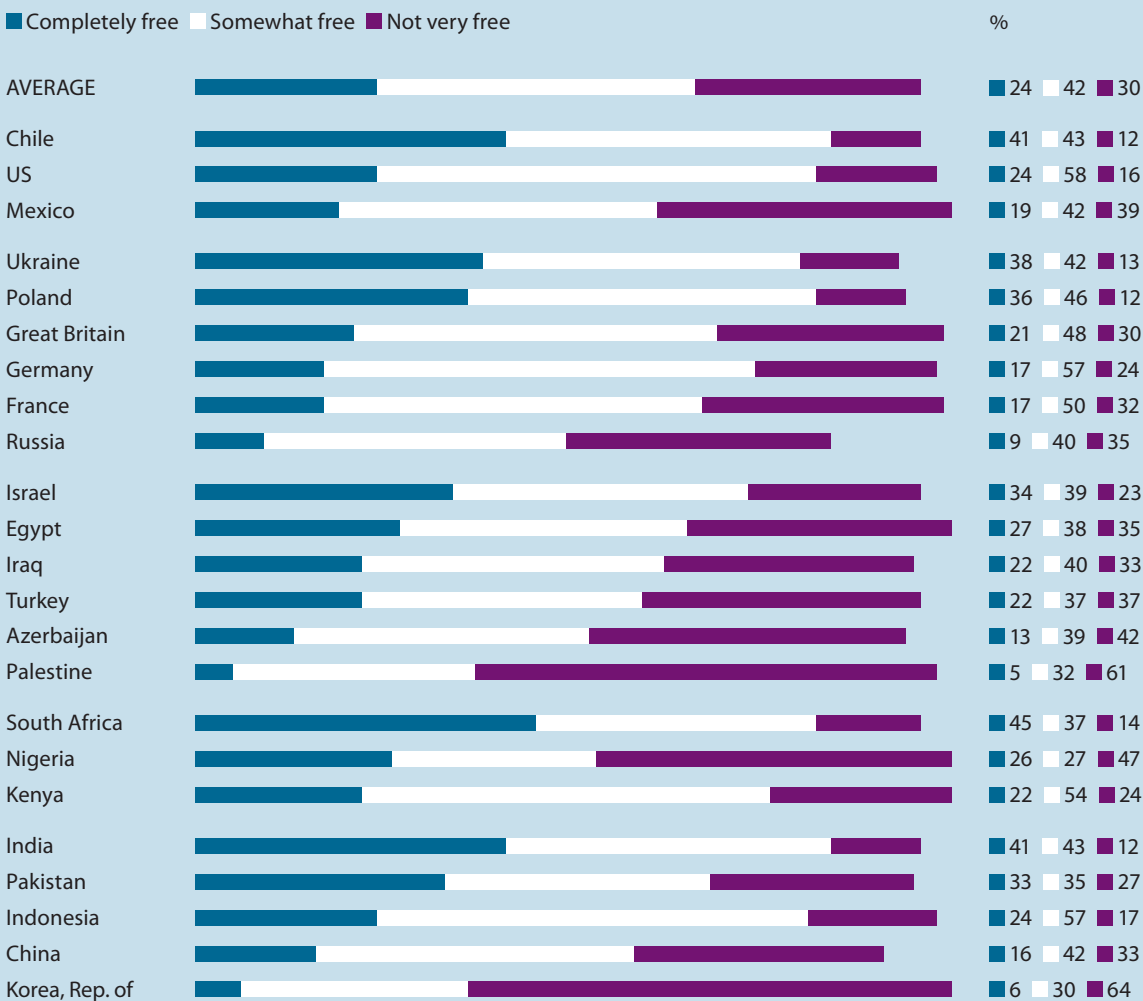
When asked how free they think people actually are to express unpopular views in their country, without fear of being harassed or punished, in no country did a majority of people say they are completely free. The most common response in 14 nations was that people are just somewhat free.

On average across all nations polled, 24 percent said people in their country were completely free to express unpopular political views, 42 percent that they were somewhat free, and 30 percent that they were not very free. There were no significant differences on a worldwide basis by gender or age.

In two cases, majorities said they were “not very free”—the Republic of Korea (62%) and Palestine (61%). Relatively large numbers said that people were not very free in Nigeria (47%), Azerbaijan (42%), and Mexico (39%).

## Status of Free Expression

In this country, how free do you think people actually are to express unpopular political views, without fear of being harassed or punished?



Only three nations had more than four in ten saying they were mostly free—South Africa (45%), India (41%), and Chile (41%).

Some of the nations where many express dissatisfaction may seem surprising. They do not correlate highly with widely-used measures of political freedom. It appears that these responses may be more an expression of how well their society fulfills their expectations. These expectations may be influenced by their recent history or levels of freedom in their region.

Some publics that have seen a strong improvement within recent decades tend to score their nations higher. In the Americas, Chileans score their country substantially better than people do in Mexico or the United States. In Africa, South Africans scored their country better than Kenyans, Nigerians, or Egyptians do theirs. Among the four European countries polled, the youngest democracy—Poland—gives itself the highest rating.

Longstanding democracies may also have a higher baseline of expectations and may thus be more acutely aware of how liberal ideals are not entirely fulfilled in practice. Fairly small numbers say that society is completely free in the US (24%), Britain (21%) or France (17%).

# Opposition Parties Not Having a Fair Chance to Express their Views

**People in most countries express concern that opposition parties do not get a fair chance to influence government policies.**

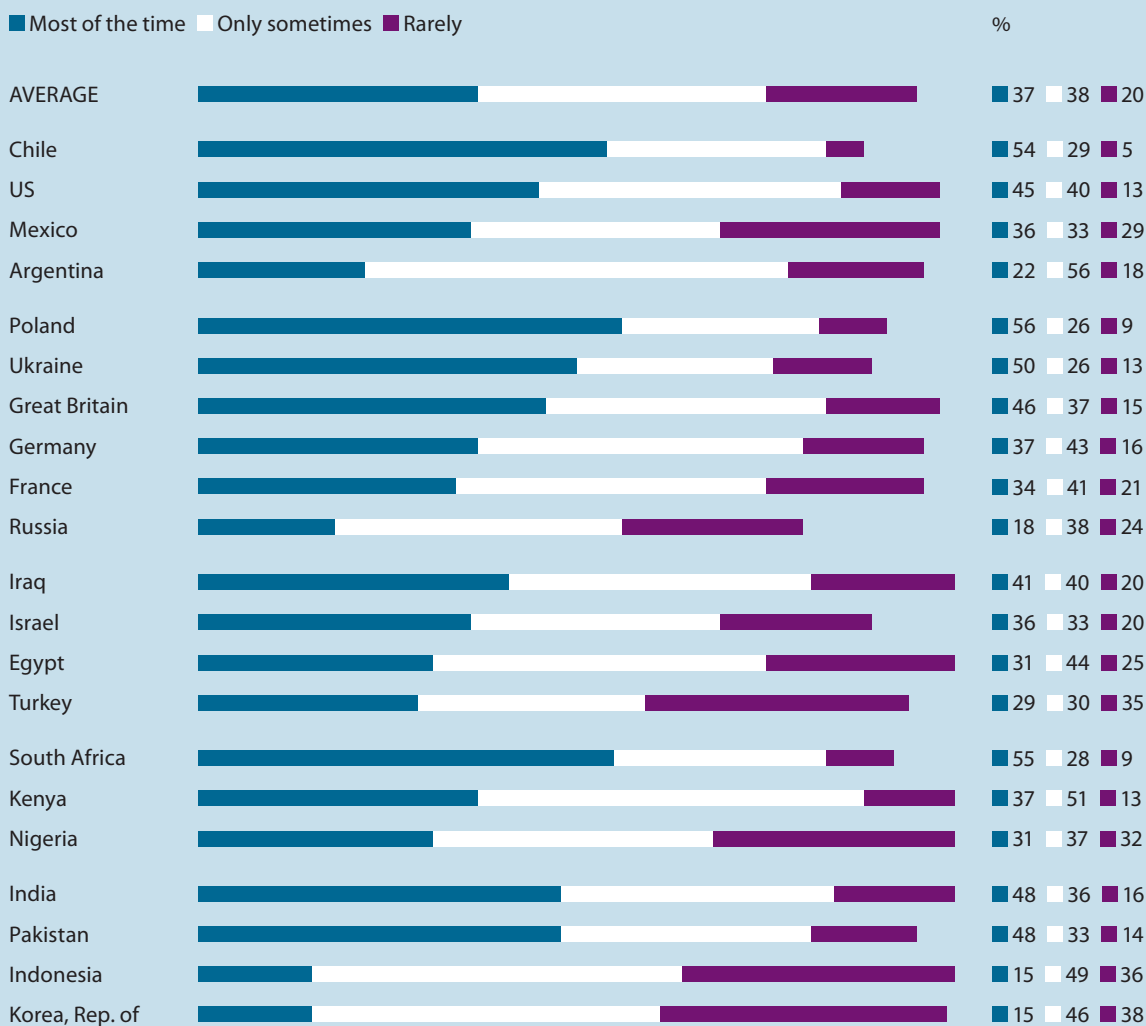
Asked how often opposition parties get “a fair chance to express their views and try to influence government,” in 17 out of 21 nations less than half said “most of the time.” In 16 nations a majority says “only sometimes” or “rarely.”

On average only 37 percent said “most of the time,” while nearly six in ten said either “only sometimes” (38%) or “rarely” (20%).

Publics with large majorities expressing the view that opposition parties have limited influence appear in regions around the world. Just three countries have a majority saying that opposition parties get a fair chance to influence policies—Poland, South Africa and Chile. There

## Fairness for Opposition Parties

How often do opposition parties get a fair chance to express their views and to try to influence government policies?



were no significant differences on a worldwide basis by gender or age.

In China and Azerbaijan, the question asked in the poll was “In this country how often do political figures with

differing views get a fair chance to express their views and try to influence government policies?” In both countries, majorities said that such figures have limited opportunities at influence.

# Political Parties seen as Restricting Diversity of Opinion

**In nearly every country, people perceive that their legislators have limited freedom to express views that differ from their political party.**

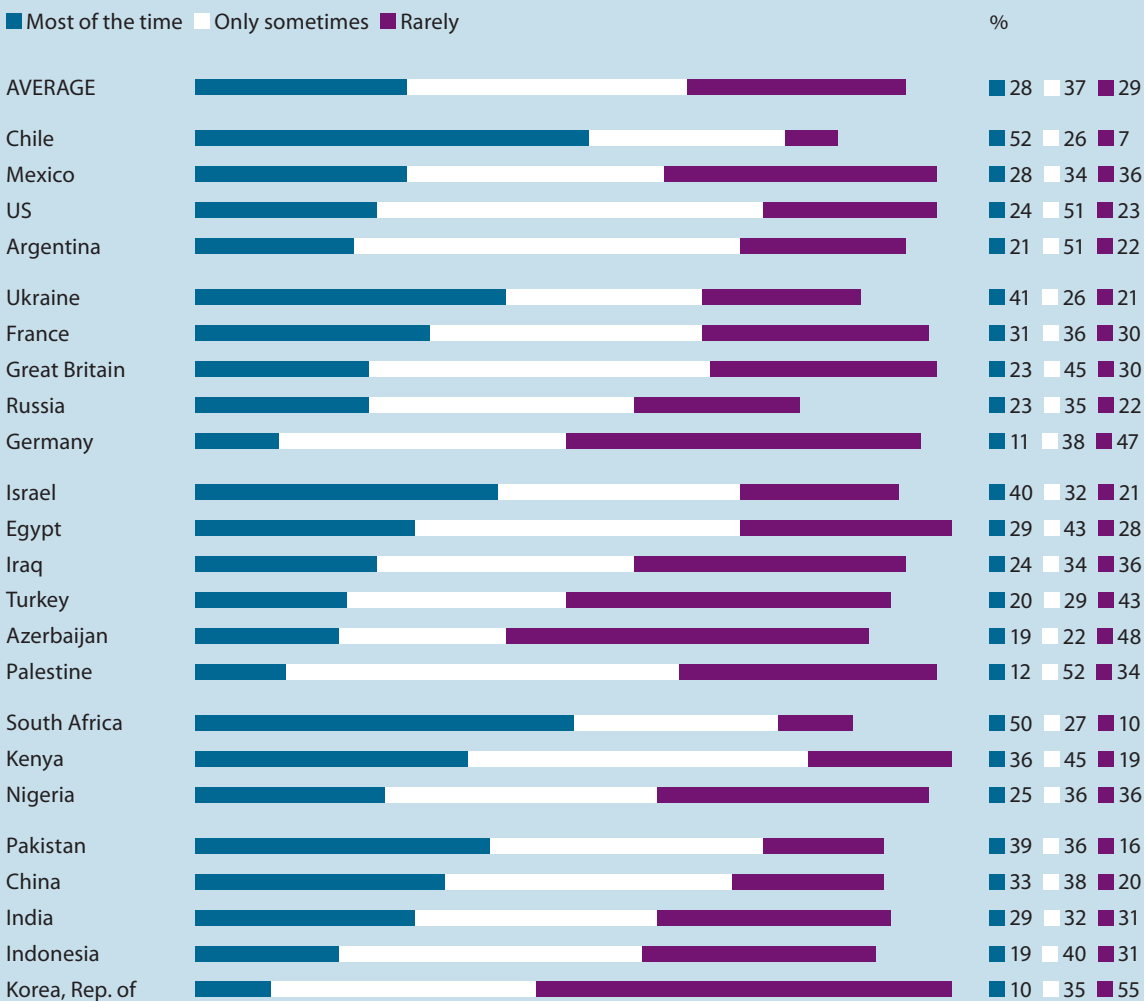
Respondents were asked how often members of the legislature “feel free to express views that differ from the official views of their own political party.” In 20 out of 23 nations a majority said that legislators feel free only sometimes or rarely. In only one country (Chile) did a majority consider that legislators feel free most of the time.

On average, more than two out of three said that legislators feel free to express divergent views only sometimes (37%) or rarely (29%), while 28 percent say most of the time. There were no significant differences on a world-wide basis by gender or age.

Interestingly, there appears to be no meaningful overall difference between the assessments of publics in countries with proportional electoral systems, where candidates are elected from a party list, and those of

## Legislators Differing from Party

Do you think members of [legislative body] feel free to express views that differ from the official views of their own political party:



countries with majoritarian systems, where candidates are elected to represent a specific constituency. Under each system there is a range of responses from various

countries, and when the averages between the two groups of publics are compared there is no significant difference.



# Mixed Views on How Well Women Are Represented

**Though none of the nations polled have parity in gender representation in their national legislatures, views are mixed on whether women are fairly represented. On average across all countries polled, a modest majority of men think women are fairly represented, but a plurality of women think they are not.**

Respondents were asked whether women as a group are “fairly represented” in the national legislature. In 12 nations a majority said that women are fairly represented as did a plurality in one more. In eight nations a majority said that they are not.

These views had only a tenuous correlation with the actual proportion in the national legislature of each country<sup>1</sup>. This may be due to a general lack of knowledge about the actual proportion of female representation. It may be that some people who say that women are fairly represented may be expressing a positive view of the growing representation of women in the legislature. Some people may also be expressing confidence that the legislature is sensitive to the rights and needs of women in their society.

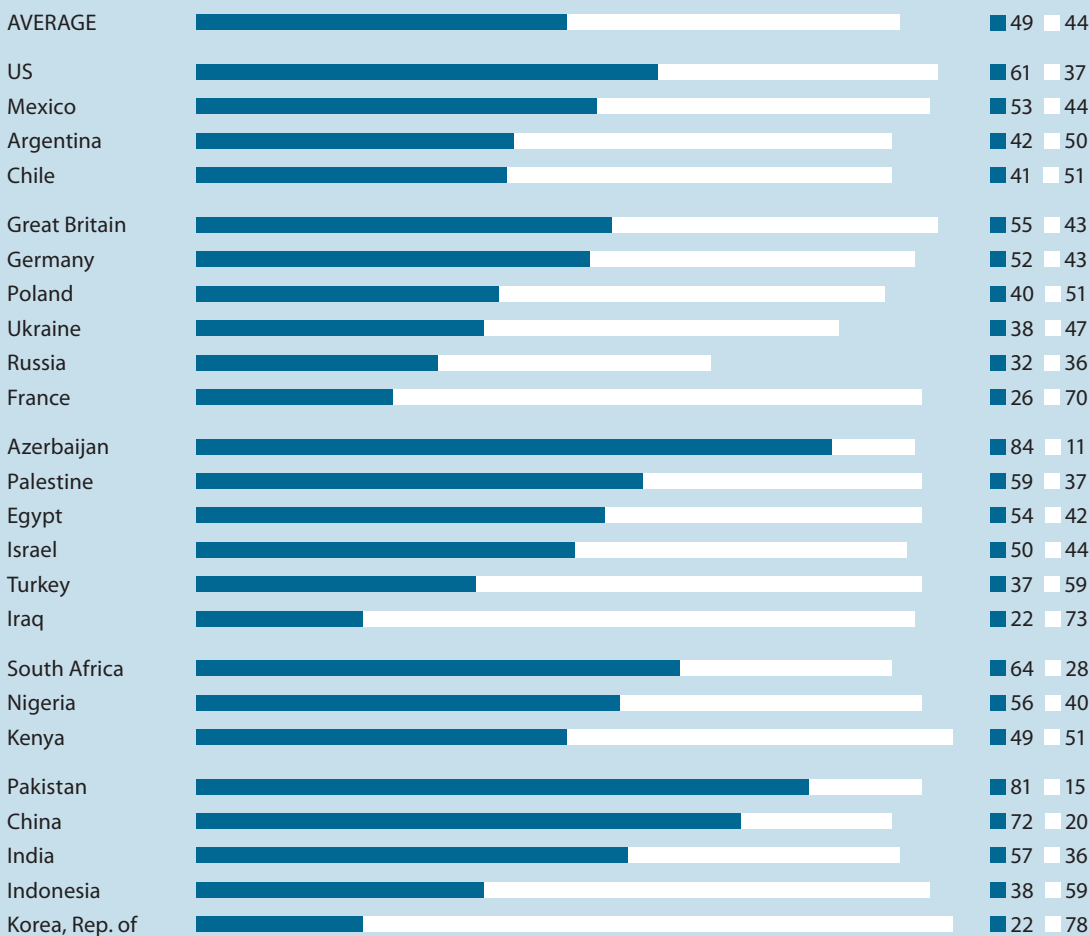
South Africa and Germany are both on the high end of women’s representation worldwide (South Africa: 45%

## Representation of Women

Are women fairly represented in [legislative body] or are they not?

■ Are fairly represented ■ Are not fairly represented

%



## Percentage of Women in Parliament

Country	Lower or single House	Upper House or Senate
Argentina	41.6%	37.5%
Chile	15.0%	5.3%
Mexico	28.2%	18.0%
US	16.8%	15.3%
France	18.2%	21.9%
Germany	32.2%	21.7%
Great Britain	19.5%	19.7%
Poland	20.2%	8.0%
Russia	14.0%	4.7%
Ukraine	8.2%	–
Azerbaijan	11.4%	–
Egypt	1.8%	6.8%
Iraq	25.5%	–
Israel	17.5%	–
Turkey	9.1%	–
Kenya	9.8%	–
Nigeria	7.0%	8.3%
South Africa	44.5%	29.6%
China	21.3%	–
India	10.7%	9.5%
Indonesia	16.6%	–
Korea, Rep.	13.7%	–
Pakistan	22.5%	17.0%

Data taken from <http://www.ipu.org/wmn-e/classif.htm>;  
Palestine was not listed

lower chamber, 30% upper chamber; Germany: 32% lower chamber, 22% upper chamber), and both had majorities that thought women are fairly represented—64 percent of South Africans and 52 percent of Germans.

However the country with the third highest level—Iraq at 22 percent—had one of the largest majorities (73%) saying that women are not fairly represented.

At the same time, though the United States has a lower percentage of women in its Congress (17% lower house, 15% upper house), a large 61 percent of Americans said that women were fairly represented.

In Asia, Pakistan and China are both countries where women's parliamentary presence is above the world average of 18% (Pakistan: 23% lower, 17% upper; China: 21%). Overwhelming majorities (Pakistan 81%, China 72%)

said that women were fairly represented. Pakistanis may also be referencing the fact that they have elevated a woman to the position of prime minister (Benazir Bhutto) or the significance increase in women's political participation at all levels in recent years. The Chinese may be taking into account their ideological commitment to women's rights.

In Europe, both Poland (20% lower, 8% upper) and France (18% lower, 22% upper), have majorities who think their country falls short. In France this was a striking 70 percent, while in Poland 51 percent felt this way. However modest majorities in Britain (55%, with 20% women in each house) and Germany (52%; see above) said that women were fairly represented.

Of the eleven nations polled that have 17 percent or fewer women members, publics in six nations think women are not fairly represented, four think they are, and one is divided. In Chile, Turkey, Indonesia, and the Republic of Korea majorities said women were not fairly represented. Pluralities in Russia and Ukraine had the same view. In the United States, Nigeria, India and Azerbaijan, majorities thought women were fairly represented. Kenyans were divided.

## Variations by Gender

In two thirds of the countries polled—16 out of 24—women were less likely than men to think women were fairly represented in the legislature. In only two countries were women *more* likely to think this than men. In another six countries, the differences between men's and women's views were insignificant.

On average, across all nations polled, a majority of men (53%) said women are fairly represented, while a plurality of women said that women are not fairly represented (48% not fairly, 45% fairly). Thus on average there is an 8 point gap between men and women on whether women are fairly represented.

The biggest gap between men's and women's views was in Germany, where 65 percent of men, but only 38 percent of women, thought women's representation was fair—followed by Poland, where 50 percent of men but only 31 percent of women thought this. Thus the gap was 27 points in Germany and 19 points in Poland.

Other large gaps in views were found in Argentina, Chile, Ukraine, and Israel. In all these countries, a majority or plurality of women thought they were not fairly represented and the differences between men's and women's views were substantial.

In two countries men were *more* likely than women to think that women were not fairly represented: France and Iraq. In France, large majorities of both men and women think women lack fair representation, but this majority is 74 percent among men and 67 percent among women. In Iraq also, large majorities of both sexes think women lack fair representation, but this view is more pronounced among men.

Women and men had near-identical views on the issue in six countries. In Mexico, Great Britain, India and China, that women are fairly represented was the majority view, with no gender difference; in Turkey and Indonesia, that they are *not* fairly represented was the majority view, with no gender difference.

<sup>1</sup> The Inter-Parliamentary Union monitors the number and percentage of women in every national parliament. For latest statistics, see <http://www.ipu.org/wmn-e/classif.htm>

# Mixed Views on How Well Minorities are Represented

**There is wide variation in perceptions of how fairly ethnic, religious or national minorities are represented in national legislatures, though overall views lean in the direction that minorities are not fairly represented.**

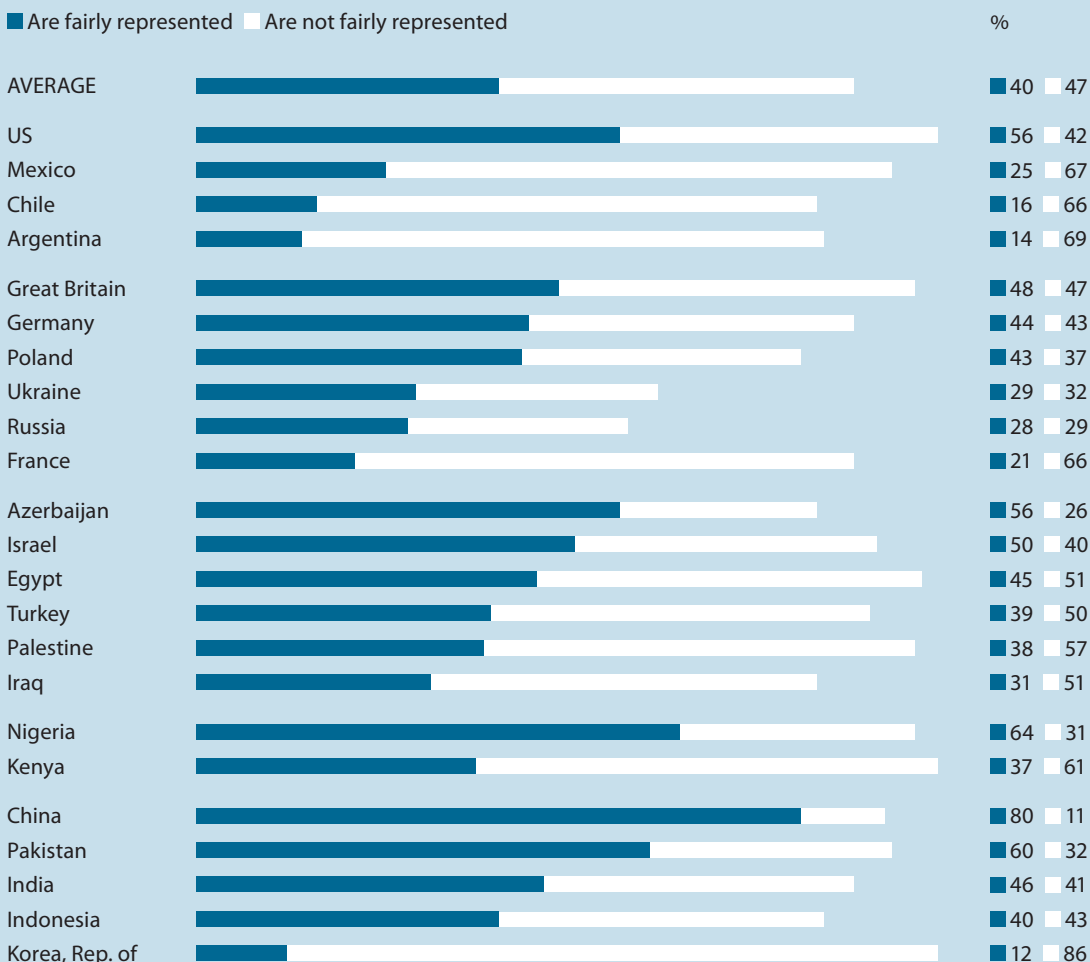
Asked how fairly “minorities, including ethnic, religious, or national minorities” are represented in the national legislature, eight nations had a plurality or majority saying that they are fairly represented. Ten nations said they are not fairly represented and five nations are evenly divided<sup>2</sup>.

On average, across all nations polled, 40 percent said minorities are represented fairly, while 47 percent said they are not. There were no significant differences on a worldwide basis by gender or age.

Seven nations have a clear majority saying that they believe that minorities are not fairly represented. These include all of the Latin American countries polled—Argentina (69%), Mexico (67%), Chile (66%)—as well the Republic of Korea (86%), France (66%), and Kenya (61%).

## Representation of Minorities

Are minorities, such as ethnic, religious, or national minorities fairly represented in [legislative body] or are they not?



Five nations have a clear majority saying that minorities are fairly represented. These include China (80%), Nigeria (64%), Pakistan (60%), Azerbaijan (56%) and the US (56%).

Other nations have divided views or have only pluralities or slight majorities taking a dominant view.

2 IPU and UNDP are undertaking a project to deepen understanding of minority and indigenous representation. For more information, see <http://www.ipu.org/dem-e/minorities/overview.htm>

### The Case of South Africa

South Africa is unique in that it has a majority group that has only recently gained political ascendancy. South Africans express substantial confidence that all various racial groups are well represented.

Not surprisingly, an overwhelming 86 percent said that “black people” are now fairly represented in parliament. At the same time a very large 68 percent said that “white people” are fairly represented.

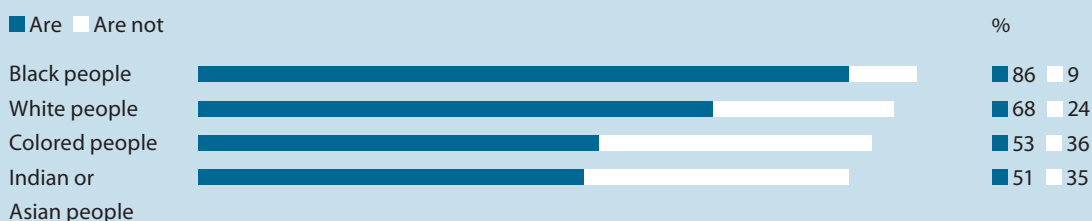
More modest majorities see other racial groups as fairly represented. Fifty-three percent said that “colored people” were fairly represented, while a similar number—51 percent—said that “Indian or Asian people” were fairly represented.

Large majorities of all ethnic groups believe that black people are fairly represented in the South African Parliament. When looking at other ethnic groups, however, interesting differences are evident. Black people are the only group that thinks colored people and those of Asian and Indian descent are fairly represented; all other groups disagree. The only ethnic group who see white people as not fairly represented are white people themselves; all other groups think white people are fairly represented.

Majorities of black people (63%) believe colored people are being fairly represented while a plurality of white people (49%) and majorities of colored people (64%) and Asians (59%) think they are not. Similarly, black people (60%) believe that Indian and Asian people are fairly represented, while a plurality of white people (50%) and a majority of colored people (53%) and Asians (63%) do not. Finally, white people (65%) do not feel they are fairly represented, while a majority of black people (84%), colored people (58%) and Asians (57%) believe white people are fairly represented.

### South Africans on Parliamentary Representation

Do you think the following groups are or are not fairly represented in Parliament:



# Indigenous Peoples seen as Poorly Represented

**In several nations with significant indigenous populations, large majorities in all cases see these populations as not being fairly represented.**

Four nations that have significant indigenous populations were asked whether “indigenous peoples” are “fairly represented” in the national legislature. In all four cases a large majority said they were not.

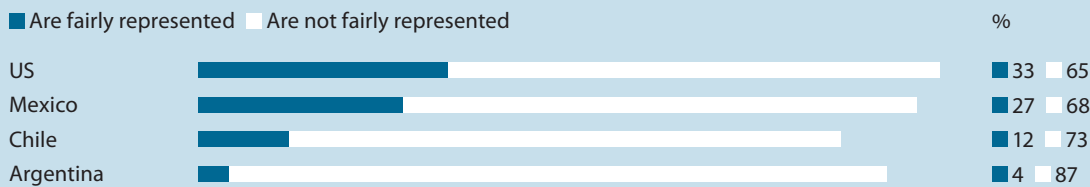
Argentines had the largest majority (87%) saying indigenous people are not fairly represented (just 4% said they were). This was followed by Chile, where a large 73 percent said they were not (just 12% said they were).

In the US a large 65 percent said that indigenous peoples are not fairly represented, but one in three said that they are fairly represented. In the US, well under 1 percent of the members of Congress are Native Americans. However, some holding the minority view may be expressing confidence that the interests of Native Americans are being well represented, as Native Americans have become more effectively organized politically.

In Mexico a similar 68 percent said that indigenous peoples are not well represented, while 27 percent said they are. Here too, some Mexicans holding the minority view may be expressing a belief that events such as the recent uprisings of indigenous peoples have led to greater recognition of their rights.

## Representation of Indigenous Peoples

Are indigenous peoples fairly represented in [legislative body] or are they not?



# Annexes

## Research Partners

Country	Research Center	Contact
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## Methodology

Country	Sample Size (unweighted)	MoE (%)	Field dates	Survey methodology	Type of sample
Argentina	679	3.8	August 20–29, 2008	Face-to-face	Urban <sup>1</sup>
Azerbaijan	600	4.1	May 26–June 5, 2009	Face-to-face	National
Chile	1000	3.2	June 25–July 9, 2009	Face-to-face	National
China	1006	3.2	May 14–21, 2009	Telephone	National <sup>2</sup>
Egypt	600	4.1	April 25–May 12, 2009	Face-to-face	Urban <sup>3</sup>
France	600	4.1	May 25–29, 2009	Telephone	National
Germany	1008	3.2	April 29–May 14, 2009	Telephone	National
Great Britain	600	4.1	May 13–June 4, 2009	Telephone	National
India	1049	3.1	June 4–6, 2009	Face-to-face	National <sup>4</sup>
Indonesia	712	3.7	May 12–21, 2009	Face-to-face	National <sup>5</sup>
Iraq	1235	2.8	April 29–May 15, 2009	Face-to-face	National <sup>6</sup>
Israel	900	3.3	June 16–17, 2009 (J) June 21–25, 2009 (A)	Telephone	National <sup>7</sup>
Kenya	1000	3.2	May 7–14, 2009	Face-to-face	National
Mexico	816	3.5	May 23–June 12, 2009	Telephone	National <sup>8</sup>
Nigeria	1000	3.2	May 31–June 6, 2009	Face-to-face	National <sup>9</sup>
Pakistan	1000	3.2	May 17–28, 2009	Face-to-face	National
Palestine	500	4.5	May 20–June 1, 2009	Face-to-face	National <sup>10</sup>
Poland	1038	3.1	May 27–June 3, 2009	Face-to-face	National
Republic of Korea	600	4.1	May 6, 2009	Telephone	National
Russia	799	3.5	May 22–26, 2009	Face-to-Face	National
South Africa	2000	2.2	June 10–30, 2009	Face-to-Face	Metropolitan Areas <sup>11</sup>
Turkey	720	3.7	May 13–23, 2009	Face-to-face	National
Ukraine	1007	3.2	May 21–31, 2009	Face-to-face	National
United States	816	3.5	May 27–June 4, 2009	Internet	National <sup>12</sup>

- 1 In Argentina, the survey was executed in the urban areas of Capital Federal and Gran Buenos Aires, representing 35 percent of Argentina's population.
- 2 In China, the survey was a probability sample of urban and rural households with land-line telephones in the provinces of Anhui, Hebei, Heilongjiang, Hubei, Jiangsu, Shanxi, Shanghai, Sichuan, and Yunnan—representing approximately 60 percent of the mainland Chinese population. The sample was 40 percent rural, 60 percent urban (rural households make up approximately 55 percent of the Chinese population).
- 3 In Egypt, the survey was executed in the urban areas of Cairo, Alexandria, Giza, and Subra. These four urbanized areas represent 75 percent of Egypt's urban population, which is 42 percent of the national population.
- 4 In India, a face-to-face survey was conducted in urban and rural areas in 14 of the largest Indian states; these states comprise 77 percent of India's population. The sample is 60 percent urban. India's population is approximately 30 percent urban.
- 5 In Indonesia, a national probability sample was conducted in both urban and rural areas and covering approximately 87 percent of Indonesia's population.
- 6 In Iraq, the survey was a national sample conducted across all 18 Iraqi provinces.
- 7 In Israel, Jewish sample was weighted by age, gender, religiosity, and geographic area. Arab Omnibus was weighted by geographic area, age and gender, and included a 250 interview over-sample. Entire sample was weighted based on their representation in the population of 87% Jewish and 13% Arab.
- 8 In Mexico, a random telephone sample of adults who had landline telephones was conducted in all 31 states and the Federal District. Telephone penetration in Mexico is 55 percent.
- 9 In Nigeria, the sample was developed by selecting six states, one per geographic region, based upon their size and representativeness. Within each state, sampling points were selected by means of a multi-stage random sample which disproportionately sampled urban areas. The final sample is 75 percent urban; Nigeria is approximately 50 percent urban.
- 10 In the Palestinian territories, a face-to-face national probability survey was conducted among the population of the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip. Throughout the text, the Palestinian territories have been referred to as 'Palestine', as it is used by the Inter-Parliamentary Union.
- 11 TNS conducted a random sample fulfilling quotas based on area and race, which were determined by the census data for the seven major Metropolitan areas of South Africa, including Johannesburg, Cape Town, Durban, Port Elizabeth, East London, Pretoria and Bloemfontein.
- 12 In the United States, the poll was an online survey drawn from a nationally representative sample of the Knowledge Networks online panel. This panel is probabilistically-based, selected from the population of US telephone households and subsequently provided with an Internet connection if needed.

