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Egyptians on Obama, US Policies, and Democracy

June 3, 2009

Questionnaire

Dates of Survey: April 25-May 12, 2009
Sample Size: 600

Margin of Error: +/- 4.1 percentage points

Q1-CE1b. Please tell me if you think each is playing a mainly positive or mainly negative role in the world.

The United States

Mainly positive	15%
Mainly negative	67
Depends (vol.).....	18
Neither (vol.).....	*
Refused/Don't know	*

Now I am going to read a list of political leaders from around the world. Tell me how much confidence you have in each leader to do the right thing regarding world affairs—a lot of confidence, some confidence, not too much confidence, or no confidence at all.

Q2-CE6a. US President Barack Obama

A lot of confidence.....	4%
Some confidence.....	35
Not too much.....	34
None at all.....	26
Refused/Don't know	*

Q3-Afg1. As you may know the UN has authorized a NATO mission in Afghanistan, manned by forces from the US and other countries. This mission is meant to stabilize Afghanistan and help the government defend itself from Taliban insurgents. Do you approve or disapprove of this mission?

Approve.....	44%
Disapprove	56
Refused/Don't know	*

Q4-Afg2. Do you think the NATO mission in Afghanistan should be continued or do you think it should be ended now?

NATO mission should be continued.....	37%
NATO mission should be ended now	60
Refused/Don't know	3

Q5-Afg3. Do you think that most people in Afghanistan want NATO forces to remain for now, or do you think most want the NATO forces to leave now?

Most want NATO forces to remain for now 30%
Most want NATO forces to leave now 67
Refused/Don't know 3

Q6-Afg5. As you may know, the Obama administration decided to increase the number of American troops in Afghanistan. Do you approve or disapprove of this decision?

Approve 33%
Disapprove 66
Refused/Don't know 1

Q7-D1. How important is it for you to live in a country that is governed democratically? Would you say it is:

Very important 75%
Somewhat important 24
Not very important 2
Not at all important *
Refused/Don't know 0

Q8-D8. Do you think that Egypt would or would not benefit from having international observers monitor elections here?

Would 63%
Would not 37
Refused/Don't know *

STATEMENT: Please tell me if you have a very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable opinion of the following:

Q9-US1. The current US Government?

Very favorable 15%
Somewhat favorable 31
Somewhat unfavorable 31
Very unfavorable 24
Refused/Don't know *

Q10. Thinking now about US actions around the world, please tell me if you think the following are or are not US goals. Please say if you think it is:

Q10a-US5. To impose American culture on Muslim society

Definitely a goal 45%
Probably a goal 35

Probably not a goal	12
Definitely not a goal.....	8
Refused/Don't know	1

Q10b-US6. To maintain control over the oil resources of the Middle East

Definitely a goal.....	48%
Probably a goal	32
Probably not a goal	14
Definitely not a goal.....	5
Refused/Don't know	1

Q10c-US7. To see the creation of an independent and economically viable Palestinian state

Definitely a goal.....	14%
Probably a goal	24
Probably not a goal	31
Definitely not a goal.....	30
Refused/Don't know	2

Q10d-US8. To weaken and divide the Islamic world

Definitely a goal.....	48%
Probably a goal	28
Probably not a goal	13
Definitely not a goal.....	10
Refused/Don't know	1

Q11-US17. Which of these three positions is closest to yours?

The US opposes democracy in Muslim countries.....	41%
The US favors democracy in Muslim countries, but only if the government is cooperative with the US.....	53
The US favors democracy in Muslim countries, whether or not the government is cooperative with the US.....	6
Refused/Don't know	*

Q12-IsDem1. Now I would like to ask you about the Muslim Brotherhood or Islamist groups. Overall, would you say your feelings toward the Muslim Brotherhood are very positive, somewhat positive; mixed, somewhat negative, or very negative?

Very positive.....	29%
Somewhat positive	35
Mixed	19
Somewhat negative	5

Very negative11

Refused/Don't know2

Q13-IsDem2. Is it your impression that the Muslim Brotherhood or Islamist groups do or do not believe democracy is the best type of political system?

Does 69%

Does not25

Refused/Don't know6

Q14-IsDem3b. Do you think that as Muslim Brotherhood has participated in elections:

It has departed too far from its Islamist principles 19%

It has found an acceptable way to blend Islamism
and democracy56

It is still too extreme and not genuinely democratic22

Refused/Don't know3

Q15-IsDem4. Do you think that the government in Egypt:

Should be based on universal principles of democracy
that apply in all countries 39%

Should be based on a form of democracy that is unique
for Islamic countries60

Should not be based on democracy 1

Refused/Don't know0

Q16-IsDem5. Do you think:

There should be a body of senior religious scholars
that has the power to overturn laws when it believes
they are contrary to the Quran. 75%

If laws are passed by democratically-elected officials
and consistent with the constitution they should not
be subject to a veto by religious scholars.....23

Refused/Don't know2

Q17-IsDem6. Do you think that a non-Muslim should or should not be able to run for public office?

Should 66%

Should not26

Depends (vol.).....8

Refused/Don't know1

[ASK ONLY IF "SHOULD", "DEPENDS" OR "DK/REFUSED" ON Q17-IsDem6]

Q18-IsDem7. Do you think that a non-Muslim should or should not be able to run for president?

Should36%*

Should not34

Depends (vol.).....3

Refused/Don't know2

Q19. Do you think that US President Obama does or does not have the following goals? Please say if you think it is:

Q19a-US18. To impose American culture on Muslim society

Definitely a goal.....42%

Probably a goal39

Probably not a goal10

Definitely not a goal.....8

Refused/Don't know*

Q19b-US19. To maintain control over the oil resources of the Middle East

Definitely a goal.....47%

Probably a goal30

Probably not a goal17

Definitely not a goal.....6

Refused/Don't know1

Q19c-US20. To see the creation of an independent and economically viable Palestinian state

Definitely a goal.....12%

Probably a goal26

Probably not a goal31

Definitely not a goal.....30

Refused/Don't know2

Q19d-US21. To weaken and divide the Islamic world

Definitely a goal.....44%

Probably a goal26

Probably not a goal20

Definitely not a goal.....9

* Percent of total

Refused/Don't know2

DEMOGRAPHICS

D1. Gender

Male 50%
Female.....50

D2. Education

Illiterate 10%
Primary or less 25
Some secondary 20
Completed secondary 15
Some intermediate 4
Completed university 20

D3. Religion

Christian 9%
Muslim 91

D4. Age

16-29 38%
30-39 24
40-49 17
50-59 12
60+ 9

D5. Total household income

Very low..... 5%
Low 20
Average/Median..... 35
High..... 25
Very high 15

METHODOLOGY

The poll was conducted through face-to-face interviews from April 25-May 12, 2009 with 600 urban Egyptians in the 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. The margin of error is 4.1 percent.