

YouGov-Cambridge Survey Results

RUSI

Sample Size: 1456

Fieldwork: 8th - 16th October 2012

Total
1456
%

RUSI Defence Panel Respondents

** Please note: all percentages are of those surveyed from RUSI's defence and security community and ARE NOT representative of wider populations or demographic groups. **

Thinking about the future, which one of the following countries do you think will be the world's leading power in 2016?

United States	84
China	11
Germany	1
The United Kingdom	1
Russia	0
India	1
Brazil	0
Other	1
Don't know	1

Some people talk of a 'special relationship' between the United Kingdom and the United States. How close do you think this relationship is?

Very close	27
Fairly close	58
TOTAL CLOSE	85
Not very close	14
Not at all close	1
TOTAL NOT CLOSE	15
Don't know	0

Still thinking about US-UK relations, to what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

The United States is the United Kingdom's most important ally

Strongly agree	42
Tend to agree	38
TOTAL AGREE	80
Neither agree nor disagree	10
Tend to disagree	7
Strongly disagree	1
TOTAL DISAGREE	8
Don't know	0

Generally, the United States does not consider the United Kingdom's interests

Strongly agree	11
Tend to agree	46
TOTAL AGREE	57
Neither agree nor disagree	17
Tend to disagree	21
Strongly disagree	5
TOTAL DISAGREE	26
Don't know	0

The success of the UK economy depends on good relations with the United States

Strongly agree	7
Tend to agree	35
TOTAL AGREE	42
Neither agree nor disagree	28
Tend to disagree	25
Strongly disagree	5
TOTAL DISAGREE	30
Don't know	1

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It is important for Britain to have a close relationship with the United States

Strongly agree	44
Tend to agree	44
TOTAL AGREE	88
Neither agree nor disagree	7
Tend to disagree	5
Strongly disagree	1
TOTAL DISAGREE	6
Don't know	0

Thinking about the next 4 years, do you think the following countries and organisations will become more important, less important or stay the same in their importance to the United States?

The United Kingdom

More important	7
Stay the same	66
Less important	27
Don't know/ can't say	0

China

More important	85
Stay the same	14
Less important	1
Don't know/ can't say	1

Germany

More important	29
Stay the same	56
Less important	14
Don't know/ can't say	1

France

More important	5
Stay the same	55
Less important	39
Don't know/ can't say	1

Russia

More important	27
Stay the same	61
Less important	11
Don't know/ can't say	1

European Union (EU)

More important	19
Stay the same	49
Less important	31
Don't know/ can't say	1

India

More important	68
Stay the same	29
Less important	2
Don't know/ can't say	1

Brazil

More important	65
Stay the same	30
Less important	3
Don't know/ can't say	2

North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO)

More important	12
Stay the same	51
Less important	37
Don't know/ can't say	1

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In the last 4 years, do you think President Obama has improved, or worsened, or made no difference to US relations with the following countries, regions and organisations?

The United Kingdom

Obama has improved relations with	22
Obama has worsened relations with	16
Obama has made little/no difference to relations with	60
Don't know/ can't say	2

China

Obama has improved relations with	27
Obama has worsened relations with	18
Obama has made little/no difference to relations with	47
Don't know/ can't say	8

Germany

Obama has improved relations with	22
Obama has worsened relations with	6
Obama has made little/no difference to relations with	63
Don't know/ can't say	9

France

Obama has improved relations with	22
Obama has worsened relations with	9
Obama has made little/no difference to relations with	60
Don't know/ can't say	9

Russia

Obama has improved relations with	18
Obama has worsened relations with	21
Obama has made little/no difference to relations with	54
Don't know/ can't say	7

European Union (EU)

Obama has improved relations with	19
Obama has worsened relations with	13
Obama has made little/no difference to relations with	62
Don't know/ can't say	6

India

Obama has improved relations with	33
Obama has worsened relations with	5
Obama has made little/no difference to relations with	45
Don't know/ can't say	17

Brazil

Obama has improved relations with	29
Obama has worsened relations with	4
Obama has made little/no difference to relations with	42
Don't know/ can't say	25

North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO)

Obama has improved relations with	17
Obama has worsened relations with	13
Obama has made little/no difference to relations with	65
Don't know/ can't say	6

The Middle East and North African (MENA)

Obama has improved relations with	28
Obama has worsened relations with	34
Obama has made little/no difference to relations with	32
Don't know/ can't say	6

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As you may know, the United States currently plans to withdraw most troops from Afghanistan by the end of 2014, and then to maintain a smaller number of troops there in support and counter-terrorism roles. Which of the following statements best describes

The US should keep most troops in Afghanistan for as long as it take to make the country stable	12
The US should bring home all troops immediately, regardless of the situation there	5
The US should stick to its policy of withdrawing most troops by 2014, and then keep a smaller number of troops there in support and counter-terrorism roles	57
The US should continue to withdraw troops gradually at the current pace, but set a deadline to bring ALL troops home by 2014	11
The US should continue to withdraw troops gradually, but speed up the pace of withdrawal and bring ALL troops home BEFORE 2014	7
Other (please specify in next question)	6
Don't know	1

Do you think the United States is more safe or less safe from terrorist attacks now than it was at the beginning of the Obama Presidency in 2009?

Much more safe	6
Somewhat more safe	35
TOTAL MORE SAFE	41
About the same	46
Somewhat less safe	9
Much less safe	2
TOTAL LESS SAFE	11
Don't know	1

Since the beginning of the Obama Presidency in 2009, do you think al Qaeda has grown stronger as a terrorist organisation, or grown weaker as a terrorist organisation, or has neither grown stronger nor weaker as a terrorist organisation?

Has grown stronger	8
Has grown weaker	69
Has neither grown stronger nor weaker	19
Don't know	3

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Here are some international issues that some people regard as current or possible future threats to the United States. Which, if any, do you regard as the GREATEST threats to the United States? (Please tick up to four.)

Problems in the international financial system	55
Cyber attacks, such as online threats to individual, commercial and government computer systems	54
Instability in the Middle East	45
The rise of China	41
Weak and failing states like Pakistan, Somalia and Yemen	35
Interruptions to the supply of energy such as oil and gas	32
More countries developing their own nuclear weapons	30
Climate change/ global warming	23
International terrorism	22
A trade war with countries abandoning free trade in favour of protectionism	16
The rise of Russia	7
One or more Eurozone members leaving the single currency	7
Other	5
Don't know	0

Thinking about China, to what extent, if at all, do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

China's economic growth model is unsustainable

Strongly agree	16
Tend to agree	53
TOTAL AGREE	69
Neither agree nor disagree	9
Tend to disagree	16
Strongly disagree	2
TOTAL DISAGREE	18
Don't know	4

China's political model is unsustainable

Strongly agree	15
Tend to agree	45
TOTAL AGREE	60
Neither agree nor disagree	14
Tend to disagree	21
Strongly disagree	2
TOTAL DISAGREE	23
Don't know	2

A weak China is a greater threat to the West than a strong China

Strongly agree	8
Tend to agree	31
TOTAL AGREE	39
Neither agree nor disagree	22
Tend to disagree	28
Strongly disagree	7
TOTAL DISAGREE	35
Don't know	3

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Suppose a number of countries decided to take action against Iran because of its nuclear programme. Would you support or oppose the UK Government taking part or assisting in each of the following?

Increased economic sanctions against Iran

Strongly support	47
Tend to support	33
TOTAL SUPPORT	80
Tend to oppose	11
Strongly oppose	6
TOTAL OPPOSE	17
Don't know	2

Assassinating scientists working in Iran's nuclear programme

Strongly support	7
Tend to support	12
TOTAL SUPPORT	19
Tend to oppose	25
Strongly oppose	51
TOTAL OPPOSE	76
Don't know	5

Assassinating senior figures in Iran

Strongly support	5
Tend to support	10
TOTAL SUPPORT	15
Tend to oppose	26
Strongly oppose	54
TOTAL OPPOSE	80
Don't know	4

Cyber warfare (using computer viruses etc.) to undermine Iran's nuclear programme

Strongly support	41
Tend to support	36
TOTAL SUPPORT	77
Tend to oppose	10
Strongly oppose	10
TOTAL OPPOSE	20
Don't know	3

Bombing enrichment and other facilities thought by some to be related to an Iranian nuclear weapons programme

Strongly support	10
Tend to support	27
TOTAL SUPPORT	37
Tend to oppose	26
Strongly oppose	33
TOTAL OPPOSE	59
Don't know	4

Launching a ground invasion, involving Britain's troops

Strongly support	2
Tend to support	5
TOTAL SUPPORT	7
Tend to oppose	20
Strongly oppose	71
TOTAL OPPOSE	91
Don't know	3

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Overall, considering the costs versus the benefits, do you think the military action taken by Britain, France, the United States and other countries in Libya in 2011 was worthwhile for Britain or not?

Was worthwhile	55
Was not worthwhile	27
Don't know/ can't say	18