

The IPS Iran Public Opinion Survey

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The Survey

The Institute for Policy and Strategy - IPS, at IDC Herzliya, Israel, has conducted a public opinion poll in Iran.

The Survey

The phone survey, conducted as a scientific study, aimed at understanding what the Iranian public thinks about the nuclear talks of their country with the P5+1, the international sanctions, a potential recognition of Israel, the relations of Iran with the United States, and Iran's allies and adversaries in the region and in the world.

The purpose of the study:

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We hear a lot about the Iranian leadership's views about these issues, but know very little about what the Iranian people think about these key topics.

Sample

The poll was conducted in May-June 2014, included eight questions on variety of topics, and 529 respondents.

- **50 percent male; 50 percent female**
- **The response rate of 27 percent was surprisingly high.**
- **The survey included both landline and cell phones.**

Team

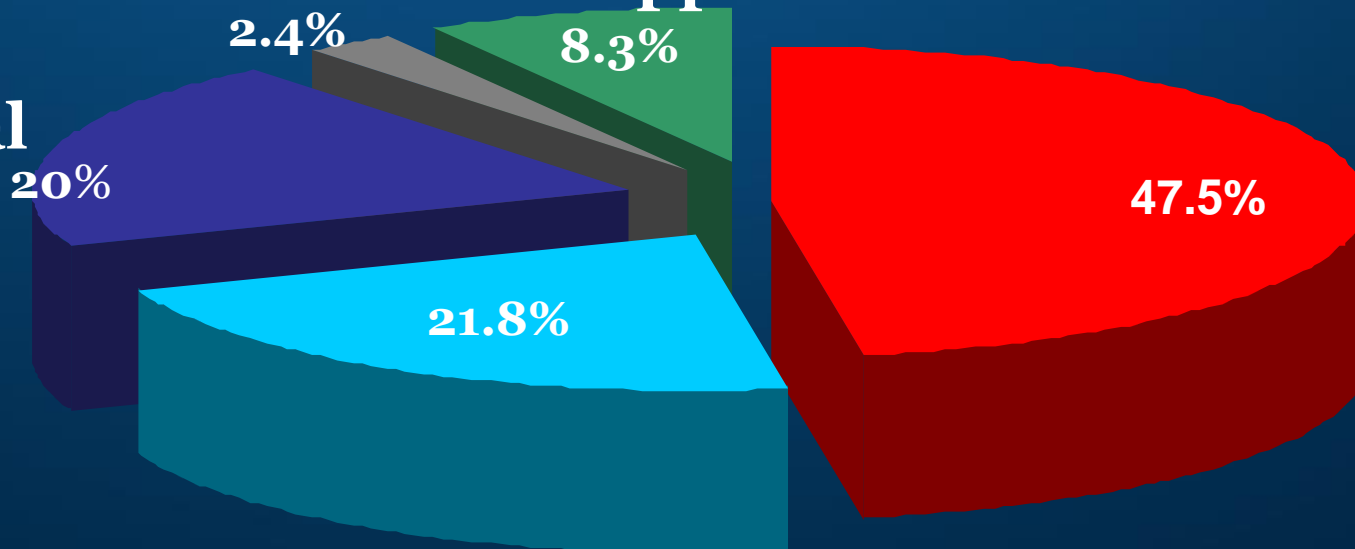
5 Member polling team led by Eli Mograbi, an MA student at the Lauder School of Government of the IDC.

Do You Support the Current Talks With the West on the Nuclear Program

No, I oppose to
some extent

No, I strongly
oppose

I am neutral



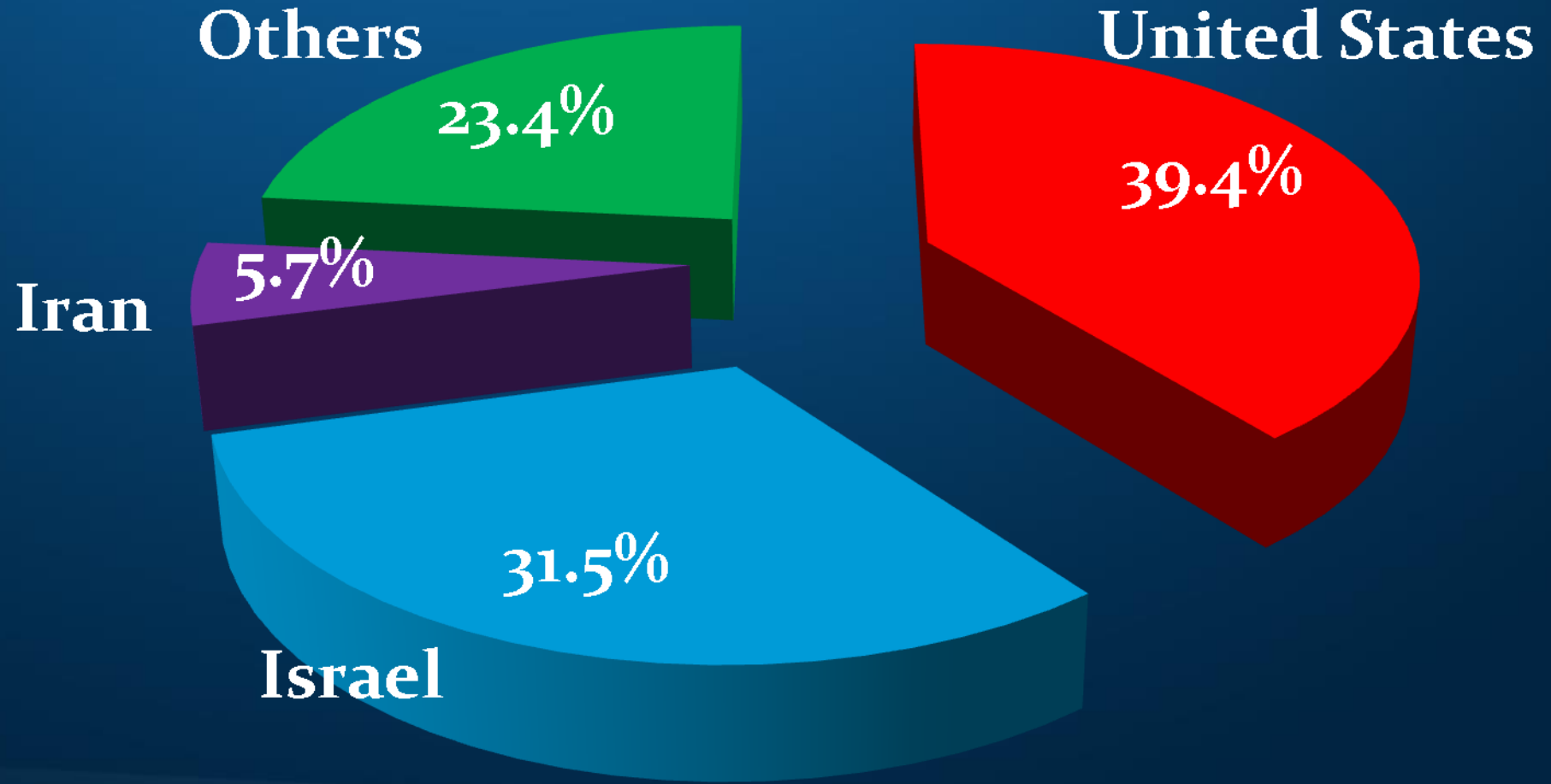
Yes to some extent

Strong support

Key Findings

- **70 percent of Iranians strongly support, or support to some extent the current talks with the West on the nuclear program. Only 11 percent oppose it.**

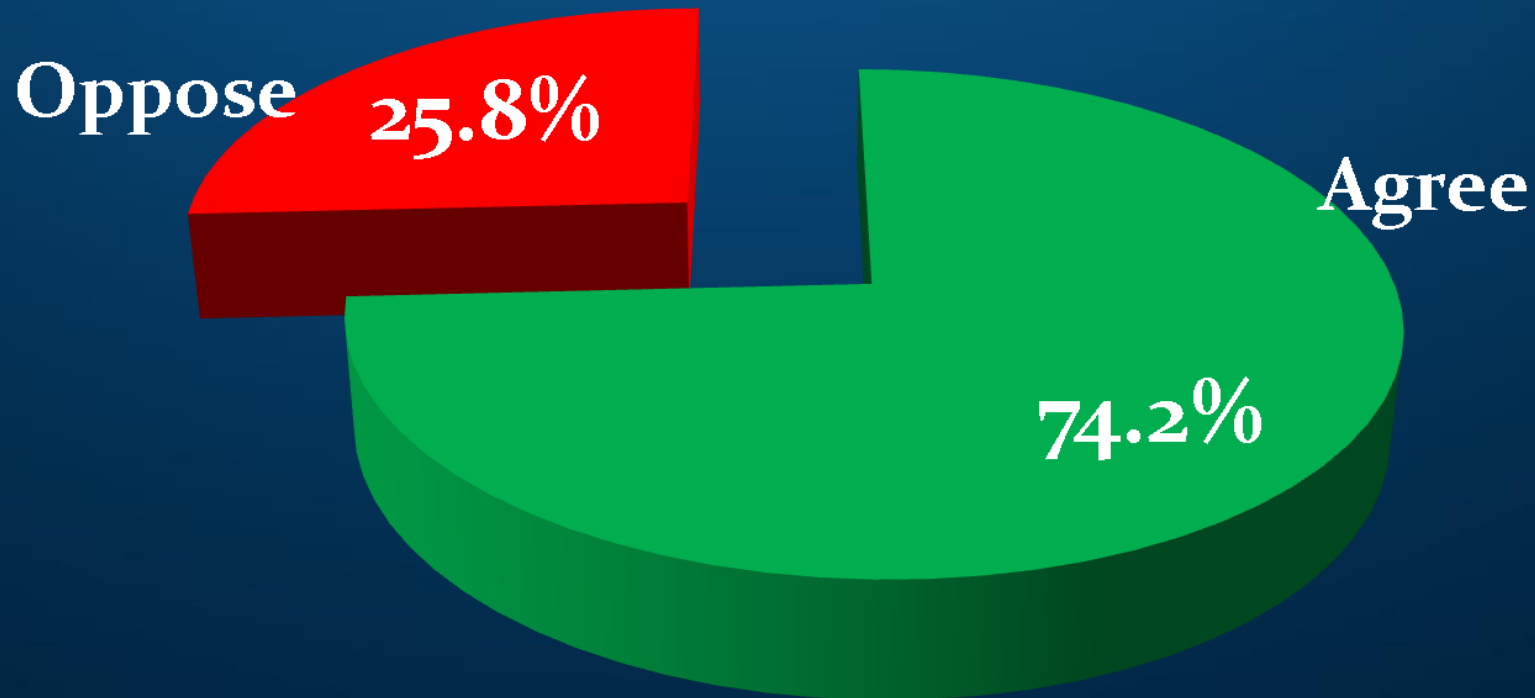
Who is Iran greatest enemy?



Key Findings (cont'd)

- The biggest enemy of Iran in the world is the US (40 percent), followed by Israel (32 percent). This reflects the big Satan, little Satan argument of the Iranian leadership in reference to the US and Israel. Five percent say that Iran has no enemies; Six percent refer to Iran itself...

Do you agree that Iran should establish trade and diplomatic relations with the United States?

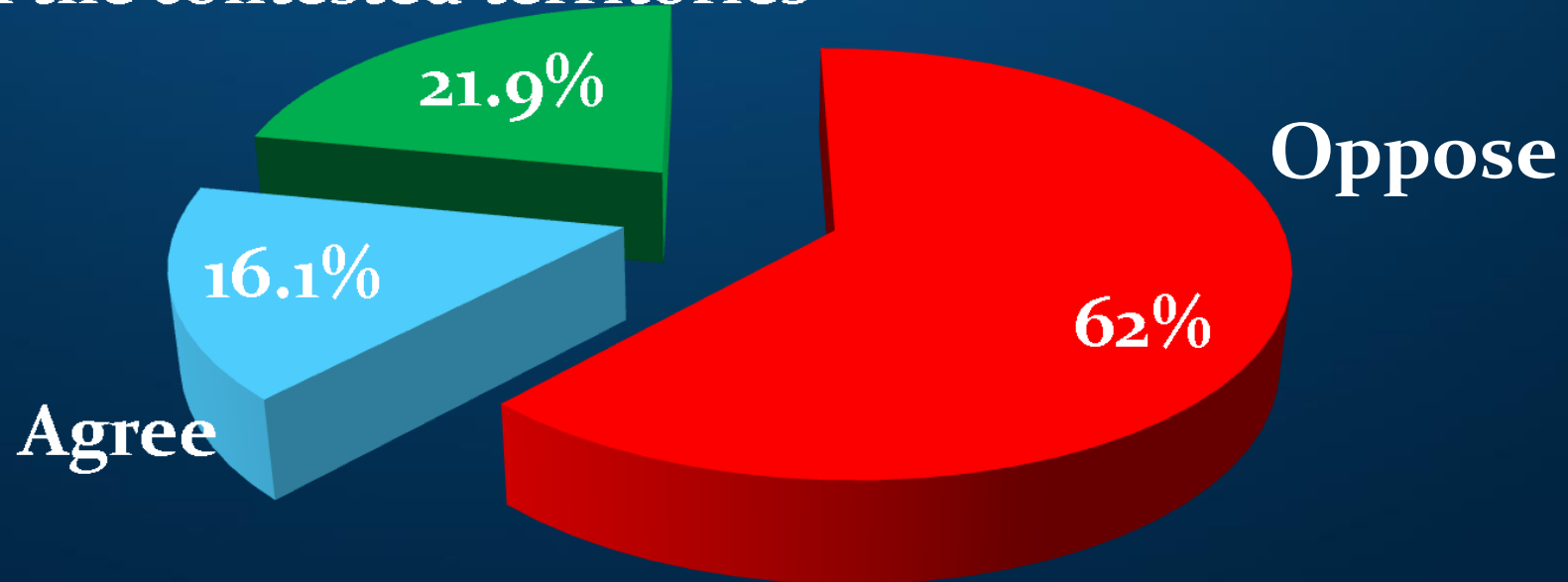


Key Findings (cont'd)

- Whereas the US is still perceived as the number 1 enemy of Iran in the world (Israel is a distant second), there is a very strong support among the Iranians for establishing diplomatic and trade relations with the US. 74 percent of Iranian support this.

Do you agree that Iran should recognize Israel if Israel reaches a peace accord with the Palestinians?

Agree if Israel withdrew
from the contested territories



Key Findings (cont'd)

- **Almost 40 percent of the Iranian public agree that their country should recognize Israel, if Israel signs a peace treaty with the Palestinian and withdraws from Palestinian areas. This finding is sensational and counter intuitive, given the Iranian leadership's position on Israel during Ahmadinejad's regime.**

Are you willing to give up the nuclear program for the full removal of economic sanctions?

Willing to give up the
ability to produce nuclear
weapons in the future

40%

Not willing to give up
any part of the nuclear
program

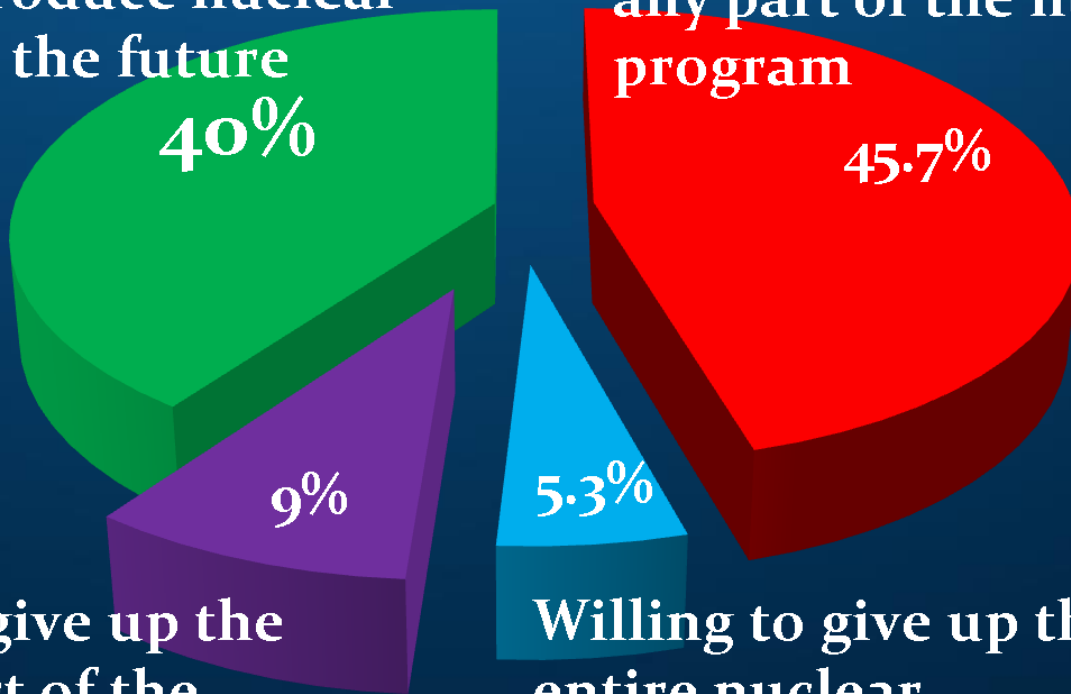
45.7%

Willing to give up the
civilian part of the
nuclear program

9%

5.3%

Willing to give up the
entire nuclear
program



Key Findings (cont'd)

➤ The most important finding:

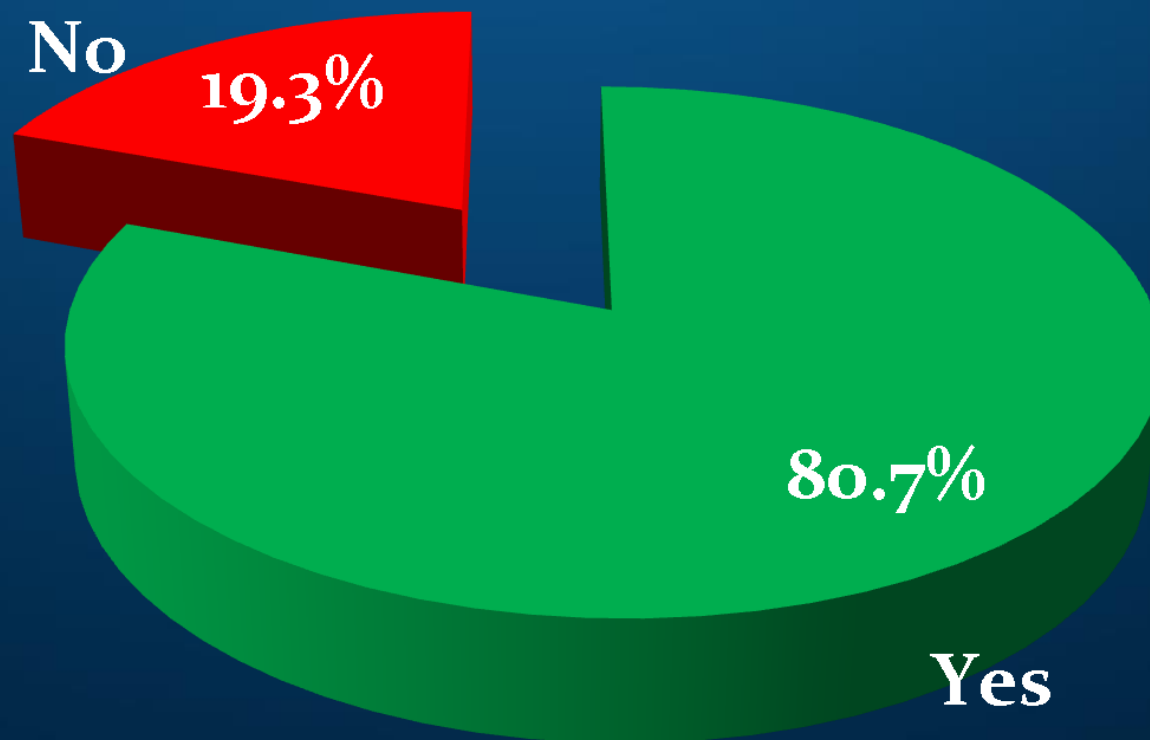
In return for the full removal of sanctions, 40 percent of Iranians are willing to give up the ability of Iran to produce nuclear weapons in the future, in addition to 9 percent who agree to give up the civilian component of the nuclear program, and 5 percent who are willing to give up the entire nuclear program.

Key Findings (cont'd)

In other words, more than 45 percent, are now willing to give up their nuclear program for the full removal of sanctions plus 9 percent who are willing to give up the civilian program.

Little support is provided to give up the civilian part of this program. Less than 1 in 10 supports such a move.

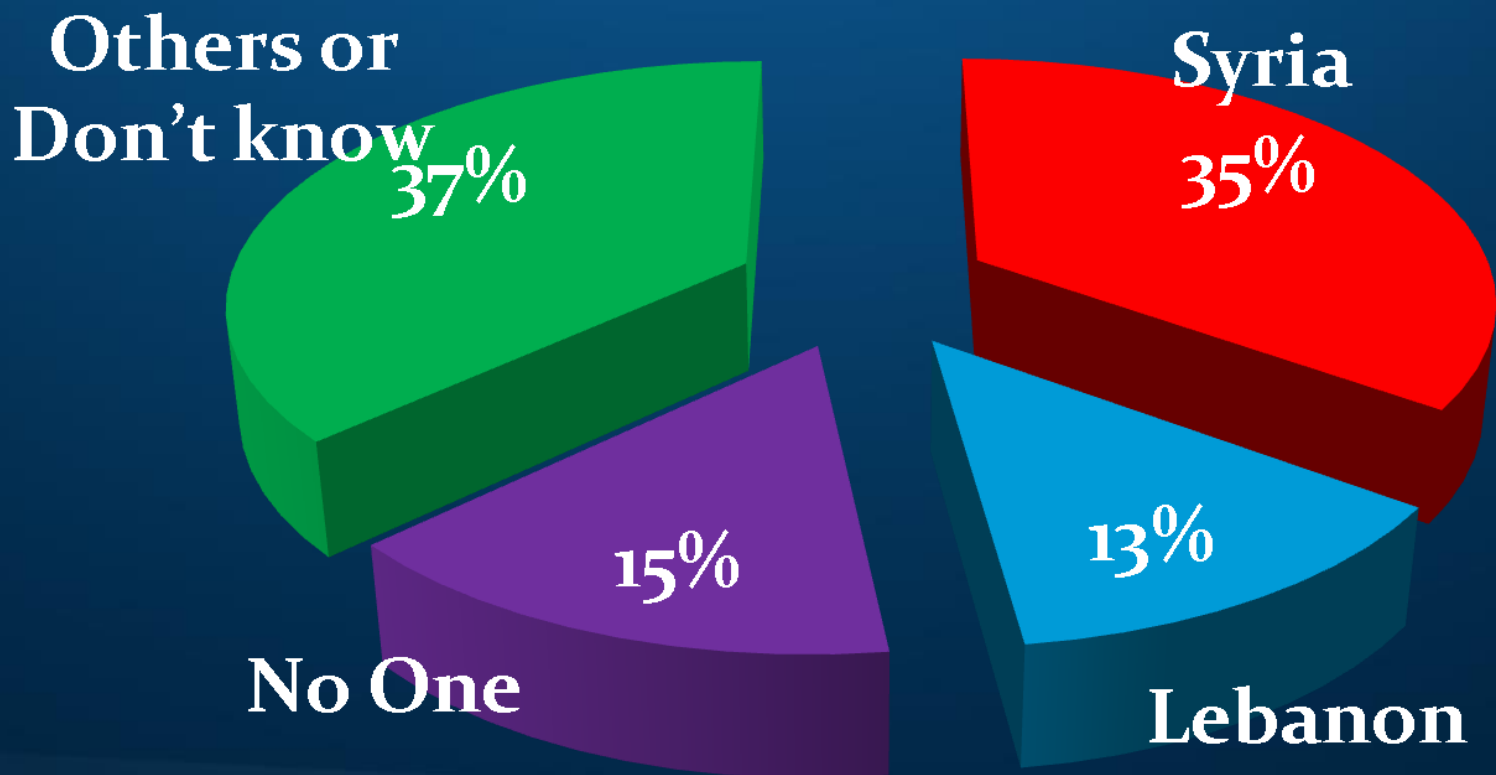
Does the removal of the economic sanctions will make your life easier?



Key Findings (cont'd)

- A very large number of Iranians (81 percent), state that the removal of the sanctions on Iran will make their life easier.

Who is the Biggest Ally of Iran in the Middle East?



Key Findings (cont'd)

- Syria is by far the biggest ally of Iran in the Middle East (more than 35 percent). Lebanon is second (14 percent). This reflects the Iranian-Syrian-Lebanese/Hezbollah coalition, and the Iranian leadership's geo-strategic position on the region. The Palestinians are not mentioned by the respondents.

Interpretation

The survey shows that hostility towards the West and Israel, is not widely shared in the opinion of the Iranian public.

Interpretation (cont'd)

There is convergence between the leadership and the public on such issues as Iran's key allies, its biggest enemies, and the talks on the nuclear program

Interpretation (cont'd)

However, Iranians are eager to establish diplomatic and trade relations with the US, recognize Israel (although not a majority of Iranians), and greatly support the current talks with the P5+1 on the nuclear program.

Interpretation (cont'd)

Given the domestic political power struggle in Iran, where Conservatives push for one direction and Moderates for cooperation, these results, which largely support the moderates' position, are not trivial.