

RELEASE IN FULL

From: McHale, Judith A <McHaleJA@state.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2011 12:54 PM
To: H; Sullivan, Jacob J; Mills, Cheryl D
Subject: Egypt Snap Poll
Attachments: Egypt Snap Poll Final Report 3.19.11.pdf; Egypt Snap Poll Final Report 3.19.11.pdf

FYI, I've attached the results of a recent snap poll which provides a good top-line indicator of popular opinion in Egypt, post Cairo-uprising. Caution, it was conducted on-line and thus not reflective of total population but good indicator vis-a-vis attitudes of influentials and young people. Key points from report outlined below, full report attached.

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SUMMARY: KEY FINDINGS

Partnerships and the U.S. Commitment

- ▶ While the majority of respondents do not believe President Obama is committed to Egypt's credible transition to democracy (66%), respondents between the ages of 18-24 are more likely to express higher levels of confidence in his commitment (42%)
- ▶ The majority of respondents believe that it is somewhat to very important for Egypt to maintain good relations with the U.S. (72.8%)
- ▶ Of the 94.8% of respondents who believe Egypt is heading in the right direction politically, slightly over one third are supportive of U.S. foreign policy interests, such as maintaining the 1979 Peace Treaty with Israel (38.2% overall and 64.5% of respondents between the ages of 18-24)
- ▶ The majority of respondents believe that the U.S. is the second most important partner for Egypt; respondents indicate that the top five most important partners are as follows:
 - 1) Saudi Arabia (87.5%)
 - 2) United States (77.4%)
 - 3) Japan (74.8%)
 - 4) China (70.8%)
 - 5) Germany (70.8%)

Savvy and Hopeful

- ▶ Nearly half of all respondents agree that "A new, creative, talented and technologically advanced generation has emerged in Egypt" (44.6%)
- Nearly a quarter of respondents ages 18-24 and 25-34 believe Egypt should partner with other countries on science and technology advances (26% and 21.7%, respectively)
 - ▶ The majority of respondents are either somewhat or very optimistic about Egypt's future as a result of the demonstrations (93.5%)
 - ▶ Those who are optimistic about Egypt's future are also more often confident that the elections will represent the will of the Egyptian people
 - ▶ Males are slightly more optimistic than females about Egypt's future, political direction and economy (95.6% and 91.4%, respectively)

Issues that Matter Most

- ▶ The following issues are among the most important for 97% of respondents between the ages of 18 - 24:
 - Access to employment/job opportunities
 - Security
 - Youth rights
- ▶ More female respondents than male respondents indicate that women's rights and protection are somewhat or very important (96.8% and 85.3%, respectively)
- ▶ Of those with a college-level education and above, approximately 29.2% identify free and fair elections as the priority issue area, compared to 20.9% of those who do not have a college education

Demonstrations and the Revolution

- ▶ Most respondents believe that the demonstrations represented them and their interests (92.6%)
- The majority of respondents between the ages of 18-24 believe that the demonstrations represented them and their interests (91.6%)
 - ▶ The majority of respondents credit youth with initiating the demonstrations (61%); however, the percentage of those who credit the internet/social media is noteworthy (10.4%)
 - ▶ Of the groups in Tahrir Square, respondents overall most identify with the Egyptian Army (54.8%), while the Muslim Brotherhood ranks fifth at 11.5%
 - Among the majority of youth ages 18-24, the Egyptian Army is also the group they most identify with in Tahrir Square (54.6%)
 - Youth respondents (18-24 and 25-34) also identify with Movement for Change and their slogan, Kifaya (60% combined compared with 33.2% overall)

The Path Forward

- ▶ The majority of those between the ages of 18-24 and 25-34 trust the Egyptian Army to steer the country's future in a positive direction (79.4% of those ages 18-24 and 84.1% of those ages 25-34)
 - ▶ When compared to higher incomes, lower income respondents trust the Egyptian Army more (83.5% and 76.9%, respectively)
 - ▶ The Muslim Brotherhood ranks as the sixth favored group to steer Egypt's future in a positive direction (7.7%), in the following order:
 - 1) Egyptian Army (80.4%)
 - 2) Pro-democracy civil society/NGOs (34%)
 - 3) Youth/student groups (31.7%)
 - 4) Egyptian Intelligence Service (15.6%)
 - 5) Omar Suleiman (7.8%)
 - 6) Muslim Brotherhood (7.7%)
 - 7) Business leaders/business groups (7.6%)
 - ▶ Nearly half of the respondents believe Amr Moussa would make a good next President of Egypt (48.8%). However, 22.2% of respondents indicate that none of the seven listed response options would make a good next president of Egypt
 - ▶ The majority of respondents believe the following issues are most important for Egypt to address in the next 6-12 months:
 - 1) Free and fair elections (28%)
 - 2) Economic reforms (27.6%)
 - 3) Higher wages and better working conditions (13.1%)
 - 4) Reducing unemployment (11.3%)
 - 5) Educational reforms (9.4%)