

COUNCIL *on*
FOREIGN
RELATIONS

Public Opinion on Global Issues

Chapter 5b: World Opinion on Energy Security

www.cfr.org/public_opinion

January 18, 2012

CHAPTER 5B: WORLD OPINION ON ENERGY SECURITY

Concerns about Energy Security

Publics around the world show high levels of concern about energy security. Large majorities believe that energy shortages and higher prices could lead to destabilization of the world economy, that competition for energy could lead to international conflict and even war, and that the way the world produces energy is causing environmental problems. Large majorities favor addressing energy security as a high foreign policy priority.

Around the world, people express concerns about a variety of possible scenarios involving energy security. In 2006, a British Broadcasting Company (BBC)/GlobeScan/Program on International Policy Attitudes (PIPA) poll of nineteen countries presented three possibilities and asked respondents how concerned they were about them.

On the possibility that **energy shortages and prices will destabilize the world economy**, majorities or pluralities in all nineteen countries expressed concern. In the global average, 77 percent said they were concerned (39 percent very) and 19 percent said they were not concerned. Russians expressed the lowest levels of concern (48 percent), while Filipinos were the most concerned (95 percent, 60 percent very concerned).¹

On the possibility that **competition for energy will lead to greater conflict and war between nations**, majorities in all nineteen countries expressed concern. In the global average, 72 percent said they were concerned (36 percent very) and 22 percent said they were not concerned. Filipinos were again the most concerned (88 percent), while Poles (52 percent) and Russians (56 percent) were the least concerned about energy competition causing these problems.²

On the possibility that **the way the world produces and uses energy is causing environmental problems including climate change**, majorities in all nineteen countries expressed concern. In the global average, 81 percent said they were concerned (47 percent very) and 16 percent said they were not concerned. Concern was particularly widespread among Australians (94 percent), Britons (93 percent), Canadians (91 percent), and Italians (91 percent). Publics in Poland (58 percent) and Russia (66 percent) demonstrated considerably less concern.³

The potential for a disruption in energy supply is seen as a critical threat by majorities in several countries. In a WorldPublicOpinion.org (WPO)/Chicago Council on Global Affairs (CCGA) poll of eight countries, majorities or pluralities in seven said it was a critical threat, and one said it was an important but not critical. On average among all eight countries, 51 percent called it was a critical threat, 30 percent said it was important but not critical, and 11 percent said it was not an important threat at all.⁴

Europeans and Americans expect that they will be personally affected by the threat of energy dependence in the next ten years. Large majorities in all twelve European countries polled by the German Marshall Fund (GMF) in 2008, as well as in the United States, thought this was likely. On average among the twelve European countries, 81 percent said energy dependence would likely affect them. This belief was most widespread among Germans (92 percent) and Spaniards (91 percent) and less widespread among Turks (59 percent).⁵

Majorities in seven countries say that securing adequate supplies of energy should be an important goal for their country (WPO/CCGA 2006), with an average of 65 percent regarding this goal as very important, 26 percent as a somewhat important goal, and 5 percent as not important at all.⁶

Multilateral Cooperation on Energy Security

Europeans show strong support for addressing the issue of energy through the European Union rather than through their national governments.

Among citizens of European countries, there is a widespread view that decisions on energy should be made jointly with the European Union, rather than by their government alone. A 2010 Eurobarometer poll asked whether decisions about energy should be made by their own government or “made jointly within the European Union.” Majorities or pluralities in

twenty-five out of twenty-seven countries replied that energy decisions should be made jointly within the European Union, while two countries were divided (Eurobarometer 2010). In the EU average, 66 percent favored joint EU decisions on energy and 31 percent favored national governments making such decisions. This marks a small increase from the 2008 average when 63 percent favored joint EU decision making on energy.⁷

Approaches to Energy Supply—Renewable Energy

In international polls there is strong support for a variety of methods for addressing the problem of energy supply. These methods include putting greater emphasis on the development of alternative renewable sources such as solar and wind, requiring utilities to use more alternative renewable energy (even if this increases the cost), and providing tax incentives to encourage the development and use of such technologies. There is substantial optimism that investments in alternative energy will pay off economically in the long run.

Global publics widely favor putting greater emphasis on installing wind or solar energy systems. In a poll of twenty-four publics, a majority in twenty-three favored their country putting greater emphasis on installing solar and wind energy systems (WPO 2008). On average, 77 percent supported more emphasis, 8 percent supported less emphasis, and 7 percent supported the same emphasis. Only in Russia did less than a clear majority (50 percent) support a great emphasis on these alternative energies.⁸

Most also favor the government requiring utilities to use more alternative energy, such as wind and solar, even if this increases the cost of energy in the short run. In twenty-two out of twenty-four publics, a majority of respondents supported the proposal (WPO 2008). In Russia views were divided, and in Azerbaijan support was just a plurality—both of these nations are major oil producers. On average, 69 percent favored requiring utilities to use more alternative energy and 20 percent were opposed.⁹

There is also support globally for creating tax incentives to encourage the development and use of alternative energy sources, such as solar or wind power. In a poll of nineteen countries, majorities in every one favored these incentives, with thirteen countries favoring it strongly (BBC/GlobeScan/PIPA 2006). In the average of all nineteen countries, 80 percent favored the incentives (50 percent strongly).¹⁰

When presented with competing arguments for and against making a major shift to alternative energy sources based on costs, the public is largely in favor of making the shift. In all twenty-four publics polled, most sided with the argument that with the rising cost of energy, such a shift would save money in the long run (WPO 2008). On average, 66 percent of respondents said it would save money in the long run, while 21 percent said it cost so much that it would hurt the economy. Publics in South Korea (86 percent) and France (83 percent) were most convinced by the argument for the switch, while support was more lukewarm in Russia (45 percent), Azerbaijan (52 percent), and Ukraine (54 percent).¹¹

EU members have shown support for ambitious goals. Eurobarometer polled all twenty-seven EU member states in November 2010 on the goal “to increase the share of renewable energy in the EU by 20 percent by 2020”. Majorities in all twenty-seven countries either approved of the goal or called for it go further. In the EU-wide average, 57 percent thought the proposed goal was “about right” and 16 percent thought it was “too modest”, while 19 percent thought it was “too ambitious”. Among those publics with the most respondents supporting the stated goal or a more ambitious objective were Sweden and Italy (both 84 percent) and Belgium (78 percent). Countries with the largest minorities saying the goal went too far included the Czech Republic (30 percent), Cyprus (29 percent), and Greece (28 percent).¹²

In several earlier questions on energy posed by Eurobarometer, respondents in all fifteen EU member states at the time supported initiatives aimed at developing energy within the European Union and believed alternative energy sources would prove the least expensive, most useful, and best for the environment (2002). Respondents were told that half of energy used in the European Union came from outside the European Union and were presented with five statements on the issue with the option to agree to multiple statements. In the EU average, 52 percent of respondents said more energy sources should be developed inside the European Union; 51 percent said more should be done to encourage energy saving

in the European Union; 37 percent called it an urgent issue; 25 percent said energy imports should be reduced; and 12 percent said this was not an urgent issue.¹³

Respondents in the same poll, asked to look forward to the year 2050, saw alternative energy sources as the *most economical* path for the future. Choosing a maximum of two answers, 40 percent predicted that in 2050 solar power, wind, and biomass would be the least expensive forms of energy, 24 percent said hydroelectric, 21 percent said natural gas, 14 percent said nuclear fusion, 11 percent said coal and peat, 10 percent said nuclear fission, and 7 percent said oil.¹⁴ Asked to select what resources would provide the *greatest amount* of useful energy, 27 percent said wind, solar, and biomass would provide the most; 22 percent said nuclear fusion; 20 percent said natural gas; 17 percent said nuclear fission; 17 percent said hydroelectric; 14 percent said oil; and 4 percent said coal and peat.¹⁵ Finally, asked what resource would be the *best for the environment*, with the option of choosing two, 67 percent chose solar, wind, and biomass; 38 percent chose hydroelectric; 10 percent chose natural gas; 5 percent chose nuclear fusion; 3 percent chose coal and peat; 3 percent chose nuclear fission; and 2 percent chose oil.¹⁶

In the same 2002 poll, Europeans also favored research into renewable energy sources over other types of energy-related research. Presented with seven energy-related research options and allowed multiple answers, an average of 69 percent favored research into renewable energy sources such as solar and wind power; 51 percent favored research into cleaner means of transport such as electric cars; 21 percent favored research into nuclear fusion; 13 percent favored research into gas; 10 percent favored research into nuclear fission; 6 percent favored research into oil; and 5 percent favored research into coal.¹⁷

Approaches to Energy Supply—Conservation

In every major country polled, majorities favor putting greater emphasis on modifying buildings to make them more energy efficient. Most publics favor requiring businesses to use energy more efficiently, even if this might make some products more expensive. Over half of publics—and an average of just under half of people across countries—favor an extra charge for the purchase of models or appliances or cars that are not energy efficient. Fewer than half of publics support increasing energy taxes to encourage conservation, but support rises to a majority in most countries if the revenues are earmarked for developing alternative energy or if the tax is offset by other tax reductions. Large majorities in nearly all countries favor requiring auto makers to increase fuel efficiency, even if this means the price of cars would go up.

Publics around the world widely favor putting greater emphasis on modifying buildings to make them more energy efficient. Asked whether they supported more, less, or the same level of emphasis on modifying buildings to make them more energy efficient, all twenty-four publics polled favored greater emphasis (WPO 2008). In the average of all publics, 74 percent favored more emphasis, 11 percent favored less emphasis, and 8 percent favored the same emphasis. Support ranged from 54 percent in India and the Palestinian territories to 89 percent in Britain and France.¹⁸

Support is also widespread for requiring businesses to use energy more efficiently. Nineteen out of twenty-four publics polled favored mandatory energy efficiency standards for businesses, even if this might make some products more expensive, while three publics were opposed and two were divided (WPO 2008). Taiwan (80 percent), Great Britain (79 percent), and South Korea (74 percent) showed the highest levels of support for the measure. The five nations not in support of the idea—Azerbaijan (55 percent), Russia (43 percent), and Indonesia (47 percent)—as well as the two that were divided—Mexico and Nigeria—were all major oil producers.¹⁹

As an additional conservation measure, publics in fifteen out of twenty-four countries polled support adding an extra charge for the purchase of models or appliances or cars that are not energy efficient. Seven countries were opposed, and two were divided (WPO 2008). On average, 48 percent of respondents across the twenty-four countries declared themselves in favor and 39 percent were opposed. Support for such a charge was highest in Kenya (74 percent), Italy (69 percent), Indonesia (61 percent), and France (60 percent). The publics with a majority rejecting the idea included Thailand (64 percent), the Palestinian Territories (58 percent), Mexico (57 percent), Germany (54 percent), Jordan (52 percent), and the United States (52 percent).²⁰

On the other hand, there is significant opposition to increasing taxes to encourage conservation. In fifteen out of nineteen countries asked, most publics rejected higher energy taxes, while just four countries were in favor (BBC/GlobeScan/PIPA 2006). In the average of nineteen countries, 59 percent opposed increasing energy taxes for conservation and 37 percent favored such taxes. Among the four countries that favored higher energy taxes were India (52 percent)—an emerging economic power with rising energy needs—Australia (69 percent), Great Britain (62 percent), and Kenya (60 percent). Opposition to these measures was especially strong in Poland (87 percent), Brazil (86 percent), Ukraine (86 percent), and Russia (84 percent).²¹

Despite this general resistance to increased energy taxes, additional polling shows that those who initially oppose the idea are willing to change their minds in significant numbers if the resulting tax revenues are earmarked for research and development of alternative energy sources—or when the tax increases are offset by other tax cuts. When either of those caveats is included, support for energy taxes rises to a substantial majority.

Large majorities also favor mandating increased vehicle fuel efficiency, even if this means higher car prices. Among nineteen publics polled, seventeen favored higher fuel efficiency standards despite higher car prices; one country was opposed; and one country was divided (BBC/GlobeScan/PIPA 2006). In the average of all nineteen countries, 67 percent favored higher standards and 26 percent opposed them. The most enthusiastic proponents were the Australians (88 percent in favor), Italians (85 percent), Ukrainians (81 percent), and Germans (80 percent). Respondents were least supportive in Egypt, where a slight majority (51 percent) opposed it (47 percent in favor); the Philippines, where views were divided (49 percent favor, 50 percent oppose); and Poland, where just a plurality favored it (48 percent favor, 34 percent oppose).²²

EU members have shown support for ambitious energy efficiency goals. In a November 2010 Eurobarometer poll, respondents in the twenty-seven European Union member states were asked about a proposed goal “to increase the energy efficiency in the EU by 20% by 2020”. Majorities in all twenty-seven countries called this objective “about right” or “too modest”, with only small minorities calling it “too ambitious”. In the EU-wide average, 59 percent said it was “about right”, 17 percent said it was “too ambitious”, and 14 percent said it was “too modest”. The highest levels of respondents saying the goal was “about right” or “too modest” were found among Italians (84 percent), Swedes (82 percent), and Austrians (80 percent). Conversely, the largest minorities characterizing the goal as “too ambitious” were Cypriots and Czechs (both 26 percent), as well as Greeks and the Dutch (both 25 percent).²³

Approaches to Energy Supply-- Fossil fuels

Publics are divided as to whether greater emphasis should be placed on building coal or oil-fired power plants. Expectations are high that the price of oil will rise dramatically over the next decade. All nations polled say that their government should plan on the assumption that oil is running out and that a major effort is necessary to replace it. Europeans are divided and Americans lean against the idea of their country using its military force to ensure the supply of oil.

Putting greater emphasis on building coal or oil-fired power plants is a divisive issue among global publics. When 24 publics were asked whether they would favor putting more emphasis on building coal or oil-fired power plants, 12 publics supported more emphasis, seven supported less emphasis, one public favored the same emphasis, and four were divided (WPO 2008). In the average of all nations, 40 percent wanted more emphasis on building coal or oil-fired power plants, 33 percent wanted less, and 17 percent wanted no change. The countries most positive about increasing emphasis on coal or oil-fired power were Kenya (69 percent), Jordan (63 percent), Argentina (60 percent), Nigeria (56 percent), and Turkey (52 percent). At the same time there was little support for putting less emphasis on coal and oil, with Germany the only country where a majority (62 percent) preferred this approach, although nearly half favored less emphasis in the United States (49 percent), France (46 percent), and Italy (46 percent).²⁴

The belief that the price of oil will be significantly higher within the next decade is widespread. Out of sixteen nations polled on their view of what the cost of oil will be in ten years, publics in fifteen nations said the price of oil will be much higher and one national public said it will be somewhat higher (WPO 2008). In the global average, 55 percent of

respondents predicted prices will be much higher, 24 percent said they would be somewhat higher, 8 percent said they would remain about the same, 5 percent said they would be somewhat lower, and 2 percent said they would be much lower. The publics with the greatest number of people who think prices will be much higher were France (81 percent), Indonesia (74 percent), and Egypt (67 percent), while the lowest percentages saying oil prices will be much higher were found in China (29 percent), Russia (35 percent), and Nigeria (42 percent).²⁵

Majorities in all sixteen nations polled say their governments should be making plans based on the assumption that oil is running out and will need to be replaced as a primary source of energy. (WPO 2008). In the global average, 70 percent of respondents said governments should plan on oil running out, while 22 percent said governments should assume enough new oil would be found so that it can remain a primary source of energy for the foreseeable future. The largest majorities endorsing the thesis of future oil scarcity were found in South Korea (97 percent), France (91 percent), Mexico (83 percent), and China (80 percent). The smallest were in the energy-producing nations of Russia (53 percent) and Nigeria (45 percent), along with India (54 percent).²⁶

In a follow-on question, respondents were asked to describe the assumptions they believed were informing their government's actions. Respondents in twelve nations said their governments were operating under the assumption that oil was running out and must be replaced, three nations said their governments were thinking that enough new oil would be found, and one country was divided (WPO 2008). In the global average, 53 percent said their government was assuming oil was running out and 35 percent said their government was assuming enough oil would be found. The belief that the government is assuming oil will run out was particularly prevalent in South Korea (79 percent), China (70 percent), and Egypt (67 percent). A majority in the United States (57 percent)—the world's biggest consumer of oil—believed in 2008 that their government was acting on the assumption that oil can remain a primary source of energy. This was also true in Nigeria (63 percent). However, while most Americans believed their government's assumptions were incorrect, most Nigerians thought they were correct. Interestingly, in four of the five countries that are net oil exporters, the perception that their government is planning for oil to run out was below the average of 53 percent. These included Azerbaijan (31 percent), Nigeria (32 percent), Russia (34 percent), and Mexico (49 percent). The exception was Iran, which was well above the average, with 63 percent believing that their government was planning for oil to run out.²⁷

The idea of a country using force to ensure the supply of oil is divisive among European nations, while the U.S. public leans against the idea. When publics in ten European countries and the United States were asked whether they approved of their country using its military force to ensure the supply of oil, five European countries and the United States disapproved of such a use of force, four countries approved, and one country was divided. In the average of ten European countries, 42 percent approved of using force to ensure the supply of oil and 51 percent disapproved. Disapproval was most widespread among Germans (61 percent) and Italians (56 percent), while half of Americans disapproved (50 percent). Turks most widely approved of using force to secure the oil supply (69 percent), followed by the Portuguese (57 percent).²⁸

Approaches to Energy Supply—Nuclear Energy

Internationally, views are mixed as to whether greater emphasis should be placed on building nuclear power plants or if new power plants should be built. However, Europeans show fairly favorable views on nuclear energy.

Globally, building nuclear power plants is a less popular approach to securing energy needs than other strategies. Out of twenty-one publics asked whether they favored emphasizing building nuclear power plants, an average of 40 percent of global respondents wanted more emphasis on building nuclear power plants, 30 percent wanted less, and 17 percent wanted the emphasis to remain about the same (WPO 2008). The most enthusiastic support for nuclear power was found in China (63 percent), Jordan (58 percent), Kenya (57 percent), Nigeria (56 percent), Argentina (55 percent) and South Korea (55 percent). Jordan and Nigeria have each announced plans to build their first nuclear power plants. China, South Korea and Argentina all have significant nuclear power production now. Italy closed down its nuclear energy program in 1988—following a referendum held after the Chernobyl disaster—and has debated a resumption of the program.²⁹

Support for building nuclear power plants to reduce reliance on coal and oil is lukewarm. Twelve out of nineteen countries polled said they favored new nuclear plants, five countries said they were opposed, and two countries were divided (BBC/GlobeScan/PIPA 2006). In the global average, 49 percent favored new plants and 44 percent were opposed. Some of the highest support for this approach came from India (66 percent), though support was also quite high in Egypt (69 percent), Kenya (66 percent), and South Korea (65 percent). Ukraine showed the strongest opposition (67 percent), while opposition was also significant in Germany (62 percent), Russia (60 percent), and France (57 percent).³⁰

An earlier GlobeScan poll also showed little support for building new nuclear energy sources, but many preferred using those already built. Out of eighteen countries asked about their support for nuclear power, seven countries supported using what was built without building new plants, four countries supported building more plants, four countries supported closing all plants, and three countries were divided (GlobeScan 2005). In the average of all eighteen countries, 34 percent of respondents favored using existing plants without building new ones, 28 percent favored building more plants, and 25 percent favored closing all plants. South Koreans (52 percent) and Americans (40 percent) had the largest numbers in favor of building additional plants; Japan (61 percent) and Hungary (55 percent) were most in favor of utilizing current nuclear sources; and Morocco (49 percent) and Jordan (41 percent) had the largest numbers favoring the closure of all nuclear plants.³¹

More recently, a large number of European publics agreed with the idea of using nuclear energy to enable European countries to diversify their energy sources. Out of the twenty-seven EU member states polled on whether they agreed or disagreed with using nuclear energy to enable European countries to diversify their energy sources, twenty-six agreed with using nuclear energy for this purpose and one country disagreed (Eurobarometer 2008). In the EU average, 64 percent agreed and 21 percent disagreed.³²

Europeans also agree that their dependence on oil could be reduced if they used more nuclear energy. Among twenty-seven countries asked whether they agreed or disagreed that nuclear energy could be used to lessen this dependence, twenty-five agreed with the statement, one country disagreed, and one country was divided (Eurobarometer 2008).³³

Attitudes about nuclear research among Europeans are somewhat favorable, with the goal of increasing safety as the most widely favored reason for funding research. In April 2002, Eurobarometer presented four possible reasons for funding nuclear research, allowing respondents to pick more than one. In the EU average, 48 percent favored research for increasing the safety of nuclear power stations in the European Union, 43 percent favored research for achieving a broadly accepted solution for the disposal of radioactive waste in the European Union, 41 percent favored research for improving safety and waste disposal in non-EU countries, and 23 percent favored research for reducing the cost of nuclear power.³⁴

Dealing With Energy-Producing Countries

Europeans and Americans are divided about how best to deal with their dependence on energy-producing countries. There is significant concern about dependence on Russian energy. Views are divided as to whether Russia can be trusted to follow through on its commitment to deliver energy. Such confidence in other energy-providing countries is moderately low for Saudi Arabia, very low for Iran, quite low for Venezuela, and very high for Canada.

Europeans and Americans show little consensus on the best ways to ensure a stable energy supply when dealing with energy suppliers whose governments show authoritarian tendencies. Publics in twelve European countries and the United States were presented with three options for ensuring a stable supply of energy: increasing cooperation with energy-producing countries “even if their governments are undemocratic,” reducing energy dependence on other countries “even if energy prices would rise sharply,” or applying diplomatic pressure “even if this increases tensions with oil producing countries” (GMF 2008). Seven countries favored reducing energy dependence on other countries, five countries favored increasing cooperation with energy-producing countries, and one country was divided. In the average of twelve European countries, 35 percent favored increased cooperation, 35 percent favored reduced dependence, and 18 percent favored diplomatic pressure. Romanians (54 percent) and Poles (51 percent) were the most in favor of increasing cooperation, while Americans (48 percent) and Britons (47 percent) were the most in favor of reducing dependence.³⁵

Russia as an Energy Provider

Concerns about dependence on Russia as an energy provider are widespread in some European countries. Among five countries, asked how concerned they were that their country had become too dependent on Russia for its energy resources, four expressed concern and one country was divided (Pew 2008). In the average of all five countries, 60 percent said they were concerned and 35 percent said they were not.³⁶

The same question on dependence on Russian energy was also put to five Eastern European countries, most recently in spring 2007, with publics showing similar concerns. Four countries expressed concern and one country was not concerned. In the average of all five countries, 57 percent said they were concerned and 38 percent said they were not.³⁷

Additional findings from the German Marshall Fund demonstrate concern about Russia as an energy provider in European nations as well as the United States. When publics in twelve European countries and the United States were asked whether they were concerned or not concerned with Russia's role as an energy provider, respondents in eleven European countries and the United States expressed concern and one country was divided (2008). In the average of twelve European countries, 62 percent said they were concerned with Russia's role and 31 percent said they were not concerned. Poles (81 percent) and Germans (78 percent) showed the highest levels of concern.³⁸

Overall, publics are divided on whether Russia can be trusted to fulfill its commitment to deliver energy to other countries (BBC/GlobeScan/PIPA 2006). Out of nineteen countries globally asked whether they trusted Russia to follow through on their commitment to deliver energy to other countries, nine countries said they trusted Russia, seven countries said they did not, and three were divided. In the global average, 45 percent thought Russia could be trusted and 45 percent thought Russia could not be trusted. Among the most confident were Australians (62 percent) and Indians (61 percent). Interestingly, most Ukrainians (59 percent) also said they trust their much-larger neighbor as an energy supplier, despite past disputes with Russia's state-controlled gas monopoly. A majority of Americans (54 percent) also expressed confidence in Russia, as did a slim majority of Canadians (52 percent). Majorities in six countries lacked confidence in Russia, especially Brazil (76 percent), South Korea (67 percent), and Poland (61 percent), a major Russian customer.³⁹

Europeans see conflict between Russia and its neighbors (such as the recent conflict with Georgia) as capable of having an effect on the energy supply in the European Union. All twenty-seven EU member states polled said the conflict between Russia and Georgia that flared up earlier in 2008 could have an impact on the security of the energy supply in the European Union (Eurobarometer 2008). In the EU average, 60 percent thought conflict between Russia and Georgia could affect the European Union's energy supply and 21 percent thought it could not.⁴⁰

Other Energy-Providing Countries

Trust in other energy suppliers varies significantly, depending on the country. When nineteen countries were asked about their confidence that several energy-exporting countries would follow through on their commitments to deliver energy to other countries, overall trust was moderately low for Saudi Arabia, very low for Iran, quite low for Venezuela, and very high for Canada (BBC/GlobeScan/PIPA 2006).

There is some skepticism about Saudi Arabia's reliability on its commitments as an energy supplier. Among nineteen countries polled, twelve publics said it could not be trusted on energy delivery, five said it could, and two were divided. In the global average, 46 percent of respondents said they did not trust Saudi Arabia on energy delivery and 41 percent said they did. Five countries endorsed Saudi trustworthiness: Egypt (83 percent), the Philippines (63 percent), Australia (58 percent), Kenya (55 percent), and India (48 percent). Twelve countries did not, including Brazil (81 percent) and, not surprisingly, Israel (61 percent). Some of the least confident were major Saudi customers, such as Italy (57 percent), France (56 percent), and South Korea (55 percent). Also skeptical was Saudi Arabia's close ally, the United States (56 percent).⁴¹

Trust in Iran to deliver on its energy commitments is the lowest out of all suppliers evaluated. On Iran, seventeen countries said it could not be trusted on energy delivery and just two said that it could. In the global average, 62 percent said they did not trust Iran while 26 percent said they did. Only in Egypt and India did majorities say they trusted Iran as an energy supplier (73 percent and 51 percent, respectively). Germans (86 percent) were especially skeptical of Iran, followed by Brazilians (84 percent), Americans (83 percent), Italians (80 percent), and Israelis (80 percent).⁴²

Confidence in Venezuela as an energy supplier is somewhat low. Out of the nineteen countries polled, ten countries said Venezuela could not be trusted, five said it could, and four were divided. In the global average, 43 percent said they did not trust Venezuela and 35 percent said they did. Publics in Australia (55 percent) and Mexico (53 percent) exhibited the greatest trust in Venezuela, followed by the United States (49 percent), despite the countries' shaky relations. Most Brazilians (77 percent) and Egyptians (53 percent) lacked trust in Venezuela.⁴³

Canada is the energy supplier most widely trusted by other nations. Seventeen countries said Canada could be trusted on energy delivery and just two said it could not. In the global average, 60 percent said they trusted Canada and 24 percent said they did not trust it. Only majorities in Brazil (68 percent) and Egypt (53 percent) said they lacked confidence in Canada as an energy supplier.⁴⁴

¹ BBC July 2006

Please tell me if you are very concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned or not at all concerned about each of the following possibilities related to energy issues.

That energy shortages and prices will destabilize the world economy.

	Very concerned	Somewhat concerned	Not very concerned	Not at all concerned	DK / NA
Australia	43	42	11	4	1
Brazil	51	24	13	10	1
Canada	45	40	9	4	2
Chile	40	33	12	7	8
Egypt	47	32	13	7	1
France	29	50	13	5	2
Germany	31	42	20	7	1
Great Britain	49	35	9	4	3
India	42	26	11	10	12
Israel	29	38	14	16	3
Italy	40	44	10	4	1
Kenya	54	28	11	3	5
Mexico	46	37	11	4	2
Philippines	60	35	3	1	1
Poland	20	43	21	7	9
Russia	10	38	32	9	10
South Korea	43	50	6	*	1
Ukraine	26	39	21	5	9
United States	44	38	12	4	2
Average	39	38	13	6	4

² BBC July 2006

That competition for energy will lead to greater conflict and war between nations.

	Very concerned	Somewhat concerned	Not very concerned	Not at all concerned	DK / NA
Australia	40	42	11	6	1
Brazil	47	26	14	12	1
Canada	42	40	11	6	1
Chile	39	32	14	7	8

Egypt	41	38	17	4	*
France	28	43	17	9	3
Germany	37	38	18	6	1
Great Britain	46	37	9	6	2
India	35	24	16	9	15
Israel	29	33	16	18	4
Italy	42	35	16	5	2
Kenya	49	27	11	6	7
Mexico	33	27	23	14	4
Philippines	50	38	8	2	2
Poland	16	36	25	11	12
Russia	14	42	27	7	11
South Korea	34	56	9	1	1
Ukraine	31	40	17	4	9
United States	41	38	12	7	1
Average	36	36	15	7	4

³ BBC July 2006

That the way the world produces and uses energy is causing environmental problems including climate change.

	Very concerned	Somewhat concerned	Not very concerned	Not at all concerned	DK / NA
Australia	69	25	5	1	*
Brazil	61	20	10	8	1
Canada	62	29	4	4	1
Chile	50	28	10	6	6
Egypt	41	36	15	7	1
France	45	45	7	3	1
Germany	43	40	13	3	1
Great Britain	66	27	4	2	1
India	41	20	13	8	18
Israel	42	33	12	10	2
Italy	60	31	7	2	1
Kenya	55	24	11	5	5
Mexico	35	39	18	5	3
Philippines	47	41	8	2	2
Poland	17	41	23	8	12
Russia	20	46	20	4	9
South Korea	43	47	7	1	2
Ukraine	35	38	14	3	10
United States	53	29	10	8	1
Average	47	34	11	5	4

⁴ WorldPublicOpinion.org/Chicago Council on Global Affairs 2006

Below is a list of possible threats to the vital interest of [survey country] in the next 10 years. For each one, please select whether you see this as a critical threat, an important but not critical threat, or not an important threat at all.

Disruption in energy supply

	Critical	Important but not Critical	Not Important	NS/Decline
United States	59	37	3	1
Armenia	58	23	8	10
Australia	52	40	8	0
China	53	29	9	8
India	43	32	13	11
Iran	47	12	27	14
Israel	33	37	19	10
South Korea	64	31	4	0
Average	51	30	11	7

⁵ German Marshall Fund Transatlantic Trends 2008

And in the next 10 years, please tell me how likely you are to be personally affected by each of the following threats.

Energy dependence

	Very likely	Somewhat likely	Not too likely	Not likely at all	DK/ Refused	Likely	Not likely
United States	63	24	6	5	2	87	11
France	47	37	12	3	1	84	15
Germany	69	23	5	2	1	92	7
Great Britain	49	32	11	6	3	80	17
Italy	48	41	8	2	1	89	11
Netherlands	33	41	18	6	3	73	24
Poland	34	49	10	2	5	83	12
Portugal	45	34	10	5	6	79	15
Spain	60	31	5	3	1	91	8
Slovakia	30	46	15	4	6	75	18
Turkey	36	24	13	9	19	59	22
Bulgaria	43	37	7	4	9	81	11
Romania	29	44	14	5	6	73	20
European Average	44	37	11	4	5	81	15

⁶ WorldPublicOpinion.org/Chicago Council on Global Affairs 2006

Below is a list of possible foreign policy goals that [survey country] might have. For each one please select whether you think that it should be a very important foreign policy goal of [survey country], a somewhat important foreign policy goal, or not an important goal at all?

Securing adequate supplies of energy

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	NS/Decline
United States	72	25	2	2
Armenia	73	19	4	4
Australia	72	23	4	1
China	61	29	5	5
India	52	28	12	8
South Korea	63	33	3	

Thailand	59	23	3	15
Average	65	26	5	6

⁷ Eurobarometer November 2010

And for each of the following areas, do you think that decisions should be made by the (NATIONALITY) Government, or made jointly within the European Union?

Energy

	(NATIONALITY) Government	Jointly within the EU	DK
Belgium	21	78	1
Bulgaria	29	67	4
Czech Republic	37	62	1
Denmark	20	78	2
Germany	26	72	2
Estonia	30	67	3
Ireland	29	64	7
Greece	36	63	1
Spain	31	65	4
France	19	78	3
Italy	27	69	4
Latvia	21	77	2
Lithuania	21	77	2
Luxembourg	14	85	1
Hungary	25	75	0
Malta	25	71	4
Netherlands	25	74	1
Austria	48	51	1

Poland	30	67	3
Portugal	31	65	4
Romania	41	54	5
Slovenia	38	61	1
Slovakia	34	66	0
Finland	45	55	0
Sweden	34	65	1
United Kingdom	48	49	3
European Average	31	66	3

Eurobarometer November 2008

For each of the following areas, do you think that decisions should be made by the [NATIONALITY] Government, or made jointly within the European Union?

Energy

	(NATIONALITY) Government	Jointly within the European Union	DK
Belgium	30	69	1
Bulgaria	35	56	9
Czech Republic	42	57	1
Denmark	30	68	2
Germany	24	76	1
Estonia	35	62	3
Greece	25	74	0
Spain	44	50	6
France	26	71	3
Ireland	37	57	6
Italy	28	65	7
Cyprus	16	80	4
Latvia	21	76	3
Lithuania	25	70	5
Luxembourg	33	66	1
Hungary	29	69	2
Malta	32	64	4
The Netherlands	29	69	2
Austria	56	41	3
Poland	28	65	7
Portugal	27	64	9
Romania	36	58	6
Slovenia	32	66	2
Slovakia	36	63	1
Finland	53	45	2
Sweden	36	62	2
United Kingdom	51	46	3
Average	33	63	4

⁸ WorldPublicOpinion.org September 2008

I would like you to consider different ways to deal with the problem of energy. For each one please tell me if you think our country should emphasize it more, less, or the same as now

Installing solar or wind energy systems

	Emphasize more	Emphasize less	Same as now	DK/NS
Argentina	82	4	6	8
Mexico	86	4	6	3
United States	87	5	6	3
France	88	3	9	0
Germany	82	5	12	2
Great Britain	81	6	10	4
Italy	88	7	4	2
Poland	85	7	1	7
Russia	50	4	12	35
Ukraine	67	6	7	20
Azerbaijan	64	10	13	14
Jordan	76	11	3	10
Palestinian Territories	59	30	8	4
Turkey	84	4	3	9
Kenya	88	11	0	1
Nigeria	77	17	4	3
China	84	4	4	8
Hong Kong	59	16	18	8
Macau	64	9	15	12
India	62	13	16	10
Indonesia	64	16	8	13
South Korea	89	2	9	1
Taiwan	82	2	10	5
Thailand	75	7	5	13
Average	77	8	7	8

* Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan not included in average

⁹ WorldPublicOpinion.org September 2008

Do you favor or oppose the government doing each of the following:

Requiring utilities to use more alternative energy, such as wind and solar, even if this increases the cost of energy in the short run

	Favor	Oppose	DK / NS
Argentina	70	17	13
Mexico	58	38	5
United States	66	28	6
France	88	10	3
Germany	62	36	2
Great Britain	75	19	6
Italy	67	29	4
Poland	66	15	19
Russia	36	36	28
Ukraine	56	11	33

Azerbaijan	48	43	8
Jordan	77	13	10
Palestinian Territories	71	27	2
Turkey	71	12	17
Kenya	87	13	1
Nigeria	71	26	4
China	75	11	14
Hong Kong	78	15	7
Macau	76	13	11
India	63	20	17
Indonesia	65	13	22
South Korea	96	4	1
Taiwan	88	9	3
Thailand	73	9	17
Average	69	20	11

* Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan not included in average

¹⁰ BBC July 2006

Please tell me if you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose each of the following.

Creating tax incentives to encourage the development and use of alternative energy sources, such as solar or wind power.

	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	DK / NA
Australia	74	18	5	2	1
Brazil	65	22	4	6	3
Canada	66	25	4	4	1
Chile	31	31	13	12	13
Egypt	32	34	24	8	2
France	63	28	4	3	2
Germany	50	35	9	4	2
Great Britain	62	24	5	6	2
India	49	19	14	5	13
Israel	59	25	7	4	6
Italy	75	20	2	2	1
Kenya	48	29	11	8	5
Mexico	32	35	13	11	9
Philippines	31	39	19	8	2
Poland	55	31	4	3	7
Russia	30	44	9	4	13
South Korea	31	51	14	3	2
Ukraine	42	36	9	4	9
United States	59	26	6	6	2
Average	50	30	9	5	5

¹¹ WorldPublicOpinion.org September 2008

As you may know there is some controversy about the possibility of making a major shift to alternative energy sources, such as wind and solar. Which view is closer to yours?

	This would cost so much money that it would hurt the economy	With the rising cost of energy, it would save money in the long run	DK / NS
Argentina	21	66	13
Mexico	18	73	10
United States	18	79	3
France	12	83	5
Germany	31	65	4
Great Britain	13	79	8
Italy	18	74	8
Poland	6	77	17
Russia	27	45	29
Ukraine	14	54	33
Azerbaijan	33	52	15
Jordan	21	61	18
Palestinian Territories	40	55	4
Turkey	19	57	24
Kenya	34	64	2
Nigeria	32	63	6
China	8	78	14
Hong Kong	10	83	7
Macau	9	79	12
India	29	51	19
Indonesia	15	59	27
South Korea	12	86	2
Taiwan	7	84	9
Thailand	13	59	28
Average	21	66	14

* Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan not included in average

¹² Eurobarometer November 2010

Thinking about each of the following objectives to be reached by 2020 in the European Union, would you say that it is too ambitious, about right or too modest?

Increase the share of renewable energy in the EU by 20 percent by 2020.

	Too ambitious	About right	Too modest	DK
Belgium	20	52	26	2
Bulgaria	25	46	6	23
Czech Republic	30	51	10	9
Denmark	19	52	25	4
Germany	21	53	20	6
Estonia	20	62	6	12
Ireland	17	53	10	20
Greece	28	45	20	7

Spain	13	62	13	12
France	22	52	21	5
Italy	13	72	12	3
Cyprus	29	49	14	8
Latvia	12	64	11	13
Lithuania	14	62	8	16
Luxembourg	24	43	27	6
Hungary	21	57	17	5
Malta	13	54	6	27
Netherlands	22	52	23	2
Austria	19	49	28	4
Poland	14	60	14	12
Portugal	19	51	17	13
Romania	18	55	6	21
Slovenia	19	62	13	6
Slovakia	24	55	16	5
Finland	22	60	14	4
Sweden	14	50	34	2
United Kingdom	23	54	13	10
European Average	19	57	16	8

¹³ Eurobarometer April 2002

50 percent of the energy used in the European Union comes from outside the European Union. This dependency is expected to increase in the future. With which of the following statements, if any, do you agree?

1. It is an urgent issue
2. Energy imports (of coal, oil, gas, uranium, etc.) from outside the European Union should be reduced
3. More energy sources should be developed within the European Union
4. More should be done to encourage energy saving in the European Union
5. There are issues which are more urgent
6. None of these (spontaneous)
7. DK

	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
Belgium	38	25	57	50	13	1	7
Denmark	24	23	58	65	20	1	5
Germany	41	27	58	57	10	1	4
Greece	31	20	51	37	8	1	14
Spain	33	21	40	34	14	1	12
France	40	23	49	49	15	2	5
Ireland	29	21	42	43	12	1	14
Italy	35	24	57	49	9	1	6
Luxembourg	39	25	57	55	15	1	6
The Netherlands	27	26	60	64	11	1	6
Austria	40	31	40	53	6	3	7
Poland	42	16	34	34	11	1	12
Finland	30	27	66	59	10	1	6
Sweden	49	47	72	73	12	0	3
United Kingdom	34	26	45	54	15	1	11

Average 37 25 52 51 12 1 7

¹⁴ Eurobarometer April 2002

Let's think forward about fifty years, to 2050. Which of the following energy resources do you think will be least expensive? (Max. 2 answers)

1. Solid fuels (coal, peat, etc.)
2. Oil
3. Natural gas
4. Nuclear fission
5. Nuclear fusion
6. Hydroelectric power (dams, etc.)
7. Other renewable sources of energy (solar power, wind, biomass, etc.)
8. None of these (spontaneous)
9. DK

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Belgium	15	6	26	7	9	25	44	1	15
Denmark	8	8	19	15	23	25	59	0	4
Germany	12	7	19	14	16	26	38	3	15
Greece	5	12	47	4	4	22	34	1	17
Spain	11	5	16	2	4	15	39	2	26
France	13	8	22	15	17	22	39	2	13
Ireland	14	5	21	6	6	18	35	2	22
Italy	15	7	27	5	9	24	40	2	15
Luxembourg	9	9	21	12	14	18	49	1	13
The Netherlands	6	5	15	12	25	34	57	1	10
Austria	15	7	11	13	13	35	41	3	17
Poland	3	5	28	2	3	24	21	2	33
Finland	7	6	18	18	29	14	45	0	10
Sweden	9	4	23	14	28	37	59	0	5
United Kingdom	9	4	16	10	16	26	42	1	17
Average	11	7	21	10	14	24	40	2	16

¹⁵ Eurobarometer April 2002

And which do you think will provide the greatest amount of useful energy? (Max. 2 answers)

1. Solid fuels (coal, peat, etc.)
2. Oil
3. Natural gas
4. Nuclear fission
5. Nuclear fusion
6. Hydroelectric power (dams, etc.)
7. Other renewable sources of energy (solar power, wind, biomass, etc.)
8. None of these (spontaneous)
9. DK

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Belgium	3	6	28	9	15	24	42	0	15
Denmark	7	19	26	17	27	9	40	0	6

Germany	6	17	22	22	24	13	27	2	16
Greece	3	16	40	6	6	19	27	1	23
Spain	2	14	17	6	12	16	25	0	29
France	3	11	18	22	29	19	27	2	16
Ireland	8	12	21	9	11	13	23	1	27
Italy	4	25	22	17	23	14	18	0	20
Luxembourg	4	6	16	17	23	17	37	2	17
The Netherlands	4	9	21	18	37	18	41	0	11
Austria	5	12	14	16	15	35	35	1	22
Poland	2	5	22	3	5	25	18	1	37
Finland	5	6	10	20	32	11	33	1	13
Sweden	7	12	16	22	36	29	37	0	8
United Kingdom	5	6	15	15	22	18	29	1	21
Average	4	14	20	17	22	17	27	1	19

¹⁶ Eurobarometer April 2002

And which do you think will be best for the environment? (Max. 2 answers)

1. Solid fuels (coal, peat, etc.)
2. Oil
3. Natural gas
4. Nuclear fission
5. Nuclear fusion
6. Hydroelectric power (dams, etc.)
7. Other renewable sources of energy (solar power, wind, biomass, etc.)
8. None of these (spontaneous)
9. DK

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Belgium	3	0	15	1	4	42	71	1	9
Denmark	1	1	8	4	8	46	79	0	3
Germany	4	2	7	3	6	50	71	2	9
Greece	1	2	35	1	1	33	53	1	15
Spain	2	1	6	1	2	20	70	3	15
France	5	2	10	5	5	32	64	3	13
Ireland	3	3	10	2	2	24	54	2	23
Italy	4	1	16	2	4	39	69	1	11
Luxembourg	3	2	10	2	5	35	73	2	10
The Netherlands	1	1	5	2	11	55	84	0	3
Austria	3	2	8	2	3	57	71	1	11
Poland	1	1	20	1	1	28	39	1	30
Finland	3	1	8	5	11	22	69	0	7
Sweden	3	0	15	6	18	47	73	0	5
United Kingdom	2	2	7	3	6	32	63	1	14
Average	3	2	10	3	5	38	67	2	12

¹⁷ Eurobarometer April 2002

In which of the following areas would you like to see more energy-related research in the European Union? (Multiple answers possible)

1. Coal
2. Oil
3. Gas
4. Renewable energy sources, such as solar power, wind
5. Nuclear fission, the splitting of heavy atoms
6. Nuclear fusion, the merging of light atoms
7. Cleaner means of transport such as electric cars
8. Other (spontaneous)
9. I would not like to see more energy-related research in the European Union (spontaneous)
10. DK

	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
Belgium	5	7	18	73	11	17	58	2	3	7
Denmark	2	4	8	79	11	21	58	0	1	5
Germany	5	6	13	74	10	27	52	2	1	9
Greece	9	18	36	59	9	10	38	0	2	11
Spain	4	8	12	60	6	10	37	1	5	20
France	6	7	15	68	11	21	58	0	2	6
Ireland	6	7	20	58	10	10	30	1	3	17
Italy	4	4	12	74	8	16	57	1	0	7
Luxembourg	3	4	12	77	9	14	53	1	2	5
The Netherlands	3	4	7	77	18	36	61	2	1	7
Austria	6	8	12	70	5	12	46	2	3	9
Poland	3	6	22	46	7	10	32	1	2	27
Finland	4	4	13	75	19	32	50	1	0	7
Sweden	3	4	13	80	14	42	67	1	0	5
United Kingdom	5	6	11	64	13	20	50	0	3	14
Average	5	6	13	69	10	21	51	1	2	10

¹⁸ WorldPublicOpinion.org September 2008

I would like you to consider different ways to deal with the problem of energy. For each one please tell me if you think our country should emphasize it more, less, or the same as now

Modifying buildings to make them more energy efficient

	Emphasize more	Emphasize less	Same as now	DK/NS
Argentina	80	4	8	8
Mexico	83	7	7	3
United States	83	4	11	2
France	89	2	9	1
Germany	85	6	7	1
Great Britain	89	2	8	2
Italy	88	8	3	1
Poland	83	9	1	7
Russia	58	8	14	20
Ukraine	66	6	7	21
Azerbaijan	60	17	17	6
Jordan	69	16	6	10
Palestinian Territories	54	31	10	4
Turkey	83	6	2	9

Kenya	75	23	2	1
Nigeria	55	28	12	5
China	80	6	4	10
Hong Kong	51	16	23	11
Macau	56	10	18	15
India	54	17	19	11
Indonesia	55	24	8	12
South Korea	85	3	10	2
Taiwan	73	4	16	8
Thailand	73	8	6	13
Average	74	11	8	7

* Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan not included in average

¹⁹ WorldPublicOpinion.org September 2008

Do you favor or oppose the government doing each of the following:

Requiring businesses to use energy more efficiently, even if this might make some products more expensive

	Favor	Oppose	DK / NS
Argentina	63	24	13
Mexico	47	49	4
United States	61	34	5
France	72	25	3
Germany	57	40	3
Great Britain	79	17	5
Italy	69	27	4
Poland	50	26	24
Russia	28	43	29
Ukraine	46	17	38
Azerbaijan	38	55	7
Jordan	62	27	11
Palestinian Territories	53	44	2
Turkey	63	18	19
Kenya	71	28	1
Nigeria	49	46	5
China	66	16	18
Hong Kong	71	18	10
Macau	71	18	12
India	62	25	14
Indonesia	37	47	16
South Korea	74	24	3
Taiwan	80	15	5
Thailand	65	17	18
Average	58	31	11

* Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan not included in average

²⁰ WorldPublicOpinion.org September 2008

Do you favor or oppose the government doing each of the following:

Having an extra charge for the purchase of models of appliances and cars that are NOT energy efficient

	Favor	Oppose	DK / NS
Argentina	62	25	13
Mexico	39	57	4
United States	43	52	5
France	60	38	2
Germany	43	54	3
Britain	59	36	5
Italy	69	28	3
Poland	37	36	26
Russia	37	33	30
Ukraine	32	22	47
Azerbaijan	43	47	10
Jordan	37	52	11
Palestinian Territories	38	58	4
Turkey	56	26	19
Kenya	74	25	2
Nigeria	44	46	11
China	48	33	19
Hong Kong	55	36	9
Macau	53	35	12
India	47	27	26
Indonesia	61	21	18
South Korea	53	43	4
Taiwan	55	40	5
Thailand	19	64	17
Average	48	39	13

* Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan not included in average

²¹ BBC July 2006

Please tell me if you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose each of the following.

Increasing energy taxes to encourage conservation

	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	DK / NA
Australia	30	39	18	12	1
Brazil	6	7	13	73	*
Canada	18	29	21	30	2
Chile	14	27	23	25	13
Egypt	20	26	23	28	2
France	7	23	24	41	5
Germany	12	35	26	26	1
Great Britain	31	31	16	18	4
India	25	27	14	22	13
Israel	14	22	26	31	6
Italy	5	17	34	42	2
Kenya	32	28	18	17	5
Mexico	7	19	27	43	3
Philippines	20	18	22	38	1

Poland	2	5	34	53	5
Russia	2	11	39	45	4
South Korea	6	35	45	12	1
Ukraine	3	9	31	55	2
United States	19	28	22	29	2
Average	14	23	25	34	4

²² BBC July 2006

Please tell me if you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose each of the following.

Requiring auto makers to increase fuel efficiency, even if this means the price of cars would go up.

	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	DK / NA
Australia	59	29	6	5	1
Brazil	35	23	16	23	3
Canada	47	30	10	10	2
Chile	24	34	17	10	15
Egypt	20	27	26	25	2
France	24	31	18	23	4
Germany	38	42	14	4	2
Great Britain	45	29	12	11	3
India	36	19	7	13	24
Israel	35	30	15	13	7
Italy	47	38	7	4	3
Kenya	33	28	18	13	7
Mexico	25	44	11	13	8
Philippines	20	29	29	21	1
Poland	18	30	21	13	18
Russia	36	41	11	1	11
South Korea	23	51	20	3	3
Ukraine	38	43	8	2	10
United States	50	27	10	11	1
Average	34	33	15	11	7

²³ Eurobarometer 74 November 2010

Thinking about each of the following objectives to be reached by 2020 in the European Union, would you say that it is too ambitious, about right, or too modest?

To increase the energy efficiency in the EU by 20% by 2020

	Too ambitious	About right	Too modest	DK
Belgium	20	53	24	3
Bulgaria	22	51	6	21
Czech Republic	26	54	9	11
Denmark	18	58	18	6
Germany	18	55	16	11

Estonia	16	65	5	14
Ireland	15	58	9	18
Greece	25	47	20	8
Spain	12	64	12	12
France	20	54	17	9
Italy	12	72	12	4
Cyprus	26	52	12	10
Latvia	11	66	11	12
Lithuania	11	67	6	16
Luxembourg	22	47	23	8
Hungary	19	60	16	5
Malta	13	55	6	26
Netherlands	25	54	16	5
Austria	16	53	27	4
Poland	12	63	11	14
Portugal	19	52	15	14
Romania	16	55	7	22
Slovenia	17	65	10	8
Slovakia	20	57	17	6
Finland	19	64	12	5
Sweden	14	59	23	4
United Kingdom	21	56	13	10
European Average	17	59	14	10

²⁴ WorldPublicOpinion.org September 2008

I would like you to consider different ways to deal with the problem of energy. For each one please tell me if you think our country should emphasize it more, less, or the same as now

Building coal or oil-fired power plants

	Emphasize more	Emphasize less	Same as now	DK/NS
Argentina	60	14	14	13
Mexico	46	39	12	5
United States	25	49	22	4
France	28	46	21	4
Germany	9	62	27	2
Great Britain	28	40	24	8
Italy	38	46	11	5
Poland	27	28	28	17
Russia	19	38	23	21
Ukraine	30	27	22	22
Azerbaijan	45	31	15	9
Jordan	63	19	7	11
Palestinian Territories	46	35	14	5
Turkey	52	26	11	11
Kenya	69	23	5	4
Nigeria	56	28	11	6
China	42	36	11	11

Hong Kong	23	30	34	12
Macau	30	28	25	16
India	36	27	24	13
Indonesia	50	24	10	15
South Korea	31	33	32	4
Taiwan	29	34	27	10
Thailand	41	19	13	28
Average	40	33	17	10

* Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan not included in average

²⁵ WorldPublicOpinion.org February 2008

Do you think that ten years from now, the cost of oil will be higher, lower or about the same as it is now?

	Much Higher	Somewhat Higher	About the same as it is now	Somewhat lower	Much lower	DK / NS
Mexico	54	29	7	5	1	4
United States	63	25	6	4	2	0
France	81	5	9	2	2	1
Great Britain	58	27	7	3	2	3
Russia	35	26	12	5	2	20
Ukraine	55	23	6	2	0	13
Azerbaijan	45	25	12	6	1	12
Egypt	67	28	5	1	0	-
Iran	55	20	5	3	1	17
Palestinian Territories	46	26	14	6	3	6
Turkey	58	20	5	4	3	11
Nigeria	42	22	12	14	7	4
China	29	46	11	6	1	7
India	54	20	10	7	4	4
Indonesia	74	22	1	2	0	1
South Korea	56	31	7	5	2	0
Average	55	24	8	5	2	7

²⁶ WorldPublicOpinion.org February 2008

Do you think that governments should make long-term plans based on the assumption that:

	Enough new oil will be found so that it can remain a primary source of energy for the foreseeable future	Oil is running out and it is necessary to make a major effort to replace oil as a primary source of energy	DK / NS
Mexico	13	83	5
United States	23	76	2
France	8	91	1
Great Britain	13	85	3
Russia	27	53	20
Ukraine	18	63	19
Azerbaijan	29	58	12
Egypt	21	79	-

Iran	9	68	23
Palestinian Territories	29	68	4
Turkey	28	57	16
Nigeria	53	45	2
China	16	80	4
India	28	54	18
Indonesia	37	59	4
South Korea	4	97	-
Average	22	70	8

²⁷ WorldPublicOpinion.org February 2008

Which assumption do you think the [Survey country] government is acting on now:

	Enough new oil will be found so that it can remain a primary source of energy for the foreseeable future	Oil is running out and it is necessary to make a major effort to replace oil as a primary source of energy	DK / NS
Mexico	41	49	10
United States	57	41	3
France	36	55	10
Great Britain	34	56	10
Russia	37	34	29
Ukraine	28	44	28
Azerbaijan	50	31	18
Egypt	33	67	-
Iran	12	63	26
Palestinian Territories	30	61	9
Turkey	28	53	18
Nigeria	63	32	6
China	21	70	9
India	30	48	23
Indonesia	34	61	5
South Korea	20	79	1
Average	35	53	13

²⁸ German Marshall Fund Transatlantic Trends 2004

Now I would like to ask you some questions about when [country] should use its military force. For each of the following reasons, would you approve or disapprove the use of [survey country] military force?

To ensure the supply of oil

	Approve	Disapprove	DK/ Ref
United States	44	50	6
France	50	45	5
Germany	37	61	3
Great Britain	52	41	7
Italy	38	56	6
Netherlands	48	47	4
Poland	33	53	14

Portugal	57	27	16
Spain	43	49	8
Slovakia	30	43	27
Turkey	69	21	11
European Average	42	51	7

²⁹ WorldPublicOpinion.org September 2008

I would like you to consider different ways to deal with the problem of energy. For each one please tell me if you think our country should emphasize it more, less, or the same as now

Building nuclear energy power plants

	Emphasize more	Emphasize less	Same as now	DK/NS
Argentina	55	21	12	12
Mexico	32	50	12	7
United States	42	31	24	3
France	26	41	32	1
Germany	14	63	22	1
Great Britain	41	29	22	8
Italy	52	33	8	6
Poland	32	12	37	18
Russia	27	33	22	18
Ukraine	9	49	20	22
Azerbaijan	36	32	16	17
Jordan	58	21	9	12
Palestinian Territories	41	34	18	7
Turkey	48	26	12	14
Kenya	57	29	8	6
Nigeria	56	25	9	11
China	63	10	6	20
Hong Kong	22	35	32	11
Macau	23	44	17	15
India	51	16	17	17
Indonesia	23	40	10	27
South Korea	55	13	28	5
Taiwan	40	21	30	9
Thailand	22	31	10	37
Average	40	30	17	13

* Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan not included in average

³⁰ BBC July 2006

Please tell me if you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose each of the following.

Building new nuclear power plants, to reduce reliance on oil and coal

	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	DK/NA
Australia	19	34	20	24	3

Brazil	23	24	15	35	3
Canada	22	30	18	25	6
Chile	18	24	20	24	15
Egypt	30	39	21	9	1
France	10	28	23	34	5
Germany	9	26	26	36	3
Great Britain	21	29	17	26	7
India	36	30	11	10	13
Israel	20	29	18	23	10
Italy	26	27	18	25	5
Kenya	36	30	12	15	8
Mexico	19	35	20	13	13
Philippines	27	33	20	18	2
Poland	13	18	26	30	14
Russia	5	23	36	24	12
South Korea	15	50	27	4	4
Ukraine	6	18	31	36	9
United States	29	34	15	18	4
Average	20	29	21	23	7

³¹ GlobeScan July 2005

Support for Nuclear Power

	Nuclear is safe; build more plants	Use what's there; don't build new	Nuclear dangerous; close all plants	DK/NA
South Korea	52	34	12	2
United States	40	29	20	11
Jordan	35	18	41	6
Australia	34	37	23	6
Canada	34	35	22	9
Indonesia	33	31	28	8
Great Britain	33	37	23	7
India	33	23	22	22
Mexico	32	28	23	17
France	25	50	16	9
Germany	22	47	26	5
Russia	22	41	20	17
Cameroon	21	21	27	31
Japan	21	61	15	3
Hungary	19	55	19	7
Saudi Arabia	16	25	36	23
Argentina	14	32	23	31
Morocco	13	4	49	34
Average	28	34	25	13

³² Eurobarometer March 2008

For each of the following statements, please tell me if you totally agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree with it.

The use of nuclear energy enables European countries to diversity their energy sources

	Agree	Disagree	DK
Belgium	73	22	5
Bulgaria	72	7	21
Czech Republic	79	15	6
Denmark	72	21	7
Germany	64	27	9
Estonia	75	16	9
Greece	63	32	5
Spain	50	19	31
France	70	19	11
Ireland	58	16	26
Italy	63	23	14
Cyprus	48	17	35
Latvia	63	23	14
Lithuania	78	10	12
Luxembourg	57	29	14
Hungary	81	14	5
Malta	39	23	38
The Netherlands	78	16	6
Austria	38	54	8
Poland	70	14	16
Portugal	46	29	25
Romania	62	11	27
Slovenia	66	24	10
Slovakia	80	14	6
Finland	66	29	5
Sweden	65	21	14
United Kingdom	58	18	24
Average	64	21	15

³³ Eurobarometer March 2008

For each of the following statements, please tell me if you totally agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree with it.

We could reduce our dependence on oil if we use more nuclear energy

	Agree	Disagree	DK
Belgium	65	30	5
Bulgaria	65	11	24
Czech Republic	69	22	9
Denmark	78	17	5
Germany	64	30	6
Estonia	63	25	12
Greece	57	41	2
Spain	51	20	29
France	60	26	14
Ireland	61	16	23
Italy	63	25	12

Cyprus	43	27	30
Latvia	52	34	14
Lithuania	69	17	14
Luxembourg	44	44	12
Hungary	74	18	8
Malta	46	24	30
The Netherlands	75	19	6
Austria	39	54	7
Poland	66	18	16
Portugal	46	29	25
Romania	56	13	31
Slovenia	63	28	9
Slovakia	73	18	9
Finland	73	23	4
Sweden	83	12	5
United Kingdom	70	16	14
Average	63	23	14

³⁴ Eurobarometer April 2002

For which of the following reasons do you think the European Union should continue to fund nuclear research? (Multiple answers possible)

1. To reduce the cost of nuclear power
2. To increase the safety of nuclear power stations in the European Union
3. To achieve a broadly accepted solution for the disposal of radioactive waste in the European Union
4. To improve nuclear safety and waste disposal in non-European Union countries
5. For other reasons (spontaneous)
6. The European Union should not continue to fund nuclear research
7. DK

	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
Belgium	29	50	52	39	2	9	10
Denmark	8	52	45	47	1	22	6
Germany	21	53	45	40	2	20	10
Greece	20	40	38	38	2	14	18
Spain	24	37	37	26	1	15	21
France	33	52	52	47	1	7	5
Ireland	15	47	39	35	2	11	18
Italy	20	45	38	34	3	13	13
Luxembourg	19	50	49	46	3	15	7
The Netherlands	16	48	50	50	3	12	9
Austria	17	41	38	31	2	27	8
Poland	20	29	32	27	3	5	34
Finland	16	54	51	61	5	3	6
Sweden	16	71	46	74	1	4	5
United Kingdom	25	49	38	48	3	6	16
Average	23	48	43	41	2	13	12

³⁵ German Marshall Fund Transatlantic Trends 2008

As you may know, we depend on other countries for much of our energy needs. Which of the following approaches do you favor the most for ensuring a stable supply of energy?

	We should increase cooperation with energy producing countries even if their governments are undemocratic	We should reduce our energy dependence on other countries, even if energy prices would rise sharply at home as a result	We should apply diplomatic pressure, even if this increases tensions with energy producing countries	None of the above	DK/Refused
United States	23	48	15	9	5
France	33	39	22	5	2
Germany	38	35	22	2	2
United Kingdom	25	47	20	3	6
Italy	35	43	13	7	2
Netherlands	36	43	16	3	3
Poland	51	16	15	5	12
Portugal	41	26	16	8	10
Spain	30	40	22	5	3
Slovakia	42	23	12	12	10
Turkey	20	32	12	7	20
Bulgaria	48	12	14	12	14
Romania	54	21	7	8	11
European Average	35	35	18	5	7

³⁶ Pew Global Attitudes Project Spring 2008

On a different subject, how concerned are you, if at all, that (survey country) has become too dependent on Russia for its energy resources? Are you very concerned, fairly concerned, not too concerned, or not at all concerned?

	Very concerned	Fairly concerned	Not too concerned	Not at all concerned	DK/Refused
Great Britain	26	41	23	6	4
France	19	39	29	13	0
Germany	24	38	30	7	2
Spain	9	37	20	18	7
Poland	21	45	24	5	7
Average	20	40	25	10	4

³⁷ Pew Global Attitudes Project Spring 2007

How concerned are you, if at all, that (survey country) has become too dependent on Russia for its energy resources? Are you very concerned, fairly concerned, not too concerned, or not at all concerned?

	Very concerned	Fairly concerned	Not too concerned	Not at all concerned	DK/Refused
Bulgaria	10	27	27	26	9
Czech Republic	10	47	31	10	2
Poland	22	53	17	3	5
Slovakia	13	40	31	14	2

Ukraine	26	37	20	14	3
Average	16	41	25	13	4

³⁸ German Marshall Fund Transatlantic Trends 2008

As you may know, some people are concerned about recent developments in Russia. Those who are concerned give a number of reasons. To what extent are you concerned or not about each of the following items:

Russia's role as an energy provider

	Very concerned	Somewhat concerned	Not very concerned	Not concerned at all	DK/Refused	Concerned	Not concerned
United States	24	37	19	14	6	61	33
France	17	37	32	12	1	55	44
Germany	36	42	15	6	1	78	21
United Kingdom	35	37	16	8	4	72	24
Italy	27	47	19	5	2	74	24
Netherlands	19	46	25	8	3	65	33
Poland	30	51	11	2	6	81	13
Portugal	25	35	18	11	11	60	30
Spain	15	36	33	12	4	51	45
Slovakia	16	44	27	7	6	60	34
Turkey	14	21	13	13	40	35	26
Bulgaria	13	31	22	24	10	44	46
Romania	30	38	16	8	8	69	23
European Average	23	39	21	10	8	62	30

³⁹ BBC July 2006

For each of the following large energy exporting countries, please tell me how much you trust them to follow through on their commitments to deliver energy to other countries? Would you say you have a lot of trust, some trust, not much trust, or no trust at all in?

Russia

	A lot of trust	Some trust	Not much trust	No trust at all in	DK / NA
Australia	10	52	25	10	3
Brazil	3	11	21	55	11
Canada	8	44	21	19	8
Chile	9	33	20	12	26
Egypt	22	28	21	24	5
France	5	30	33	22	11
Germany	11	36	37	13	2
Great Britain	5	37	31	22	5
India	32	29	8	5	25
Israel	11	31	21	29	8
Italy	6	39	37	11	8
Kenya	17	26	21	16	19
Mexico	17	20	24	31	8
Philippines	9	34	28	17	11

Poland	2	25	32	29	12
Russia	40	39	10	2	9
South Korea	1	17	62	5	15
Ukraine	24	35	21	13	7
United States	5	49	23	20	3
Average	13	32	26	19	10

⁴⁰ Eurobarometer Nov 2008

Do you think this conflict could have an impact on the security of energy supply in the European Union?

2008 South Ossetia Conflict between Russia and Georgia

	Yes	No	DK
Belgium	70	22	8
Bulgaria	47	19	34
Czech Republic	77	14	9
Denmark	60	29	11
Germany	61	32	7
Estonia	60	27	13
Greece	81	15	4
Spain	46	10	44
France	58	25	17
Ireland	58	13	29
Italy	51	23	26
Cyprus	77	6	17
Latvia	63	29	8
Lithuania	66	19	15
Luxembourg	58	27	15
Hungary	62	21	17
Malta	51	10	39
The Netherlands	63	30	7
Austria	66	24	10
Poland	76	11	13
Portugal	39	25	36
Romania	51	19	30
Slovenia	74	17	9
Slovakia	74	14	12
Finland	54	32	14
Sweden	66	20	14
United Kingdom	64	15	21
Average	60	21	19

⁴¹ BBC July 2006

For each of the following large energy exporting countries, please tell me how much you trust them to follow through on their commitments to deliver energy to other countries? Would you say you have a lot of trust, some trust, not much trust, or no trust at all in?

Saudi Arabia

	A lot of trust	Some trust	Not much trust	No trust at all in	DK / NA
Australia	11	47	26	14	2
Brazil	1	7	20	61	10
Canada	6	36	24	27	7
Chile	7	27	25	14	26
Egypt	56	27	10	7	1
France	5	29	28	28	10
Germany	13	35	34	15	3
Great Britain	8	38	30	20	5
India	19	29	22	12	19
Israel	12	20	16	45	7
Italy	6	30	38	19	7
Kenya	24	31	18	14	13
Mexico	20	24	27	22	7
Philippines	27	36	21	11	5
Poland	6	34	24	13	23
Russia	5	19	29	13	34
South Korea	3	34	51	4	8
Ukraine	2	20	24	21	33
United States	5	36	26	30	3
Average	12	29	26	20	12

⁴² BBC July 2006

For each of the following large energy exporting countries, please tell me how much you trust them to follow through on their commitments to deliver energy to other countries? Would you say you have a lot of trust, some trust, not much trust, or no trust at all in?

Iran

	A lot of trust	Some trust	Not much trust	No trust at all in	DK / NA
Australia	4	30	38	26	2
Brazil	1	5	16	68	10
Canada	3	20	29	42	6
Chile	5	21	30	19	25
Egypt	40	33	18	8	2
France	1	16	27	45	11
Germany	2	11	41	45	1
Great Britain	3	24	32	36	5
India	22	29	16	12	20
Israel	7	7	11	69	6
Italy	2	11	43	37	8
Kenya	18	20	24	26	12
Mexico	18	22	25	25	10
Philippines	11	27	32	22	8
Poland	2	20	29	26	23
Russia	2	12	33	23	30
South Korea	1	16	61	9	13
Ukraine	2	12	30	27	29

United States	2	12	27	56	2
Average	8	18	29	33	12

⁴³ BBC July 2006

For each of the following large energy exporting countries, please tell me how much you trust them to follow through on their commitments to deliver energy to other countries? Would you say you have a lot of trust, some trust, not much trust, or no trust at all in?

Venezuela

	A lot of trust	Some trust	Not much trust	No trust at all in	DK / NA
Australia	7	48	22	7	17
Brazil	1	12	18	59	10
Canada	7	41	22	14	16
Chile	7	32	26	13	23
Egypt	10	26	29	24	10
France	3	36	23	15	24
Germany	7	35	38	11	10
Great Britain	5	37	27	15	16
India	9	21	16	22	33
Israel	10	26	19	23	22
Italy	5	29	38	9	19
Kenya	10	23	21	15	30
Mexico	22	31	31	11	5
Philippines	6	29	33	17	16
Poland	5	30	18	9	37
Russia	2	15	25	13	44
South Korea	1	14	39	5	42
Ukraine	2	14	23	19	43
United States	5	44	19	23	9
Average	7	28	26	17	22

⁴⁴ BBC July 2006

For each of the following large energy exporting countries, please tell me how much you trust them to follow through on their commitments to deliver energy to other countries? Would you say you have a lot of trust, some trust, not much trust, or no trust at all in?

Canada

	A lot of trust	Some trust	Not much trust	No trust at all in	DK / NA
Australia	54	40	3	1	2
Brazil	7	16	19	49	11
Canada	45	41	7	5	2
Chile	15	37	15	8	26
Egypt	14	25	27	26	8
France	20	55	7	5	14
Germany	41	44	8	3	4

Great Britain	32	47	11	4	5
India	18	23	13	16	31
Israel	37	32	9	10	11
Italy	24	43	14	5	13
Kenya	21	28	14	13	23
Mexico	24	32	32	7	6
Philippines	27	40	16	9	8
Poland	20	36	10	5	29
Russia	7	30	19	12	32
South Korea	3	41	28	2	25
Ukraine	8	30	17	17	29
United States	47	42	5	4	1
Average	24	36	14	10	15

The Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) is an independent, nonpartisan membership organization, think tank, and publisher dedicated to being a resource for its members, government officials, business executives, journalists, educators and students, civic and religious leaders, and other interested citizens in order to help them better understand the world and the foreign policy choices facing the United States and other countries. Founded in 1921, CFR carries out its mission by maintaining a diverse membership, with special programs to promote interest and develop expertise in the next generation of foreign policy leaders; convening meetings at its headquarters in New York and in Washington, DC, and other cities where senior government officials, members of Congress, global leaders, and prominent thinkers come together with CFR members to discuss and debate major international issues; supporting a Studies Program that fosters independent research, enabling CFR scholars to produce articles, reports, and books and hold roundtables that analyze foreign policy issues and make concrete policy recommendations; publishing *Foreign Affairs*, the preeminent journal on international affairs and U.S. foreign policy; sponsoring Independent Task Forces that produce reports with both findings and policy prescriptions on the most important foreign policy topics; and providing up-to-date information and analysis about world events and American foreign policy on its website, CFR.org.

The Council on Foreign Relations takes no institutional position on policy issues and has no affiliation with the U.S. government. All statements of fact and expressions of opinion contained in its publications are the sole responsibility of the author or authors.

For further information about CFR or this paper, please write to the Council on Foreign Relations, 58 East 68th Street, New York, NY 10065, or call the Director of Communications at 212.434.9400. Visit CFR's website, www.cfr.org.

Copyright © 2009 by the Council on Foreign Relations®, Inc.
All rights reserved.
Printed in the United States of America.

This paper may not be reproduced in whole or in part, in any form beyond the reproduction permitted by Sections 107 and 108 of the U.S. Copyright Law Act (17 U.S.C. Sections 107 and 108) and excerpts by reviewers for the public press, without express written permission from the Council on Foreign Relations. For information, write to the Publications Office, Council on Foreign Relations, 58 East 68th Street, New York, NY 10065.