

Are All Arab Countries Viewed Alike?

Canadians have clearly separated the issues in this regard. Close to two in three indicate that some Arab countries have been willing to negotiate for peace while others have not. The concept of a two-party conflict existing in the Middle East is not a viable notion for most Canadians. Canadians seem to be saying that countries in the Middle East should be viewed and judged on their own independent actions in dealing with other countries, especially Israel.

	% of Respondents					
	Total	British Columbia	Prairies	Ontario	Quebec	Maritimes
All Arab countries have taken a common, unified position in dealing with Israel	10	7	9	13	9	10
Some Arab countries have agreed to negotiate with Israel, while others have refused	63	67	63	67	54	64
Don't know	27	26	28	20	37	26
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Base:	(1090)	(116)	(171)	(358)	(268)	(87)

When Arab countries are divided into more moderate and more extreme elements, that is, when countries such as Egypt which have agreed to negotiate with Israel are separated from those such as Iraq which have refused, a different picture emerges. While Israel maintains the consistent support of about one in five, moderate Arabs such as Egypt receive the support of over two in five Canadians.