

- This study examined priorities for basic human needs assistance to the poorer countries. Clean water, nutrition and health care are the most important "basic human needs," followed closely by education. Family planning and housing were assigned a lower priority and considered much less of a basic human need.

D. Canada and the United Nations

- A large majority of Canadians (84%) believes it is important for Canada to be a member of the United Nations, including 60% who believe it is *very* important. A similar proportion of Canadians (84%) believe it is important for Canada to *participate* in the activities of the United Nations.
- Most Canadians do not consider themselves particularly well informed about Canada's role in the United Nations - while 50% of Canadians claim to be familiar, the vast majority of this group (43% of Canadians) say they are only *somewhat* familiar, as compared to only 7% who say they are *very* familiar. An equal number of Canadians say they are either *not very* familiar (38%) or *not at all* familiar (11%) with Canada's role in the United Nations.
- Canada's most important contribution to the activities of the United Nations is seen to be peacekeeping. Over half (56%) of Canadians mention this contribution when asked to name the most important contribution Canada makes to the United Nations. Peacekeeping (56%), assistance to poorer countries (15%) and operations in Bosnia (9%) are the only UN activities identified by more than 5% of Canadians.
- Canadians are willing to endorse a number of government actions to support the UN military. When placed in the context of assisting the UN to "respond to crises around the world, such as the situation which occurred in Rwanda", the majority of Canadians support contributions of Canadian personnel and equipment. Fewer support direct funding to the UN (36%). The strongest support exists for the contribution of Canadian troops for a standing UN peacekeeping force (71% agree), lending the UN people for "military and policy advice" (68%) and for the creation of a Canadian unit designed for rapid deployment on UN missions (67%). Indeed, these options seem equally appealing to the Canadian public. Less support exists for the contribution of equipment to UN missions (57%).