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University of Maryland



Program on International
Policy Attitudes (PIPA)

Americans on the Middle East

October 8, 2012



Methodology

Dates of Survey: September 27-October 2, 2012

Margin of Error: +/- 4.6 percentage points (including design effect of 1.606)

Sample Sizes: 737

Survey Method: Gfk Knowledge Networks probability-based online panel

Attacks in Egypt and Libya

Level of Support for Attacks

Thinking about the attacks in Egypt and Libya, for each country, would you say:

The violent actions were only supported by extremist minorities

The violent actions were supported by a majority of the population

Egypt

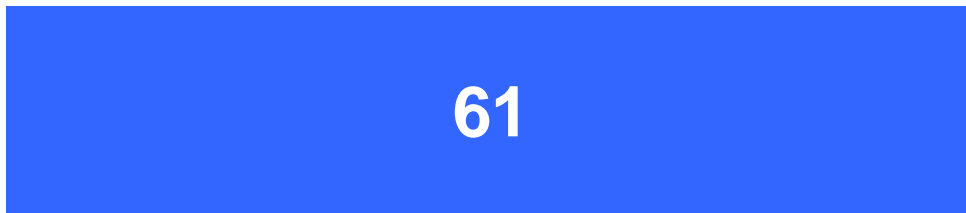
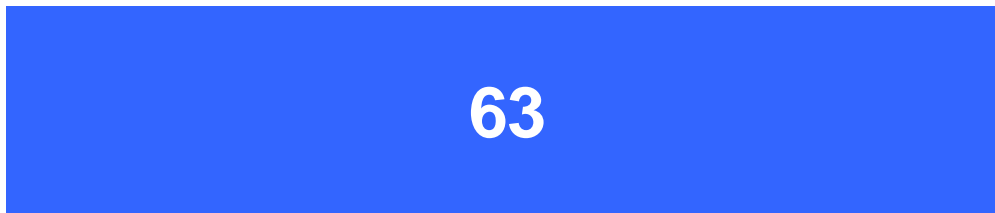
63

31

Libya

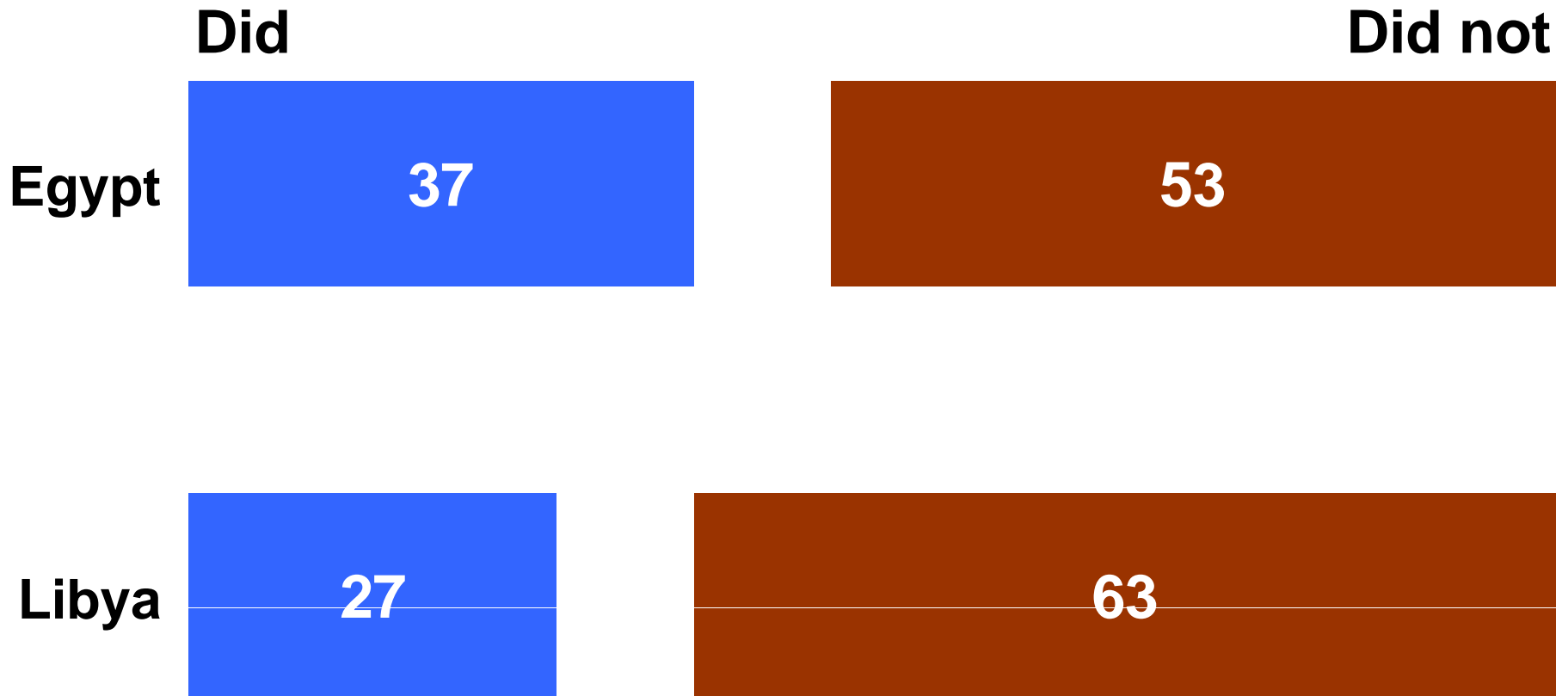
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34



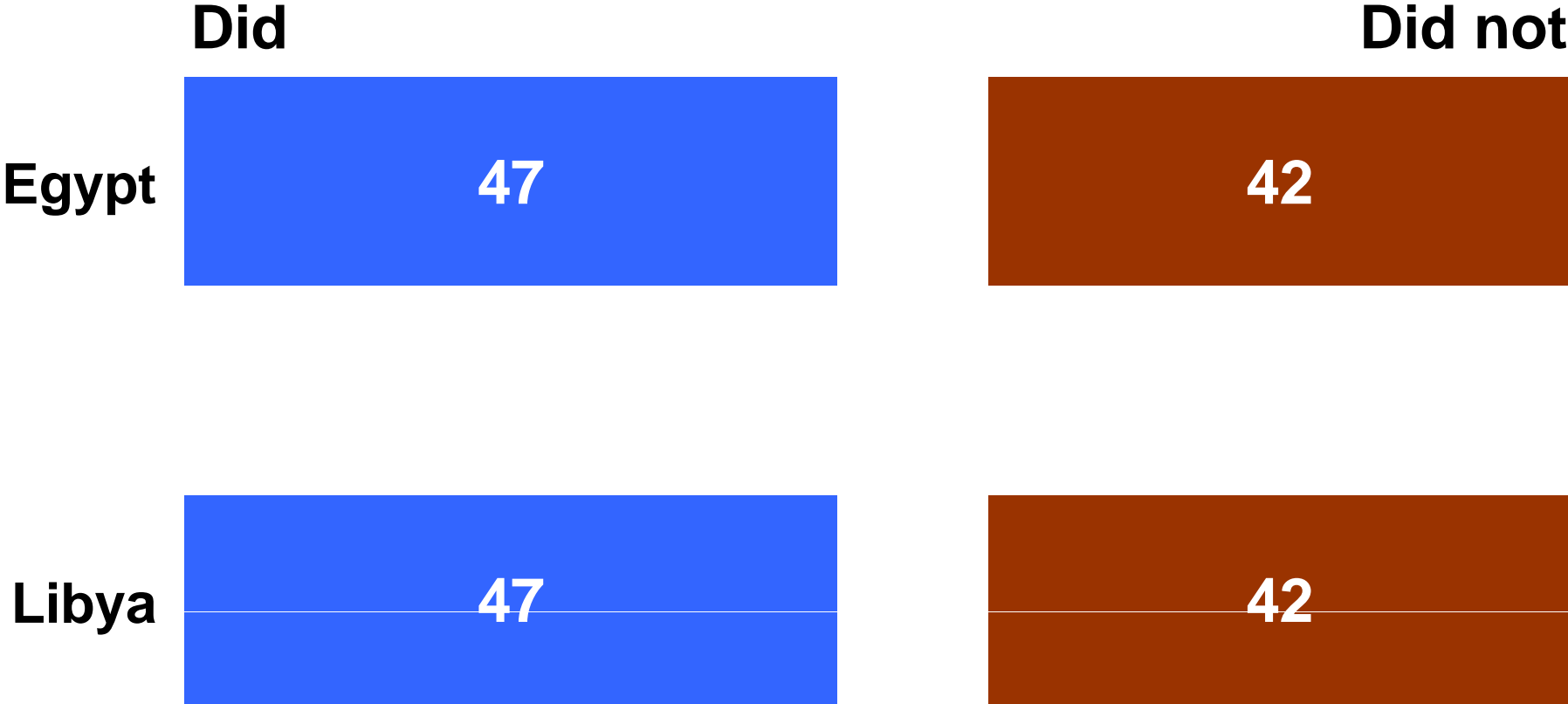
Government Action: Tried to Protect American Diplomats and Staff?

Is it your impression that that the government: Tried to protect American diplomats and their staff?



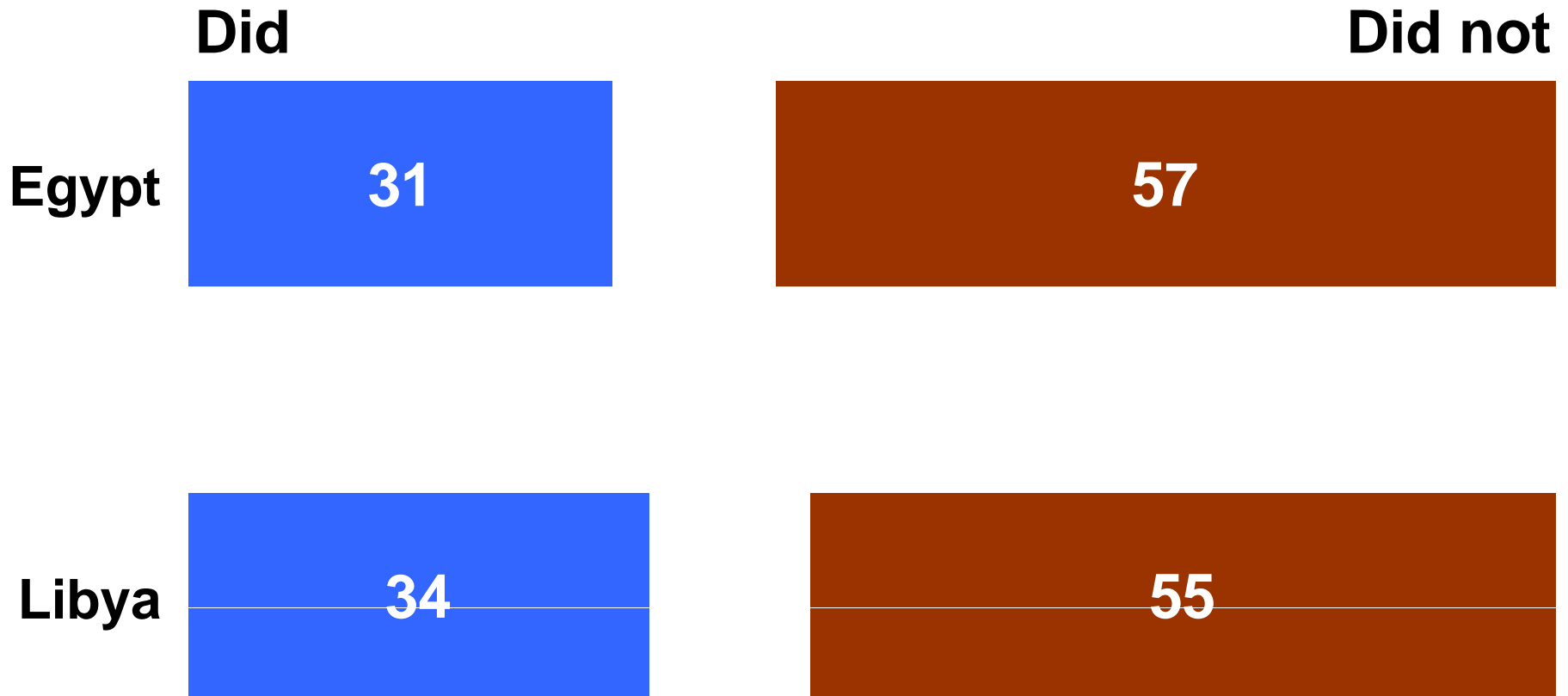
Government Action: Has Criticized the Attacks?

Is it your impression that that the government: Has criticized the attacks?



Government Action: Has Tried to Find and Arrest the Perpetrators?

Is it your impression that that the government: Has tried to find and arrest the perpetrators?

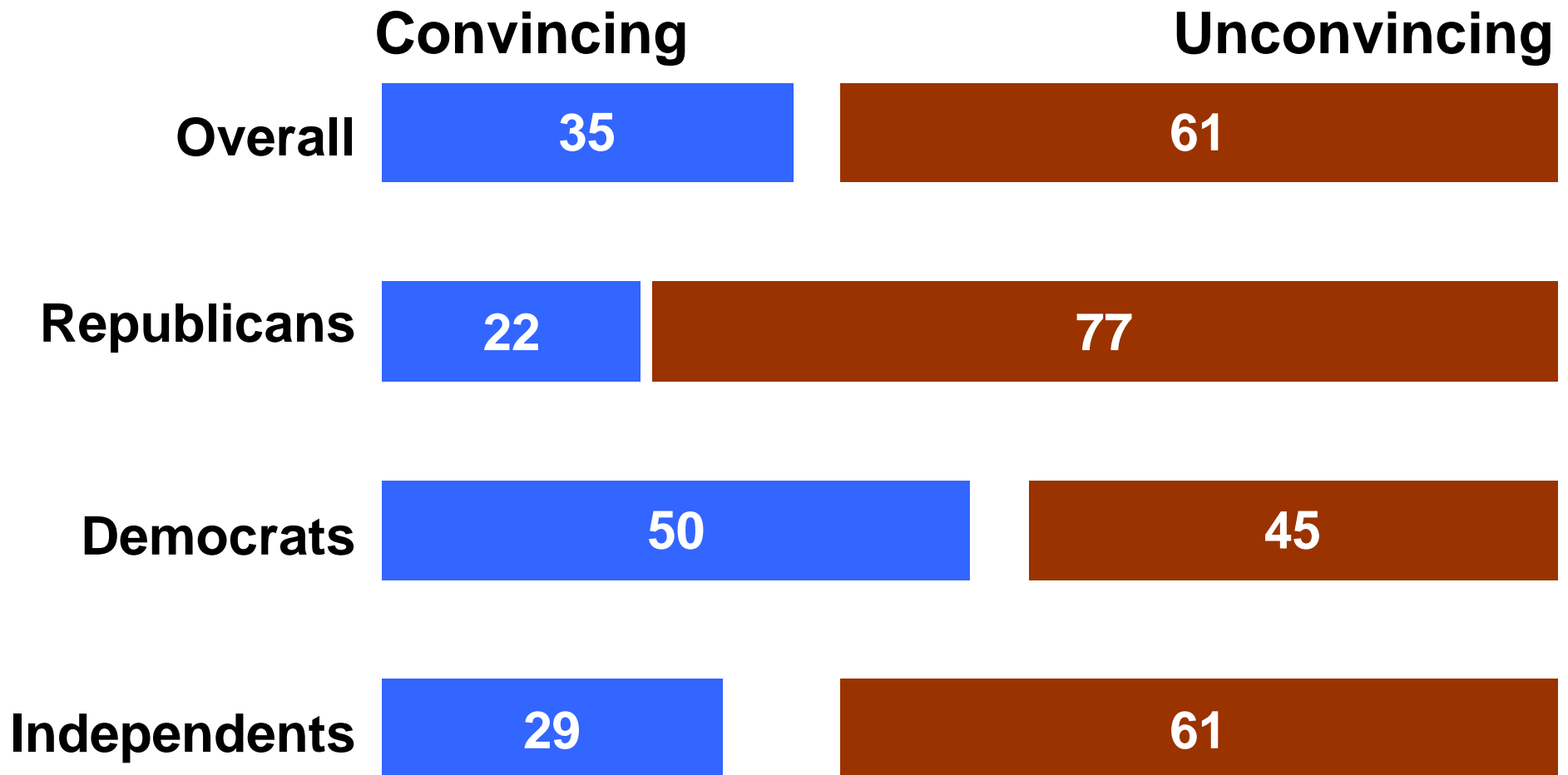


Aid to Egypt

As you may know, there have been negotiations between the US and Egypt over the terms of ongoing foreign aid to Egypt. You will see four arguments on this issue. Please tell me how convincing you find each of these arguments.

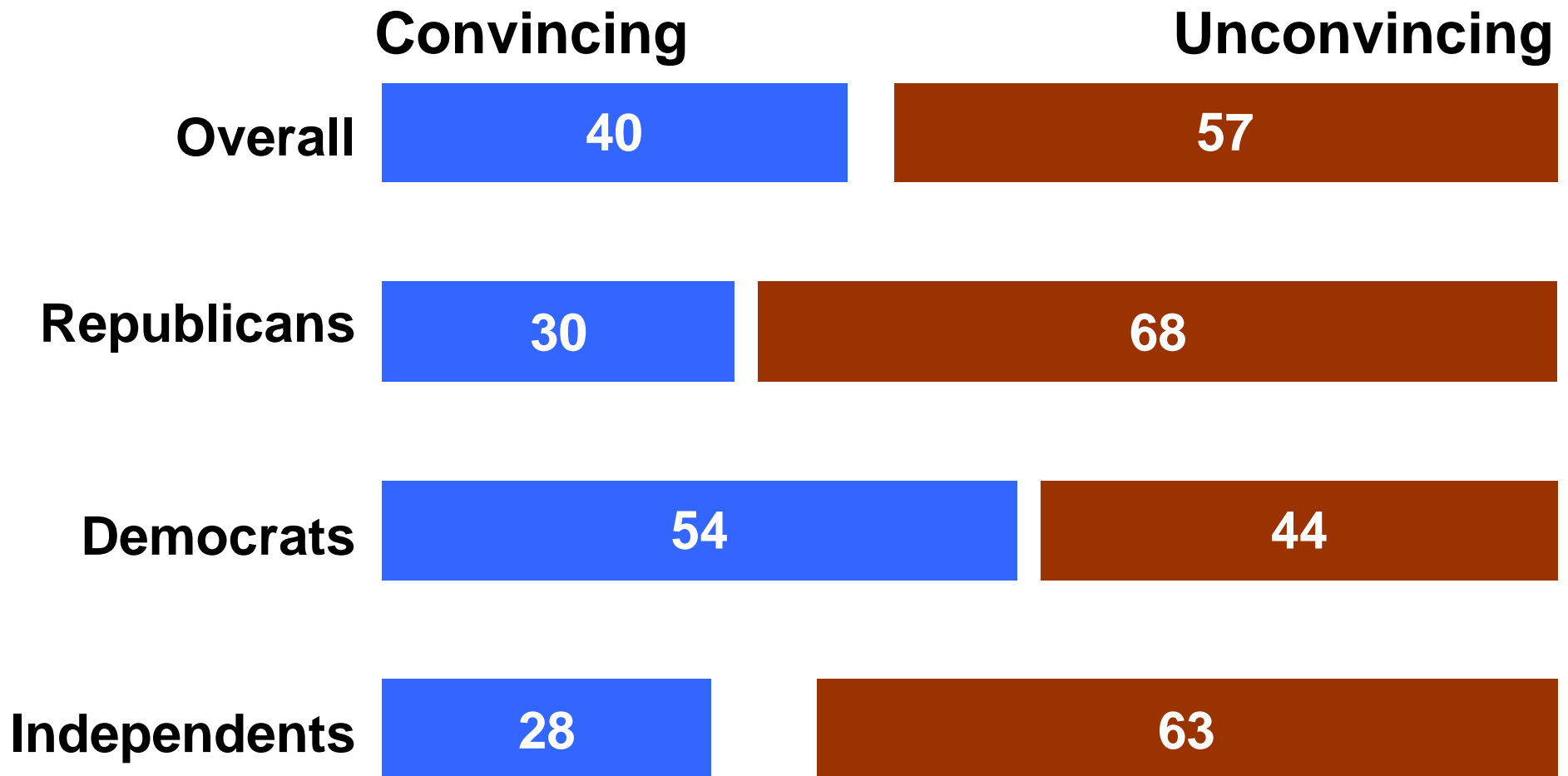
Pro: Aid Helps Emerging Democracy

The US should continue to provide aid to Egypt because it helps Egypt's emerging democracy as it goes through a transition.



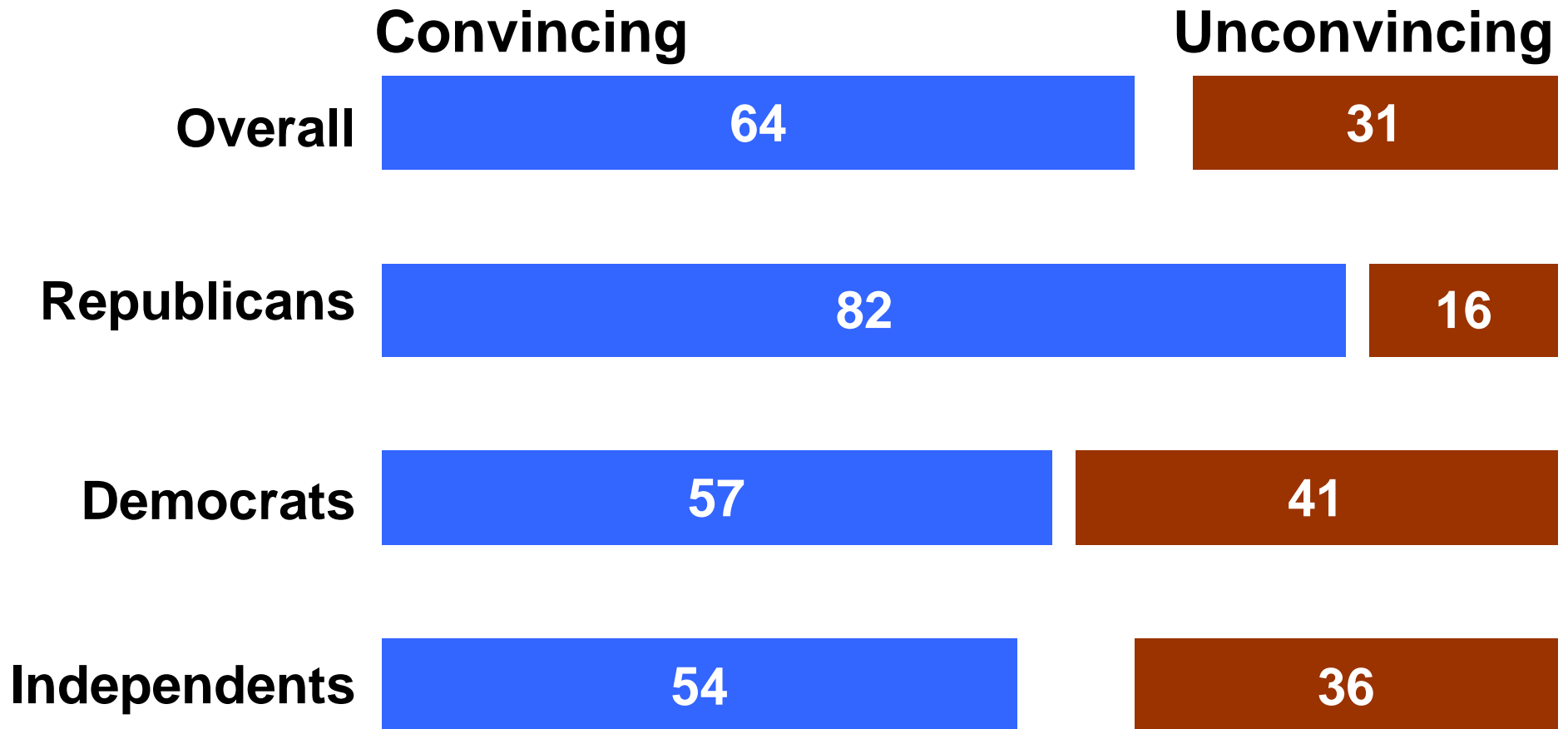
Pro: Aid Provides Stability and Influence

The US should continue to provide aid because it helps provide stability and is a continuing way for the US to influence events.



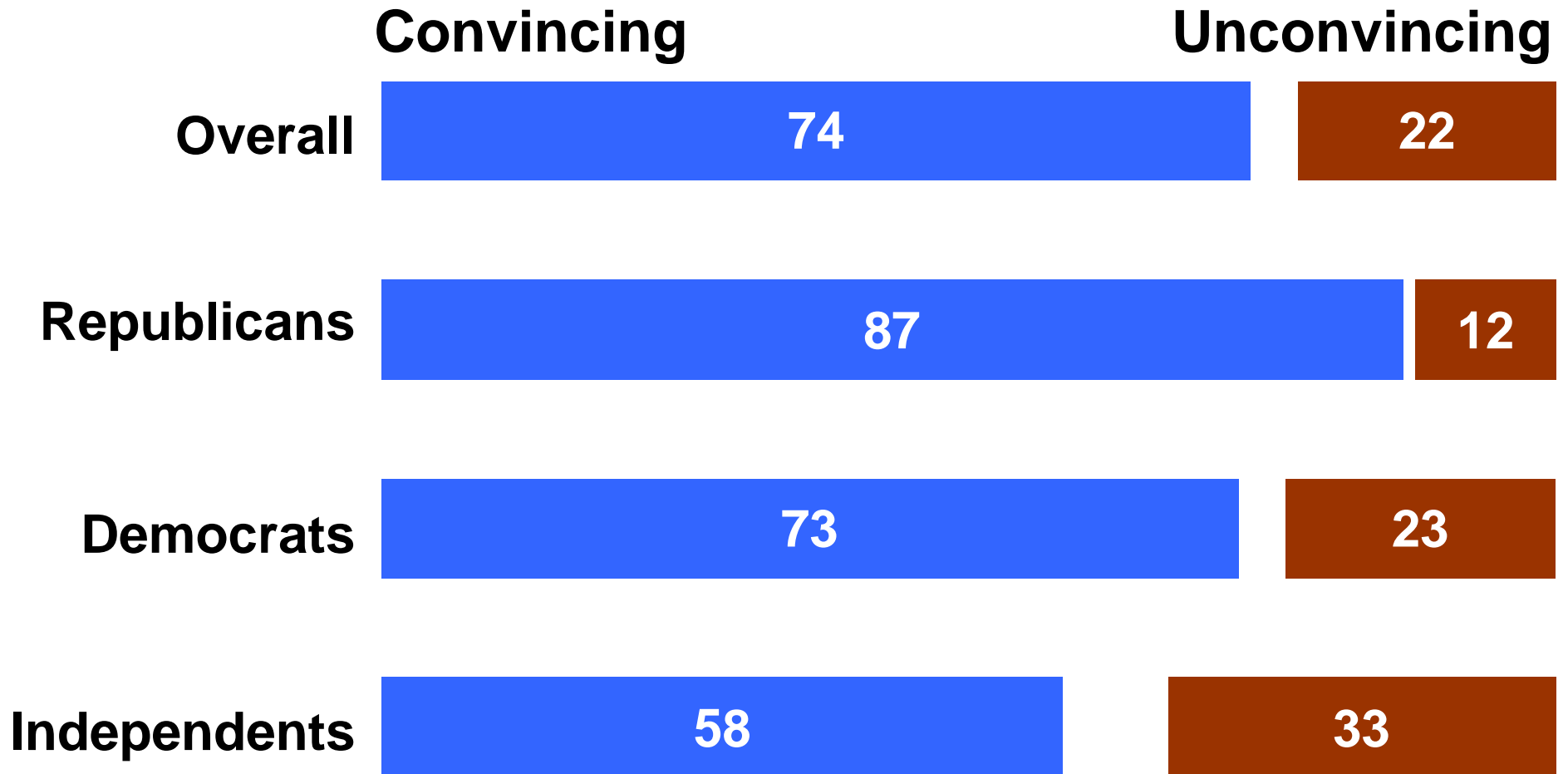
Con: Weak Response to Embassy Attack

The US should stop giving aid to the Egyptian government because it has been slow to criticize, and has failed to effectively confront, those who have attacked the US Embassy in Cairo.



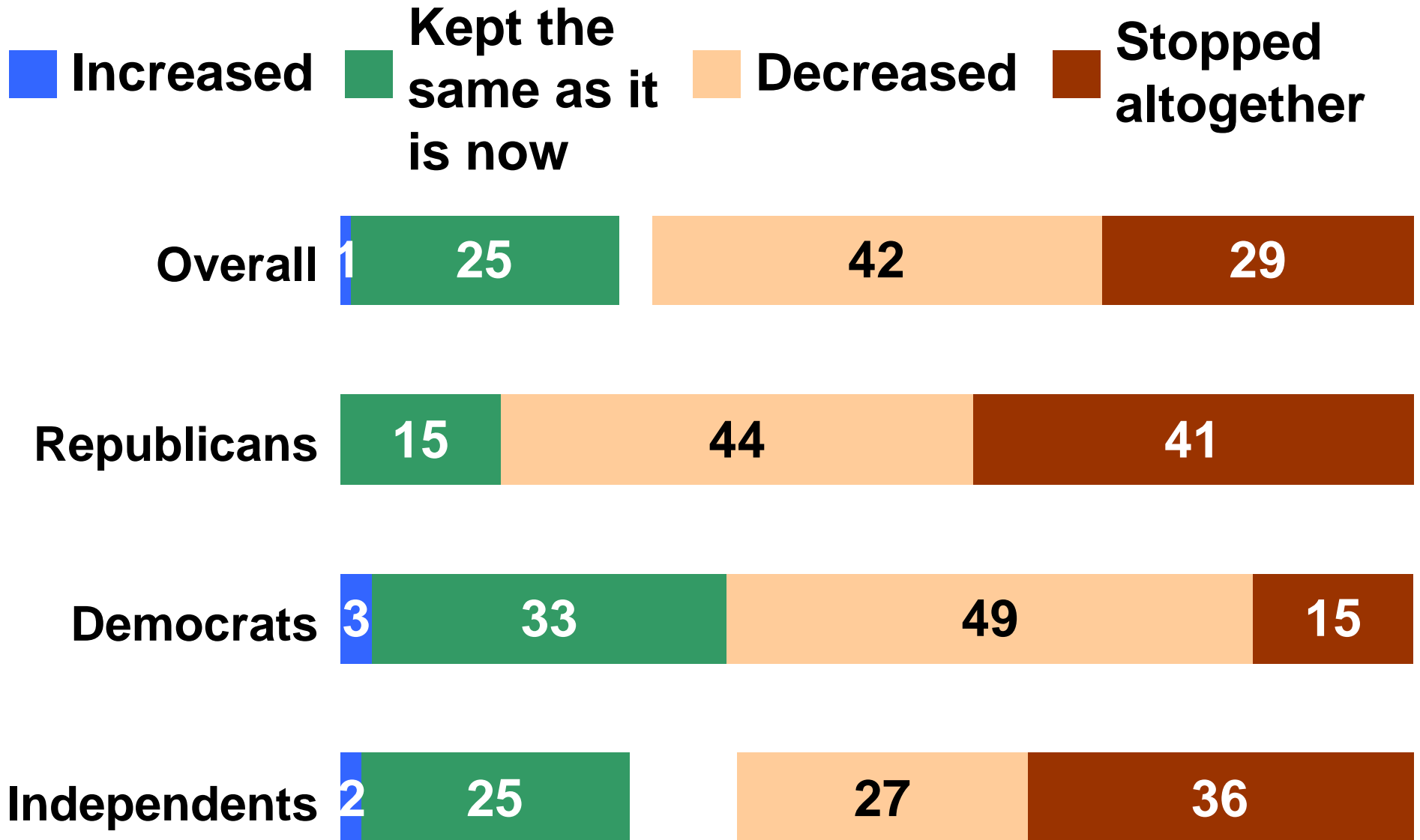
Con: Aid Unwise Because of Economy

Given the difficult economic times the US is going through, it is unwise for the US to give large amounts of aid to Egypt.



Aid to Egypt

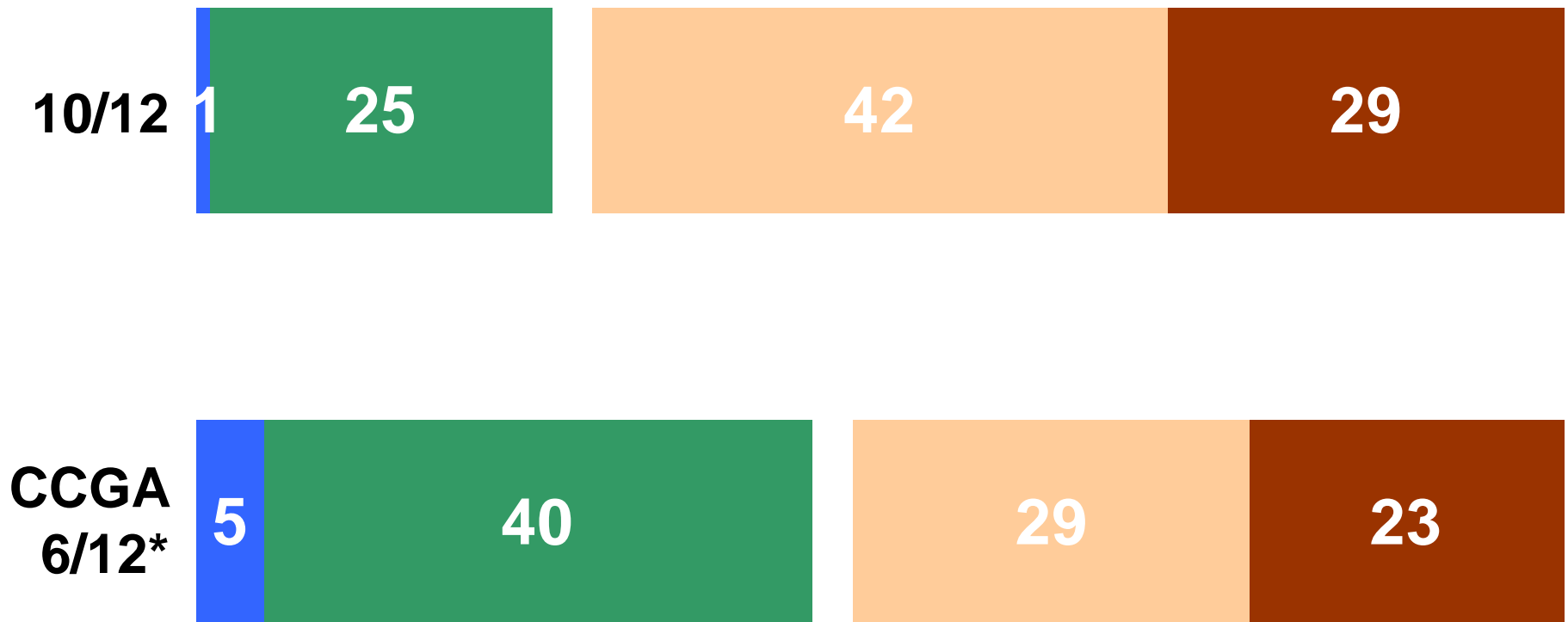
So now, do you think US foreign aid to Egypt should be:



Aid to Egypt

So now, do you think US foreign aid to Egypt should be:

Increased **Kept the same as it is now** **Decreased** **Stopped altogether**

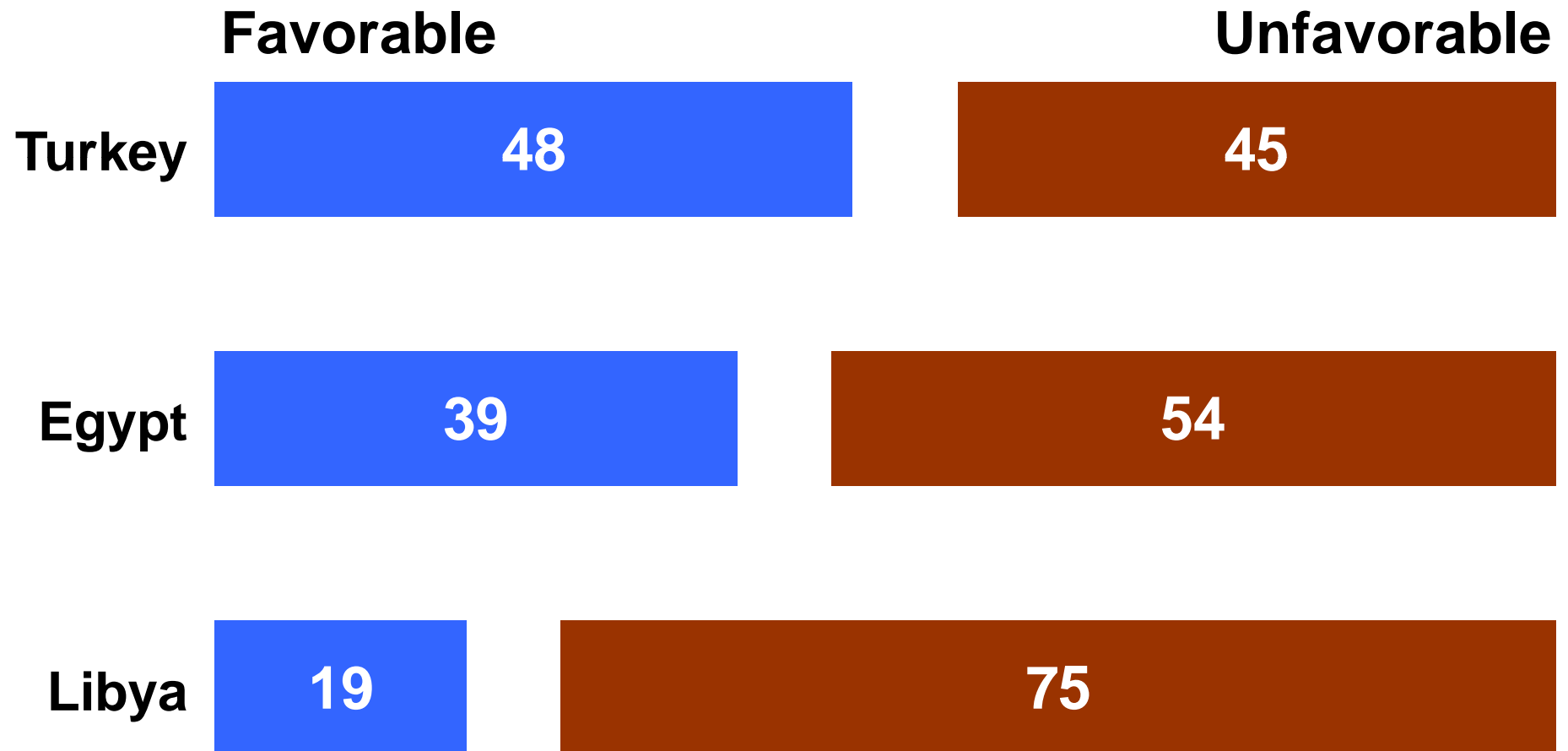


* CCGA question asked about “economic aid” instead of “foreign aid”

Views of Libya and Egypt

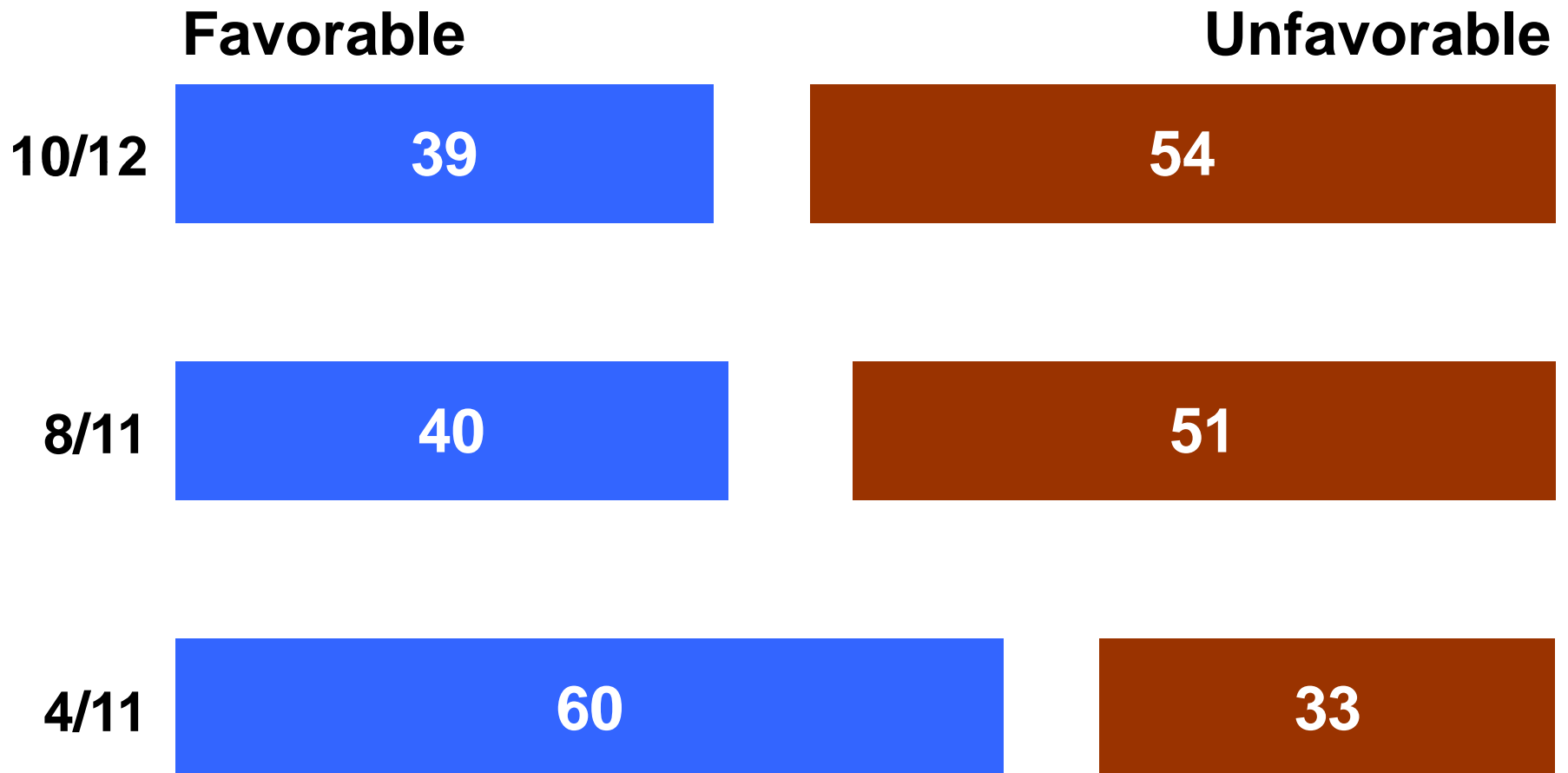
Views of Middle Eastern Countries

What is your overall opinion of each of the following countries:



Views of Egypt

What is your overall opinion of each of the following countries...Egypt:



America's Role in the Middle East

US Diplomatic Involvement in Middle East

In light of recent events in the Middle East and thinking about broad U.S. interests in the region, do you think the US should:

Increase its diplomatic involvement in the region



Maintain its current level of diplomatic involvement in the region



Decrease its diplomatic involvement in the region



What if Democratization Leads to Unfriendly Government?

“I would want to see a country become more democratic even if this resulted in the country being more likely to oppose US policies.”

Agree



Disagree



Uprisings in the Arab World

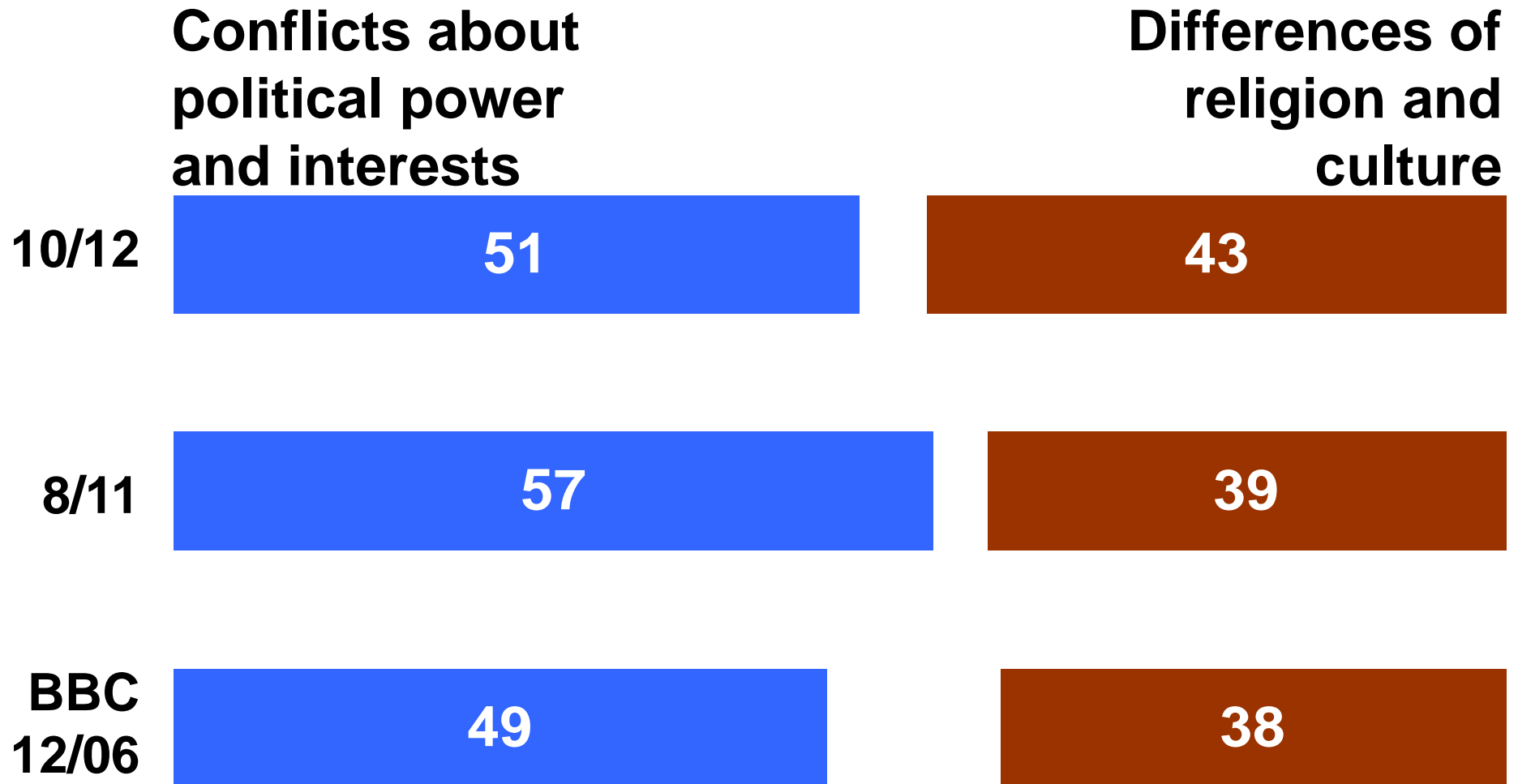
Do you think the popular uprisings in the Arab world are:



Views of Arabs and Muslims

Clash of Civilizations?

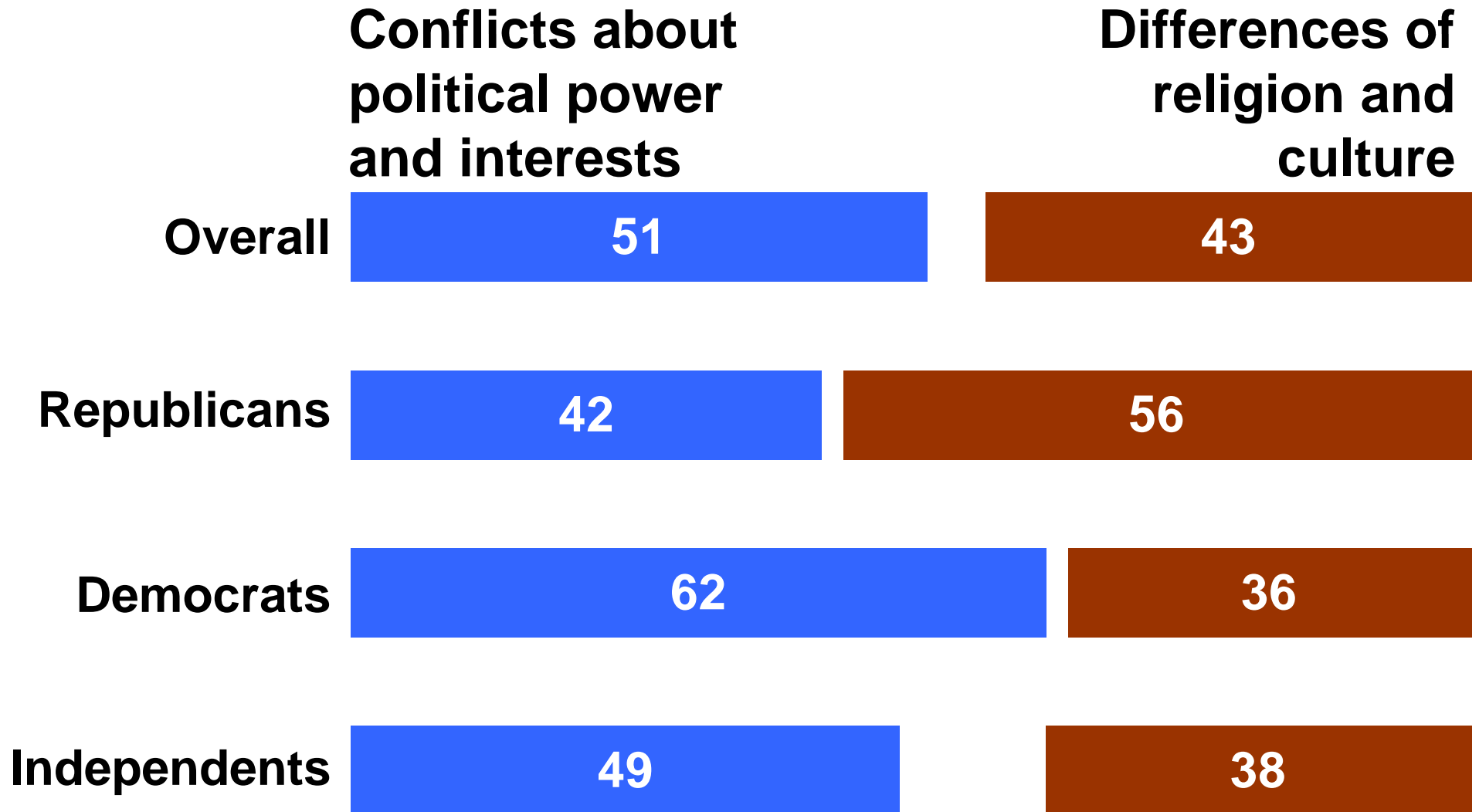
Thinking about the tensions between Islam and the West, do you think they arise more from differences of religion and culture, or from conflicts about political power and interests?



In the 12/06 BBC poll 7% chose the voluntary response "Both Equally"

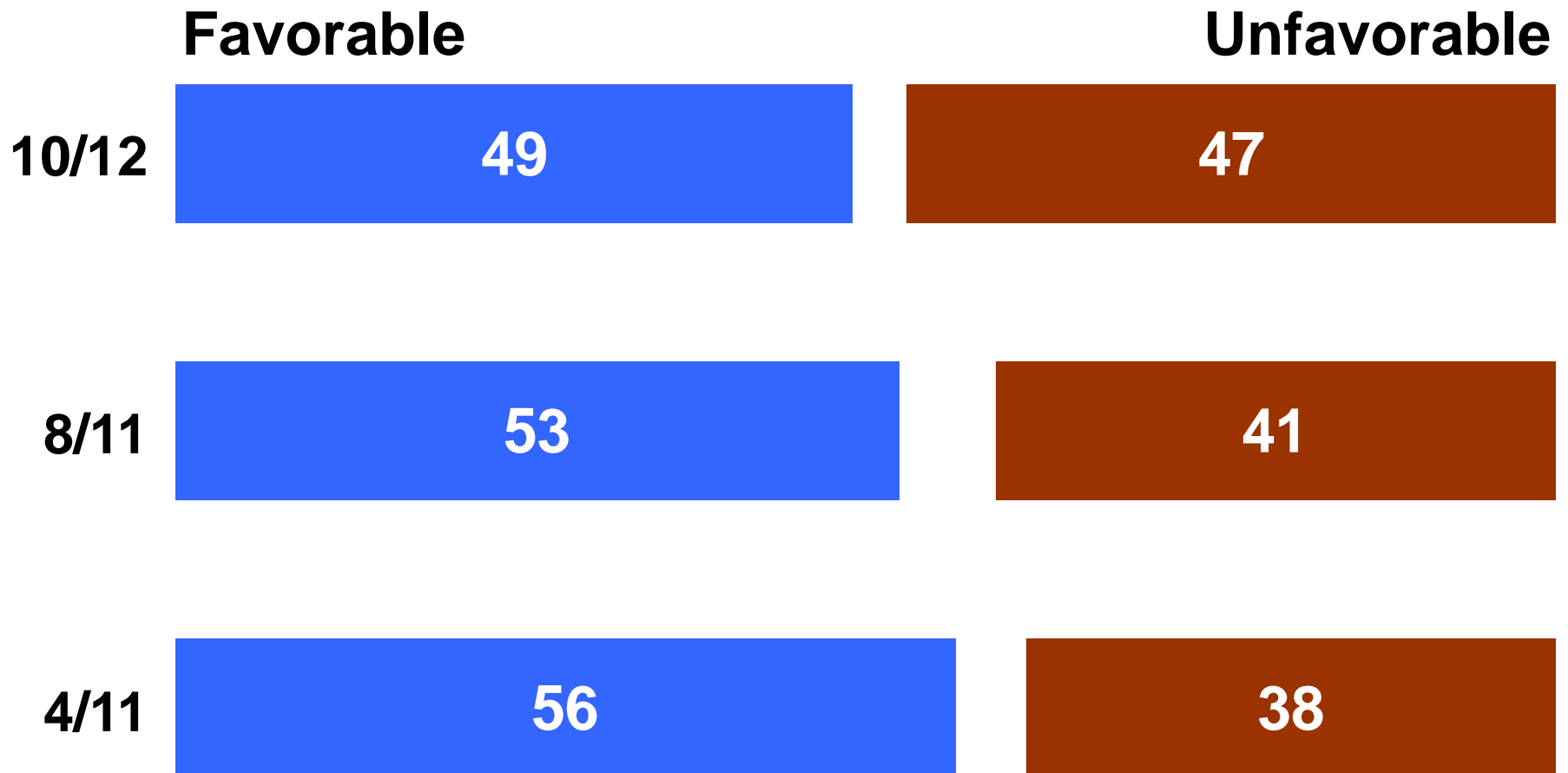
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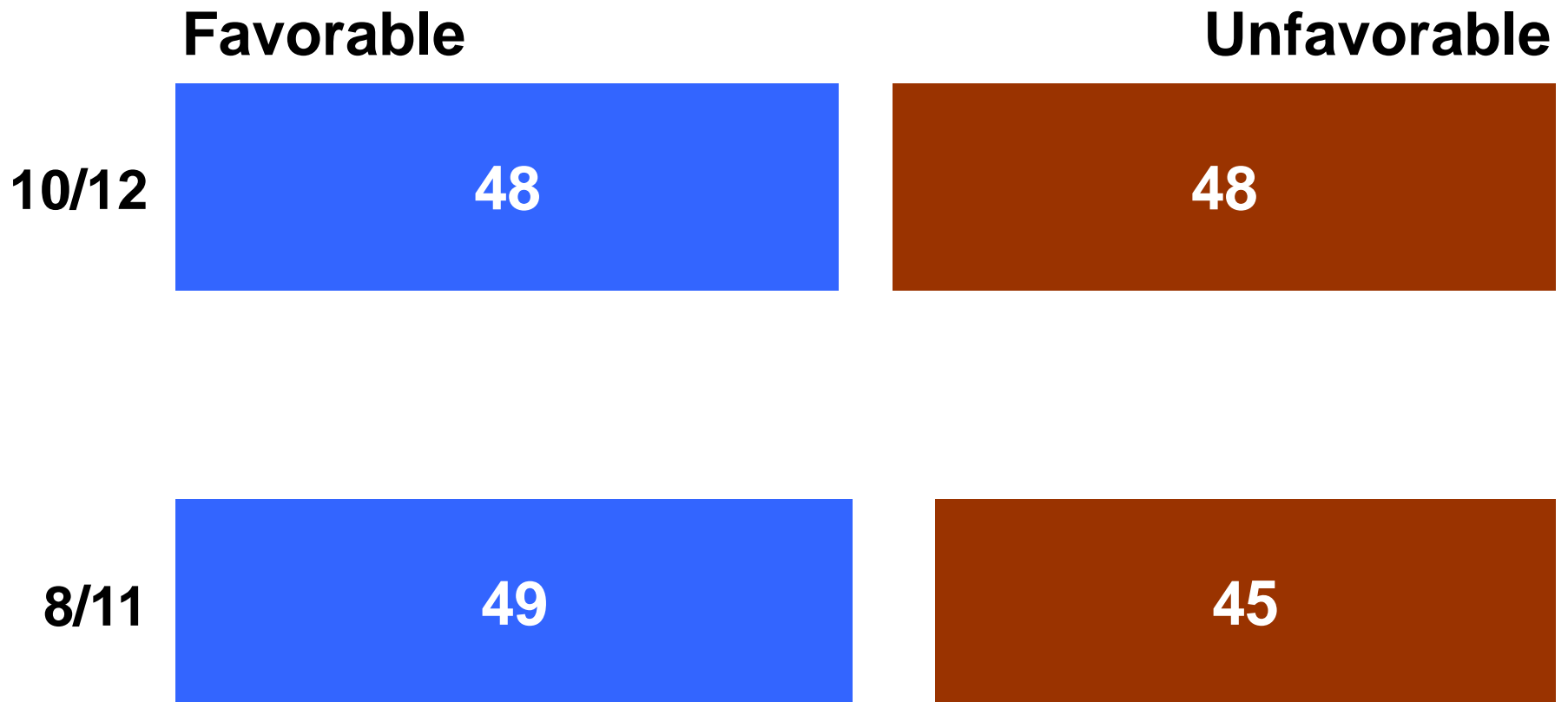
Views of Arab People

What is your overall opinion of each of the following groups of people...Arab people in general:



Views of Muslim People

What is your overall opinion of each of the following groups of people...Muslim people in general:

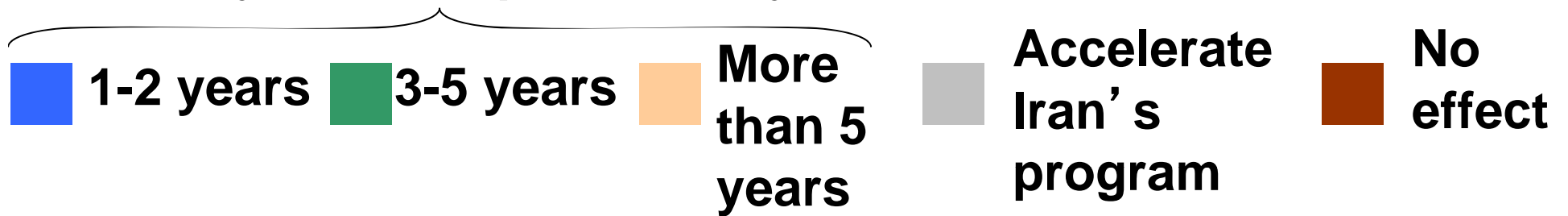


Possible Israeli Strike Against Iran's Nuclear Program

Effect of Strike

What do you believe the likely outcome would be if Israel were to strike Iran:

Delay Iran's capabilities by:



Effect of Israeli Strike: Rising Oil Prices?

If Israel were to attack Iran's nuclear program, how likely do you think each of the following would be: The price of oil would increase drastically

Likely



Not likely



Effect of Israeli Strike: US War with Iran?

If Israel were to attack Iran's nuclear program, how likely do you think each of the following would be: Iran would attack US bases and forces in the region and draw the US into war with Iran

Likely



Not likely



Israeli Strike and US Strategic Position

If Israel were to attack Iran's nuclear program, do you think the US's military and strategic position in the Middle East would be:

Better



Worse

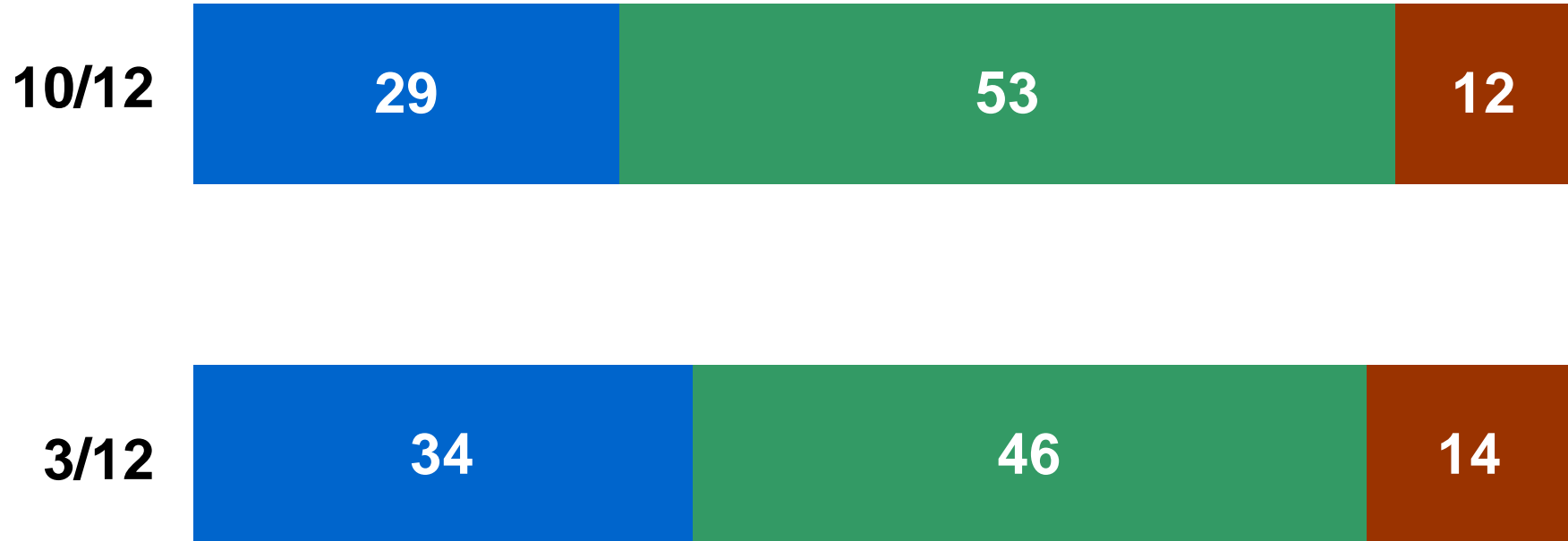


About the same



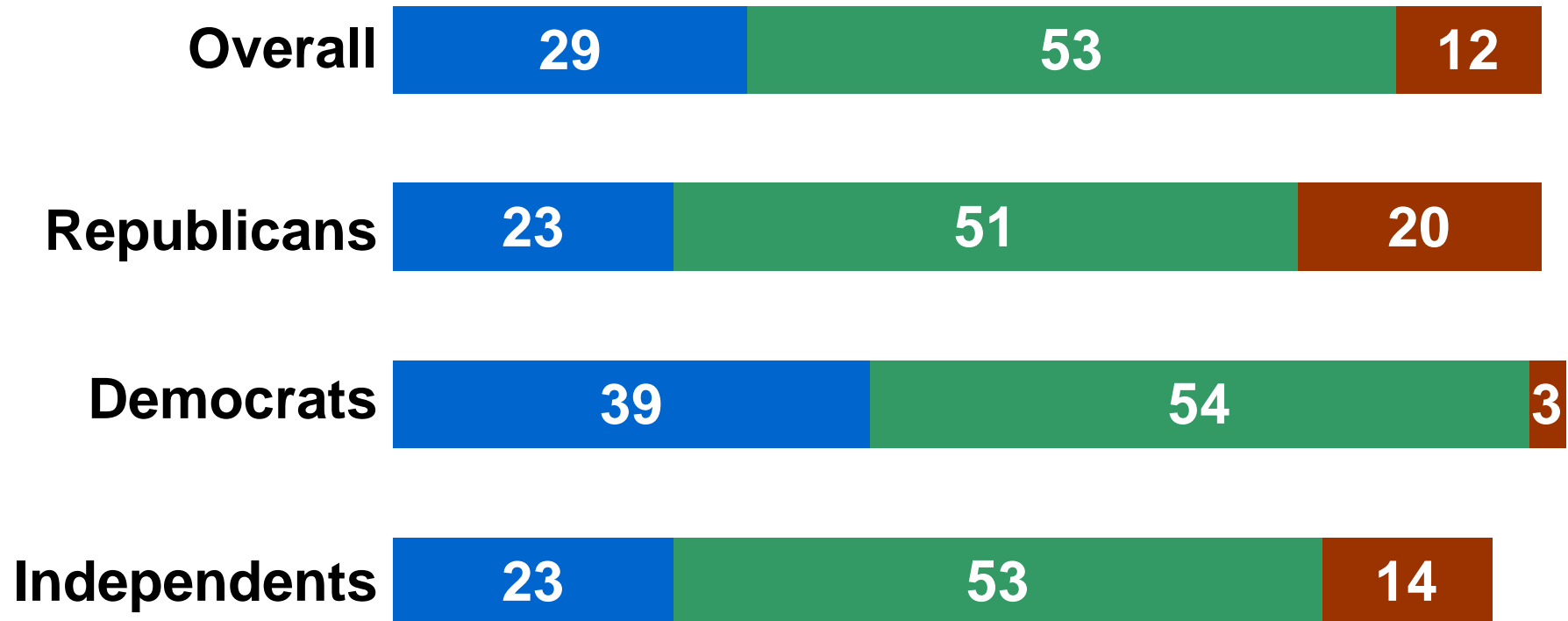
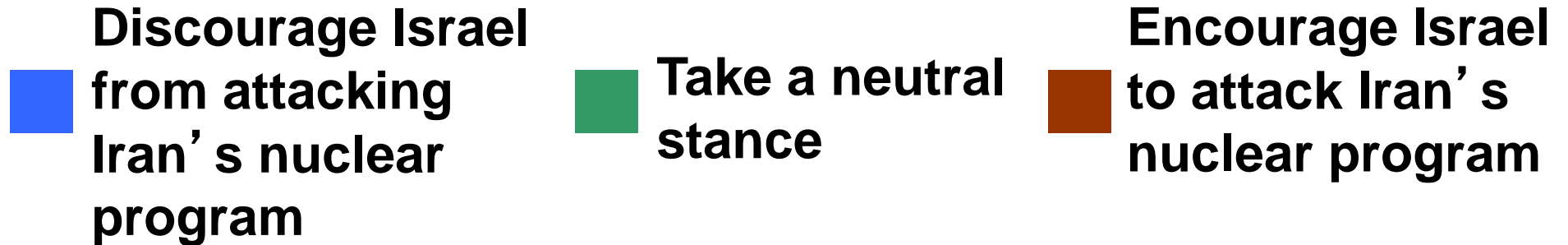
US Position on Israeli Strike

So now, do you think the US should:



US Position on Israeli Strike

So now, do you think the US should:



Syrian Conflict

Potential Actions in Syria

Would you support or oppose the United States, jointly with its allies doing each of the following actions with respect to the conflict in Syria?

Increasing economic and diplomatic sanctions on Syria

60

Enforcing a no-fly zone over Syria

59

Sending arms and supplies to anti-government groups

22

Bombing Syrian air defense

21

Sending troops into Syria

13