

SABAN CENTER FOR MIDDLE EAST POLICY

presents

**University of Maryland
with Zogby International**

2010

**Israeli Arab/Palestinian Public
Opinion Survey**

**Professor Shibley Telhami, Principal Investigator
Anwar Sadat Chair for Peace and Development and
Nonresident Senior Fellow, Saban Center at Brookings**

Special thanks to the Carnegie Corporation of New York

Survey conducted October 20-
November 3

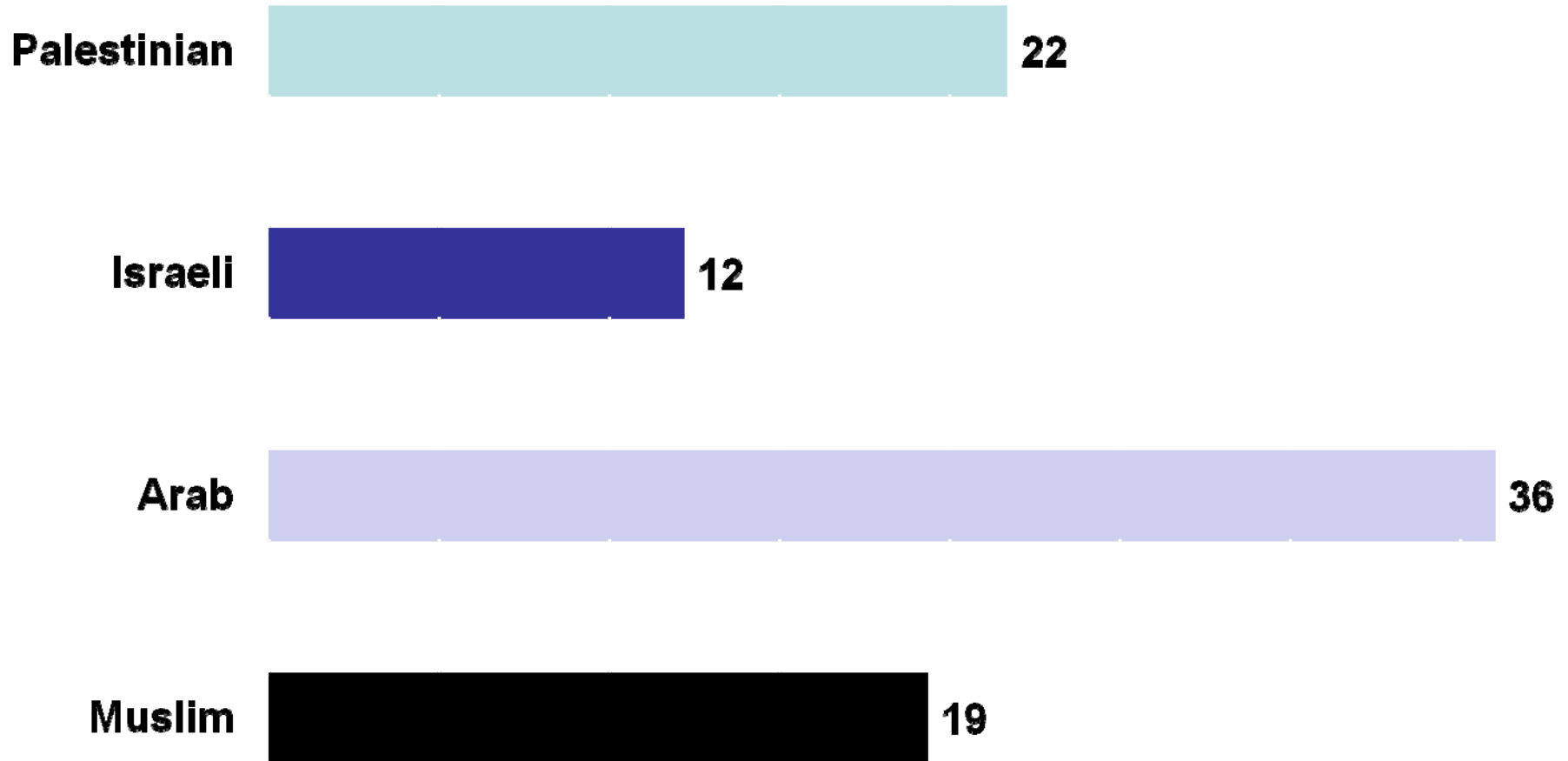
Sample size: 600

Margin of error: +/- 4.0%

IDENTITY

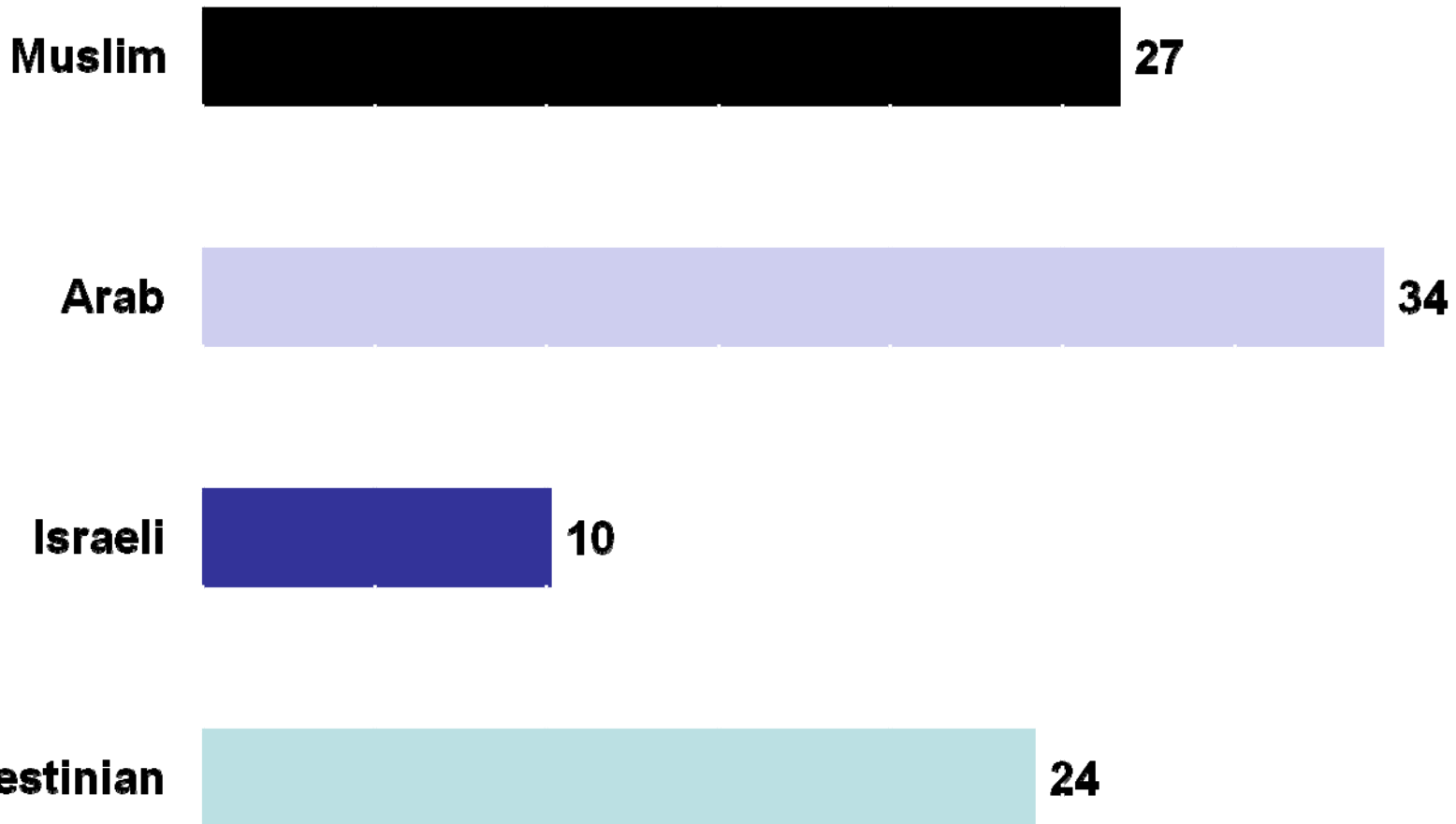
Identity – most important

When you think about yourself, which of the following is your most important identity?



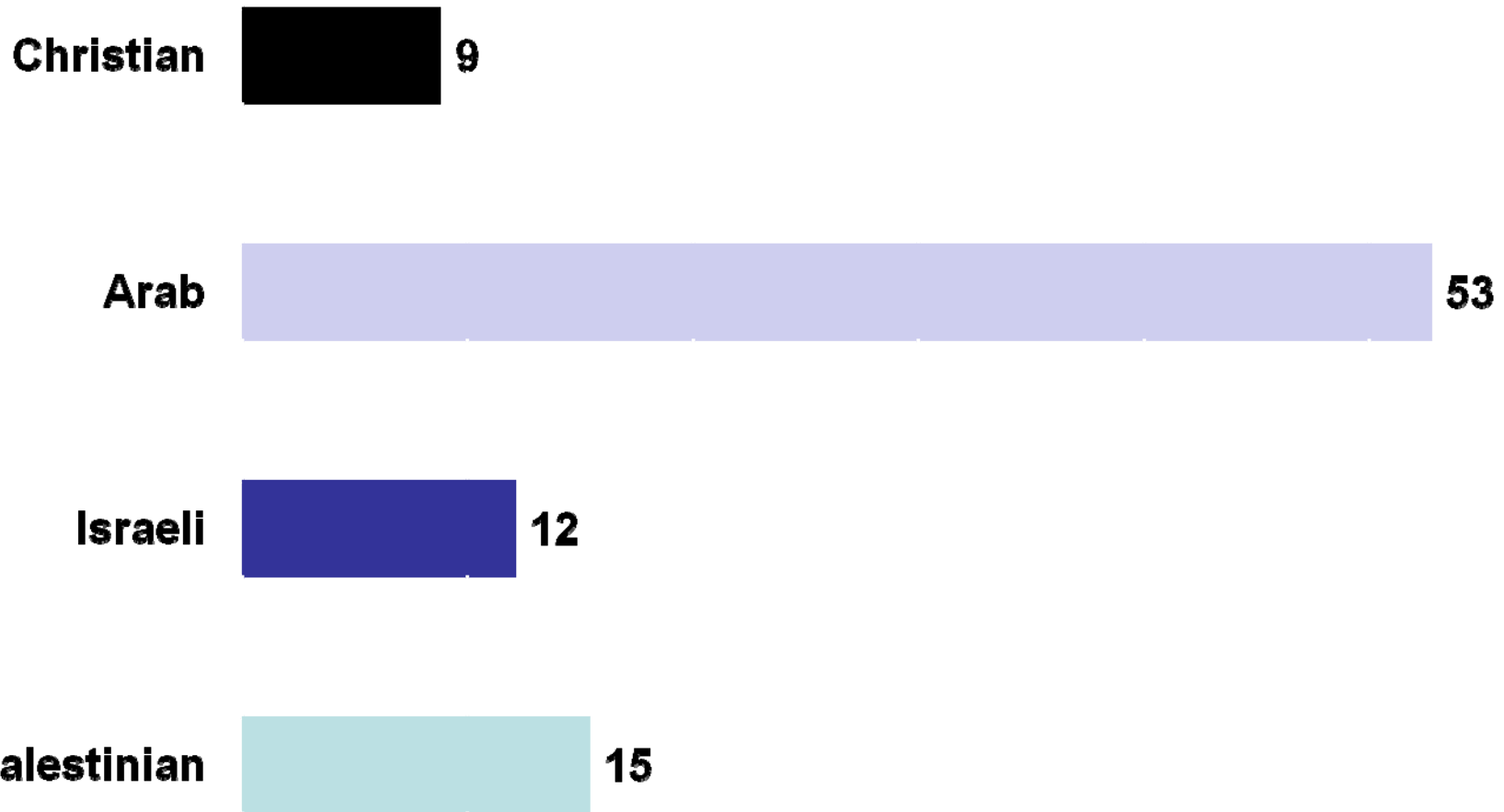
Identity - Muslim

When you think about yourself, which of the following is your most important identity...?



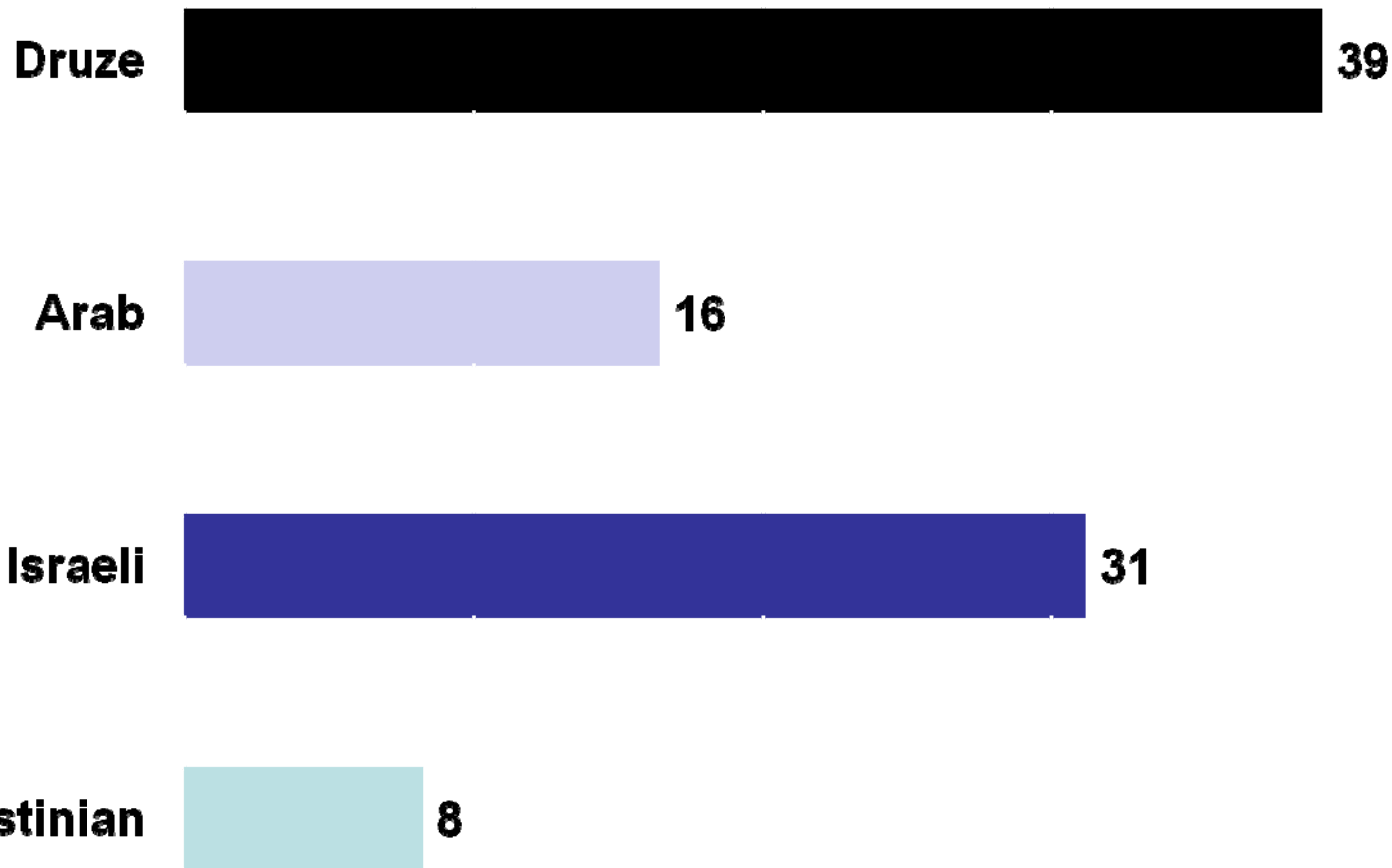
Identity - Christian

When you think about yourself, which of the following is your most important identity...?



Identity - Druze

When you think about yourself, which of the following is your most important identity...?



Identity – 1948 war refugees

Do you have any relatives - refugees of the 1948 war?

■ Palestinian **■ Israeli** **■ Arab** **■ Muslim**

yes



no

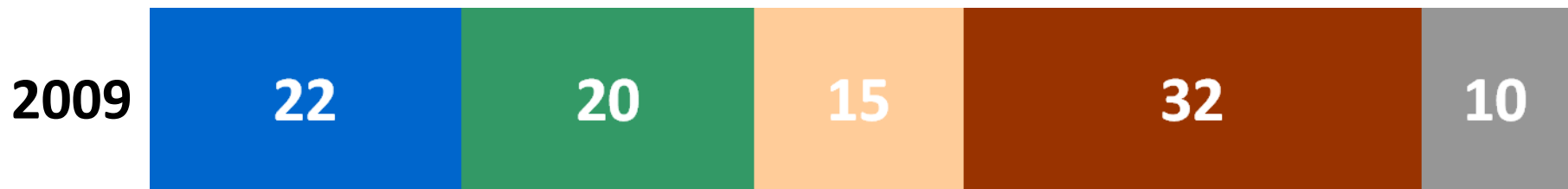


ATTITUDE TOWARD US

Attitudes toward the U.S. - aggregate

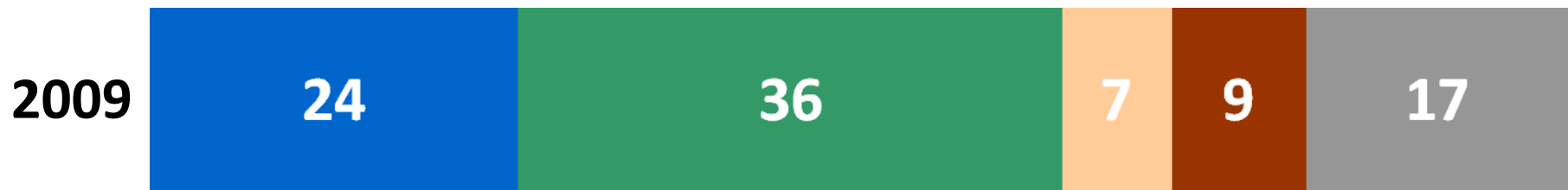
Generally speaking, is your attitude toward the United States:

Very favorable **Somewhat favorable** **Somewhat unfavorable** **Very unfavorable** **Not familiar**



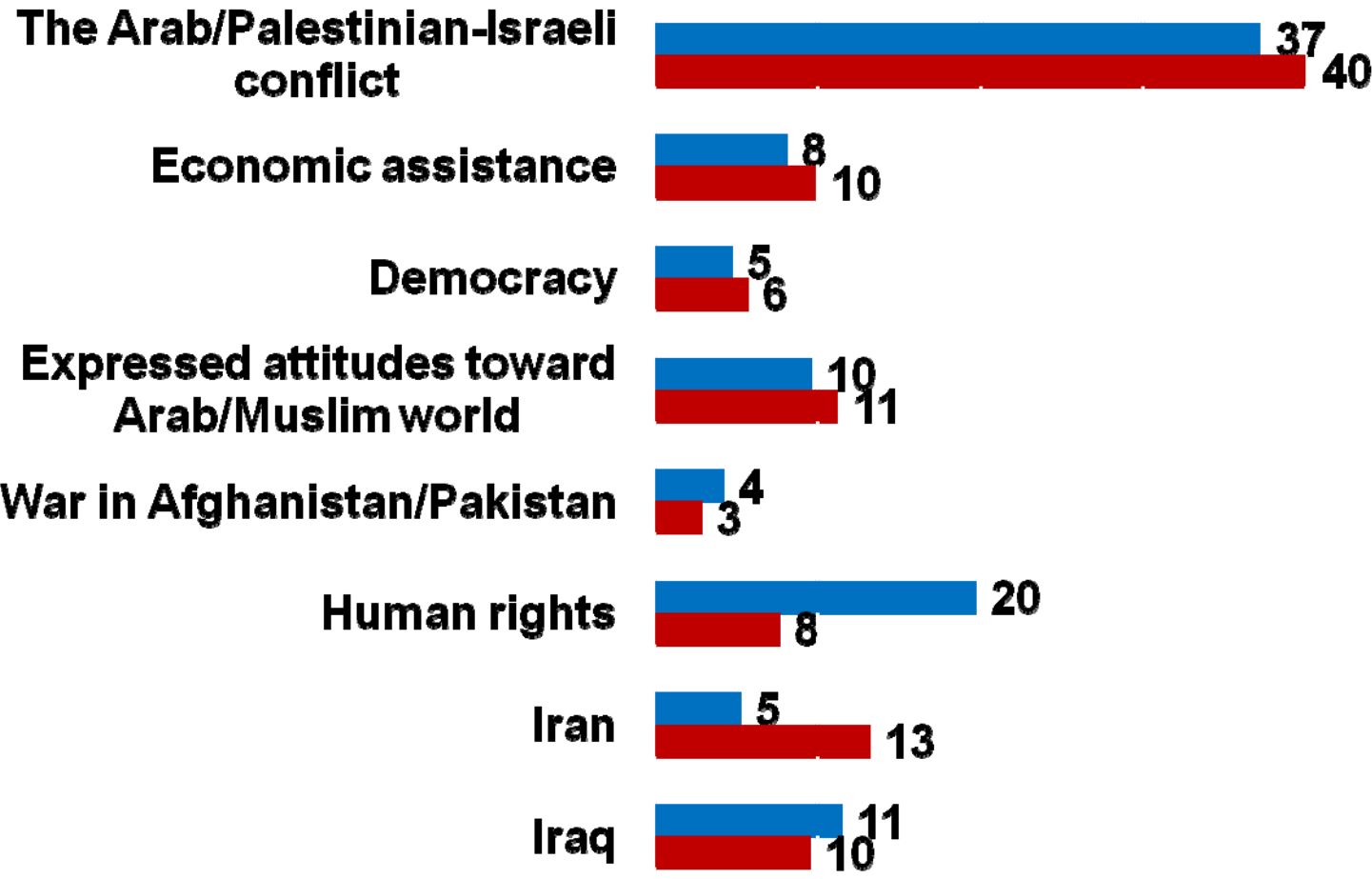
Views of President Barack Obama

Very positive **Somewhat positive** **Very negative** **Somewhat negative** **Neutral**



Evaluating Obama Administration policy: What are the central issues for you?

■ 2009 ■ 2010



Attitude toward Obama Administration policy in the Middle East

2010

Neutral 17



Somewhat negative 19



Very negative 13



Somewhat positive 27



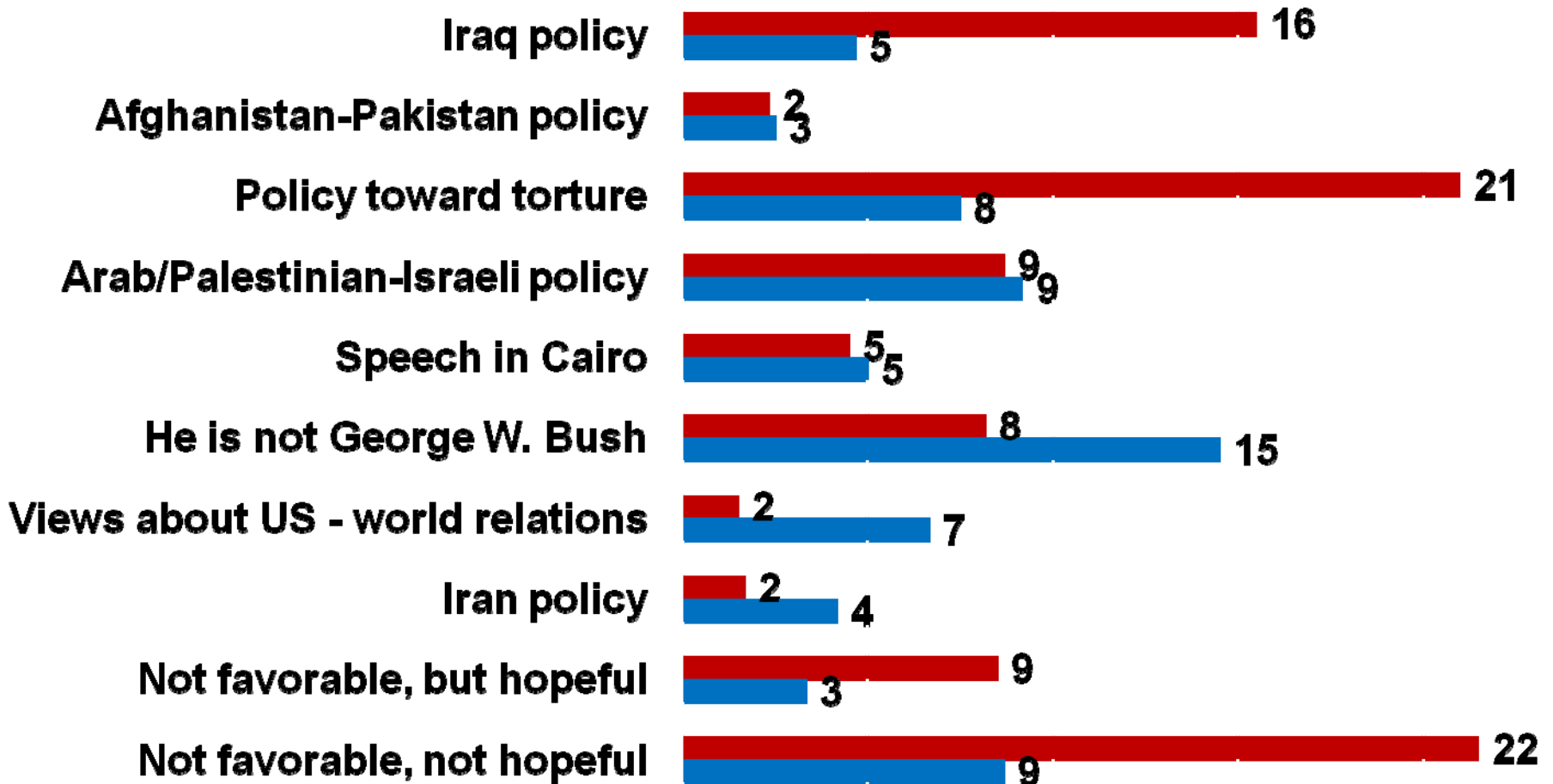
Very positive 16



Obama's policy:

What policies do you like most?

■ first choice ■ second choice



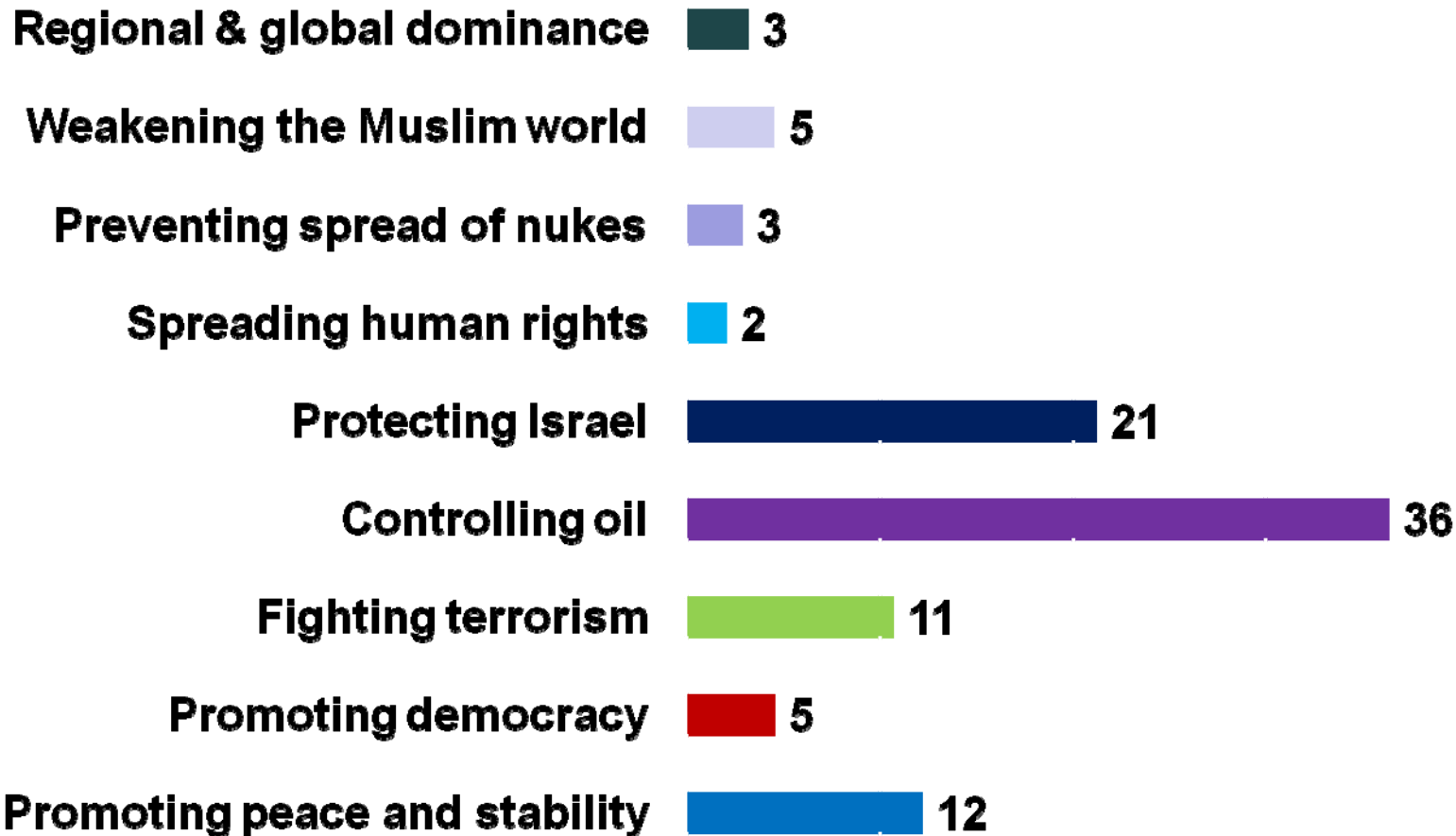
Obama's Administration Policies: Most disappointing (choose two)



* Percentages add up to more than 100%

American policy drivers in the Middle East (first)

2010

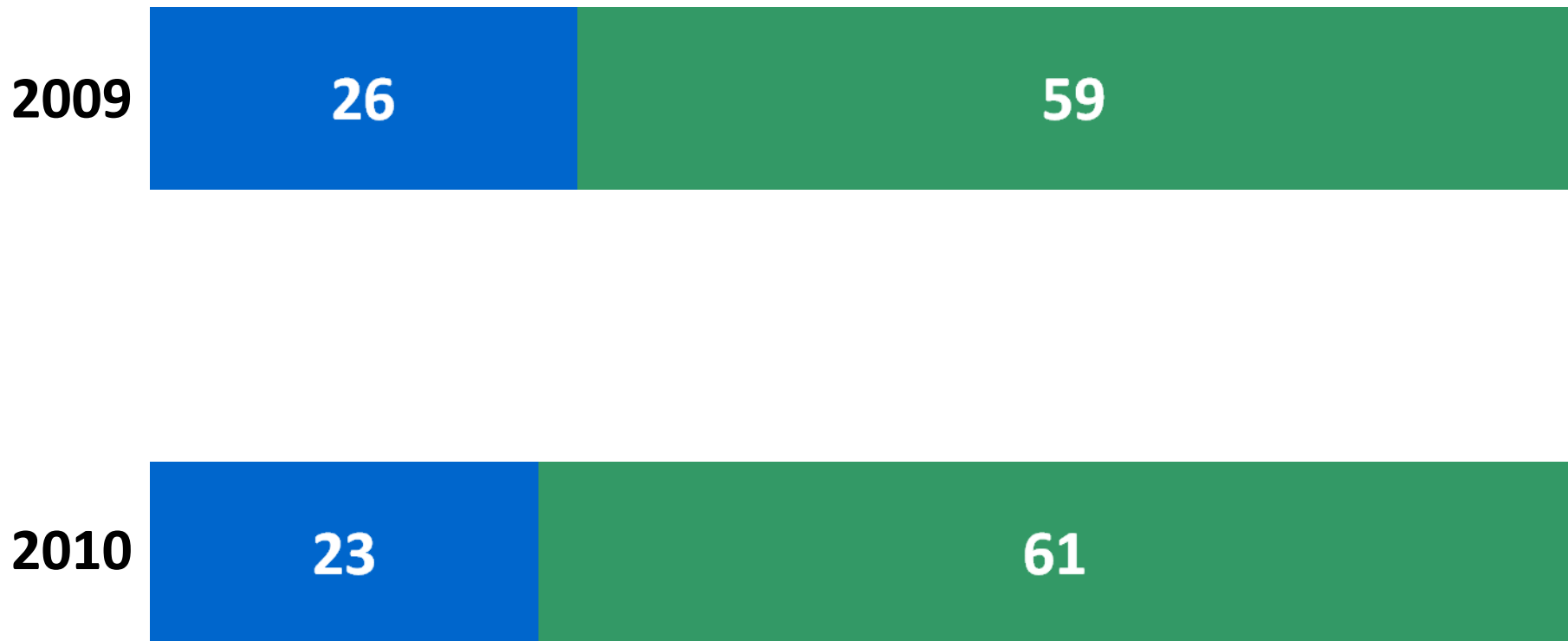


IRAN

Opinion on Iran's nuclear research purpose

Iran is merely conducting research for peaceful purposes

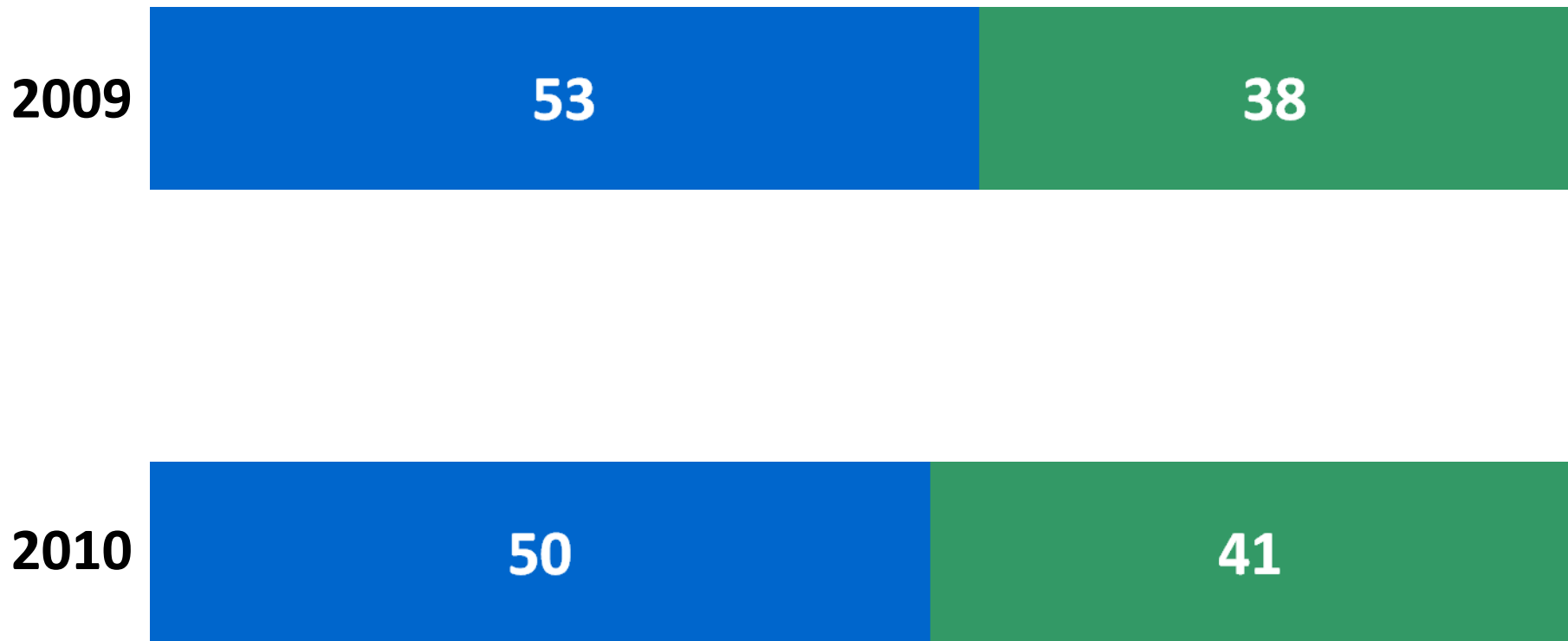
Iran is trying to develop nuclear weapons



Opinion on Iran's nuclear program

Iran has the right to its nuclear program and the international pressure should cease

Iran should be pressured to stop its nuclear program



Opinion on Iran's nuclear program – 1948 war refugees

Do you have any relatives - refugees of the 1948 war?

Iran has the right to its nuclear program and the international pressure should cease

Iran should be pressured to stop its nuclear program



Outcome for Middle East if Iran acquires nuclear weapons

■ The outcome would be more positive **■ The outcome would be more negative** **■ It would not matter**



ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT

Palestinian refugees' right to return -

aggregate

How do you feel about Palestinian refugees' right to return?

 Not too important

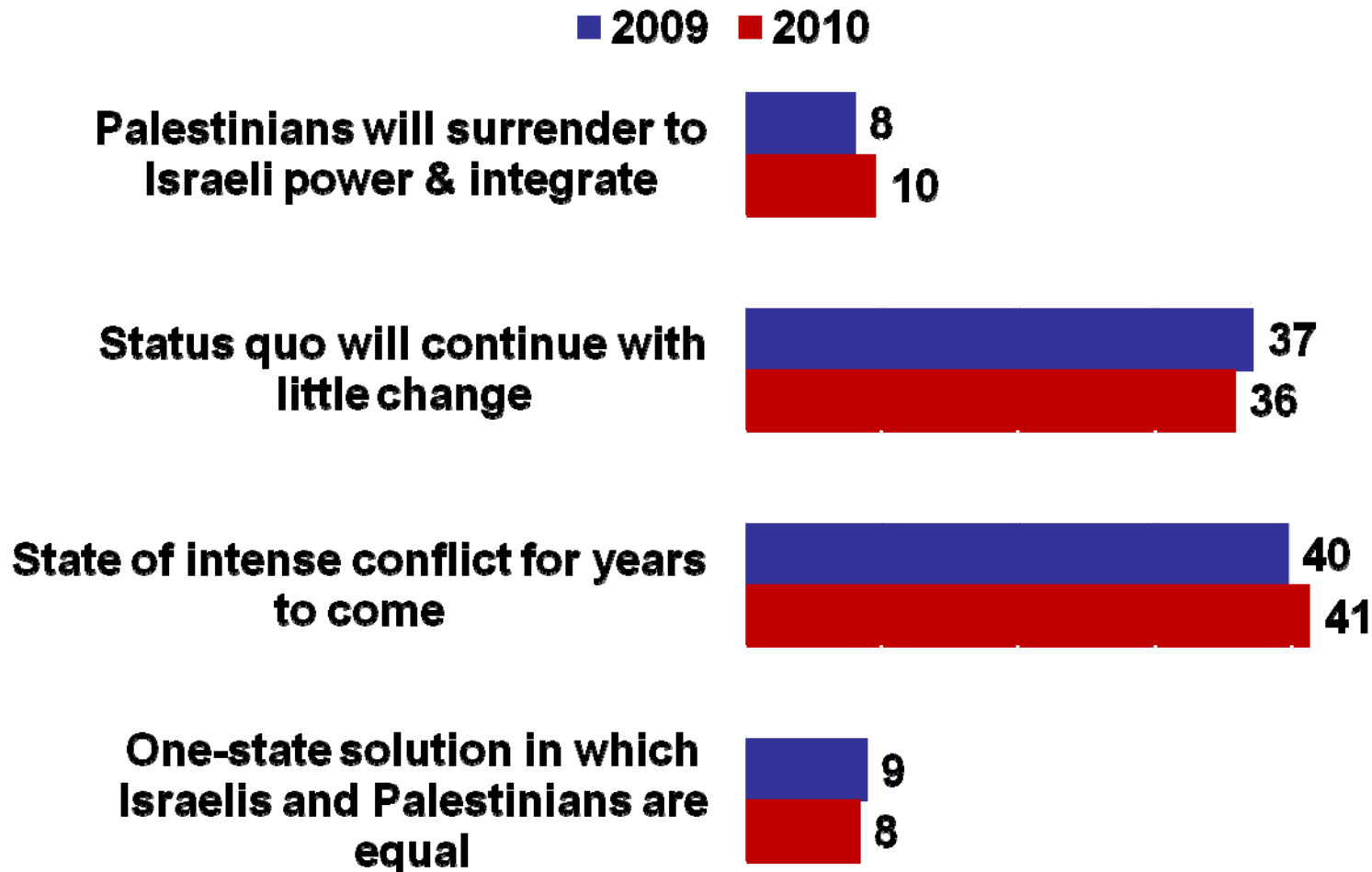
 Important but a compromise should be found

 Important and cannot be compromised in any way



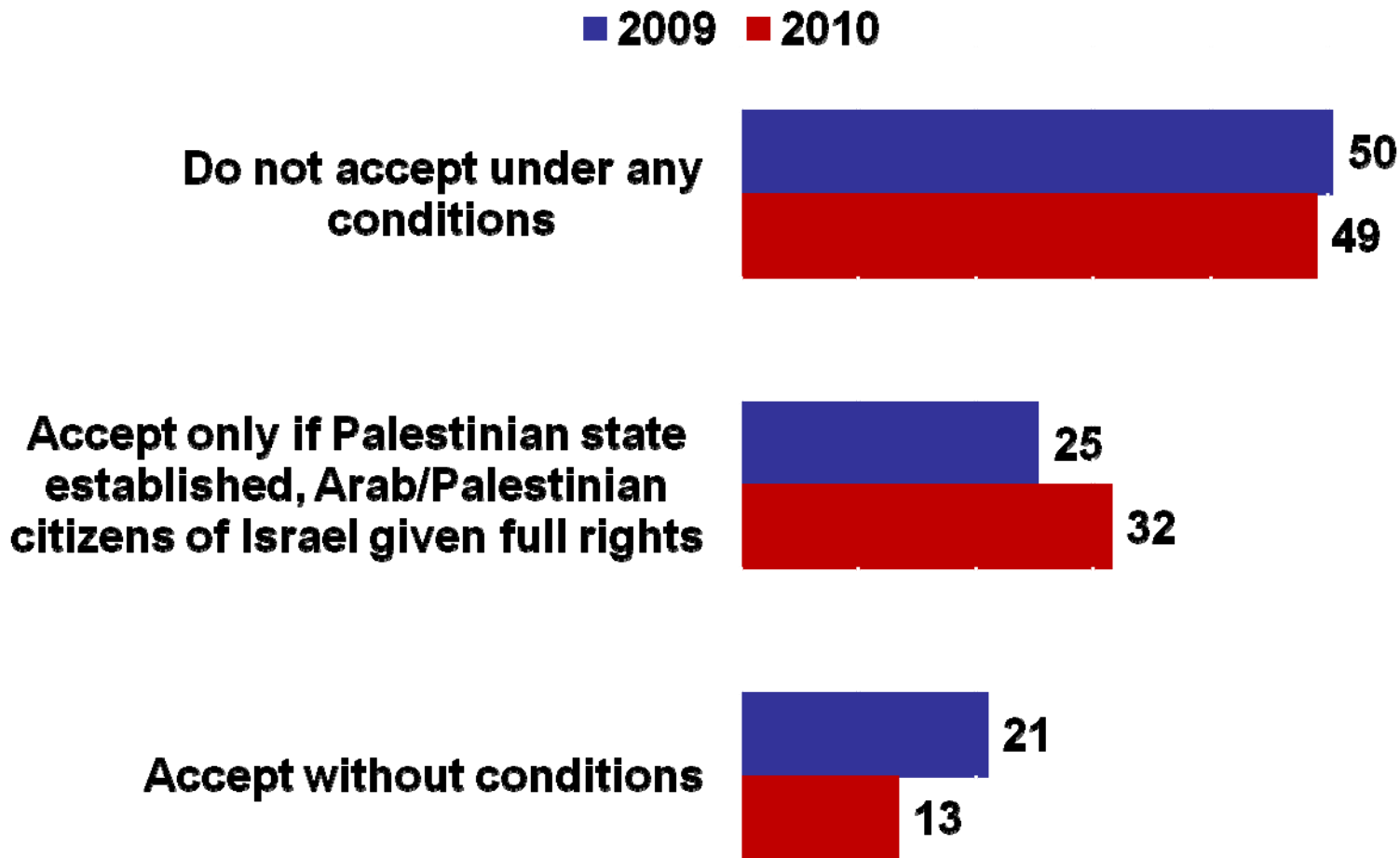
Outcome if no two-state solution is found

What do you believe is the likely outcome if the prospects of a two-state solution of the Palestinian/Arab-Israeli conflict collapse:



Israel as a Jewish state - aggregate

Your opinion towards defining Israel as a Jewish state:



Israel as a Jewish state - 1948 war refugees

Your opinion towards defining Israel as a Jewish state:

Accept
w/o
conditions
yes

Only if Palestinian state
established, Arab/Palestinian
citizens of Israel given full rights

Do not accept



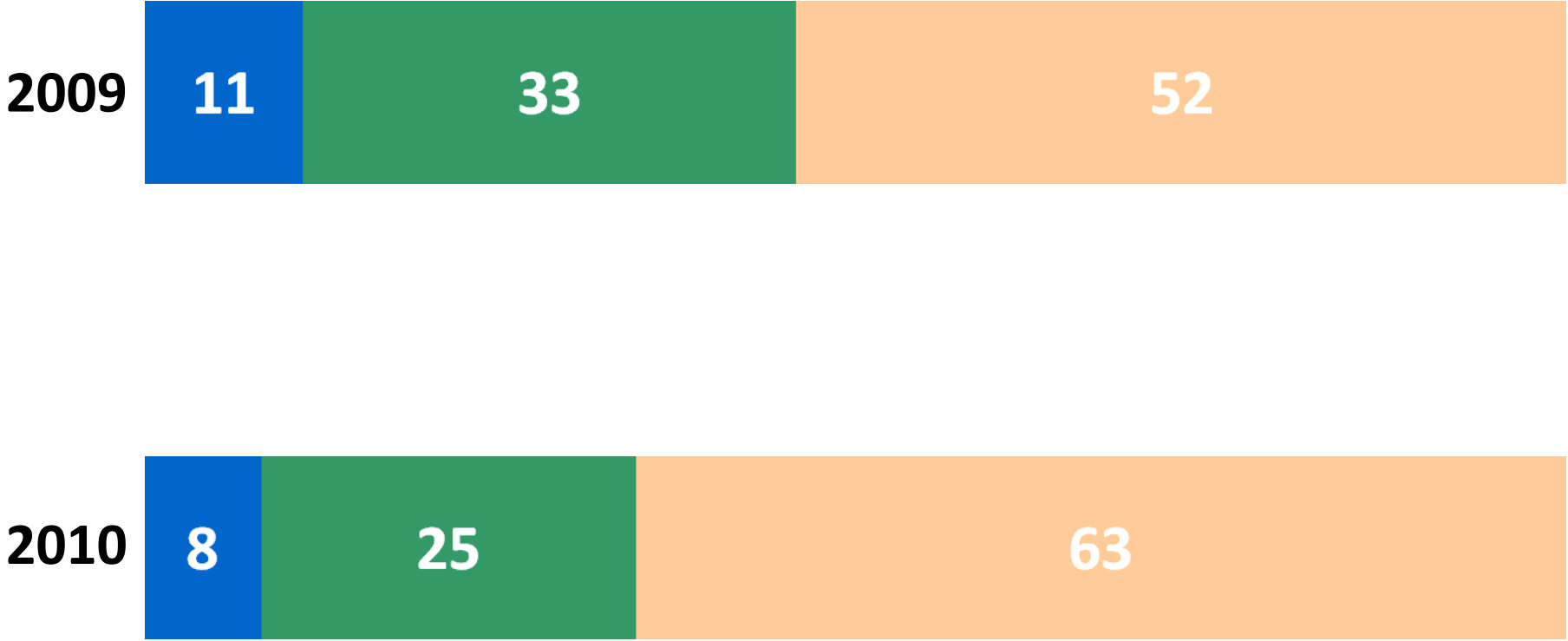
no



Prospects of lasting peace

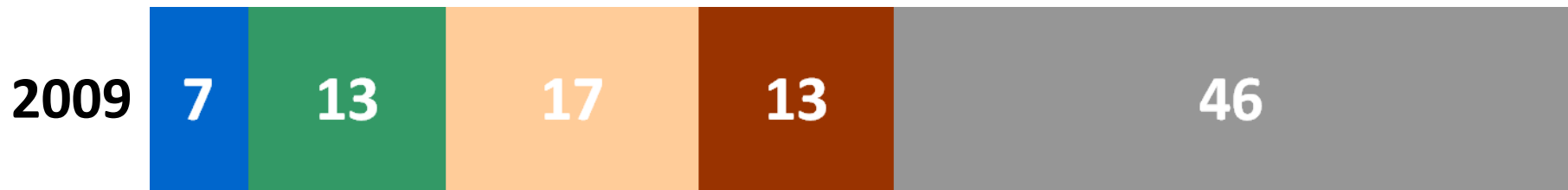
Which is closest to your view about the prospects of lasting peace between Israel and the Palestinians?

- In the next 5 yrs**
- Inevitable, but it will take more time**
- Don't believe it will ever happen**



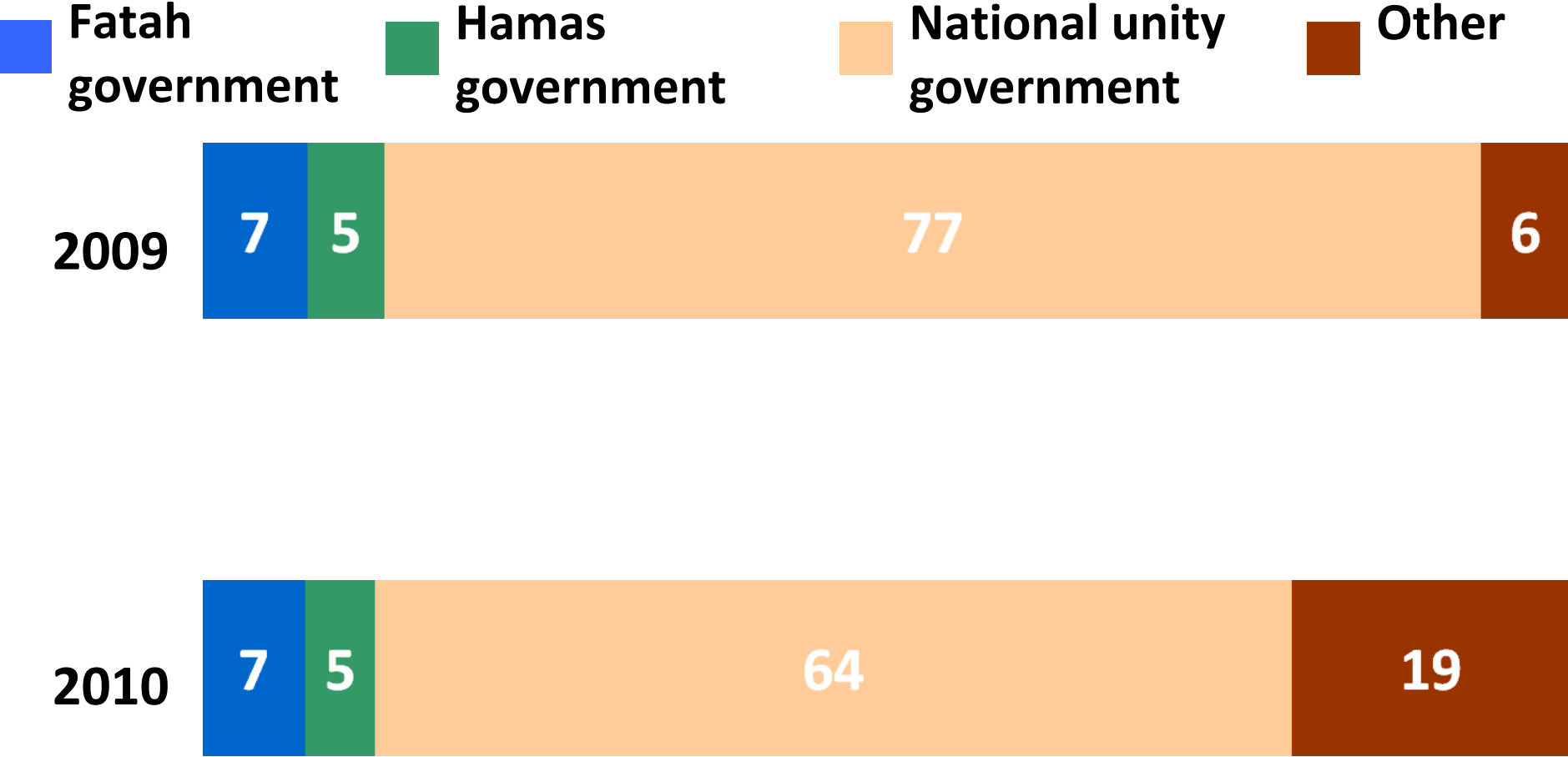
Palestinian sympathies

In the current conflict among the Palestinians, with whom do you sympathize most?



Preferences for Palestinian government

As you look at the internal Palestinian political divisions, do you prefer to see a:

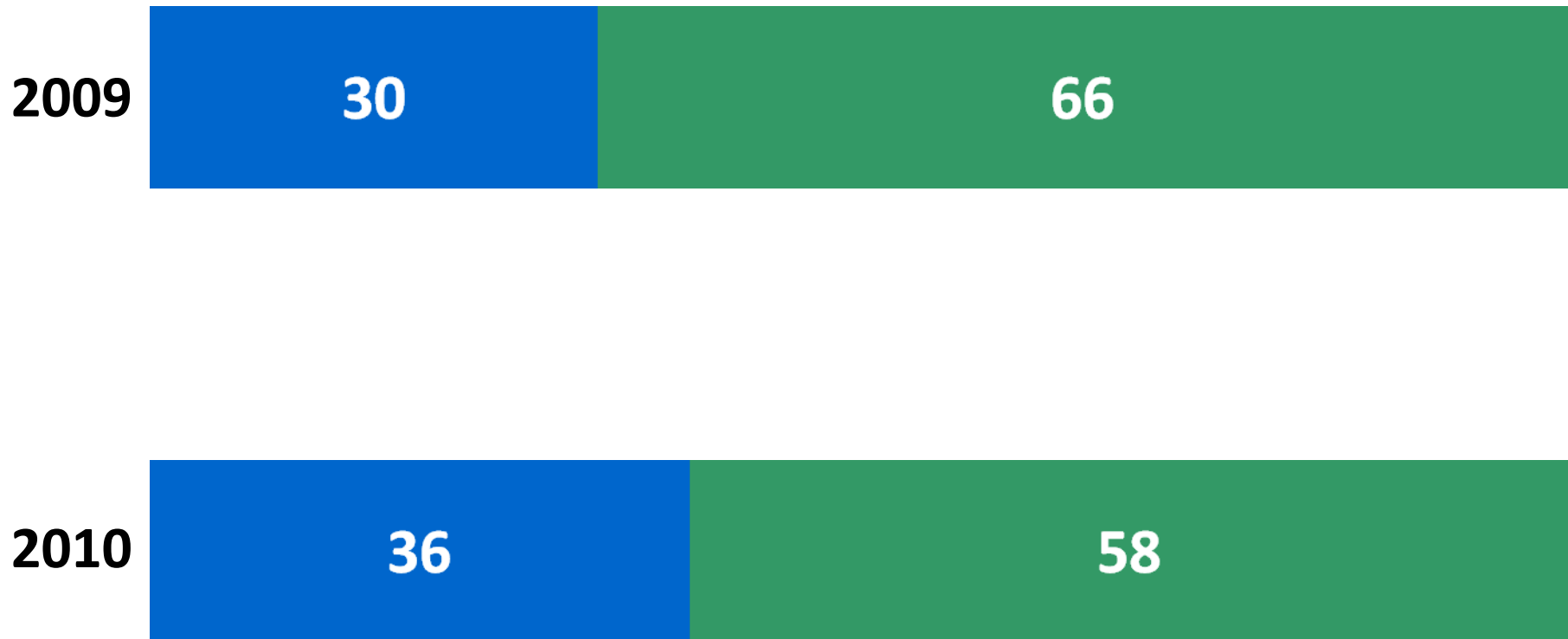


Transfer of Arab/Palestinian towns

Would you accept the transfer of some Arab/Palestinian towns currently in Israel to a new Palestinian state, when established?

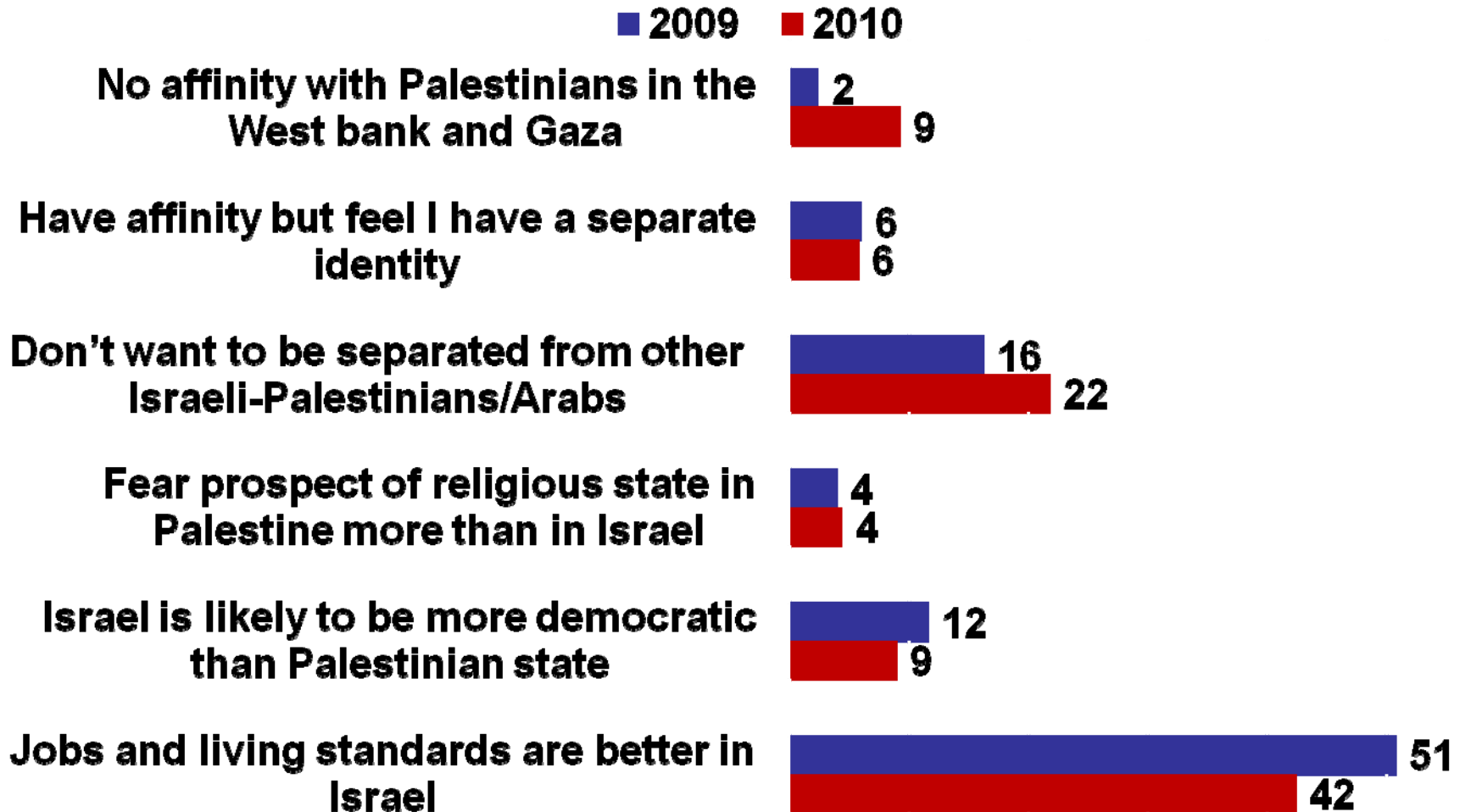
 Yes

 No

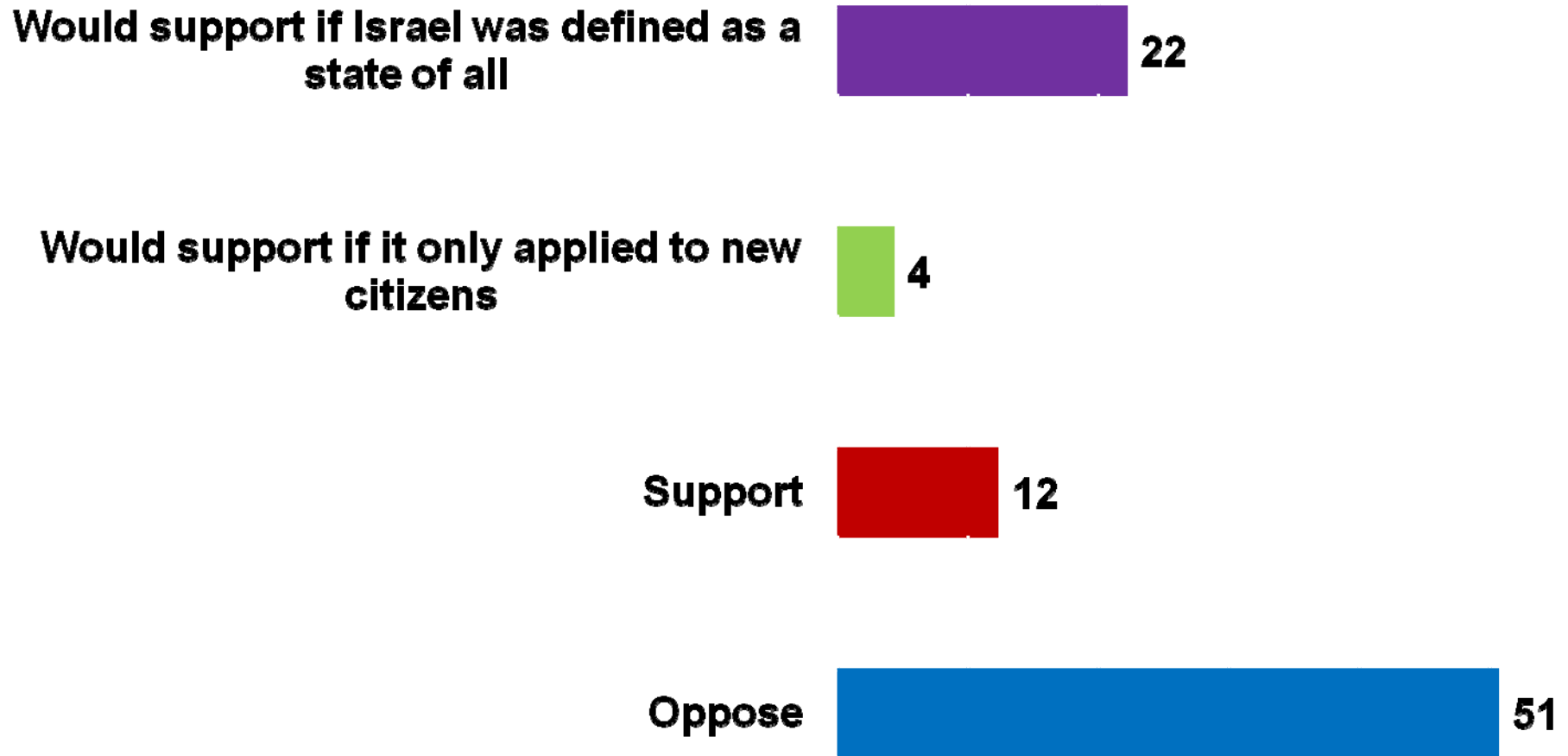


Transfer of Arab/Palestinian towns

If 'No', which of the following reasons is most important to you?



Attitude towards proposed loyalty oath - aggregate



Attitude towards proposed loyalty oath – 1948 war refugees



Reasons for rejecting loyalty oath - aggregate

Oppose loyalty oaths in principle



10

Reject definition of Israel as Jewish state



33

It does not apply to new Jew citizens



4

Ultimately aimed at Arab citizens of Israel



50

Arab/Palestinian rights in Israel

If peace prevails between Israel and Palestinians through an establishment of Palestinian state at peace with Israel, which is more likely about the status of Arab citizens of Israel:

■ Rights will improve **■ Rights will decline** **■ Will not change**



Recruitment of Arab/Palestinian citizens

Your opinion of possible recruitment of Israeli Arab/Palestinian citizens into non-military national service program:

Reject under any circumstances

Accept if Arabs granted equal rights to Jews

Accept only after Palestinian state established

2009



2010



Jewish Holocaust movies – aggregate

When you watch a movie or a program about the Jewish Holocaust which of the following is closest to your feelings:



Jewish Holocaust movies – Jewish friends

Which of the following most accurately describes you?

**Empathize with
Jews who suffered
under Nazis**

**Resent - brings sympathy
towards Jews at the expense
of Palestinians/Arabs**

**Mixed
feelings**

**Have Jewish friends; in the past 2 years
haven't visited**



**Have Jewish friends; in the past 2 years
have visited**



Don't have Jewish friends



Jewish Holocaust movies – 1948 war refugees

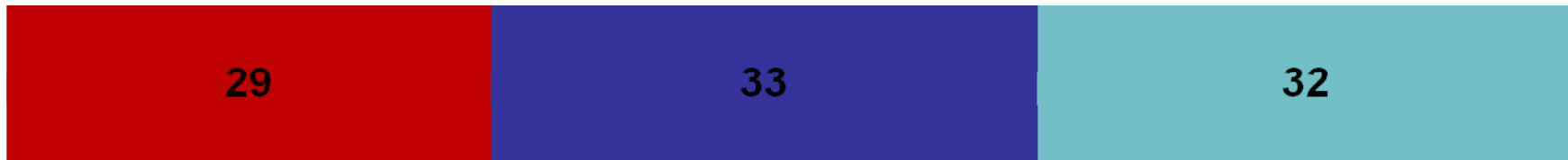
Do you have any relatives - refugees of the 1948 war?

**Empathize with
Jews who suffered
under Nazis**

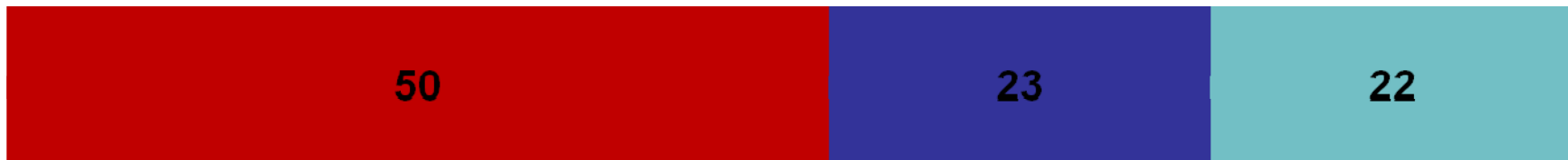
**Resent - brings sympathy
towards Jews at the expense
of Palestinians/Arabs**

**Mixed
feelings**

yes



no



Palestinian civilian casualties – aggregate (first)

When you see Palestinian civilian casualties in the conflict with Israel, which TWO of the following best describe your feelings:

Angry with Arab governments 4

Angry with Palestinian leadership 6

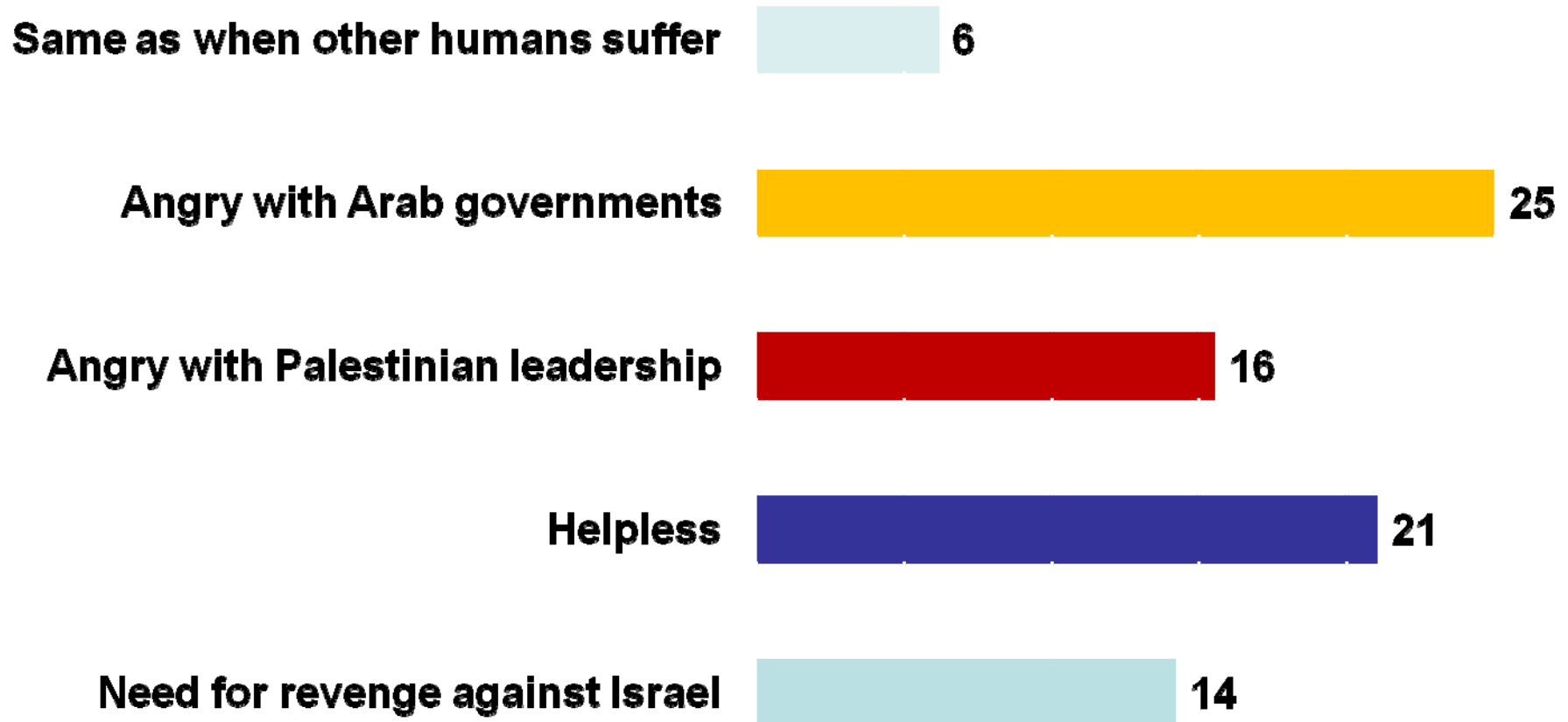
Helpless 8

Need for revenge against Israel 8

Empathy with Palestinian victims 69

Palestinian civilian casualties – aggregate (second)

When you see Palestinian civilian casualties in the conflict with Israel, which TWO of the following best describe your feelings:



Palestinian civilian casualties – 1948 war refugees

Do you have any relatives - refugees of the 1948 war?

- Empathy with Palestinian victims**
- Need for revenge against Israel**
- Helpless**
- Angry with Palestinian leadership**
- Angry with Arab governments**



Israeli civilian casualties – aggregate (first)

When you watch Israeli civilian casualties in the conflict with the Palestinians, which TWO best describe your feelings:

Angry with Israeli leaders 3

Same as when other civilians killed 9

**Revenge for what's happening to
Palestinians** 5

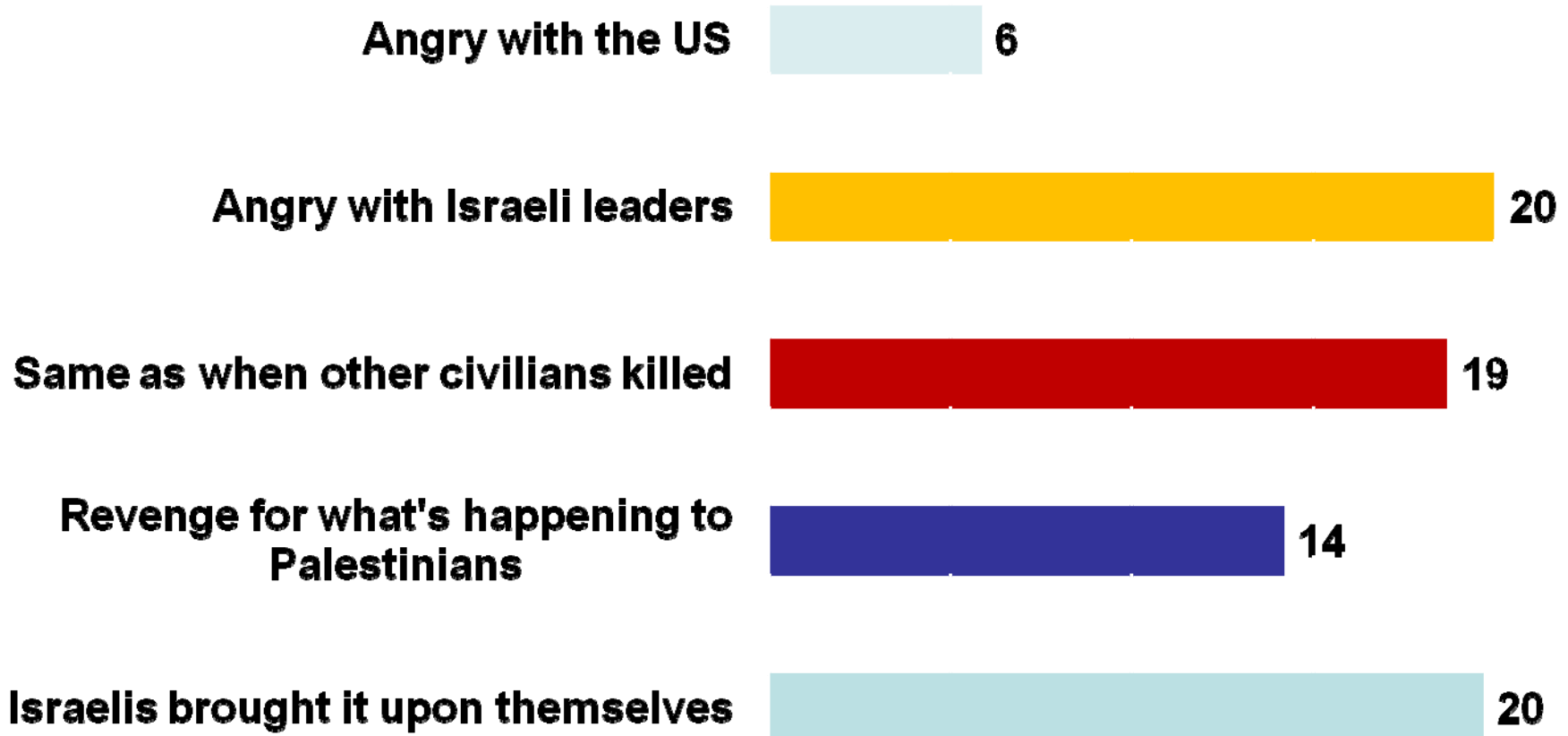
Israelis brought it upon themselves 37

Empathy with Israeli victims 42



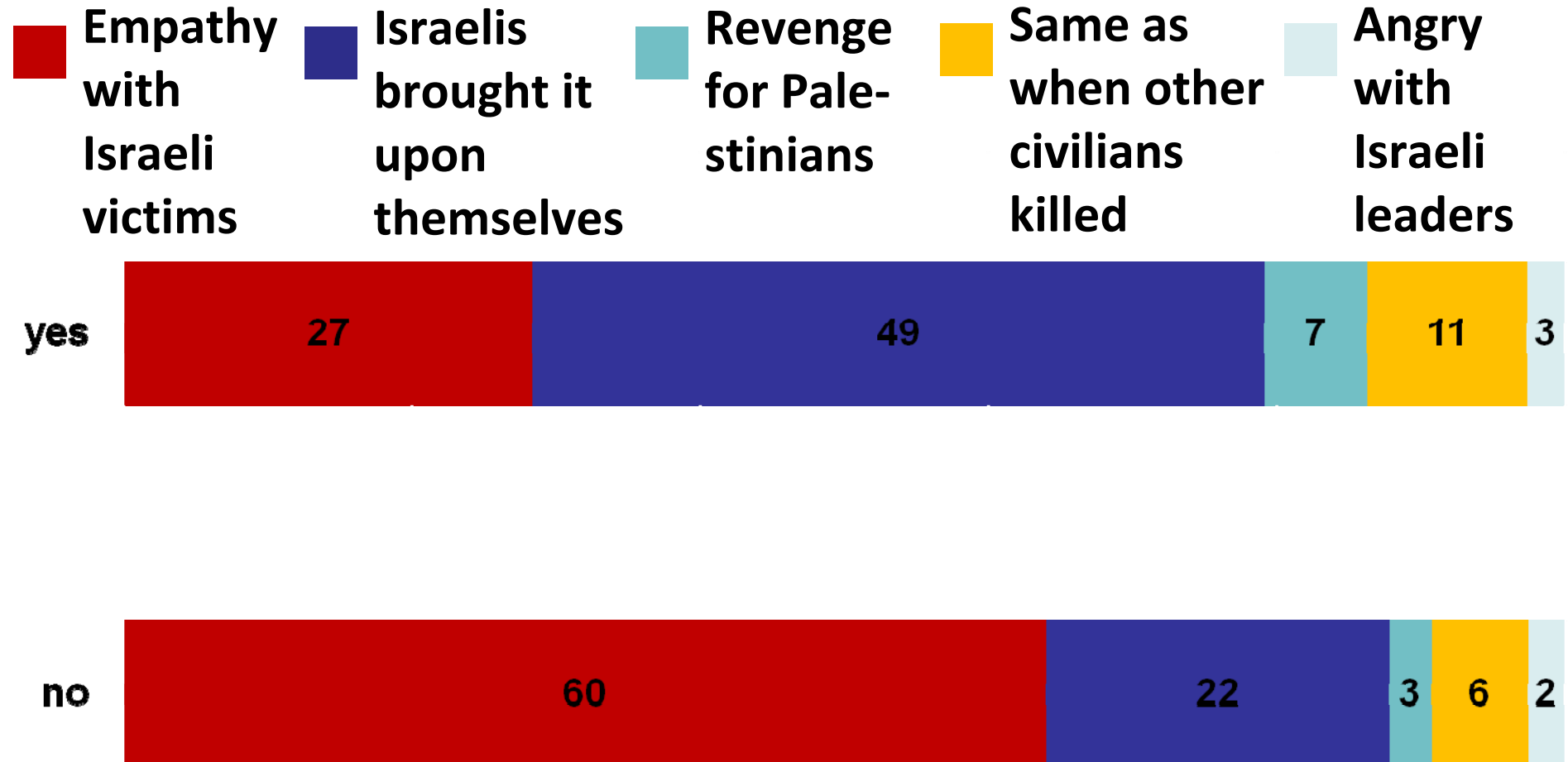
Israeli civilian casualties – aggregate (second)

When you watch Israeli civilian casualties in the conflict with the Palestinians, which TWO best describe your feelings:



Israeli civilian casualties – 1948 war refugees

Do you have any relatives - refugees of the 1948 war?

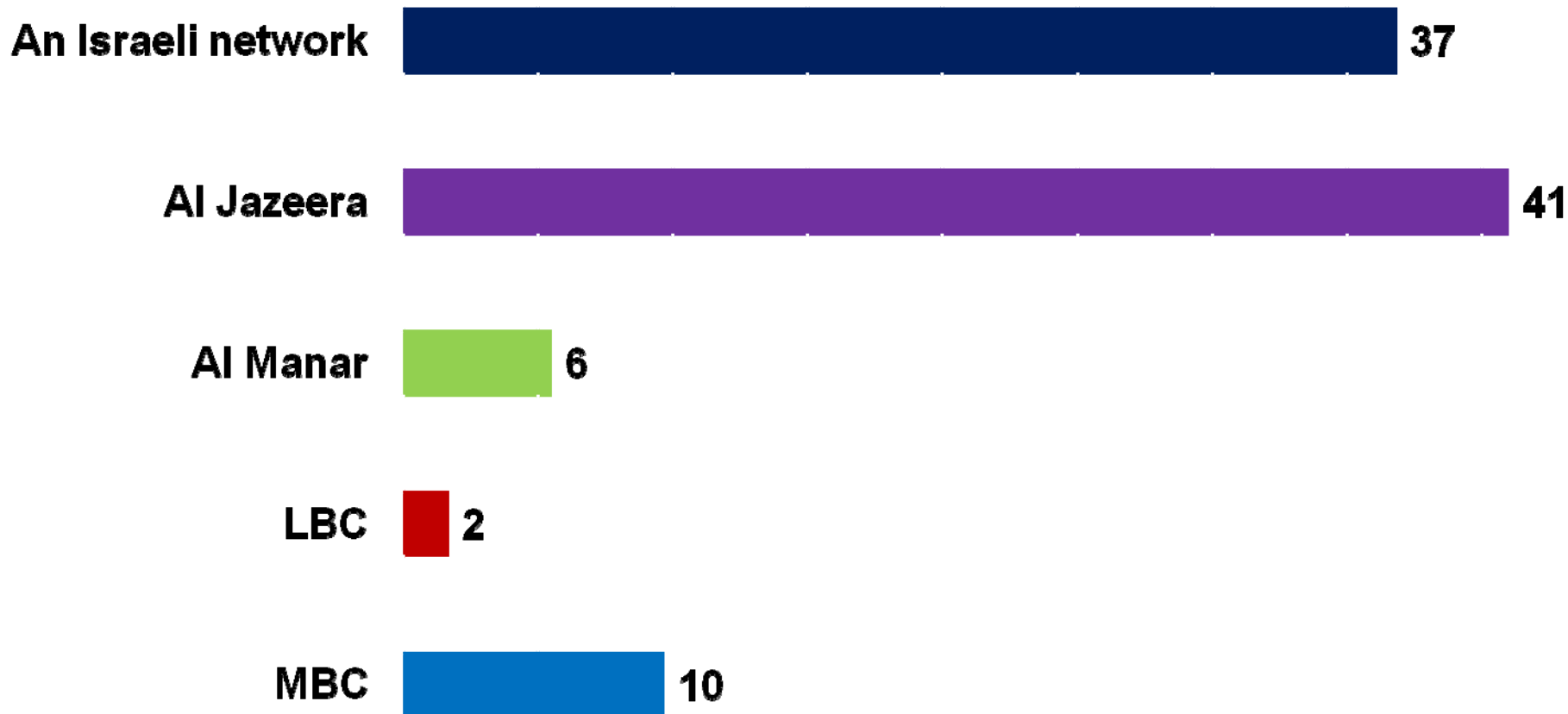


MEDIA

International news source - aggregate

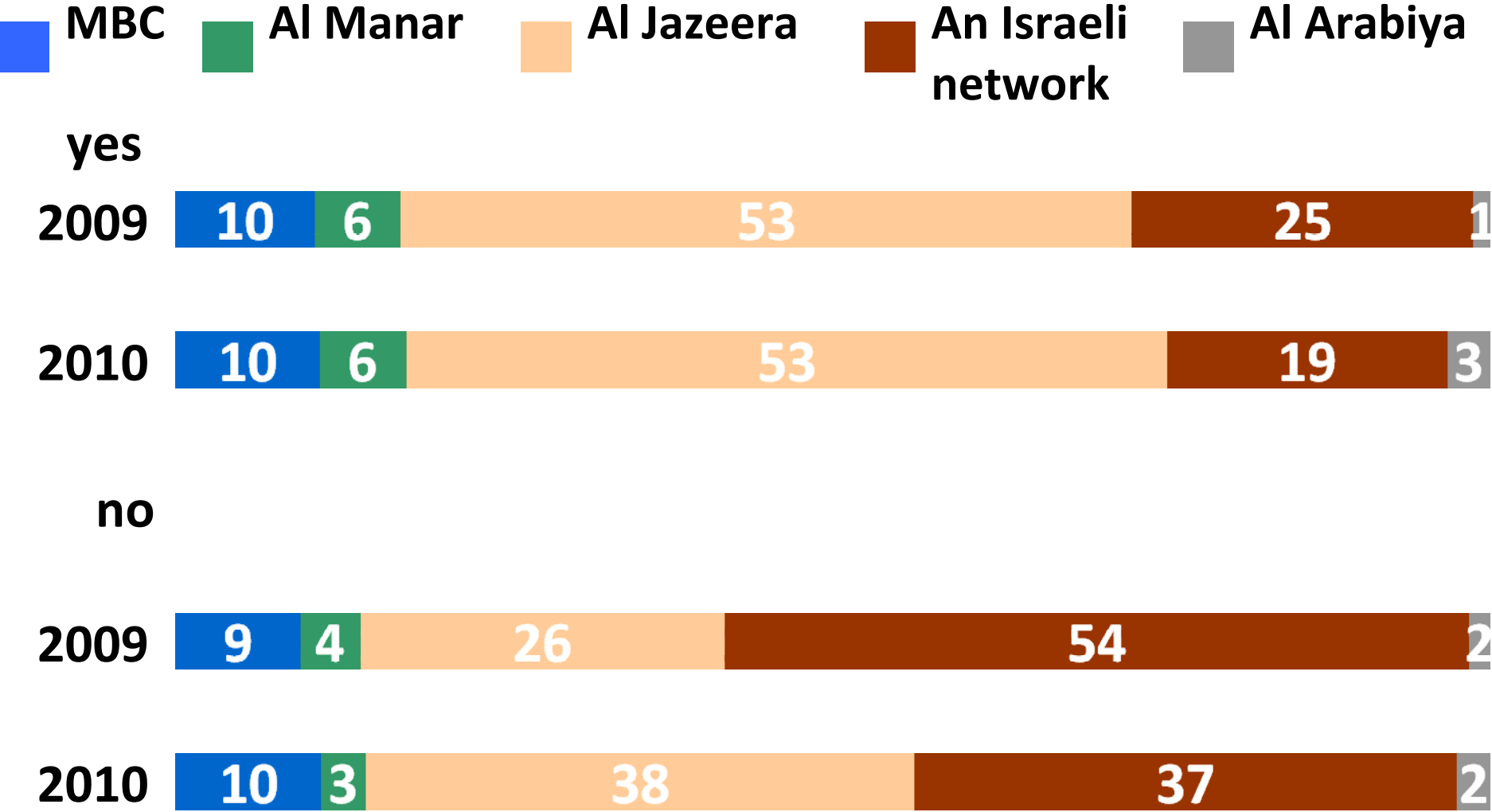
What international news do you watch?

2010



International news source - 1948 war refugees

What international news do you watch?

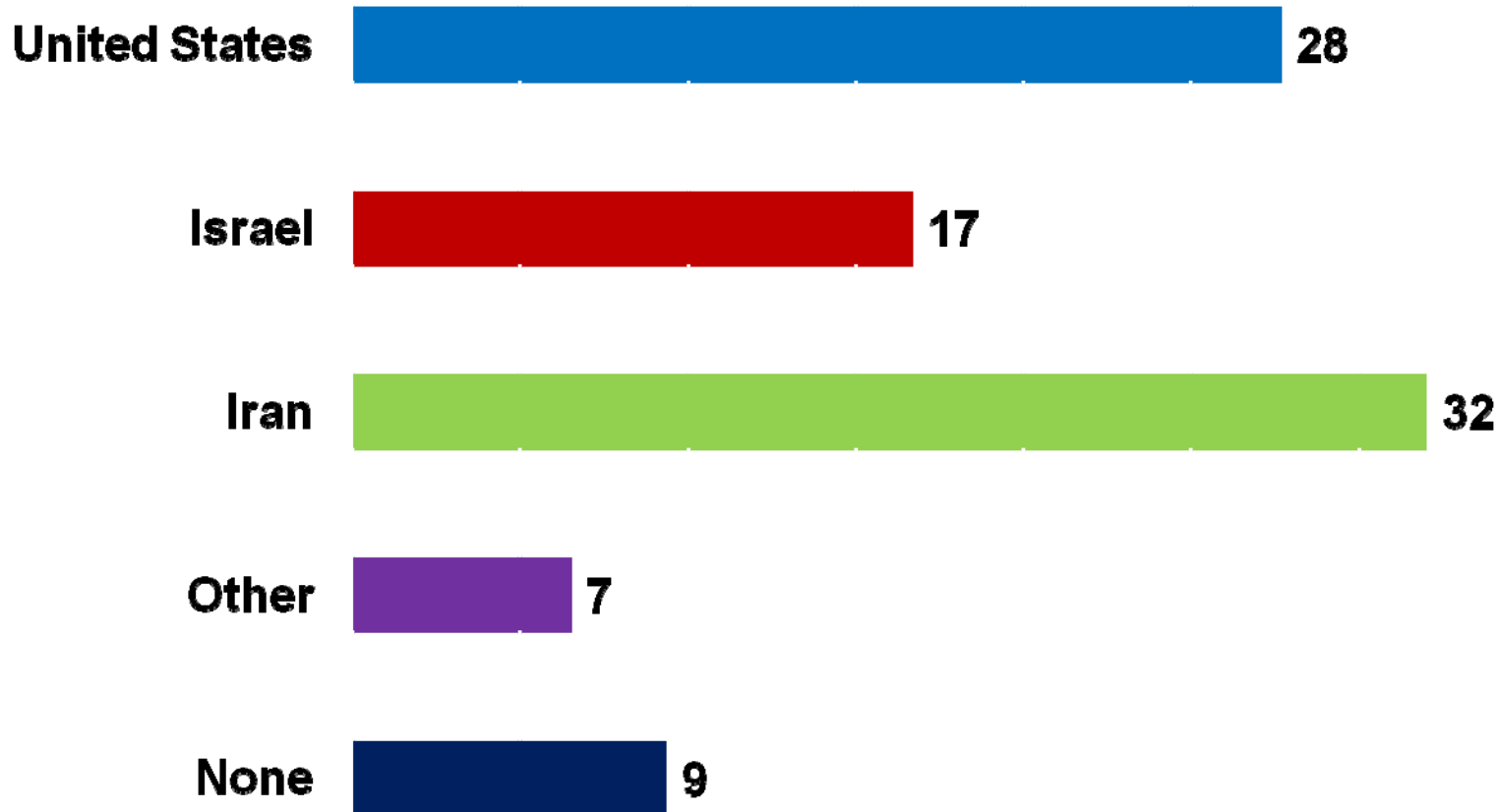


INTERNATIONAL DYNAMICS

Country - biggest threat to you (first)

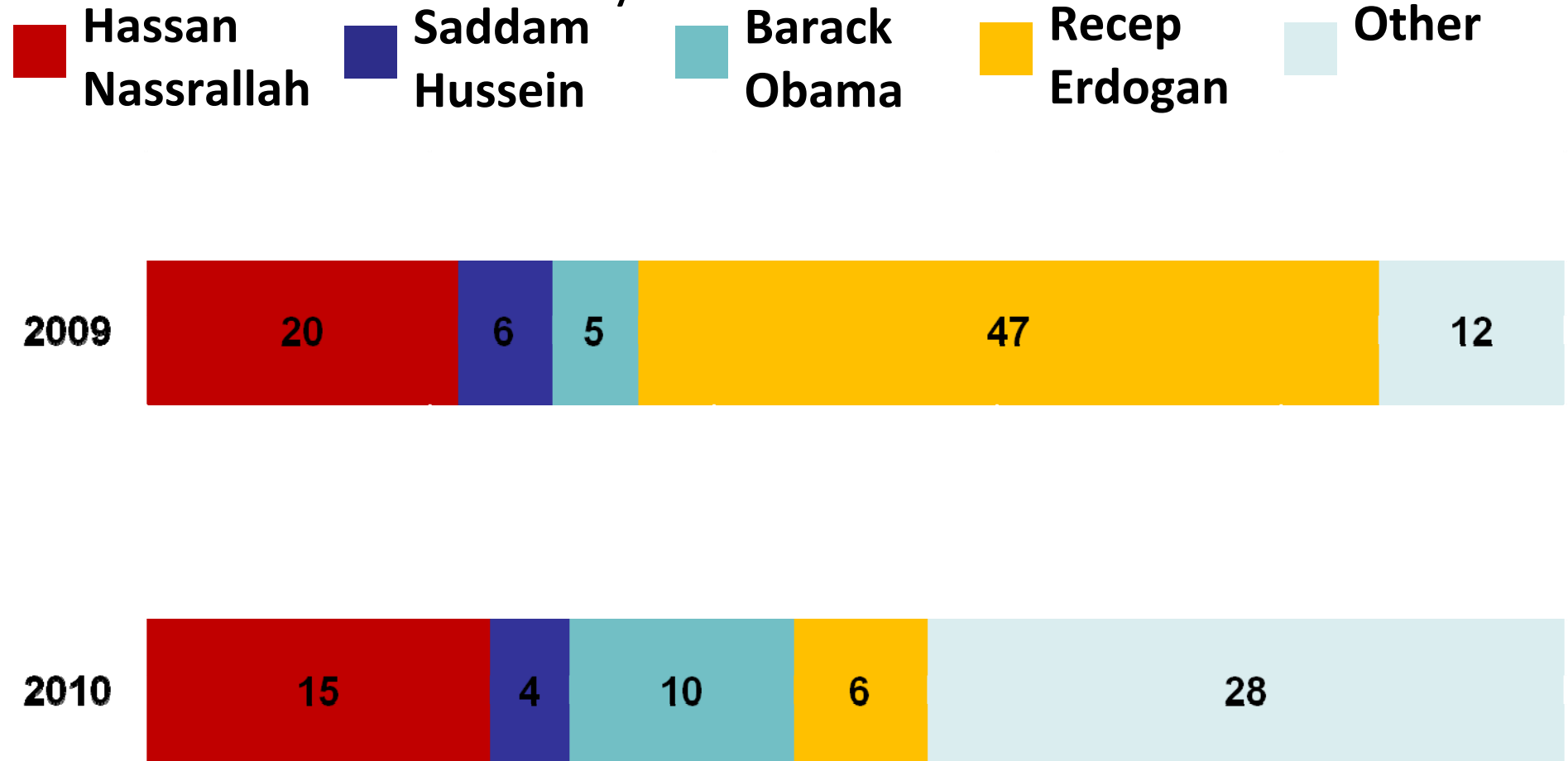
Name two countries that you think pose biggest threat to you?

2010



World leader sympathies

Please tell me which world leader (outside of your own country) you admire most?



Superpower sympathies

In a world where there is only one superpower, which countries would you prefer more than others to be that superpower?

