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Few Signs of “Ukraine Fatigue” Among American Public

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The United States has committed more than [\\$9 billion of military assistance](#) to the Ukrainian war effort since the February 24 Russian invasion, an [unprecedented amount](#) compared to other US military aid campaigns in the last 30 years. Despite the high price tag associated with this assistance, a just-completed Chicago Council Survey shows that the American public remains supportive of US economic assistance and military transfers to Ukraine. In fact, a majority are willing to continue to support the country “as long as it takes.” At the same time, Americans are just as reluctant now as they were in March to send US soldiers to the war zone.

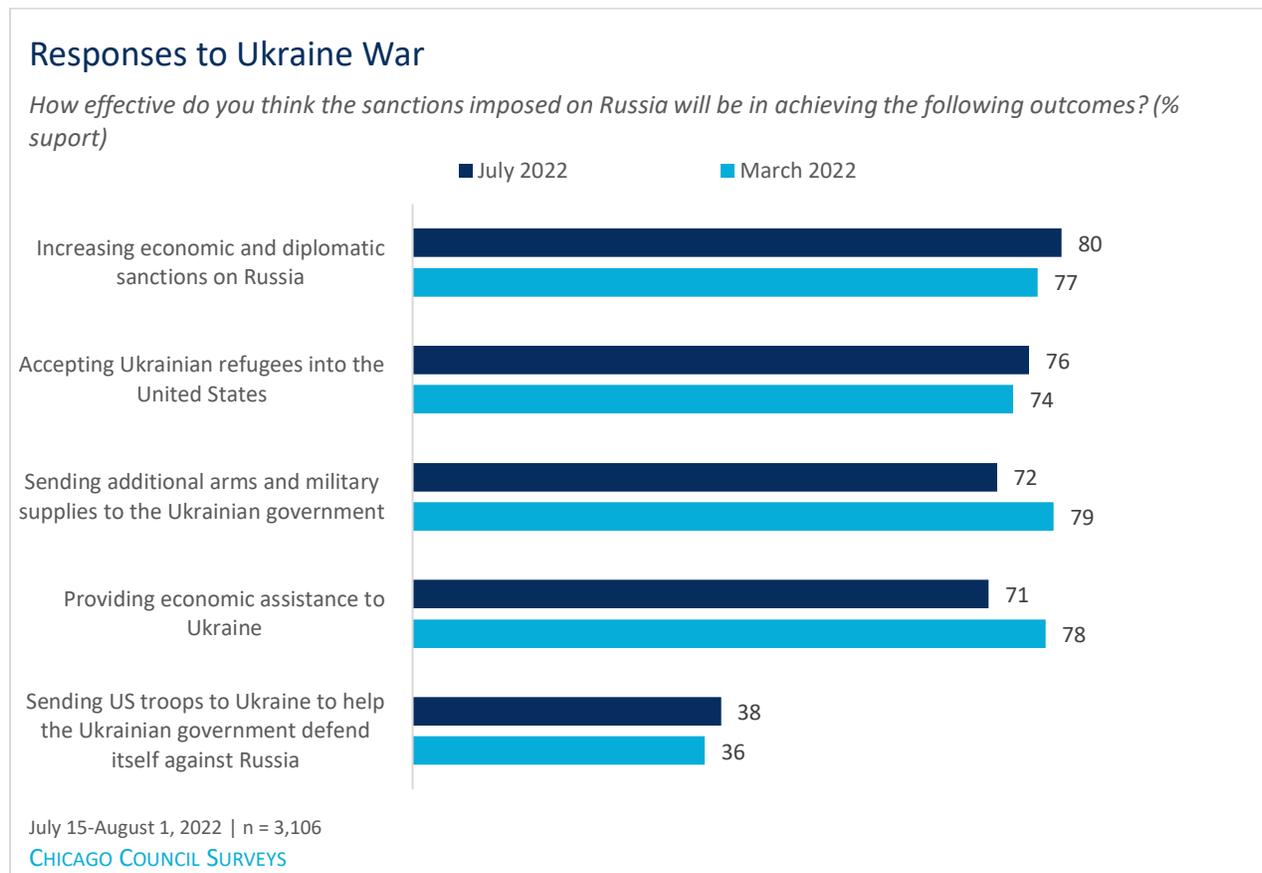
Key Findings

- Majorities continue to support US economic and diplomatic sanctions against Russia (80%), accepting Ukrainian refugees into the United States (76%), providing additional arms and military supplies to the Ukrainian government (72%), and giving economic assistance to Ukraine (71%).
- Nearly 4 in 10 support sending US troops to defend Ukraine (38%).
- By a six-to-four ratio, Americans say the United States should support Ukraine for as long as it takes, even if American households will have to pay higher gas and food prices in consequence. However, there are significant partisan differences.
- Nearly two-thirds think the invasion sets a precedent that other countries can launch wars for territorial gain (64%).
- An even larger majority believes the Russian invasion will encourage China to invade Taiwan (76%).

American Public Support for Ukraine Still High, Slipping Slightly

Despite inflation rates at a four-decade high, volatile gas prices, and slim prospects for the war's termination any time soon, Americans remain willing to support Ukraine in its defense against Russia with a wide variety of measures. But the new data hint at some slight decreases in support for economic assistance and providing additional arms since March.

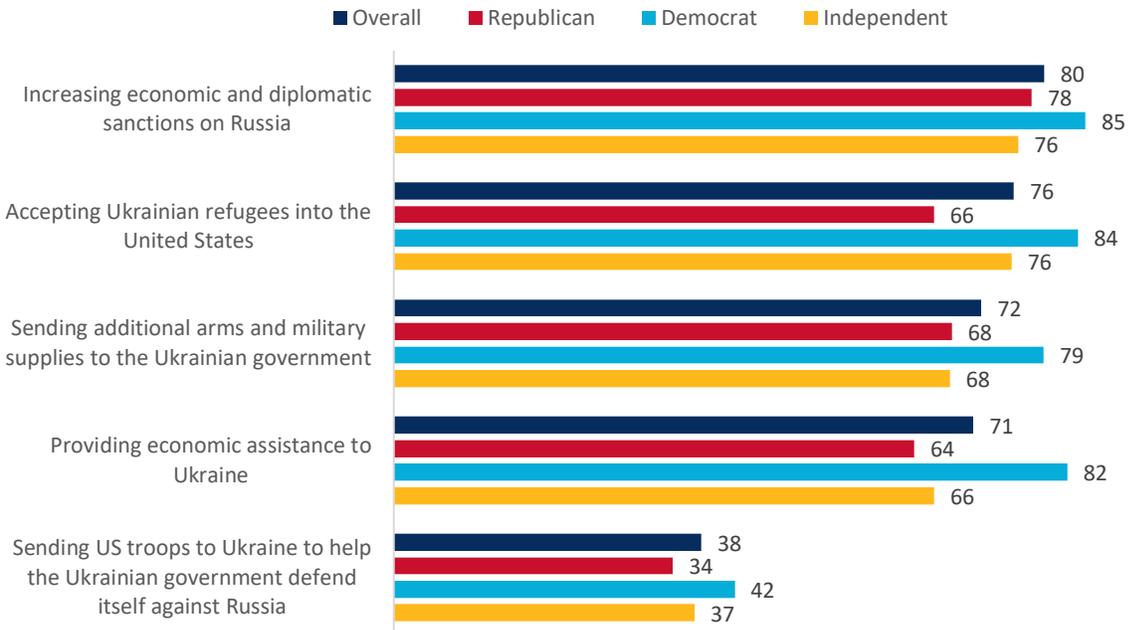
Majorities of Americans continue to endorse providing economic assistance to Ukraine (71%), increasing economic and diplomatic sanctions against Russia (80%), sending additional arms and military supplies to the Ukrainian government (72%). As in the March poll, three quarters support accepting Ukrainian refugees into the United States (76%).



In general, Americans who identify themselves as Democrats are more highly supportive of these measures to aid Ukraine and punish Russia than those who identify as Republicans, with Independents falling somewhere between the two. These divisions are most notable when it comes to support for providing economic assistance to Ukraine and accepting Ukrainian refugees into the United States, but they extend throughout the proposed policy options. However, even among Republicans, support for each of these policies remains well above the majority threshold, making these partisan differences ones of degree but not of kind.

Responses to Ukraine War

In response to the situation involving Russia and Ukraine, would you support or oppose the United States: (% support)



July 15-August 1, 2022 | n = 3,106

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Limited Support for Using US Troops

While Americans back a range of aid to Ukraine, they continue to oppose sending US troops to Ukraine to help the government defend the country against Russia (60% oppose, 61 in March). Nearly four in ten (38%) would support sending US troops, similar to the March results (36%). Perhaps in reaction to the blue and yellow Ukrainian flags that adorn many American homes, respondents tend to overestimate the level of support among the American public for defending Ukraine with US soldiers. They approximate that 52 percent of the US public supports sending US troops on this question.

But the public estimate is indeed closer to the results found in a separate question about various hypothetical conflicts, in which using US troops is the only option (no diplomatic alternatives mentioned). In this separate question, half of Americans say they would support using US troops to defend Ukraine against the Russian invasion (51%). An even larger majority say they would support using US troops if Russia invades a NATO ally like Latvia, Lithuania, or Estonia (61%), an all-time high for Council surveys.

Use of US Troops in Europe

There has been some discussion about the circumstances that might justify using US troops in other parts of the world. Please give your opinion about some situations. Would you favor or oppose the use of US troops: (% favor)



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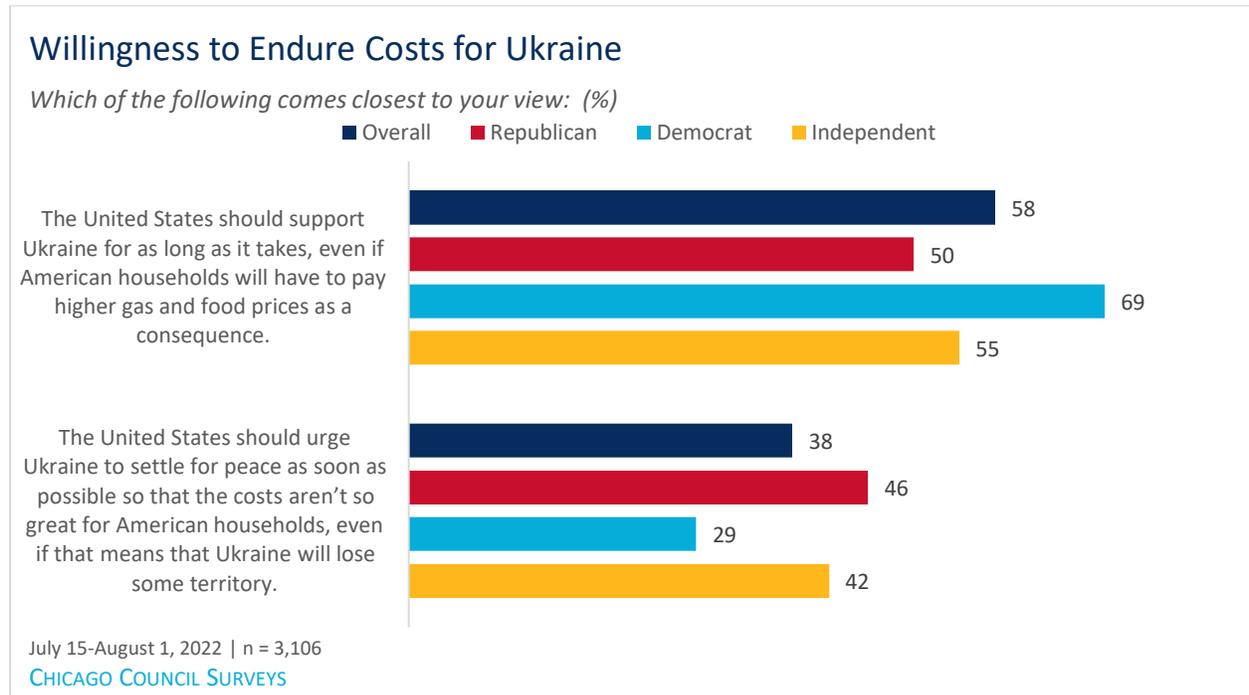
Majority Willing to Assist “As Long As It Takes”

Several writers have asked whether Americans are [losing patience](#) with the war effort and whether the United States should begin [talking to Russia](#) about a cease-fire. These results underscore Americans’ commitment to the Ukrainian cause and willingness to make personal tradeoffs. About 6 in 10 say the United States should support Ukraine for as long as it takes, even if American households will have to pay higher gas and food prices in consequence (58%). About 4 in 10 disagree, saying the United States should urge Ukraine to settle for peace as soon as possible to decrease costs for US households, even if that means Ukraine would lose territory (38%).

These findings are in line with those from the [June University of Maryland Critical Issues Poll](#), which found that about 6 in 10 Americans were willing to endure higher energy costs (62%) and inflation (58%) in order to support Ukraine. This support has remained above the majority level throughout the war, despite the fact that inflation is a [top concern](#) for Americans, and one they see as being [closely linked](#) to the crisis in Ukraine.

When the question is put in the context of this tradeoff, partisan differences emerge. While majorities of Democrats (69%) and Independents (55%) favor supporting Ukraine for as long as it takes, Republicans are closely divided (50% support vs. 46% oppose). Republicans’ greater ambivalence may be due to their lower levels of concern about Russia. Overall, 60 percent say

Russia’s territorial ambitions pose a critical threat to the United States, with a larger majority of Democrats (68%) than Republicans (56%) expressing this view.



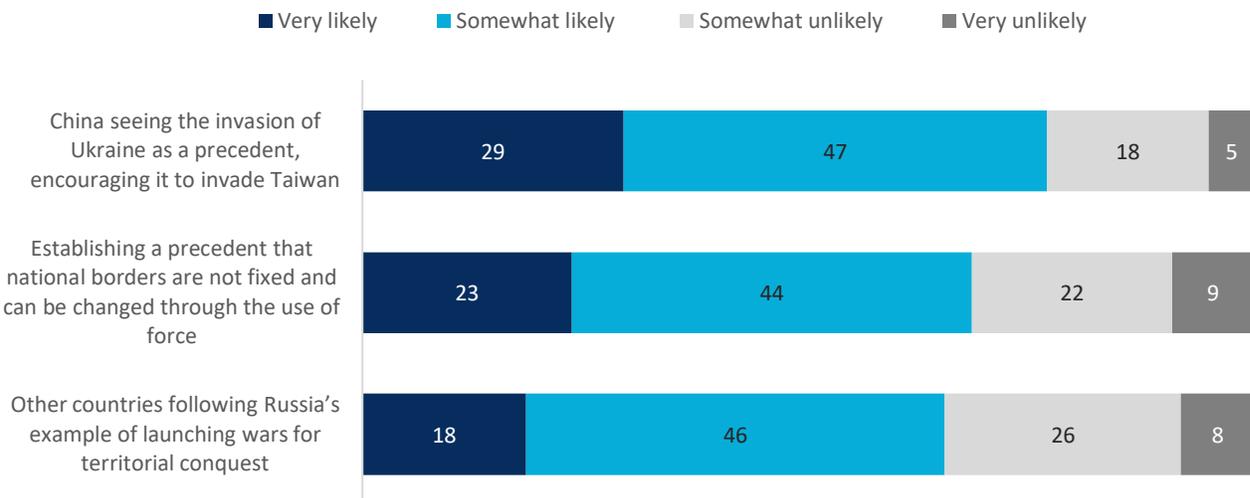
Two-Thirds or More Think Russian Invasion Risks Setting Precedents

American public support for providing assistance to Kyiv likely reflects concern about everyday Ukrainians, especially when they see images of civilian death flashing on television and computer screens. For example, in this survey, about 9 in 10 say it is rarely (29%) or never (58%) justified for a country’s army to target and kill civilians. But US public support for Ukraine also stems from fears that the invasion sets a dangerous precedent. Eight in 10 disagree with the idea that one country can invade another if it has historical claims on that territory (82% disagree).

Moreover, two-thirds agree that Russia’s action makes it likely that other countries will see national borders as impermanent and alterable with force (67% agree). A similar percentage thinks the invasion serves as an example that other countries can launch wars for territorial gain (64%). And an even larger majority believes the Russian invasion is likely to encourage China to invade Taiwan (76%).

Precedents Set by Invasion of Ukraine

How likely is that Russia's invasion of Ukraine will have the following effects? (%)



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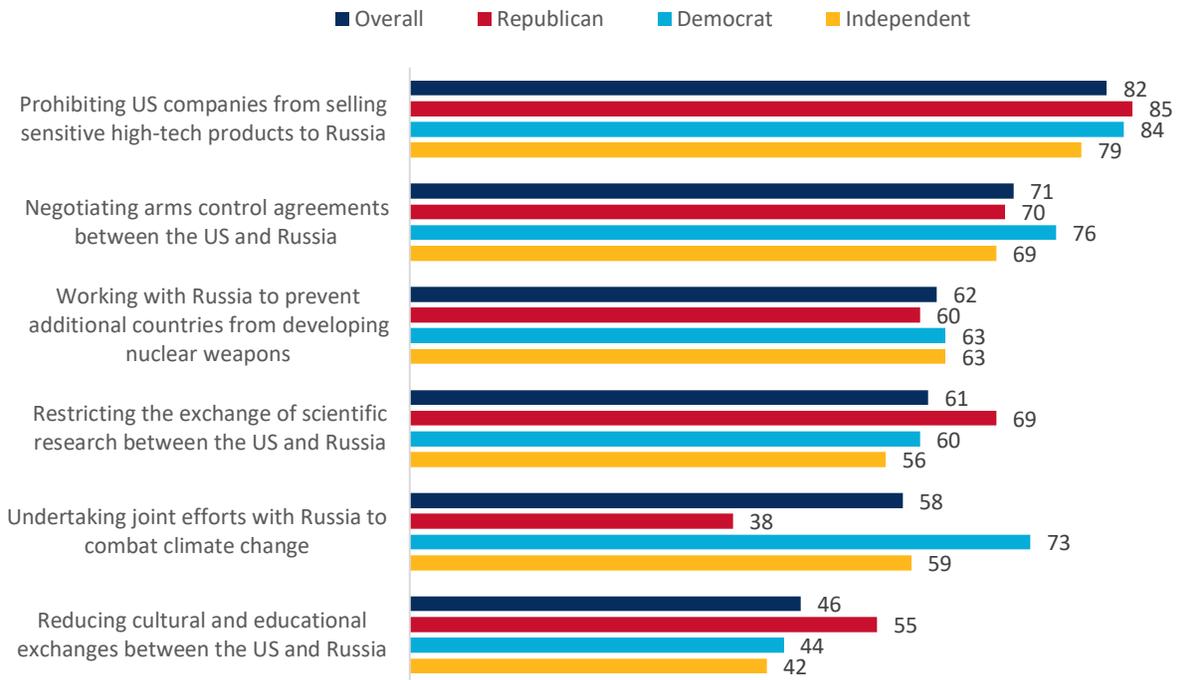
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Americans Support Additional Curbs to US-Russia Relationship

Besides sanctions, Americans support a number of other ways to punish Russia for its military action against Ukraine. Majorities across party lines support prohibiting US companies from selling high-tech products to Russia (82% overall) and restricting scientific research exchanges between the United States and Russia (61%). A majority of Republicans (55%), but only 4 in 10 Democrats (44%) and Independents (42%), also favor reducing cultural and educational exchanges (resulting in 46% overall). But Americans remain open to working with Russia to prevent additional countries from developing nuclear weapons (62%) and to negotiate bilateral arms control agreements (71%). Democrats (73%) and Independents (59%) support undertaking joint efforts to combat climate change; only 38 percent of Republicans support this type of cooperation, but their opposition is likely related to their lesser concern over climate change than to their views of Russia specifically.

Engagement with Russia

Would you support or oppose the following US policies toward Russia? (% support)



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Conclusion

Although the war in Ukraine has receded a bit from US front page headlines, the American public is still willing to assist from across the world. The 2022 Chicago Council Survey shows healthy majorities favoring most types of assistance to Kyiv exclusive of sending troops. Even though recent polls show mainly [unfavorable ratings](#) for President Joe Biden on foreign policy and his handling of Ukraine, these new numbers show that Americans tend to support this administration's policies when it comes to Ukraine.

Methodology

This analysis is based on data from the 2022 Chicago Council Survey of the American public on foreign policy, a project of the Lester Crown Center on US Foreign Policy. The 2022 Chicago Council Survey was conducted July 15–August 1, 2022, by Ipsos using its large-scale nationwide online research panel, KnowledgePanel, in both English and Spanish among a weighted national sample of 3,106 adults 18 or older living in all 50 US states and the District of Columbia. The margin of sampling error for the full sample is +/- 1.8 percentage points. The margin of error is higher for partisan subgroups or for partial-sample items.

Partisan identification is based on how respondents answered a standard partisan self-identification question: “Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or what?”

The 2022 Chicago Council Survey is made possible by the generous support of the Crown family and the Korea Foundation.

Other data in this report is based on results of a survey conducted March 25–28, 2022, also conducted by Ipsos using the KnowledgePanel, among a weighted national sample of 1,016 adults, 18 or older, living in all 50 US states and the District of Columbia. The margin of sampling error for the full sample is +/- 3.0 percentage points and is higher for subgroups or partial-sample items. This survey was made possible by the support of the Carnegie Corporation of New York.

About the Chicago Council on Global Affairs

The Chicago Council on Global Affairs is an independent, nonpartisan membership organization that provides insight—and influences the public discourse—on critical global issues. We convene leading global voices, conduct independent research, and engage the public to explore ideas that will shape our global future. The Council is committed to bringing clarity and offering solutions to issues that transcend borders and transform how people, business, and governments engage the world. Learn more at thechicagocouncil.org and follow [@ChicagoCouncil](https://twitter.com/ChicagoCouncil).

About the Lester Crown Center on US Foreign Policy

Established in 2018 with a transformative gift from the Crown Family, the Lester Crown Center on US Foreign Policy is driven by the belief that the public plays a critical role in determining the direction of US foreign policy and that an informed and engaged public is critical for effective policymaking. The centerpiece of the Lester Crown Center is its annual survey of American public opinion and US foreign policy, the Chicago Council Survey, which has been conducted since 1974. For the latest research from the Crown Center, follow [@ChiCouncilFP](https://twitter.com/ChiCouncilFP).