

Two months into the war, Ukrainians remain defiant but now accept the conflict may take longer

Between April 22-23, 2022 ORB International undertook a **fourth wave of nationally representative surveys** (n=1,021) using Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) in Ukraine to understand public attitudes towards recent political developments, including the invasion of Russian forces. ORB has been conducting regular opinion polling in Ukraine and the surrounding region since the Russian invasion began. Here are the results:

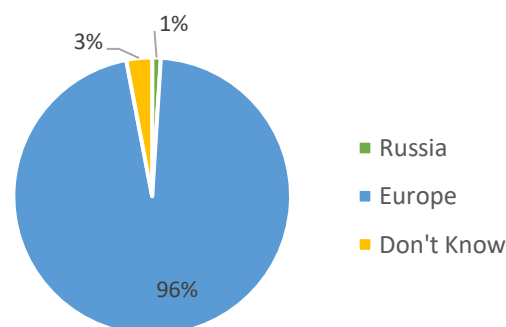
Foreign Intervention

The poll shows a majority of Ukrainians feel that NATO (67%) and the EU (54%) are **not doing enough** to help Ukraine. This contrasts with 56% saying the US (up from 44% six weeks ago) and the UK 75% (up from 53%) are doing enough. Yet, 96% of **Ukrainians consider their countries' future to be closer to Europe than Russia.**

Table 1. Foreign Stakeholders

Do you think each of the following are doing enough or not enough to help Ukraine?	NATO	EU	US	UK	China
Yes, enough	23%	38%	56%	75%	6%
No, not enough	67%	54%	35%	14%	76%
Don't know	8%	8%	8%	11%	18%

Do you consider your country's future to be closer to Russia or Europe?



Willingness to Fight and Outlook

There is a change in perception towards the length of the conflict, with **Ukrainians now feeling that this conflict will last longer than anticipated.** In the first week we found 56% thought it would be over by the end of March. Now, just 27% feel it will be over by the end of May. Those feeling it will last 6 months or more has increased from 9% to 25% in a matter of weeks.

Table 2. Length of Conflict

How long do you expect the war that started on February 24, 2022 to continue for?	
I think it will end within two weeks	6%
I think it will end by the end of May	21%
I think it will continue for 1-3 months	21%
I think it will continue for 4-6 months	15%
I think it will continue for 6-12 months	11%
I think it will continue for more than a year	14%
Don't know	11%

Yet, their resilience is not in question. When we asked their willingness to remain in country, only 10% (unchanged from six weeks ago) agree that *“if I could leave Ukraine safely tomorrow for another country I would.”* Two in three (64%) are also willing to take up arms, while 52% claim to be already supporting (via shelter, food, clothing etc.) their country's' defense in some way.

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Table 3. Support for Defense

	Are you willing to take up arms to defend your country against the Russian troops?	Are you willing to help Ukrainian troops in other ways - shelter, food, clothing etc.
I currently do it	6%	52%
Yes	64%	41%
No	29%	6%
Don't know	1%	1%

But divisions within society may be emerging – 48% (down significantly from 65%) agree that “*despite our differences there is more that unites ethnic Russians living in Ukraine and Ukrainians than divides us.*”

Table 4. Outlook

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements?	<i>Ukraine will be better destroyed than occupied by Russia.</i>	<i>If I could leave Ukraine safely tomorrow for another country I would.</i>	<i>I want Ukraine to become a member of NATO.</i>	<i>The package of economic sanctions will be effective in bringing an end to the war.</i>	<i>Despite our differences, there is more that unites ethnic Russians living in Ukraine and Ukrainians than divides us.</i>
Strongly Agree	18%	4%	50%	32%	15%
Agree	18%	6%	29%	35%	34%
Disagree	15%	26%	10%	21%	21%
Strongly disagree	33%	63%	5%	5%	21%
Don't know	28%	1%	6%	6%	10%

The majority (79%) of the population still want Ukraine to become a member of NATO, however, this has fallen from 86% at the beginning of the conflict. Further, if it guaranteed an immediate end to the war, 36% (up from 23%) would agree to a ban on Ukraine entering NATO. This is seen as preferable to the demands of “NATO scaling back their eastern front” (24%, down from 26%) and officially recognizing Crimea as part of Russia (16%, down from 18%). **On these issues Ukrainians remain defiant.** Moreover, there is less than 1% of the population feels that any part of the Ukraine is rightfully part of Russia.

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Table 5. Peace Deal Options

If it guaranteed an immediate end to the war which of the following of President Putin’s scenarios, if any, would you be willing to accept? Even if reluctantly, which might you accept?	<i>Officially recognizing Crimea as a part of Russia.</i>	<i>A ban on Ukraine entering NATO.</i>	<i>NATO scaling back their troops and weapons in countries bordering Russia.</i>	<i>A Russian-approved change of government in Ukraine, and replacement of President Zelensky.</i>
Yes, I would be willing to accept	16%	36%	24%	3%
No, I would not be willing to accept	81%	58%	63%	95%
Don’t know	3%	6%	13%	2%

Presidential Support

President Zelensky’s approval ratings remain incredibly high. 94% (up from 92%) of Ukrainians hold a favorable view of him. Younger people also tend to hold higher favorability of Zelensky than older people (65+).

Table 6. Political Stakeholder Favorability

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable view of each of the following people?	President Zelensky	The Russian people	President Putin	The Russian Military	President Lukashenko
Very favorable	70%	1%	1%	-	1%
Somewhat favorable	24%	5%	1%	1%	2%
Somewhat unfavorable	3%	28%	3%	4%	16%
Very unfavorable	2%	63%	95%	95%	79%
Don’t know	1%	3%	1%	-	3%

Table 7. Favorability of President Zelensky by Age and Gender

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable view of each of the following people? President Zelensky	Men	Women	Age: 18-24	Age: 25-34	Age: 35 - 44	Age: 45-54	Age: 55 - 64	Age: 65+
Very favorable	66%	73%	79%	73%	78%	72%	72%	54%
Somewhat favorable	27%	21%	19%	25%	19%	23%	23%	31%
Somewhat unfavorable	4%	3%	2%	1%	3%	5%	2%	6%
Very unfavorable	2%	1%	-	-	1%	-	2%	5%
Don’t know	2%	1%	-	1%	-	-	1%	4%

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