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GEORGIANS EXPECT A MORE PEACEFUL YEAR IN 2012

Georgia scored well above average in Gallup International's most recent annual Barometer of Peace (expectations), ranking 10th out of 59. In fact, Georgians have typically had higher expectations for peace than the mean, especially over the last ten years. This year the trend continues; Georgia's Peace Index is +24 while the global average is -5.

In December 2011, respondents in Georgia and elsewhere were asked about their expectations for the prospect of peace over the next 12 months (comprising 2012): whether they felt it would be more peaceful, less peaceful, or the same as 2011. For each country, the number of people who feel 2012 will be less peaceful is subtracted from those

who expect a year more peaceful. The resulting figure is the Peace Index.

This year's global Peace Index is the highest it has been since 2001, when the global score dropped 28 points from 2000's score of -2. There is a fairly noticeable divide along certain demographic and regional lines, leaving large portions of the globe that are pessimistic, but this information may give us some reason to be hopeful. Jean-Marc Leger, President of WIN-Gallup International, said: "This survey is the bearer of good news for the world. Despite many conflicts on the planet, and continuing pessimism about prospects for peace, hope is resurging. A sizeable section of the world thinks that the upcoming months will be more peaceful than the past 12 months. It is the best result in 10 years. While we wait for realities to match emotions, it is good to recognize that the world is more positive and we must say it loud and clear."

THE HOPEFUL ARE AT THE "BOTTOM END"

There are some noticeable categorizations that can help to explain this data. Two countries with some of the more seemingly inexplicable scores are Iraq and Afghanistan. Both scored well above the global average, Iraq with a +34 and Afghanistan with a +18. At first, the obvious explanation is one of a "nowhere to go but up" character. While this likely plays some role in the scores, it does not seem to be the only factor. The four countries listed as "flash points" by Gallup have an average Peace Index score of -5 because they are dragged down by the less optimistic Pakistan and Palestine, which have indices of -11 and -3, respectively.

As was true of the distinctions



made in both of GORBI's previous Global Barometer articles, North America and Europe are responsible for a large portion of the pessimistic scores. 2012's index scores suggest a rise in the expectations of Africans, South Americans, developing nations and many countries with below average GDPs; Georgia's partners in optimism are not the wealthy and powerful nations of the world. Countries listed by Gallup as "developing" have an average score of +18. CIS countries have a score of +8, with only Ukraine and Lithuania having negative scores. The African countries polled had a remarkable +36 (a full 57% of Africans expect a peaceful 2012). On the contrary, the G7 countries scored a -17 and the G20 a -20.

56 Italy	-30%
57 Korea, Rep (South)	-31%
58 France	-35%
59 Austria	-50%

GEORGIA'S HISTORY OF HOPE

GORBI has been conducting the Georgian portion of the Gallup Global Barometer polls since Georgia was first included in 1992. In all that time, Georgians scored a peace index below the global average only thrice: in 1994-1995 and once in 2000. Aside from those times, which constituted some of the darkest periods of Georgia's recent history, Georgians have been more hopeful than the average. The most striking example of this was in 2003, when the global average score was -13 and Georgia's score was 61 points higher at +48. This gap was obviously inflated by the hopeful atmosphere

across Georgia, as the poll was conducted only one month following the Rose Revolution, but the remaining data show that Georgians expecting peace is not out of the ordinary. This one extreme example, combined with the 10 years of above-average hope (both before and after 2003), seem to suggest that Georgians expect peace in general.

For this study, GORBI acted as a member of the WIN-Gallup International network. Over 50,000 people were polled in 59 countries worldwide, covering more than 75% of the world's population. All average scores are calculated with country-level weighting based on population. The error margins for studies of this kind are +- 3.5% at a 95% confidence interval.

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Peace Index Scores	
1 Nigeria	73%
2 Ghana	67%
3 Uzbekistan	58%
4 Vietnam	38%
5 Saudi Arabia	35%
10 Georgia	24%
Global Average	-5%
55 Turkey	-29%