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Poll: United States Seen As Greatest Threat To World Peace In 2013

By: DSWright

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Once again the United States has topped the list in a world opinion poll as the biggest threat to world peace. Apparently the War On Terror has succeeded in making people terrified of us. The disclosures of NSA's plan for global information awareness by whistleblower Edward Snowden probably did not help things much either.

The poll was conducted by Win/Gallup International which started the global survey in 1977, this year national probability samples of around 1,000 people were surveyed in each of the 65 countries polled, a total of 66,806 respondents.

The survey of opinions across 65 countries by pollster Win/Gallup International recorded some of the strongest anti-American sentiment, predictably, in countries widely regarded as rivals, led by Russia (where 54 percent of respondents said the U.S. was the greatest threat to peace) and China (49 percent).

But the view that the U.S. poses the greatest threat to peace was also strongly held in some purported U.S. allies – such as NATO partners Greece and Turkey (45 percent each), and Pakistan (44 percent), which is also a top recipient of U.S. aid.

Pakistan was listed as a distant second among country's posing the greatest threat to peace overall though it did win top spot among those surveyed in India.

The US also doesn't have many fans in Latin America and a very mixed impression in the European Union.

Elsewhere in Latin America the U.S. topped the list of threats to peace for a significant number of respondents in Mexico (37 percent), Brazil (26 percent) and Peru (24 percent)...

Ukraine, which is often described as being deeply divided between pro-Russian and pro-Western camps, the U.S. did not fare well – 33 percent of respondents choose the U.S. as the greatest danger, compared to just five percent who picked Russia... Germans were more ambivalent, with the U.S. selected as the greatest threat (17 percent), just ahead of Iran (16 percent); as were British respondents, who put the U.S. and Iran in joint first place among threats to peace (15 percent each).

Americans themselves view Iran as the biggest threat to world peace (20%) followed by Afghanistan, North Korea, with 13% agreeing with world opinion that America itself is the greatest threat.

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