

Appendix 1: Survey Instrument

The following questions are about U.S. relations with other countries around the world. You will read about a situation our country has faced many times in the past and will probably face again. Different leaders have handled the situation in different ways. We will describe one approach U.S. leaders have taken and ask whether you approve or disapprove of that approach. This scenario is hypothetical and is not about a specific country in the news today.

The Situation:

A country sent its military to take over a smaller neighboring country. The country that has been attacked is important to U.S. economic and security interests.

The U.S. president, who is a [Democrat | Republican], debated extensively with his advisers about whether to send the military to push back the invaders, or stay out of the conflict. Best estimates suggest that if the United States intervened, most of the territory could be secured, but the U.S. would face significant armed resistance.

The attacking country continued to invade. [*No speech* | One of the president's key advisers, who usually takes a hawkish approach to foreign policy and has advocated the use of force in the past when many other advisers did not, opposed/supported the use of force in this case. | One of the president's key advisers, who usually takes a dovish approach to foreign policy and has opposed the use of force in the past when other advisers did not, opposed/supported the use of force in this case.]

[*Summary bullet points listed at the top of subsequent questions*]:

To summarize:

- A country sent its military to take over a smaller neighboring country.
- The U.S. president is a [Democrat | Republican].
- The president debated with his advisers. [Nothing | A key adviser, who usually takes a hawkish/dovish approach, opposed the use of force in this case. | A key adviser, who usually takes a hawkish/dovish approach, supported the use of force in this case.]

If the attacker cannot be talked into withdrawing, would you support or oppose sending U.S. troops to push back the invaders?

[Support/Oppose/Neither support nor oppose; branch to strongly/not very strongly or lean if answer "neither"]

In the end, the [Democratic | Republican] U.S. president decided [to send troops to push back the invaders | to stay out of the conflict and did not send troops] [*if no adviser speech: nothing* |, *if sent troops: with the support of his hawkish/dovish adviser* | over the objection of his hawkish/dovish adviser; *if did not sent troops: with the support of his hawkish/dovish adviser* | over the objection of his hawkish/dovish adviser]. [*If sent troops: The U.S. suffered just under*

100 casualties in the effort. The conflict ended with the attacking country taking control of 20 percent of the contested territory. | *If did not send troops*: The conflict ended with the attacking country taking control of 20 percent of the contested territory.]

[*Summary bullet points listed at the top of subsequent questions*]:

To summarize:

- A country sent its military to take over a smaller neighboring country.
- The U.S. president is a [Democrat | Republican].
- The president debated with his advisers. [Nothing | A key adviser, who usually takes a hawkish/dovish approach, opposed the use of force in this case. | A key adviser, who usually takes a hawkish/dovish approach, supported the use of force in this case.]
- The U.S. president decided [to send troops | not to send troops] [Nothing / , with the support of his hawkish adviser | , with the support of his dovish adviser | , over the objection of his hawkish adviser | , over the objection of his dovish adviser].
- [The U.S. suffered just under 100 casualties in the effort. The conflict ended with the attacking country taking control of 20 percent of the contested territory. | The conflict ended with the attacking country taking control of 20 percent of the contested territory.]

Do you approve or disapprove of the way the U.S. president handled this situation?

[Approve/Disapprove/Neither approve nor disapprove; branch to strongly/not very strongly approve/disapprove or lean toward approving/disapproving if answer “neither”]

Sample Vignettes

Control/Intervene:

Stage 1:

A country sent its military to take over a smaller neighboring country. The country that has been attacked is important to U.S. economic and security interests.

The U.S. president, who is a [Democrat | Republican], debated extensively with his advisers about whether to send the military to push back the invaders, or stay out of the conflict. Best estimates suggest that if the United States intervened, most of the territory could be secured, but the U.S. would face significant armed resistance.

The attacking country continued to invade.

Stage 2:

In the end, the [Democratic | Republican] U.S. president decided to send troops to push back the invaders. The U.S. suffered just under 100 casualties in the effort. The conflict ended with the attacking country taking control of 20 percent of the contested territory.

Hawkish adviser advocates force/Intervene

Stage 1:

A country sent its military to take over a smaller neighboring country. The country that has been attacked is important to U.S. economic and security interests.

The U.S. president, who is a [Democrat | Republican], debated extensively with his advisers about whether to send the military to push back the invaders, or stay out of the conflict. Best estimates suggest that if the United States intervened, most of the territory could be secured, but the U.S. would face significant armed resistance.

The attacking country continued to invade. One of the president's key advisers, who usually takes a hawkish approach to foreign policy and has advocated the use of force in the past when many other advisers did not, supported the use of force in this case.

Stage 2:

In the end, the [Democratic | Republican] U.S. president decided to send troops to push back the invaders, with the support of his hawkish adviser. The U.S. suffered just under 100 casualties in the effort. The conflict ended with the attacking country taking control of 20 percent of the contested territory.

Dovish adviser opposes force/Intervene

Stage 1:

A country sent its military to take over a smaller neighboring country. The country that has been attacked is important to U.S. economic and security interests.

The U.S. president, who is a [Democrat | Republican], debated extensively with his advisers about whether to send the military to push back the invaders, or stay out of the conflict. Best estimates suggest that if the United States intervened, most of the territory could be secured, but the U.S. would face significant armed resistance.

The attacking country continued to invade. One of the president's key advisers, who usually takes a dovish approach to foreign policy and has opposed the use of force in the past when many other advisers did not, opposed the use of force in this case.

Stage 2:

In the end, the [Democratic | Republican] U.S. president decided to send troops to push back the invaders, over the objection of his dovish adviser. The U.S. suffered just under 100 casualties in the effort. The conflict ended with the attacking country taking control of 20 percent of the contested territory.