



SRA Poll: Russia's Invasion of Ukraine



Somali Researchers Association (SRA)

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Introduction

The year 2022 started unpredictable, the world media reports Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Somali public sees Russia and Ukraine conflict as critical threat to the world. Therefore, the Somali Researchers Association (SRA) conducted public opinion poll that contextualizes the perception of Somali people towards the Russian-Ukraine Crisis.

Methodology

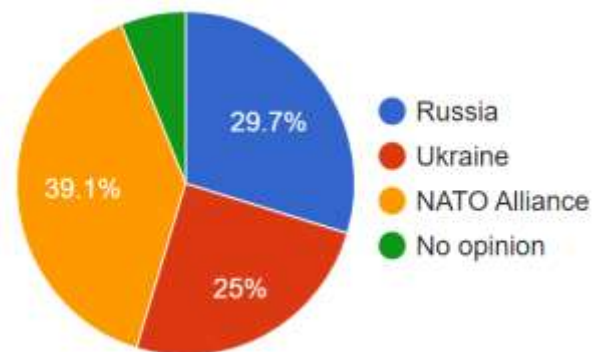
SRA poll was conducted online throughout Somalia between 28 Feb -2 March 2022. The study participated 753 people in Somalia. Respondents were asked close ended questions. Analysis is based on data from the survey.

Findings

The poll comes as the invasion enters its 8th day since the Russian president ordered a military operation against Ukraine. SRA poll shows mixed reaction among Somali respondents.

Who Started War Aggression?

According to the UN definition "The aggressor is the country that starts the war". Therefore, the world is criticizing Russia attacks on Ukraine. To identify who do Somali people believe started war aggression? Respondents were asked their opinion. As shown in figure1 respondent

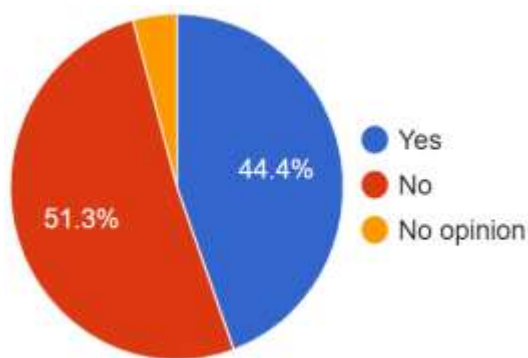


According to poll findings, the primary aggressors are NATO alliances (39%) while about (30%) of the respondents believe that Russians started war aggression. However, the poll also found that quarter (25%) of Somalians believe that Ukraine's are the once who started aggression. Only 6% responded we don't know.

Decided on Russia Invasion over Ukraine

Russia is considered one of the most powerful countries in the world and it's committed to preventing Ukraine falling into NATO's hands.

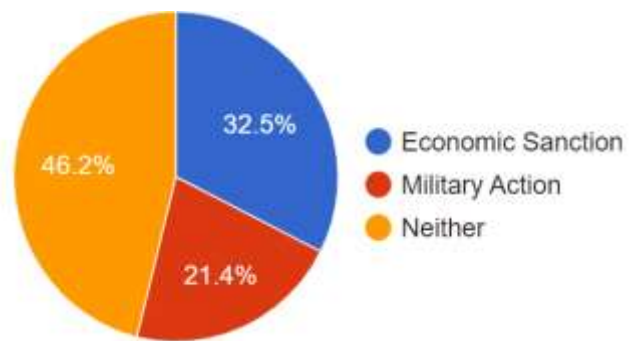
Russia's invasion of Ukraine is going the 8th consecutive day. According to Somali Researchers Association poll respondent was asked whether it was a right decision to invade Ukraine. As shown in Figure 2, about five-in-ten (51%) said no, it wasn't right to invade Ukraine. But 44% believe it was right while 4% reply no opinion.



Role of NATO Alliance on Invasion

After Russia's invasion over Ukraine collisions and clashes between NATO and Russia were increasing. Respondents were asked what do they think to become NATO role in the invasion, which one would you recommend/support one of these steps: -

- Impose economic sanctions
- Military defensive assistance
- Not to intervene

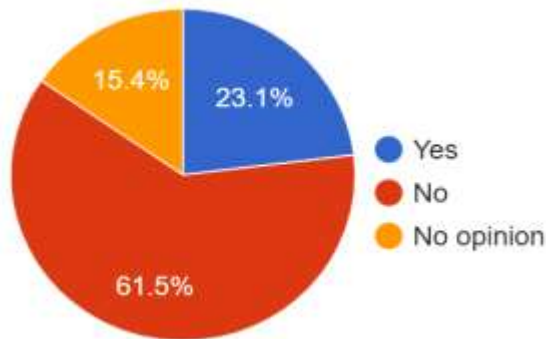


As shown in figure 3, participants divide over the NATO's overall response to the crisis. About one third (32.5%) of the respondents favored to impose economic sanctions against Russia, about two-in-ten (21%) favor to launch military action to stop Russia. Additionally, the poll found that (46%) of the respondent support, not to take any action against Russia "does not intervene".

Threatening Nuclear weapon

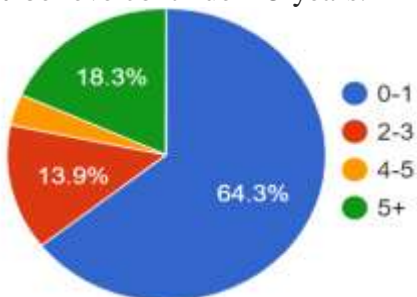
Threatening a nuclear weapon becomes a major concern around the world. Russian president put on high alert Russia's nuclear force, while other NATO alliance also

reminded that they also have a nuclear weapon which can become a respond to the Russian nuclear weapon. Therefore, we asked respondents would Russian and NATO use nuclear weapons? SRA poll showed most Somalians don't want this world to use for a nuclear weapon. As shown in figure 4. Higher percentage (61%) believes that this war will not result to use a nuclear weapon, while 23% said most likely to use nuclear. 15% said no opinion.



Predict: How long will Continue this War

The war in Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, Libya, and Yemen have taken more than a decade, will this war similar to those crises. Respondents were asked to predict how long do they think will continue Russian invasion? As shown in Figure 5. The survey found 64% believe more likely to continue up to one year, while 18% predicted may take more than 5 years, 14% predicted 2-3 years, only 4% believe continue 2-5 years.

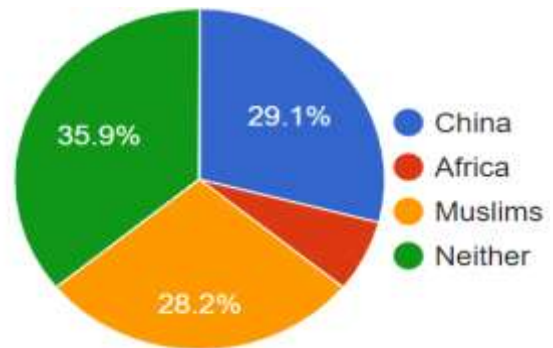


Who Benefits the War Between Supper Powers?

After 9/11 America and its alliance shifted to the war on terror, which gives the chance to China economic growth enormously. The author of "Has China Won?" Mahbubani, said "While Americans were busy fighting wars, China was busy trading,"

Since 2020, America has decided to evacuate from Afghanistan, Iraq, Somalia and Syria to rebuild its economy.

Respondents were asked if NATO and Russia continue to fight and set aside the challenge posed by China, Africa, and Muslims, who get the competitive advantage?



According to poll findings, Somalians believe while NATO alliances are busy for war countries will get the chance to avoid Western intervention. Analyzed data shows China and Muslims will get a chance 29% & 28%, respectively, while African has only about 7% chance. The majority of the respondents (36%) believe none of them will benefit the war between superpowers.

Conclusion

The findings show that Somali public awareness about global phenomena has been raised significantly. The majority of the people believe that NATO alliance and Ukraine were those started war aggressions. However, half of the population believes it was not right to invade Ukraine.

When it comes NATO 's reaction over the invasion. The majority of the respondents support either economic sanction or not to intervene. Nearly two-in-ten support military action to stop the invasion.

The majority of the respondents believe that this war will not result to use a nuclear weapon, but it's predicted to become a prolonged war similar to Vietnam, Afghanistan, and Iraq.

When America shifted to war on terror, China has received chance to develop its economy, respondents forecasted that, China, Muslims and Africans will get a chance to avoid Western intervention during this war.

About SRA

Somali Researchers Association (SRA) is an association that brings together Somali researchers and provides a platform to exchange knowledge, experience, and ideas. SRA founded in 2017, it's a professional

association whose mission is to promote excellent research in Somalia.

Our research creates awareness about the public problems in people's life provides actionable intelligence to civic leaders and policy-makers, reorients the focus towards the solutions, and paves the way for real change in a way that buildings momentum for a better tomorrow for all and delivers its information free of charge This article is for information purposes only. The author has no position in any institution mentioned in this article. The author has not received compensation for writing this article.

About the Author.

Dr. Shafie Sharif Mohamed holds a Ph.D. from the International Islamic University Malaysia. He is the Managing Director of the Somali Researchers Association (SRA). Dr. Shafie has published different research papers. He is the author of CAWIYAHA CILMI-BARAHA BOOK. Presently he is working as a research consultant and a lecturer at different universities in Somalia.

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