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FEBRUARY 9, 2020

NATO Seen Favorably Across Member States

Many in member countries express reservations about fulfilling Article 5's collective defense obligations

BY MOIRA FAGAN AND JACOB POUSHTER



NATO's flag flies as a U.S. Air Force F-22 Raptor fighter passes over the Lithuanian Air Force Base in Šiauliai in 2016. (Petras Malukas/AFP via Getty Images)

▼ How we did this

NATO is generally seen in a positive light across publics within the alliance, despite lingering **tensions** between the leaders of individual member countries. A median of 53% across 16 member countries surveyed have a favorable view of the organization, with only 27% expressing a negative view. But opinions of NATO and related issues vary widely across the countries surveyed, especially regarding the obligations of Article 5 of the 75-year-old treaty, which declares that an attack against one member nation is considered an attack against all members.

Positive ratings of NATO among members range from a high of 82% in Poland to 21% in Turkey, with the United States and Germany in the middle at 52% and 57%, respectively. And in the three nonmember states surveyed, Sweden and Ukraine see the alliance positively (63% and 53%, respectively), but only 16% of Russians say the same.

