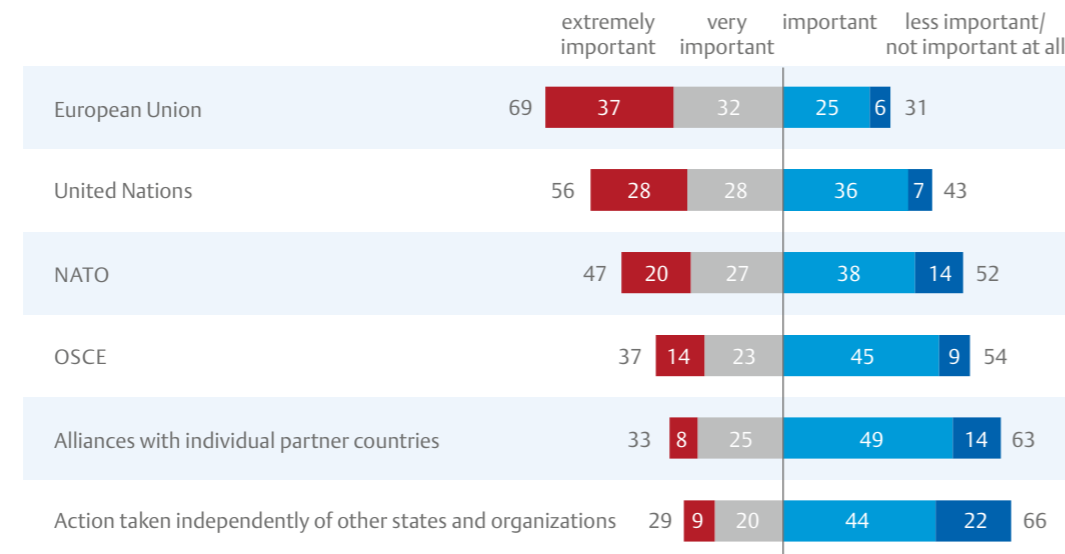


Framework for German Foreign Policy

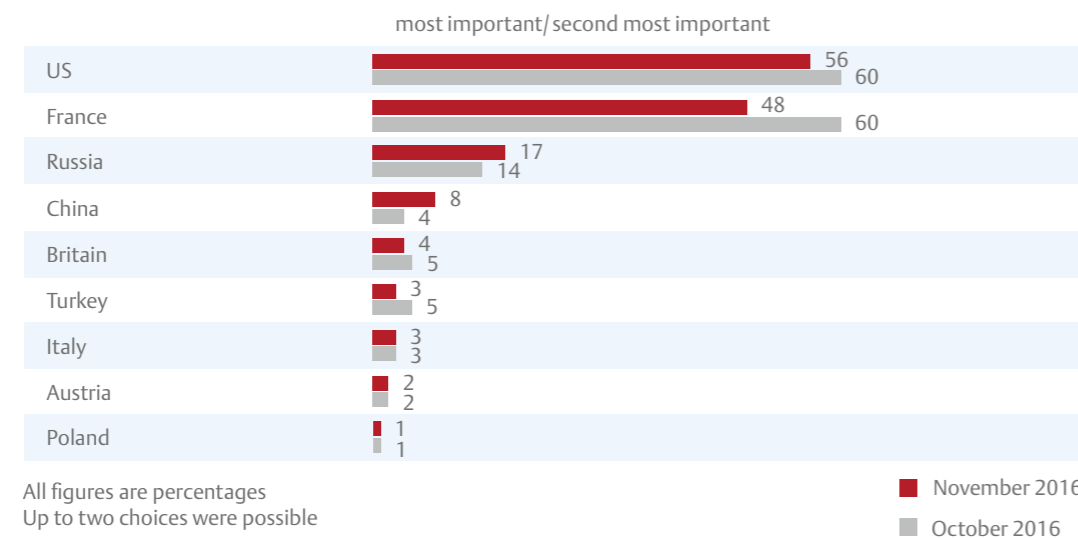


All figures are percentages

5. Traditional Partners for Effective Foreign Policy

Despite the uncertainties that have arisen since the US election, Germans continue to view the US as their country's preferred partner in foreign policy, and do so by a wide margin. France is directly behind the US with 48% – both results represent a clear vote in favor of upholding Germany's strongest traditional partnerships. The two Western allies are followed by Russia, which 17% of respondents view as Germany's most important foreign policy partner, despite the current problems in German-Russian relations.

The Most Important Partners for German Foreign Policy



Update 2016

Involvement or Restraint?

Findings of a representative survey commissioned by Körber Foundation on German attitudes to foreign policy

Since May 2014, Körber Foundation has published representative surveys regularly about German attitudes to foreign policy.

In October 2016,* Körber Foundation commissioned TNS Infratest Policy Research to carry out a nationwide representative survey of 1001 people aged 18 and over on European and German foreign policy.

German foreign policy continues to be faced with an increasing number of international crises and conflicts that increasingly have a direct effect on Germany and Europe and are also felt by the population. Yet, are Germans more prepared today to assume international responsibility than two years ago? What has happened since the "Munich consensus"? From a German point of view, what are the most important foreign policy challenges?

For comparative purposes, the detailed results and previous surveys are available at www.koerber-stiftung.de/umfrage-aussenpolitik

*Some questions were asked again in mid-November 2016 due to the outcome of the US-presidential elections.

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LEGAL INFORMATION

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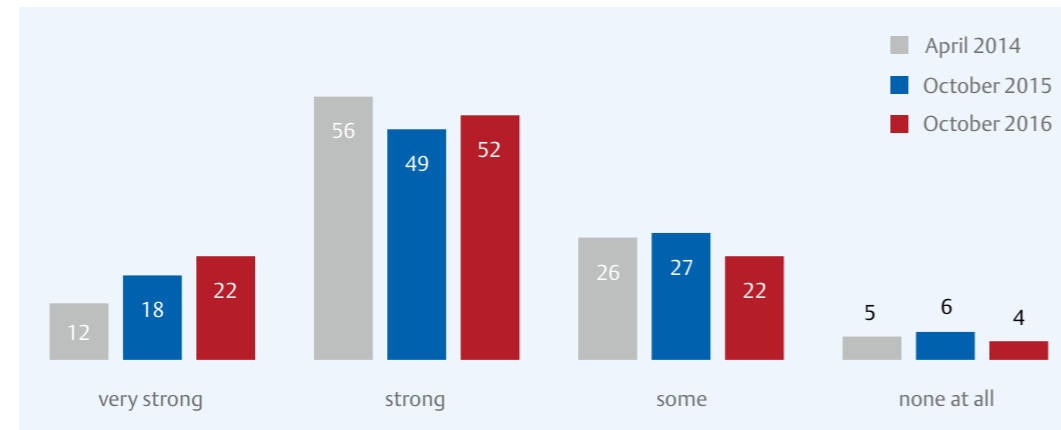


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1. Interest in Foreign Policy Continues to Increase

The effects of the refugee crisis and the increasing threat posed by terrorism are immediately felt in Germany and Europe. At the same time, wars and conflicts continue to dominate the news. As such, the population is keenly interested in foreign policy: The number of those surveyed who are strongly interested in foreign policy has increased by 10 percentage points since 2014 to a current rate of 22 %. Overall, almost three quarters of those surveyed expressed an interest in foreign policy. The increase in the level of interest in foreign policy among young Germans (18 to 29 year olds) and people with a lower level of education is particularly significant.

Levels of Interest in Foreign Policy

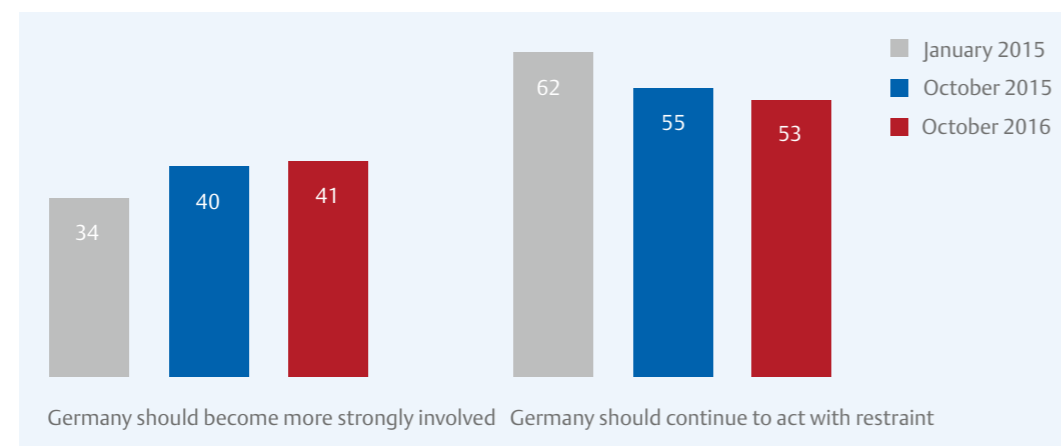


All figures are percentages

2. Greater Approval for Involvement

The population is currently less hesitant for Germany to take a more active role in international crisis management. Nevertheless, a small majority (53 %) of Germans favor Germany continuing to act with restraint. However, approval of a more significant German role in world affairs increased by 7 percentage points to 41 % in the period from January 2015 to October 2016. It seems that resistance to greater international involvement is beginning to crumble.

Assumption of Responsibility in International Crises



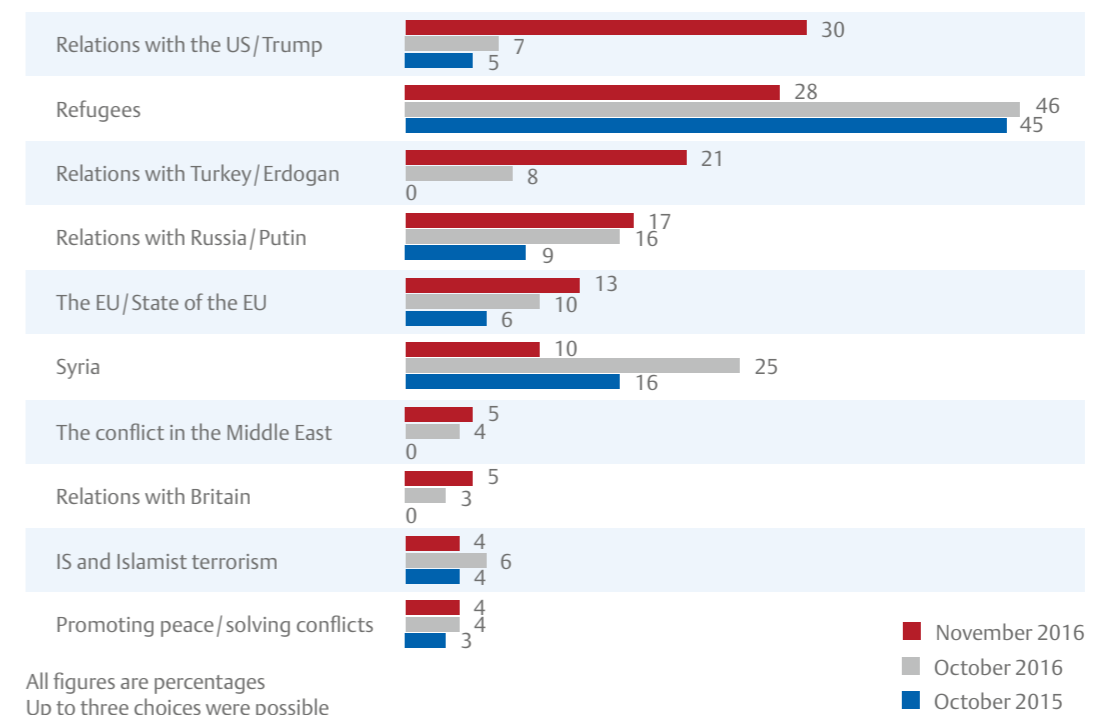
All figures are percentages

3. Transatlantic Uncertainty

Just a few weeks ago, almost half of the respondents stated that refugees represented the core challenge to German foreign policy; this issue was ranked well ahead of all others. However, since the US presidential election, the situation has changed: relations with Germany's most important transatlantic ally have now moved into the focus (from 7 % to 30 %). Uncertainty prevails with regard to future relations with the United States under President Trump. So much so, that this issue has sidelined other foreign policy challenges: Only 28 % of Germans now believe that refugees pose the greatest challenge to German foreign policy; 46 % did so before the US presidential election.

Alongside relations with the US, and the refugee issue, which remains paramount, respondents consider ties with Russia under Putin, and Turkey under Erdogan, as particularly problematic. Concern about the current state of the European Union, not least due to the looming Brexit, has also continuously grown (see Körber Foundation's survey on European policy conducted in October 2016 at www.koerber-stiftung.de/europa-umfrage).

Challenges Facing German Foreign Policy: Top 10



All figures are percentages
Up to three choices were possible

4. The European Union: Down for the Count but Still Important

The population views the crisis of the European Union as a challenge, but the EU remains the most important framework for foreign policy making. 69 % of those surveyed believe that the EU is "extremely important" or "very important" for German foreign policy.

Overall, the population is still fundamentally committed to multilateralism. This was confirmed by the result that the United Nations, NATO and the OSCE are considered the key institutions for shaping foreign policy after the EU. Although Germans do not rule out "coalitions of the willing", these are not the preferred form of cooperation. Finally, very few of those surveyed view German unilateral action as desirable.