

POLITICS

Trump's America or Putin's Russia: how to reconcile?

Russia-China-USA: strategic triangle relations

War in Donbass: who is to blame and what to do?

TRUMP'S AMERICA AND PUTIN'S RUSSIA: HOW TO RECONCILE?

January 20-22, 2017

Most of Russians (81%) assess the performance of Barack Obama after his second term negatively. Public expectations from the Trump's presidency are high: 40% of Russians think that he will be a good U.S. leader (including 8% - "one of the best"). Despite the positive attitudes towards new US president, his proposal to lift certain anti-Russians sanctions in exchange for the reduction in American and Russian nuclear weapons is opposed by most of Russians (55%). Much more Russians criticize the idea to improve Russia-U.S. relations at the expense of the extradition of a former employee of the American intelligence agency E. Snowden: 71% oppose this idea.

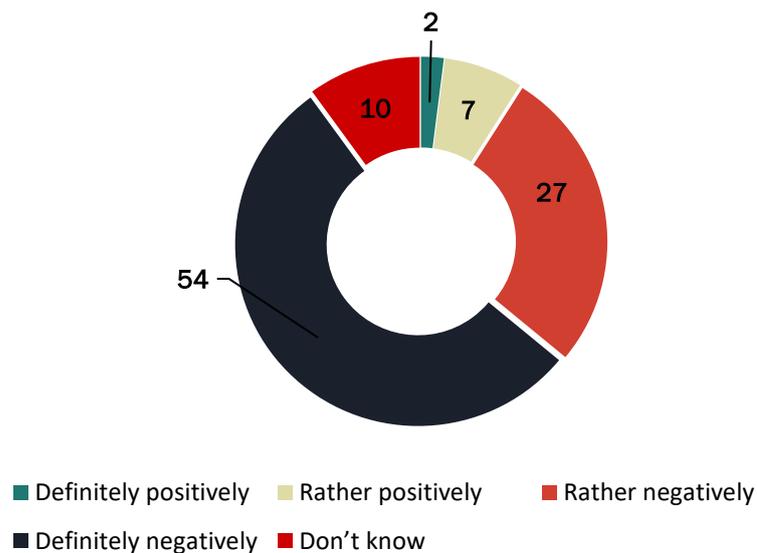


Figure 1 How would you generally assess the performance of Barack Obama as American president?
(closed-ended question, one answer, %)

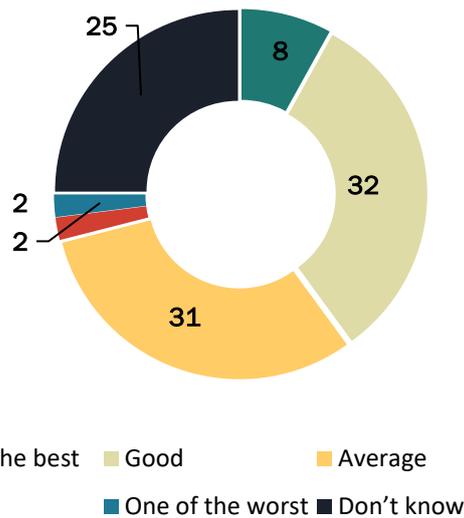


Figure 2 In your opinion, what kind of president will Donald Trump be for the U.S.? (closed-ended question, one answer, %)

Due to contradictory situation in Crimea and Ukraine certain Western countries imposed political and economic sanctions on Russia three years ago. Donald Trump said that he would propose to lift certain sanctions in exchange for the reduction of Russian and American nuclear weapons.

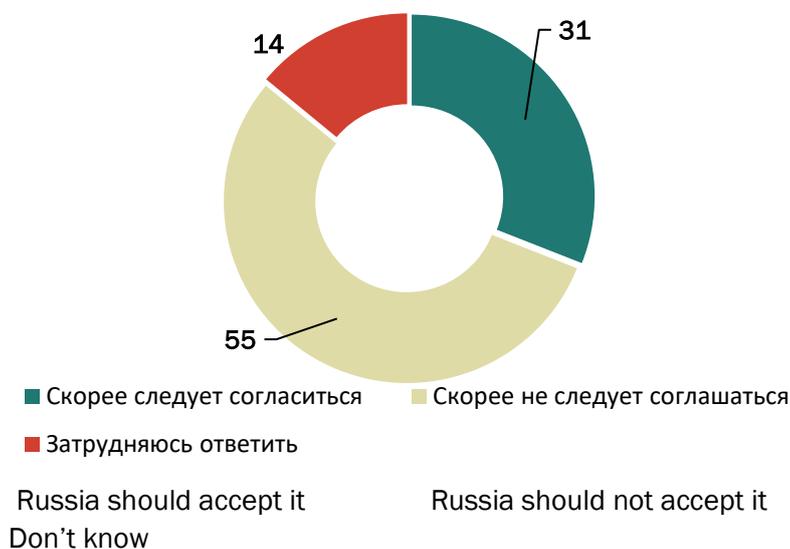


Figure 3 In your opinion, should Russia accept this proposition? (closed-ended question, one answer, %)

RUSSIA-CHINA-USA: STRATEGIC TRIANGLE RELATIONS

January 28-29, 2017

Russians view China as a friendly partner (50%) and friendly state (27%). The forecast of the bilateral relations is also positive: 37% of Russians think that China will stay Russia's ally for the next

decades; 38% - a close co-partner. Simultaneously, China's announcement to deploy Chinese strategic missiles near the Russian border drew public attention. Certain respondents (18%) propose to introduce tit-for-tat measures; others (16%) think Russia should be more alert and keep constant track of the situation. Amidst an aggravation of the American-Chinese relations, respondents say Russia should maintain neutrality (53%).

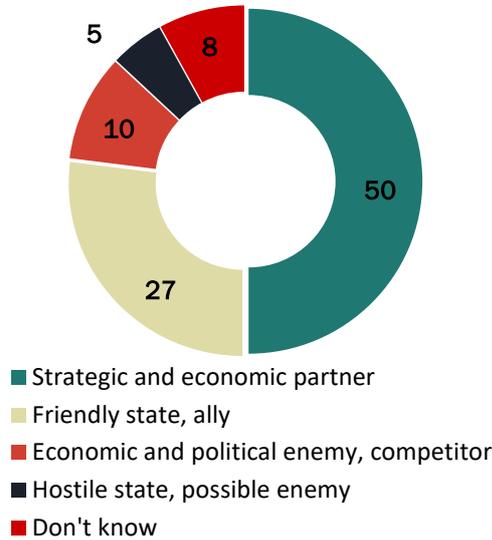


Figure 4 In your opinion, how does Russia view China today? (closed-ended question, one answer, %)

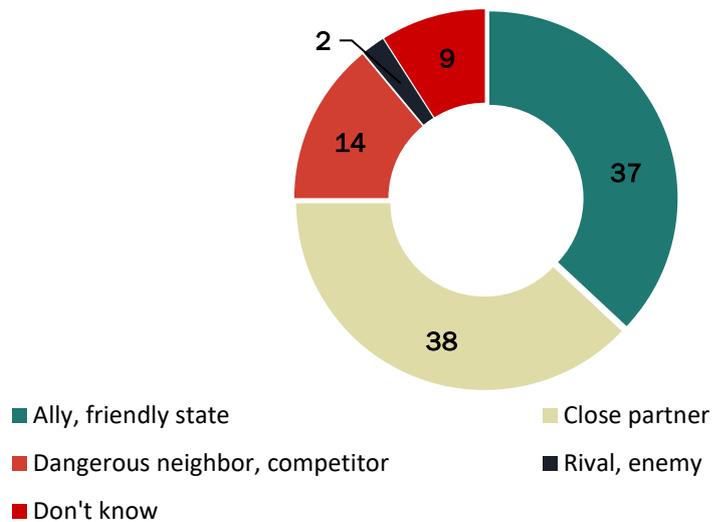


Figure 5 In your opinion, will China be Russia's enemy or friend in the XXI century? (closed-ended question, one answer)

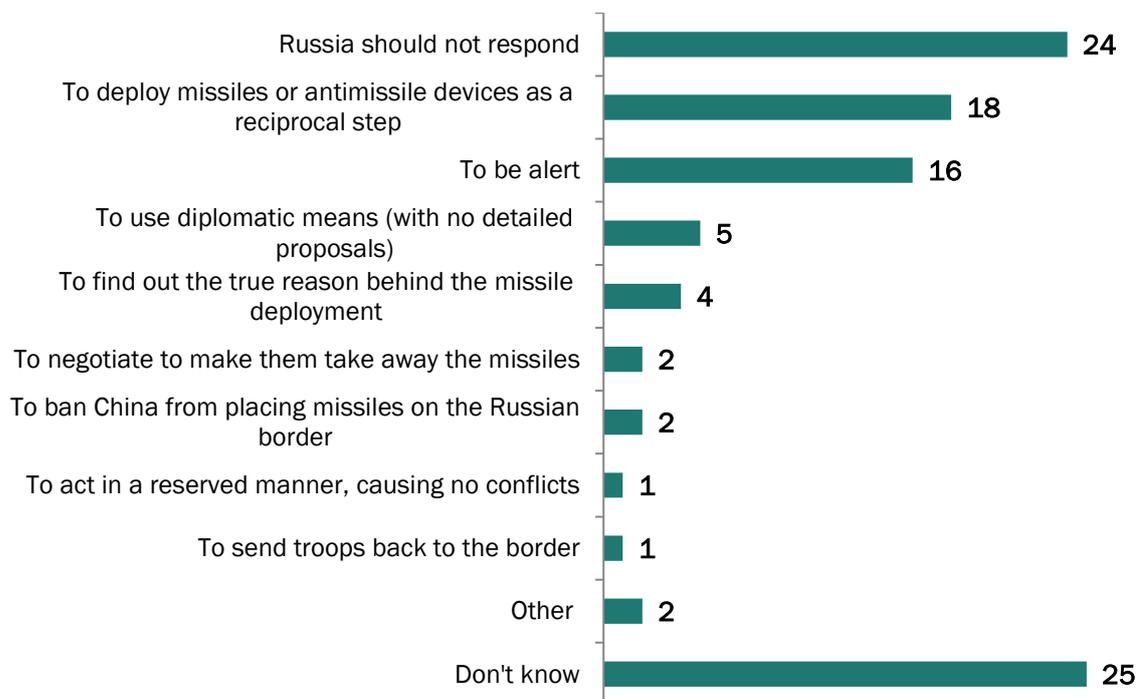


Figure 6 The media has recently reported that China placed nuclear-tipped ballistic missiles near the Russian border. According to the Chinese media, the missiles are deployed to prevent a possible military conflict with the U.S.A. In your opinion, should/or should not Russia respond to the deployment of Chinese missiles? (*open-ended question, one answer, %*)

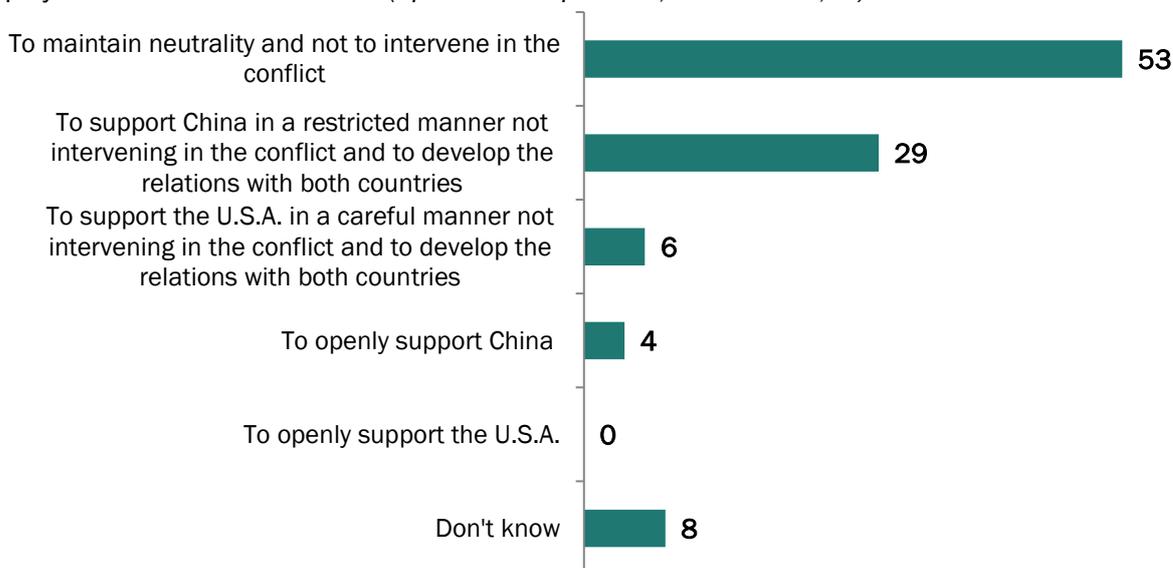


Figure 7 US President Trump's remarks regarding China are getting more and more severe. The relations between the two countries are aggravating. Many expect a major conflict between them. What should Russia do in this situation? (*closed-ended question, one answer, %*)

February 5-6, 2017

Amidst ongoing conflict between Donetsk and Luhansk People's Republics and Kyev, half of Russians would rather support the LPR and DPR to a varying degree: 8% propose to extend the autonomy; 24% think it is important to recognize their independence; 18% to incorporate into Russia's territory. Only 4% support the Kyev authorities; 36% stay neutral. Any prospects to improve the relations between Russia and Ukraine and the West still have no impact on Russian attitudes towards supporting the Donbass insurgents: today (59%) as well as a year and a half ago (58%) more than half of Russians are confident that further assistance should be provided.



Figure 8 In your opinion, what position should Russia take with regard to Donetsk and Luhansk People's Republics? (closed-ended question, one answer, %)

Table 1 Almost two years ago in Minsk, the representatives of the Kyev authorities and Donbass people's republics came to the conclusion to cease fire, to withdraw heavy weapons, to exchange prisoners, et cet. Today many politicians and public figures say that this agreement is not observed. What should Russia do in this situation? (open-ended question, any number of answers, %)

Do nothing (19%)	
Do nothing	17
To await further developments	2
Use diplomatic means (16%)	
To negotiate	10
To attract the attention of the international community, to cover the story worldwide	3
To attract other countries to solve the issue	2
To provide help as an observer, a mediator	1
Put pressure on Kyev (16%)	
To achieve implementation of the Minsk agreements	8
To send peace-keeping troops to Ukraine	3

To punish the guilty	1
To intervene in the conflict	1
To impose sanctions on Ukraine	1
To take extreme measures, to put pressure on the Ukrainian government	1
To destroy Kyev authorities	1
Support Donbass (11%)	
To provide support for Donbass (means not specified)	6
To provide material support including humanitarian assistance	2
To incorporate DPR and LPR into Russia's territory	1
To recognize DPR and LPR independence	1
To provide technical assistance and weaponry to Donbass	1
Other	
Do the same thing that was done before	1
Other	4
Don't know	39

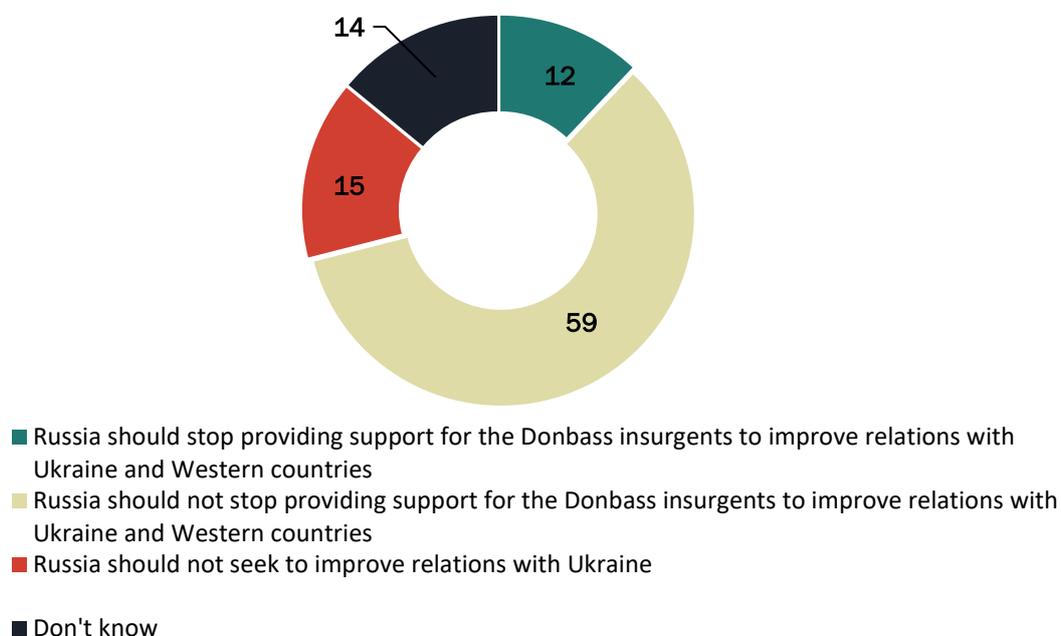


Figure 9 In your opinion, should Russia stop providing support for the Donbass insurgents in order to improve relations with Ukraine and the West, or not? (closed-ended question, one answer, %)

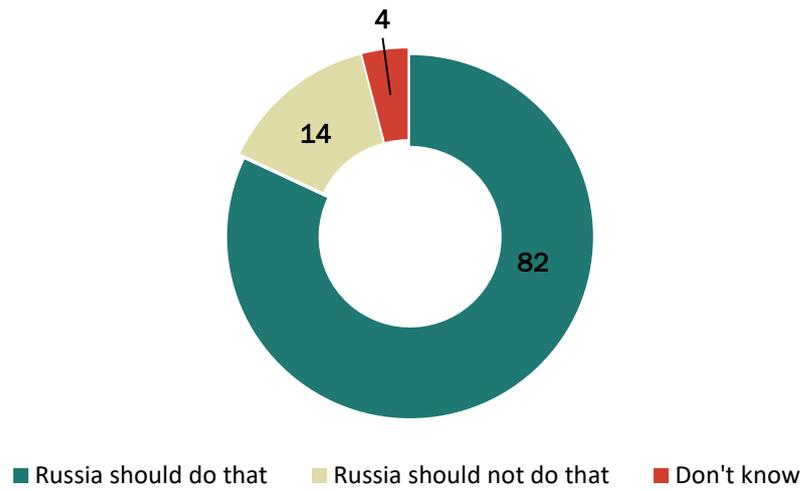


Figure 10 Russia is sending humanitarian convoys with food, medicine, water to Donbass spending money from its budget. In your opinion, should Russia provide further humanitarian assistance to Donbass or not? (closed-ended question, one answer, %)