

# Views on President Trump's Executive Order on Travel

# FINDINGS FROM THE JUNE 2017 AP-NORC NATIONAL POLL

- More Americans say President Trump's executive order on travel is an attempt to protect the United States from security threats than say it is an effort to prevent Muslims from entering the country
- Six in 10 say protecting the country from security threats is a main motivation behind the so called "travel ban," while half say a goal is preventing Muslims from coming to the U.S.
- Twenty-eight percent say both are major reasons for the president's executive order.
- There are strong partisan differences in beliefs about the motivations behind Trump's executive order on travel.

## Partisanship plays a significant role in attitudes toward Trump's executive order on travel

% who say each is a major reason for this executive order ...



Question: As you may know, Donald Trump signed an executive order earlier this year that would temporarily ban most travelers from six countries -- that is Syria, Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, and Yemen -- from entering the United States. Do you think each of the following is a major reason, a minor reason, or not a reason for this executive order?

## A majority of Americans support the courts' actions blocking President Trump's ban on travel

- Fifty-seven percent of Americans say the actions the courts have taken to block Trump's ban on travel have been an appropriate check on the president's powers.
- Seventy-three percent of Republicans say the courts are improperly interfering with the president's authority, while 82 percent of Democrats support the courts' actions.

- Few support granting the executive branch more power to solve the country's problems
- Twenty-two percent support giving the president more power at the expense of the power of Congress and the courts to help solve the country's problems and 58 percent oppose such expansion of power.
- Eight in 10 Democrats oppose removing the checks on the executive provided by the legislative and judicial branches of government.
- Four in 10 Republicans favor the idea of removing checks on the executive branch, while a third oppose it.

Republicans are more divided than Democrats on whether the powers of the president should be expanded to solve problems % who say they ...



Questions: If you thought it would help solve the country's problems, would you favor or oppose giving the president more power at the expense of the power of Congress and the courts?

## Most Americans question the impartiality of the judicial branch and few have a great deal of confidence in the Supreme Court

- Sixty-four percent say courts and judges are more likely to try to shape the law to fit their own ideologies, while 34 percent say they are more likely to provide an independent check on other branches of government by being fair and impartial.
- About a quarter of Americans, regardless of party affiliation, have a great deal of confidence in the Supreme Court, 59 percent have only some confidence, and 15 percent have hardly any confidence at all.

This survey was conducted The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research, with funding from The Associated Press and NORC at the University of Chicago. Interviews were conducted using AmeriSpeak® with a nationally representative sample of 1,068 adults age 18 and over online and using landlines and cell phones from June 8-11, 2017. Results have a margin of sampling error of +/- 4.1 percentage points. A full topline is available at <u>www.apnorc.org</u>.