



Paris, August 1st, 2008

## China What relationships to maintain? What attitude to adopt?

A **Harris Interactive** exclusive poll, in partnership with the channel of international information France 24 and the *International Herald Tribune*

The latest **Harris Interactive / France 24 / International Herald Tribune** poll shows that the inhabitants of the 5 biggest European countries and the United States mistrust China economically.

Also, the survey shows that having the 2008 Olympic Games in China has not hurt the overall credibility of the Games.

Results to be released on August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008 on France 24's "Top Story" and published in the *International Herald Tribune* on August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008.

### **Methodology**

*The latest poll was conducted online by Harris Interactive, in partnership with France 24 and The International Herald Tribune, among a total of 6,620 adults (aged 16-64) within France, Germany, Great Britain, Spain and the United-States; and adults (aged 18-64) in Italy, from 2nd to 14<sup>th</sup> July 2008. The data were weighted, where necessary, by age, gender, education, region and Internet usage to make it representative of the general population profile for each country. Propensity score weighting was applied to adjust for respondents' propensity to be online.*

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The poll explores a variety of issues, including:

- China: ally or threat?
  - o From a military point of view
  - o From an economic point of view
- The current economic ties with China
- The 2008 Olympic Games in China
  - o Is it a good thing?
  - o What attitude to adopt?

*Please note that any communication of these results has to be made with technical elements such as: survey methodology, fieldwork dates, name of the agency, sample size.*

## CHINA: ALLY OR THREAT?


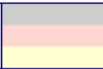

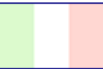
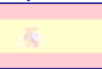

For Europeans and Americans, China seems to be an economic threat rather than a military one.

From a military point of view, in spite of the concern that China arouses, the majority of most French (56%), German (60%), Italian (58%), and Spanish (56%) adults as well as a plurality of Britons (44%), consider that this country is neither an ally nor a threat. Only Americans differ as one-third (32%) consider China a military threat.

From an economic point of view, French and Italians feel most threatened as over two-thirds in both countries (68% and 69% respectively) view China as more of an economic threat. Majorities of Americans (60%), Germans (52%) and half of Spaniards (50%) also view China as an economic threat. Regarding the Britons, while a plurality (42%) view China as an economic threat, they also have the highest number of adults (29%) who do not have any opinion on the question.


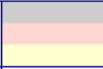


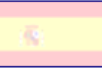

### From a military point of view, do you regard China as more of an ally or more of a threat to [COUNTRY]?

Base : All respondents

	French	German	British	Italian	Spanish	American
						
Unweighted Base	1,073	992	1,075	1,013	1,014	1,053
China is more of a military ally	4%	4%	5%	5%	5%	7%
China is more of a military threat	20%	20%	22%	17%	17%	32%
China is neither an ally nor a threat	56%	60%	44%	58%	56%	38%
Not sure	20%	16%	29%	19%	22%	23%

### From an economic point of view, do you regard China as more of an ally or more of a threat to [COUNTRY]?

Base : All respondents

	French	German	British	Italian	Spanish	American
						
Unweighted Base	1,073	992	1,075	1,013	1,014	1,053
China is more of an economic ally	9%	16%	11%	8%	13%	15%
China is more of an economic threat	68%	52%	42%	69%	50%	60%
China is neither an ally nor a threat	13%	20%	18%	16%	20%	13%
Not sure	10%	12%	29%	8%	17%	13%

\* : less than 0,5%

## THE CURRENT ECONOMIC TIES WITH CHINA


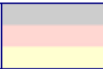

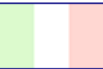
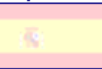

In spite of the fact that China is perceived as an economic threat, discrepancies appear when adults are asked whether their country should increase or decrease economic ties with China.

For Spanish adults, a plurality would increase economic ties with China (41%), in opposition to the Americans who are more inclined to decrease the U.S. economic ties with China (40%). Italians, are divided on the kind of the change to be adopted, with almost the same numbers saying increase (34%) and decrease (36%) economic ties.

On the other hand, in spite of this economic concern towards China, the North of Europe shows a desire to keep the status quo regarding the economic ties. Over one-third in France (37%), Germany (39%) and the UK (35%) want to keep the current economic relationship.

**Do you think that your country should increase or decrease economic ties with China, or should your country keep to the current economic relationship?**

*Base : All respondents*

						
<i>Unweighted Base</i>	1,073	992	1,075	1,013	1,014	1,053
Increase	23%	23%	17%	34%	41%	14%
Decrease	20%	22%	18%	36%	18%	40%
Keep the current relationship	37%	39%	35%	18%	20%	25%
Not sure	20%	16%	30%	13%	22%	21%

## THE 2008 OLYMPIC GAMES IN CHINA: IS IT A GOOD THING?


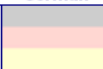

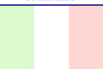
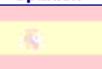

Opinions are divided on the 2008 Olympics taking place in China.

Italians (49%), Spaniards (55%) and Americans (41%) are more likely to believe it is a good thing that the 2008 Olympic Games are taking place in China.

French (49%) and Germans (47%) are likely to believe it is a bad thing. Britons, however, are more inclined to be unsure whether it is a good or bad thing (37%).

**How do you feel about the Olympics taking place in China this summer?**

*Base : All respondents*

						
<i>Unweighted Base</i>	1,073	992	1,075	1,013	1,014	1,053
<b>Good Thing (NET)</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>41%</b>
It is a very good thing (4)	3%	7%	5%	7%	10%	10%
It is a good thing (3)	19%	28%	23%	42%	44%	31%
<b>Bad Thing (NET)</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>28%</b>
It is a bad thing (2)	27%	28%	22%	20%	19%	20%
It is a very bad thing (1)	22%	19%	13%	11%	12%	9%
Not sure	29%	18%	37%	20%	14%	31%
<b>Mean</b>	<b>2,1</b>	<b>2,3</b>	<b>2,3</b>	<b>2,6</b>	<b>2,6</b>	<b>2,6</b>

\* : less than 0,5%

## THE 2008 OLYMPIC GAMES IN CHINA: WHAT ATTITUDE TO ADOPT?


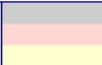

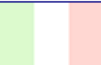
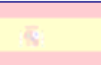

When adults are asked about the attitude to adopt at the Olympics because of the situation in China –taking in account the situation with Tibet- the majority is favourable to some type of action.

Respondents are clearly and mainly favourable to a stand of position from the athletes rather than from the politicians (between 46% and 65% believing athletes should publicly express their position if they want).

The boycott of the official ceremonies of the Olympics is something a plurality of French adults (44%) and Germans (38%) would support as would three in ten Britons (30%) and Italians (31%) Spaniards (29%) and Americans (31%) are most likely to want to attend the Olympics without any protests or boycott.

Faced with the current situation in China, including their involvement with Tibet, what do you think your country should do?

Base : All respondents

	French	German	British	Italian	Spanish	American
<b>SUMMARY of "Yes responses"</b>						
<i>Unweighted Base</i>	1,073	992	1,075	1,013	1,014	1,053
Allow [NATIONALITY] athletes to publicly express their position if they want	65%	60%	50%	62%	50%	46%
Have [COUNTRY] boycott the official ceremonies of the Olympics (government officials should not go to the ceremonies)	44%	38%	30%	31%	23%	21%
Have [NATIONALITY] politicians make statements against the Olympics during the games	23%	15%	21%	19%	27%	12%
Have [COUNTRY] boycott the Olympics (do not send athletes)	13%	16%	13%	14%	14%	8%
Have [COUNTRY] attend the Olympics without any protests or boycott	17%	21%	17%	21%	29%	31%

\* : less than 0,5%

**About Harris Interactive**

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