

STOP ~~TORTURE~~ GLOBAL SURVEY

ATTITUDES TO TORTURE



**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



A GLOBAL SURVEY OF MORE THAN 21,000 PEOPLE IN 21 COUNTRIES ACROSS EVERY CONTINENT REVEALS:

- Nearly half (44%) of respondents fear torture if taken into custody.
- The vast majority (82%) believe there should be clear laws against torture.
- Over a third (36%) believe that torture can be justified in some cases to protect the public.

GLOBAL SURVEY

A total of 21,221 citizens across 21 countries were interviewed face-to-face or by telephone between December 2013 and April 2014.

Respondents were asked if they strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with each of the following statements:

- 1) If I were taken into custody by the authorities in my country, I am confident that I would be safe.
- 2) Clear rules against torture are crucial because any use of torture is immoral and will weaken international human rights.
- 3) Torture is sometimes necessary and acceptable to gain information that may protect the public.

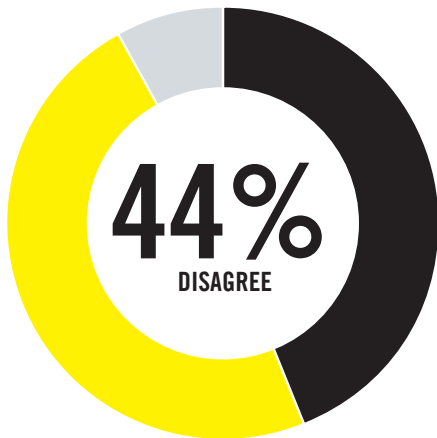
Countries: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Germany, Greece, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Russia, South Korea, Spain, Turkey, the UK, and the USA.

The survey was conducted for Amnesty International by the global research consultancy GlobeScan and its research partners in each country.

Percentages have been rounded to the nearest whole per cent and as such the displayed figures in charts may not always add up to 100%.



1 IF I WERE TAKEN INTO CUSTODY BY THE AUTHORITIES IN MY COUNTRY, I AM CONFIDENT THAT I WOULD BE SAFE FROM TORTURE

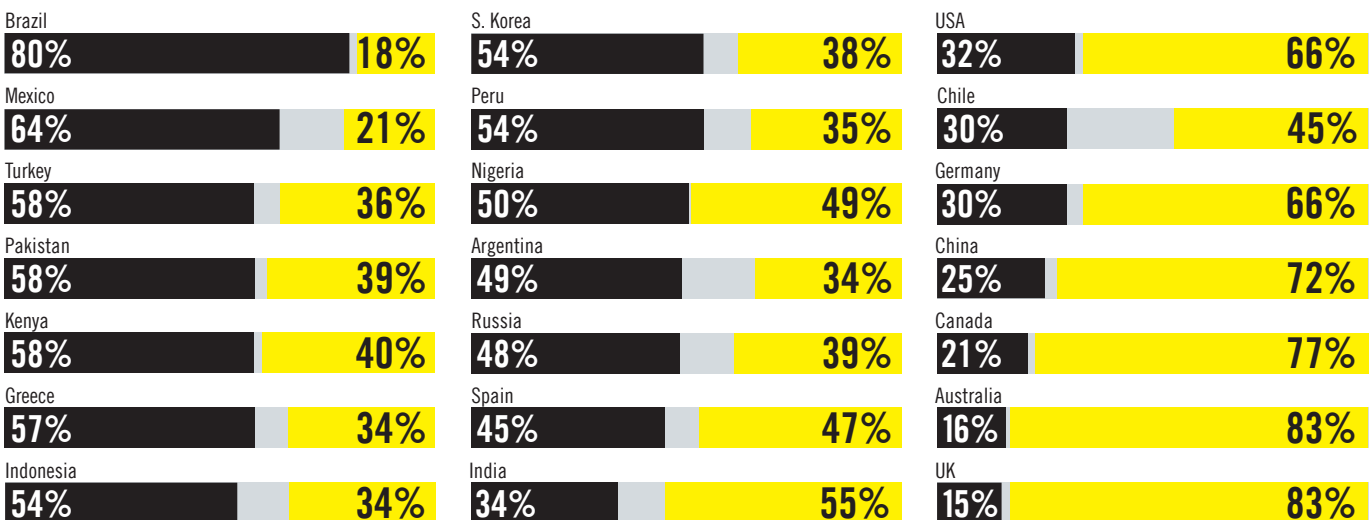
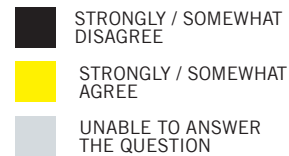


More than four in ten people do not feel safe from torture if taken into custody.



Fear of torture is highest in Brazil and Mexico, with the majority not confident that they would be safe if taken into custody.

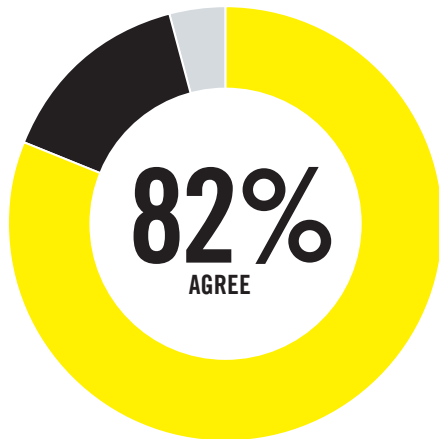
Fear of torture is lowest in the UK, Australia and Canada, with over three quarters confident they would be safe from torture if taken into custody.



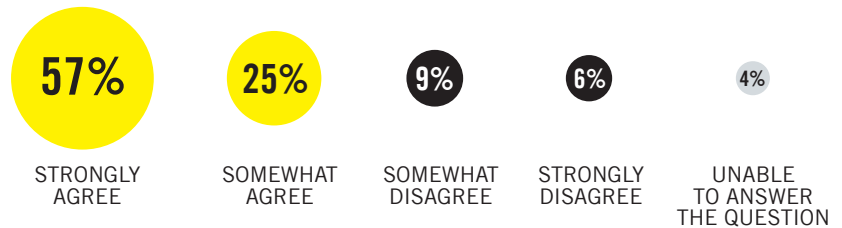
There are wide variations in perceptions of safety globally.

2.

CLEAR RULES AGAINST TORTURE ARE CRUCIAL BECAUSE ANY USE OF TORTURE IS IMMORAL AND WILL WEAKEN INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS



Public opinion globally is in favour of international rules against torture.



STRONGLY AGREE

SOMEWHAT AGREE

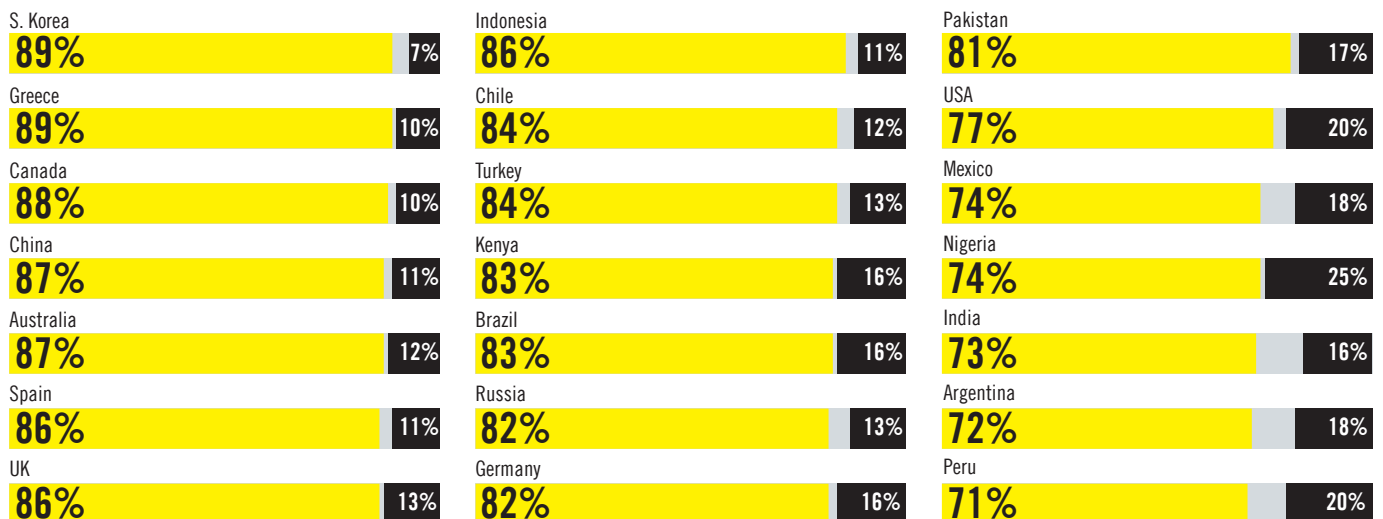
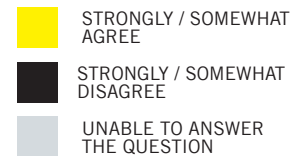
SOMEWHAT DISAGREE

STRONGLY DISAGREE

UNABLE TO ANSWER THE QUESTION

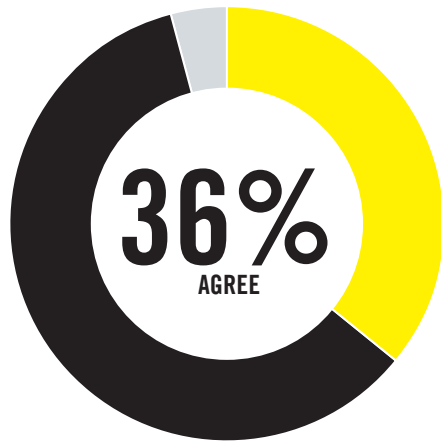
Support for international rules against torture is weakest in Argentina, India, Mexico, Nigeria and Peru – less than three quarters of people agree that international rules are necessary.

Support for international rules against torture is strongest in Greece, Germany, Spain, the UK, Australia, Canada, South Korea and Chile.



Overall, a majority in all countries supports rules against torture.

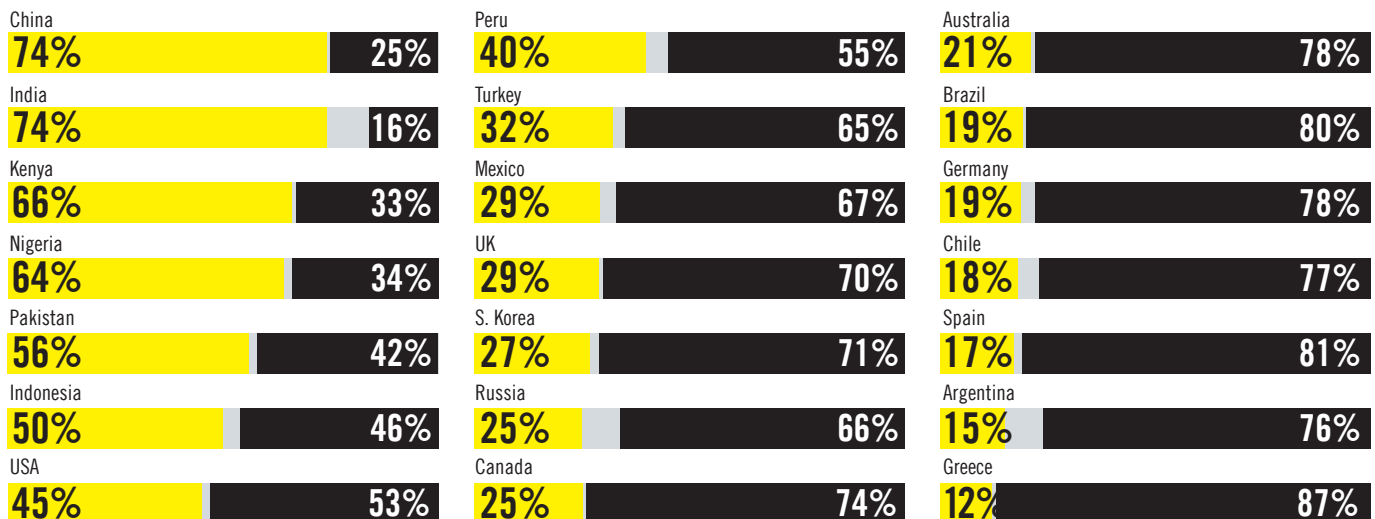
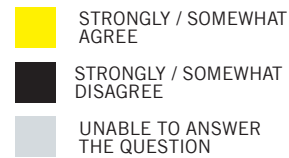
3. TORTURE IS SOMETIMES NECESSARY AND ACCEPTABLE TO GAIN INFORMATION THAT MAY PROTECT THE PUBLIC



Over a third believe that torture can be justified in some cases to protect the public.

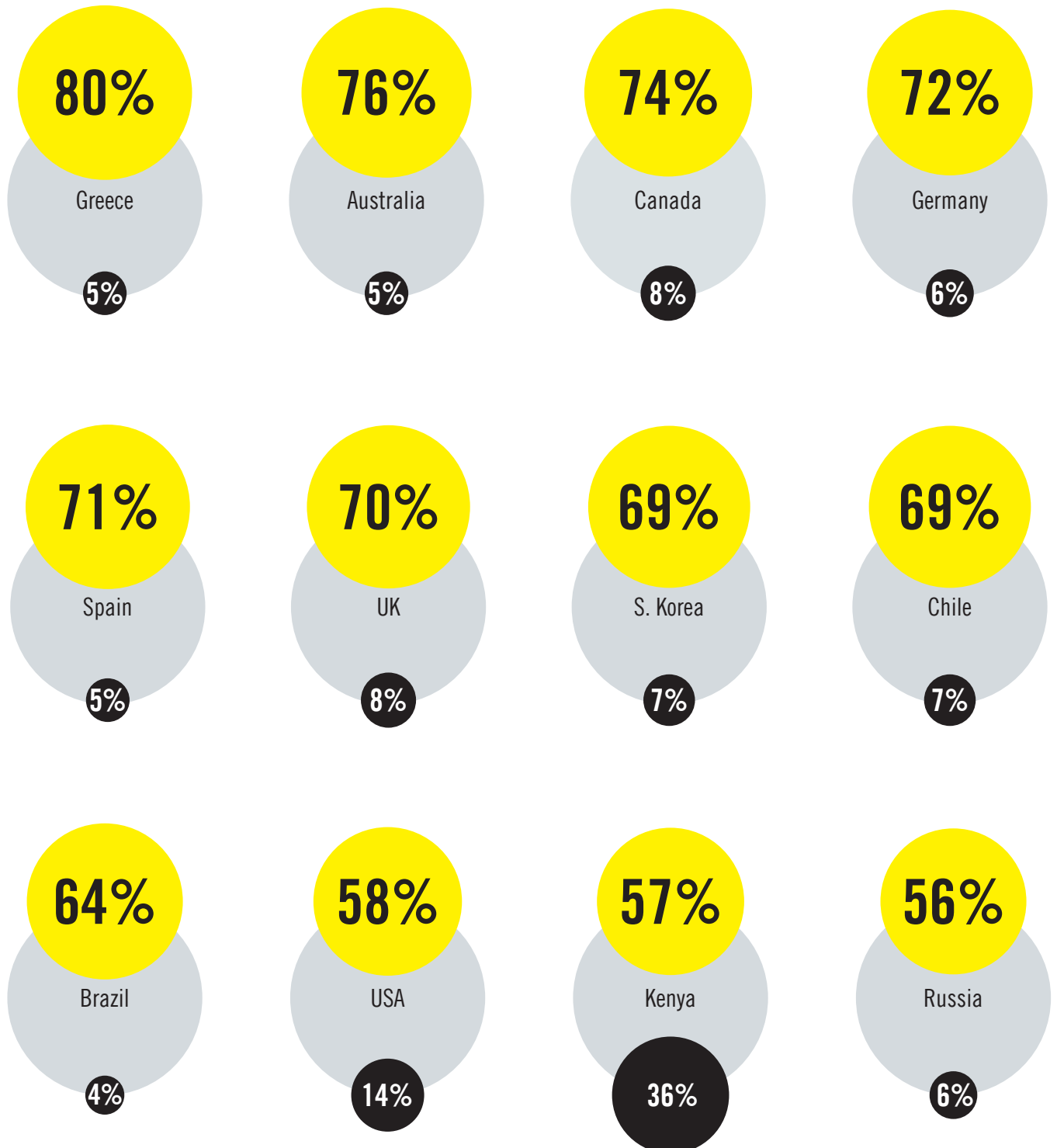
A majority of people surveyed in China and India feel that torture can sometimes be justified.

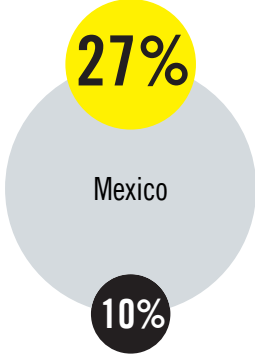
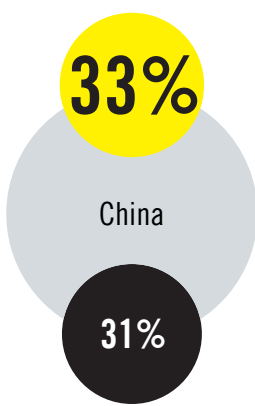
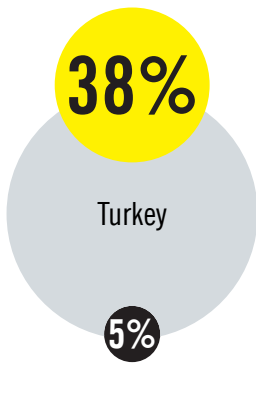
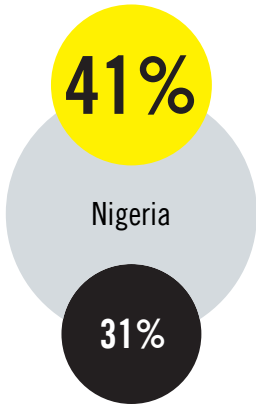
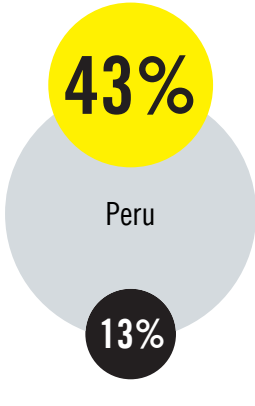
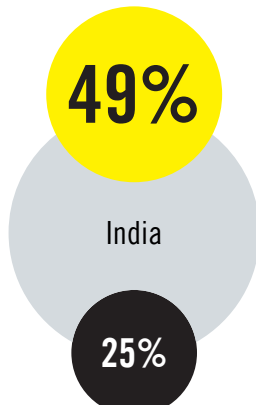
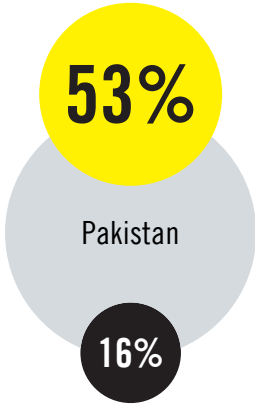
Greece, Argentina, Spain, Germany, Brazil and Chile most strongly feel that torture cannot be justified even to protect the public.





Global opinion is more divided on the use of torture to gain information.

SUPPORT FOR RULES AGAINST TORTURE VS. JUSTIFICATION





 STRONGLY AGREE WITH STATEMENT 1:
“Clear rules against torture are needed because any use of torture is immoral and will weaken international human rights”

 STRONGLY AGREE WITH STATEMENT 2:
“Torture is sometimes necessary and acceptable to gain information that may protect the public”

GLOBESCAN

GlobeScan is a research consultancy providing global organizations with evidence-based insights to help them set strategy and shape their communications. Companies, multilateral institutions, governments and NGOs trust GlobeScan for our unique expertise across reputation management, sustainability and stakeholder relations.

GlobeScan conducts research in over 90 countries and is a signatory to the UN Global Compact. Established in 1987, GlobeScan is an independent, management-owned company with offices in Toronto, London and San Francisco. For more information, please visit www.GlobeScan.com

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

Amnesty international is a global movement of more than 3 million supporters, members and activists in more than 150 countries and territories who campaign to end grave abuses of human rights. Our vision is for every person to enjoy all the rights enshrined in the universal declaration of Human rights and other international human rights standards. We are independent of any government, political ideology, economic interest or religion and are funded mainly by our membership and public donations.

amnesty.org

Index: ACT 40/005/2014
English, May 2014

© Amnesty International 2014

Amnesty International Ltd
Peter Benenson House
1 Easton Street
London WC1X 0DW
United Kingdom

