

# HUGE MAJORITY OF AUSTRALIANS SUPPORT WAR POWERS REFORM

83.3% of Australians want Parliament to decide whether our troops are sent into armed conflict abroad, according to a nationwide Roy Morgan opinion poll released today,

In the survey of 1052 people, only 16.7% said they favour the current system whereby The Prime Minister and the executive alone decide if Australia goes to war.

“Ordinary Australians want their local MPs and Senators to oversee this life and death decision, not just the Prime Minister and a few ministers behind closed doors,” said Paul Barratt AO, a former Secretary of Defence and President of Australians for War Powers Reform (AWPR).

“The disastrous Iraq conflict and the drawn out Afghanistan deployment have made people rethink how we as a nation view overseas wars.

“This survey result is an overwhelming demand for more oversight and transparency,” he said.

The poll found that support for reform is very strong across the political spectrum. More than 75% of all Labor, Coalition and Greens voters believe that Parliamentary approval should be required before Australian troops are deployed.

Overall support for Parliamentary approval being required has jumped more than 6% since the last poll was undertaken in 2014.

“We live in a democracy but when it comes to one of the most crucial decisions, our elected representatives are shut out. This has to change,” Mr Barratt said.

## **For more information or interviews please contact:**

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Detailed data below. Infographics have been provided in this document, along with a video featuring AWPR President Paul Barratt that is attached to this email.

## Question

It is not currently required that Parliament be consulted before Australian troops are sent into armed conflict abroad. Do you believe Parliament approval of such decisions should be required?

A = Yes, always

B = Yes, unless immediate danger to Australia

C = No

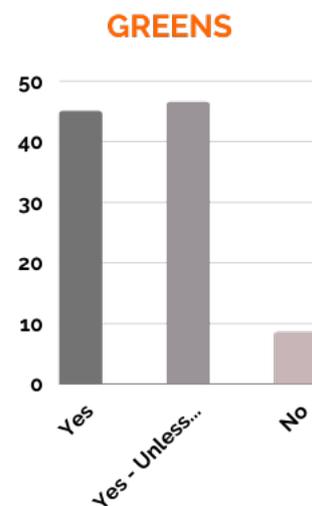
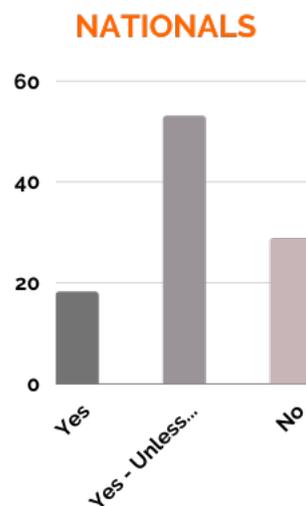
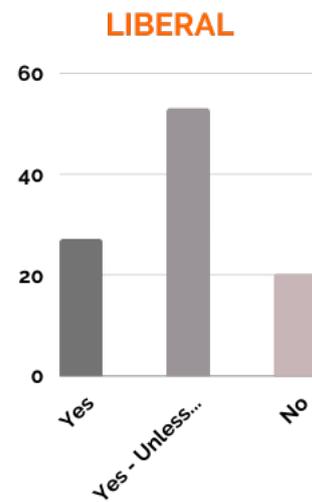
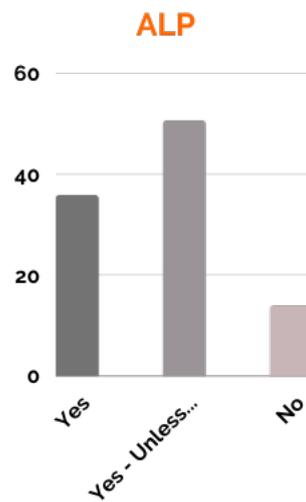
## RESULTS BY VOTING PREFERENCE

### THE QUESTION:

It is not currently required that Parliament be consulted before Australian troops are sent into armed conflict abroad. Do you believe Parliament approval of such decisions should be required?

### POSSIBLE ANSWERS:

- YES
- YES, UNLESS IMMEDIATE DANGER TO AUS
- NO



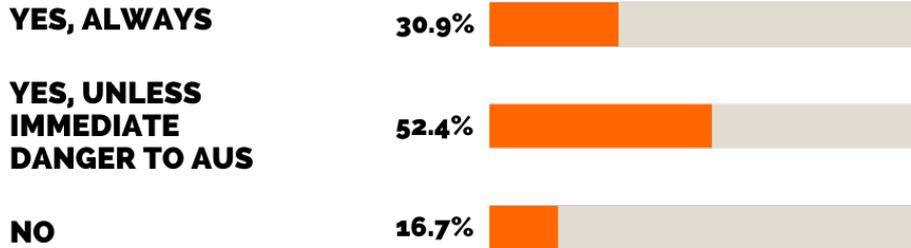
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## THE MAJORITY OF AUSTRALIANS SUPPORT A DEMOCRATIC PROCESS TO WAR.

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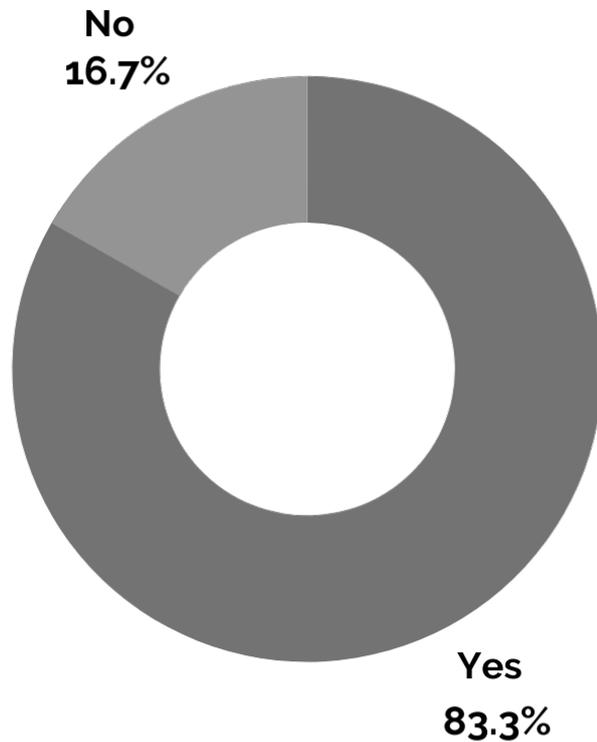
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# 83%

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TOTAL YES VOTES



# HOW HAVE THE FIGURES CHANGED OVER TIME?

Since we last asked the public about Australia's war powers in 2014, we've seen an increase of **6%** in overall yes votes.

<b>2014</b>	<b>Total Yes Votes</b> 76.7%
	<b>No Votes</b> 23.4%
<b>2020</b>	<b>Total Yes Votes</b> 83.3% [+6.7%]
	<b>No Votes</b> 16.7% [-6.7%]

## YES VOTES



## NO VOTES

