Attitudes towards the patriation of the constitution and the charter of rights, 1980-81

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Executive Director, Environics Institute
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What, in your opinion, is the most important problem now facing the Canadian federal government? (open-ended question)

CROP Report 1980-5 (Sep. 15 to 30, 1980)

Inflation / unemployment / economy
Constitution / unity / Quebec / fed-prov relations
Public administration

Canada (n=1,917):
- 40% Inflation / unemployment / economy
- 28% Constitution / unity / Quebec / fed-prov relations
- 7% Public administration

Quebec francophones (n=456):
- 41% Inflation / unemployment / economy
- 29% Constitution / unity / Quebec / fed-prov relations
- 5% Public administration

Rest of Canada (n=1,341):
- 44% Inflation / unemployment / economy
- 23% Constitution / unity / Quebec / fed-prov relations
- 8% Public administration
What, in your opinion, is the most important problem now facing the your provincial government? (open-ended question)

CROP Report 1980-5 (Sep. 15 to 30, 1980)

- **Inflation / unemployment / economy**
- **Constitution / unity / Quebec / fed-prov relations**
- **Public administration**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Inflation / unemployment / economy</th>
<th>Constitution / unity / Quebec / fed-prov relations</th>
<th>Public administration</th>
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<tr>
<td>Canada (n=1,917)</td>
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<td>Quebec francophones (n=456)</td>
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<td>Rest of Canada (n=1,341)</td>
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<td>6</td>
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What, in your opinion, is the most important problem now facing the Canadian federal / your provincial government? (open-ended question)

Facing the federal government

- Inflation / unemployment / economy
- Constitution / unity / Quebec / fed-prov relations
- Public administration

Facing your provincial government

- Inflation / unemployment / economy
- Constitution / unity / Quebec / fed-prov relations
- Public administration

Quebec francophones (n=456)
Rest of Canada (n=1,341)

CROP Report 1980-5 (Sep. 15 to 30, 1980)
Support for patriation (whether or not other changes agreed to)

Subsample: respondents who had heard of the September 1980 constitutional conference

CROP Report 1980-5 (Sep. 15 to 30, 1980)

Whether or not basic constitutional reform is agreed upon, the federal government has indicated it would go to London to at least bring Canada's constitution home from England. Do you agree strongly, agree somewhat, disagree somewhat or disagree strongly that the federal government should at least bring Canada's constitution home from England, whether or not there is constitutional reform?
Support for elements of proposed Constitutional package: patriation

Subsample: eligible voters


For each of the following three basic parts of the Constitutional proposals, please tell me whether you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose it. Patriation of the Constitution, that is, bringing it home from England.
Support for elements of proposed Constitutional package: amending formula

Subsample: eligible voters


For each of the following three basic parts of the Constitutional proposals, please tell me whether you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose it. An amending formula, which gives the major geographic regions a veto power regarding future changes to the Constitution.
Support for elements of proposed Constitutional package: Bill of Rights

Subsample: eligible voters


For each of the following three basic parts of the Constitutional proposals, please tell me whether you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose it. A Bill of Rights, which would provide individual Canadians with protection against unfair treatment by any level of government in Canada.
Support for elements of proposed Constitutional package: agree

Subsample: eligible voters


For each of the following three basic parts of the Constitutional proposals, please tell me whether you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose it.
Support for elements of proposed Constitutional package: agree

Subsample: eligible voters


For each of the following three basic parts of the Constitutional proposals, please tell me whether you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose it.
Suppose a Canada-wide referendum were held on this constitutional package as a whole. Would you vote for or against this package?
Support for a Charter of Human Rights

As you may know, the federal government is proposing to include a Charter of Human Rights in the new Constitution. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this proposal?
Support for elements of proposed Constitutional package: agree

Subsample: eligible voters

For each of the following three basic parts of the Constitutional proposals, please tell me whether you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose it.
Support for elements of proposed Constitutional package: agree

Subsample: eligible voters

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Patriation</th>
<th>Amending Formula</th>
<th>Charter of Rights</th>
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<td><strong>Quebec</strong></td>
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<td>60</td>
<td>84</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Ontario</strong></td>
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<td>66</td>
<td>85</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>West</strong></td>
<td>58</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>80</td>
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</table>

For each of the following three basic parts of the Constitutional proposals, please tell me whether you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose it.
Referendum vote on whole Constitutional package

Subsample: eligible voters


Suppose a Canada-wide referendum were held on this constitutional package as a whole. Would you vote for or against this package?
Suppose a Canada-wide referendum were held on this constitutional package as a whole. Would you vote for or against this package?

### Vote For

- **Canada**: Spring 1981 (52), Fall 1981 (50)
- **Atlantic**: Spring 1981 (57), Fall 1981 (49)
- **Quebec**: Spring 1981 (56), Fall 1981 (52)
- **Ontario**: Spring 1981 (58), Fall 1981 (57)
- **West**: Spring 1981 (41), Fall 1981 (38)
Suppose a Canada-wide referendum were held on this constitutional package as a whole. Would you vote for or against this package?
For each of the following three basic parts of the Constitutional proposals, please tell me whether you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose it.
Impact of Constitutional package on national unity

Subsample: eligible voters


Suppose that this constitutional package becomes adopted. Over the next five years, do you think this would be more likely to unite Canadians or divide them?
Impact of Constitutional package on national unity

Subsample: eligible voters


Suppose that this constitutional package becomes adopted. Over the next five years, do you think this would be more likely to unite Canadians or divide them?
What, in your opinion, is the most important problem now facing the Canadian federal government? (open-ended question)


- **Inflation / unemployment / economy**
  - Canada (n=1,046): 60
  - Quebec francophones (n=224): 45
  - Rest of Canada (n=781): 65

- **Constitution / unity / Quebec / fed-prov relations**
  - Canada (n=1,046): 16
  - Quebec francophones (n=224): 37
  - Rest of Canada (n=781): 10

- **Public administration**
  - Canada (n=1,046): 11
  - Quebec francophones (n=224): 6
  - Rest of Canada (n=781): 13
What, in your opinion, is the most important problem now facing your provincial government? (open-ended question)


Inflation / unemployment / economy
Constitution / unity / Quebec / fed-prov relations
Public administration

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Canada (n=1,045)</th>
<th>Quebec francophones (n=224)</th>
<th>Rest of Canada (n=780)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Public administration</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>6</td>
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What, in your opinion, is the most important problem now facing the Canadian federal / your provincial government? (open-ended question)

Facing the federal government

- Inflation / unemployment / economy
- Constitution / unity / Quebec / fed-prov relations
- Public administration

Facing your provincial government

- Inflation / unemployment / economy
- Constitution / unity / Quebec / fed-prov relations
- Public administration