

**Low Confidence In Obama’s Middle East Strategy:** Earlier this week, President Barack Obama claimed there has been “progress” in the fight against ISIS and insinuated Republicans in Congress prevented the Administration from cracking down on ISIS. However, recent surveys show voters are not buying this blame game and hold the president responsible for setbacks in eliminating ISIS and ensuring Iran does not develop a nuclear weapon.

A [recent](#) Fox News Poll found that 56% of voters disapprove of the way Mr. Obama is handling ISIS. Fifty-eight percent of voters think he is "too soft" on Islamic extremists, compared to 36% who say he is not. It is no surprise, then, that 61% of voters say the fight against ISIS is going somewhat or very badly.

The same poll found that 50% of voters are not confident that Mr. Obama can handle negotiations with Iran regarding its nuclear program (31% not at all confident, 19% not very confident). On the other hand, only 31% are somewhat confident and 17% are very confident. Additionally, 63% of voters said it is unlikely an agreement would stop Iran from developing nuclear weapons in the next ten years.

Thirty-three percent of voters believe ISIS is the greatest long-term threat to the United States and 74% are concerned about Iran getting a nuclear bomb. These concerns will play an important role in the 2016 elections, and Mr. Obama is passing on a weak hand to the next Democratic nominee. Voters already trust Republicans more on foreign policy issues. The eventual GOP nominee will need to prove the voters’ trust is well-placed, and offer clear and credible foreign policy strategies to strengthen the advantage the GOP has on these issues.

