



# Beltway Perspectives on International Trade

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October 2015



BRUNSWICK

**INSIGHT**

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# Methodology

**POLITICO** Roll Call The Washington Post **National Journal**  
**POLITICO Pro** THE HILL The Washington Times CQ

Who we surveyed



Readers of Politico, PoliticoPro, The Hill, Roll Call, Washington Post, Washington Times, National Journal and Congressional Quarterly.

How many people we surveyed



300

How we surveyed them



Targeted SpeedRead online data collection

Margin of error



±5.6% at the 95% confidence interval

Dates Fielded



(1) July 7-9, 2015 & (2) October 6, 2015

# Current Situation

*Both parties are facing internal opposition to free trade agreements*



*"If done right, these agreements are vital to **expanding opportunities for the middle class**, leveling the playing field for American workers, and establishing **rules for the global economy** that help our businesses grow and hire by selling goods Made in America to the rest of the world.*

*– President Barack Obama*

*"With trade promotion authority, we'll be able to hold President Obama accountable so **America's workers can get the best agreements**. Without it, our workers will fall further behind as **China writes the rules of the global economy**. This is a no-brainer."*

*– Speaker John Boehner*



*"American workers deserve a trade policy that works for them and not only for the **CEOs of major multi-national corporations**. We cannot continue trade policies which **outsource good jobs to low-wage countries overseas** and lead us into a race to the bottom."*

*– Senator Bernie Sanders*

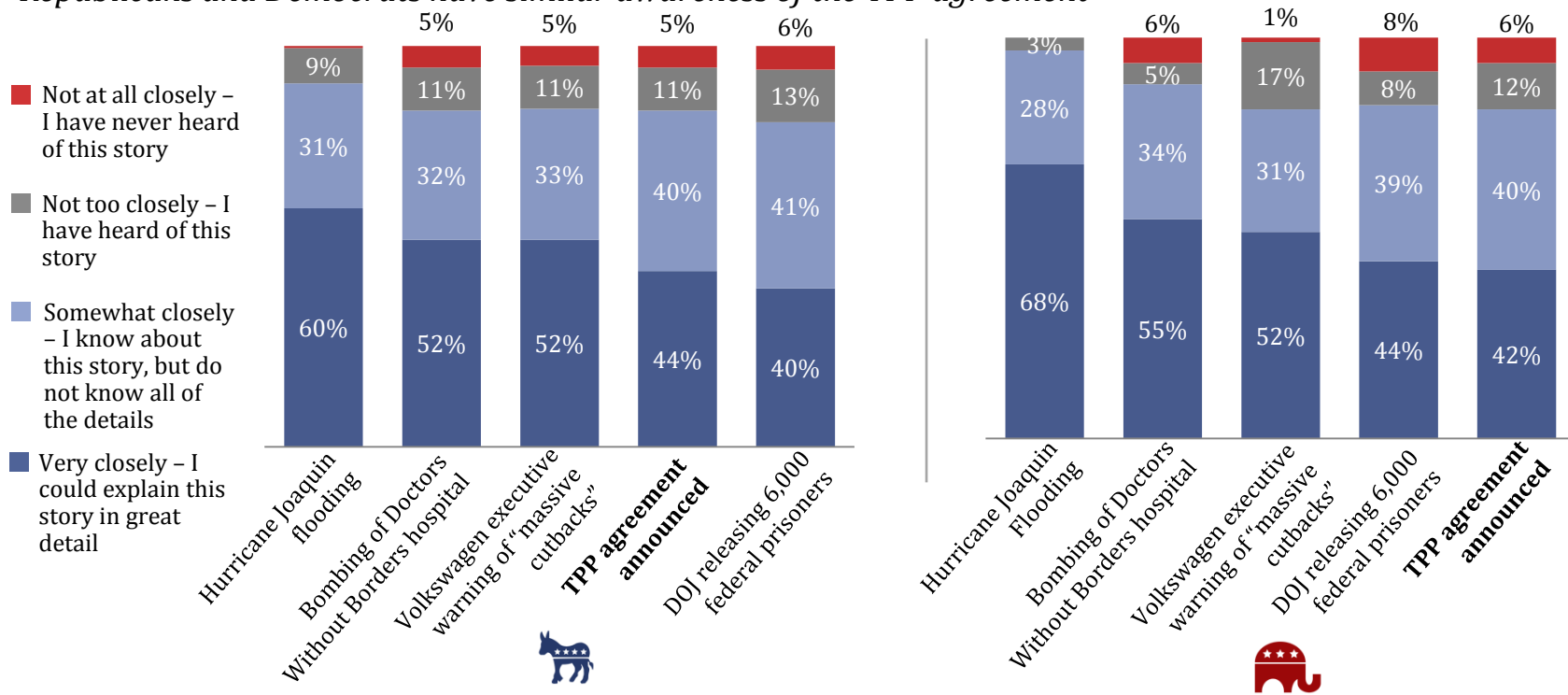
*"TPA in this Congress has become **enmeshed in corrupt Washington backroom deal-making**, along with serious concerns that it would open up the potential for **sweeping changes in our laws** that trade agreements typically do not include.."*

*– Senator Ted Cruz*



# The Trade Story in Context

*Republicans and Democrats have similar awareness of the TPP agreement*



# Heard Most About TPP & TTIP



■ A lot ■ Some ■ A little ■ Nothing







# Support for Trans-Pacific Partnership

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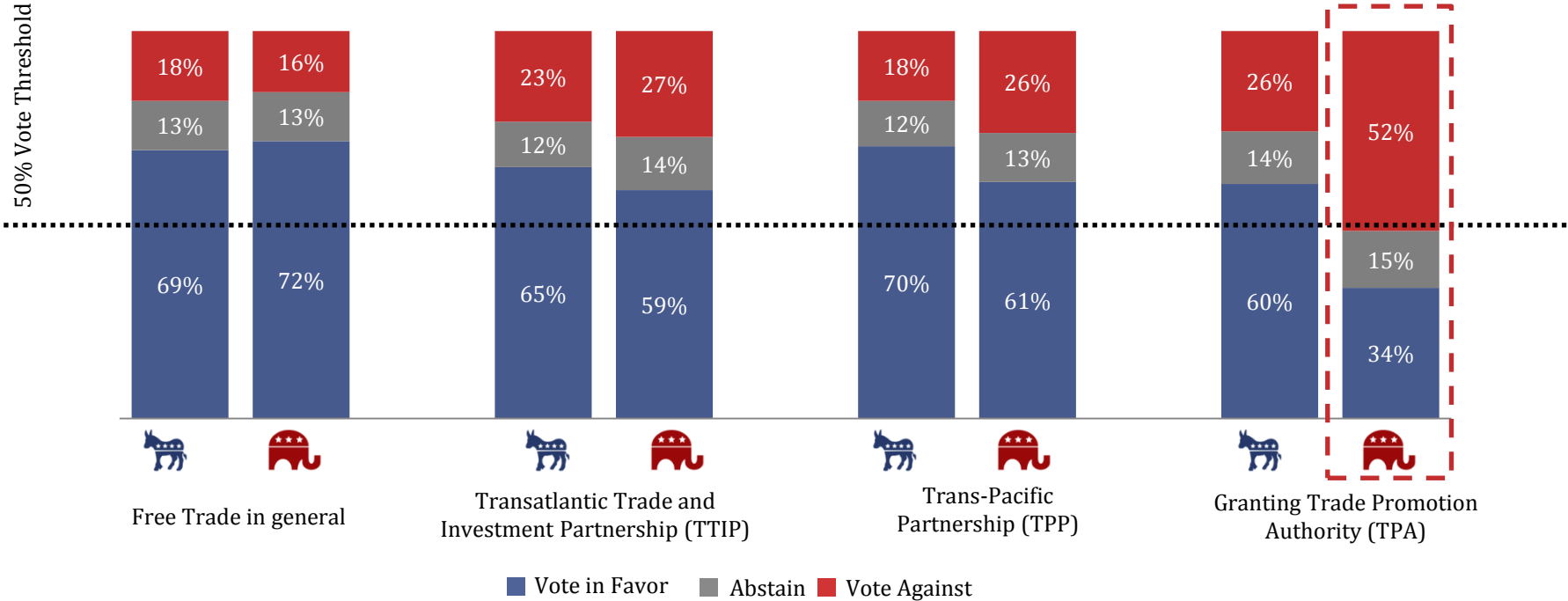


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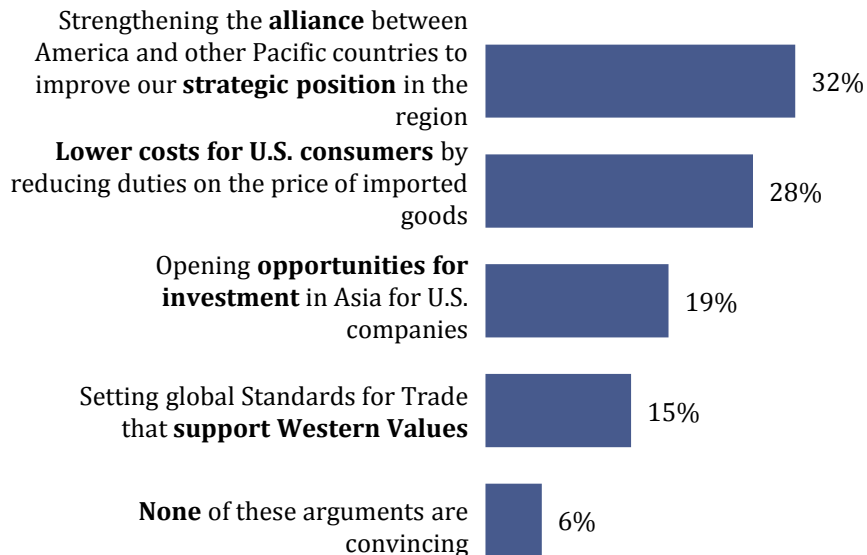
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# Republican Policy Elites Less Sold on Trade Deals



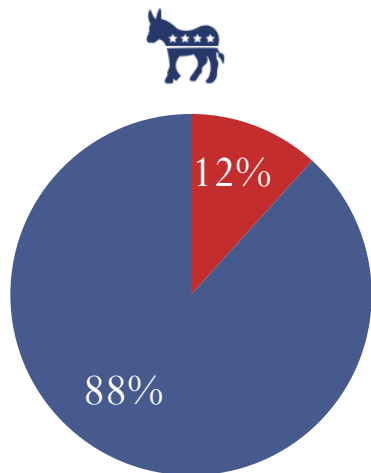
# Most Effective Messages for TPP

*Both parties see the benefits of TPP strengthening strategic alliances*



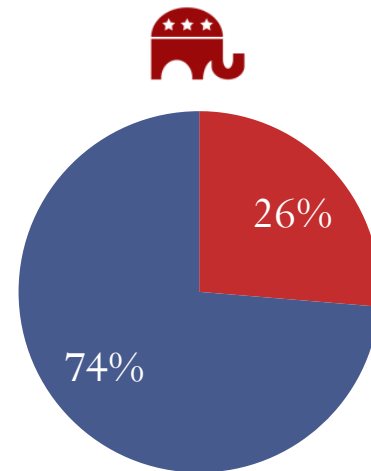


# Passage of TPP is Expected



*Regardless of how you feel about the treaty, do you expect the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) to be approved by Congress and signed into law by the President?*

■ Yes ■ No

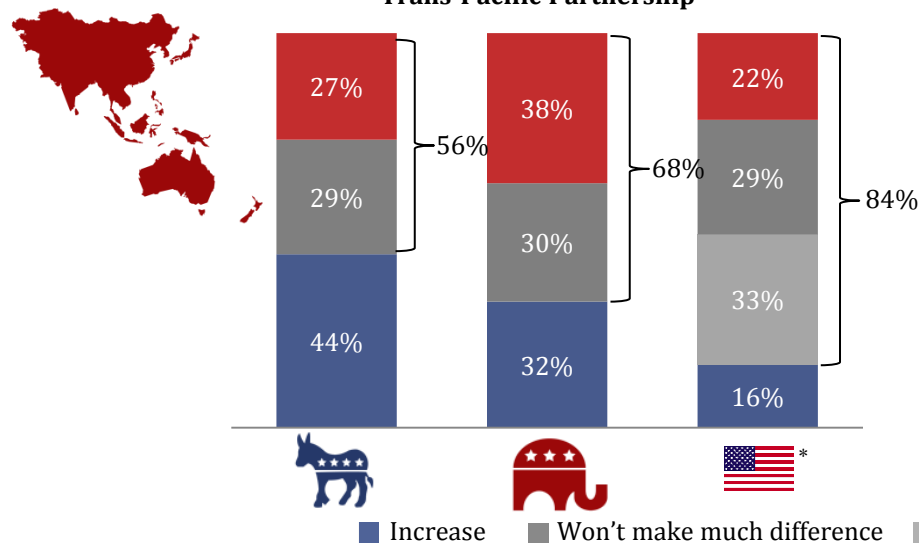


# Skeptical of Benefits

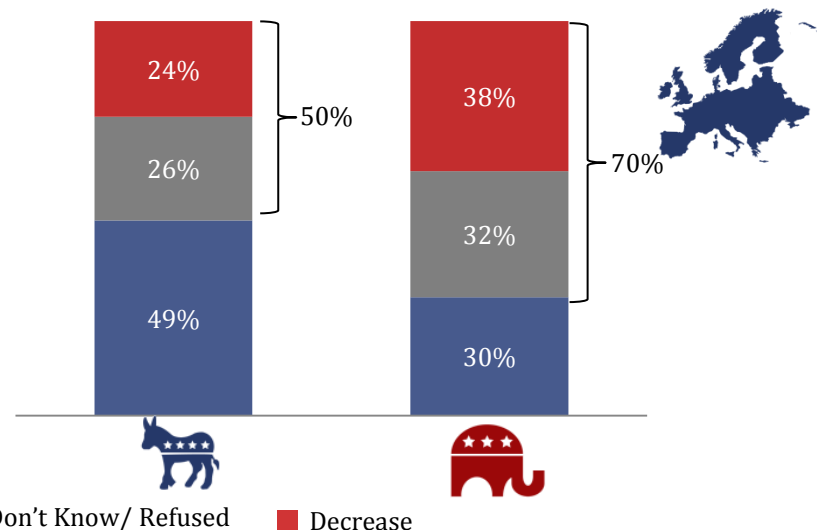
*Despite support for the treaties, Elites are skeptical that they will increase jobs*

*From what you have heard or read, do you think the [Treaty Name] trade agreement would **increase** the number of jobs available in the United States, **decrease** the number of jobs available, or won't make much difference?*

Trans-Pacific Partnership



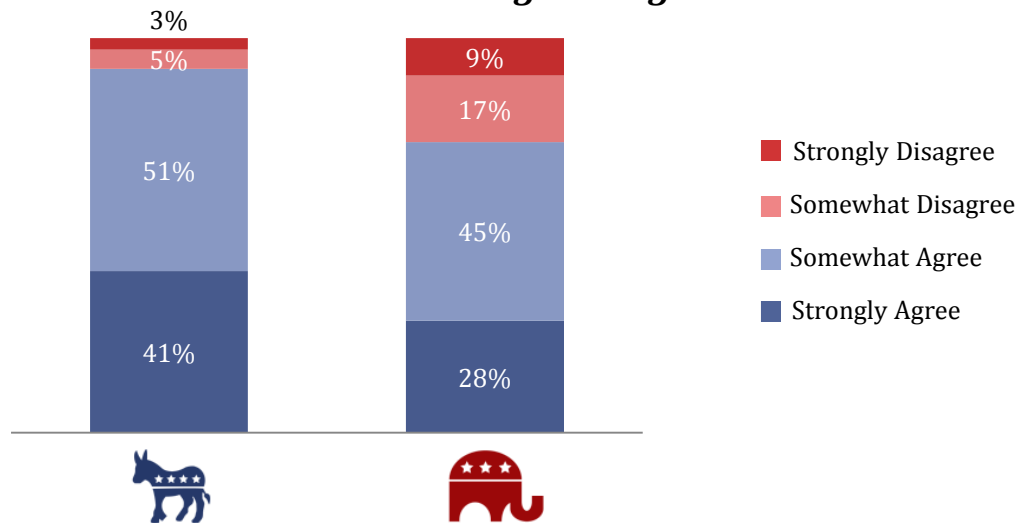
Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership



# A Win for The President?

*Even a majority of Republicans see TPP as a victory for the Obama administration*

*The negotiation of the Trans-Pacific Partnership and its likely approval by Congress represents a **significant victory for the Obama administration and its negotiating team***





# Future Support for Trade

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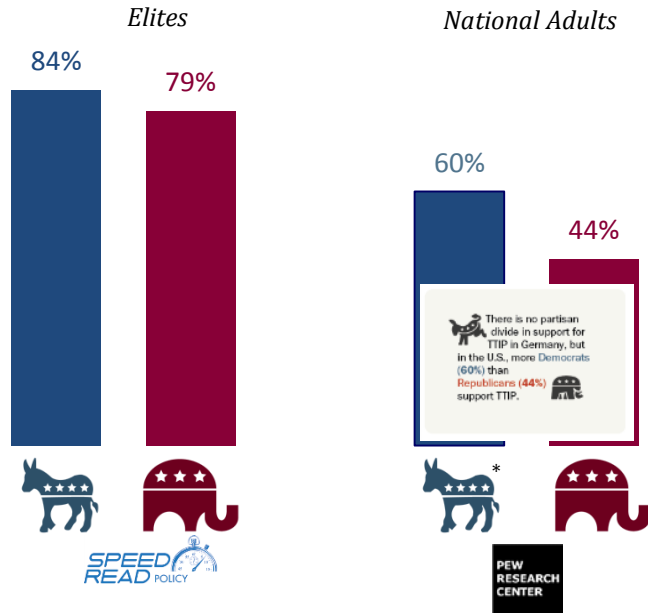
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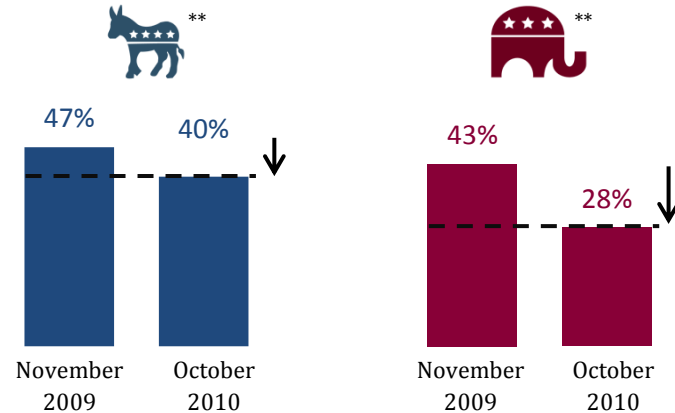
# Partisan Split on Trade

*Elite and National Democrats have consistently shown a higher level of support for free trade than Republicans*

*Opinion on the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership  
(% Saying "Good")*



*"Free trade agreements like NAFTA, policies of the WTO..."  
(% Saying "Good")*





# Historical Context



*“Free trade agreements like NAFTA, policies of the WTO...”*  
 (% Saying “Good”)  
 National Adults

