**METHODOLOGY**

**The Questionnaire**

The questionnaire had 18 general questions and was designed to capture some of the main dimensions of violent extremism in the Euro-Mediterranean region. The questions are organised along three thematic blocks. The first one looks into the context and drivers of violent extremism. The second focuses on the impact of violent extremism. Questions from the third block cover several aspects related to policy responses.

The questionnaire combined open-ended questions and multiple-choice questions with predefined answers offering respondents the possibility to choose and rank among several options or the possibility to grade on a “very low” to “very high” scale. For these questions, an optional space was provided to elaborate on the answer. This open part is considered of great importance for a Survey of this kind as it contributes to improving the interpretation of its overall results and provides with additional valuable material.

**Survey Sample**

To conduct the Survey, a universe of 6,500 experts, actors and policy-makers from the 43 Union for the Mediterranean countries was selected. They received an invitation to participate. As in previous years, geographical distribution, institutional affiliation, field of knowledge and gender balance were the reference criteria for selecting the universe. In addition to experts involved in Euro-Mediterranean affairs in various capacities, some more specialised experts in violent extremism were identified.

Concerning the distribution by geographical origin, 53% came from the EU-28 and 45% from Southern and Southeast Mediterranean Countries (hereafter SSM).
The Mediterranean EU countries\(^1\) (29.8%), the remaining EU countries and the Maghreb countries\(^2\) are the sub-regional groupings that account for the bulk of the responses. Mashreq\(^3\) countries come in fourth position with 13.5% of respondents.

1. Spain, France, Italy, Portugal, Malta, Cyprus, Greece, Croatia and Slovenia. The first three alone account for nearly 82% of responses from this region.
2. Maghreb countries include Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Mauritania and Libya. The first three alone account for 93% of responses from this region.
3. Mashreq countries include Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, the Occupied Palestinian Territories and Syria.
Reaching a representative distribution by country continues to be a difficult task. Some countries are over-represented and others under-represented. In order to avoid bias in the results, we have weighted them according to distribution of the target by the countries in the sample (see annex II). With this weighting we avoid the over-representation of Spain, France, Italy Morocco and Tunisia largely determining the results of respondents overall.

**Profile of Respondents**

In the first block of questions, in addition to providing their country of origin, respondents were asked to indicate their gender and the type of institution they belonged to.4

As shown in the graphs below, the majority of respondents to the questionnaire are “experts”, an aggregated category that includes respondents from think tanks, media and, above all, academia. Altogether, these groups account for 53% of the total number of responses. The other categories “policy-makers” (embracing responses from diplomatic bodies, European or international institutions, political parties and governments) and “civil society” (encompassing trade unions, companies and mainly NGOs) account each for 23% of the total number of responses.

**Graph 3: Breakdown of respondents by type of institution**

When looking specifically at the individual groups (see Graph 4 below), academia clearly emerges as the most represented institution (35% of total responses), followed by NGOs (19.3%) and think tanks (16.2%). Altogether, these groups account for two thirds of the total responses.

4. Governmental, diplomatic, EU institution, other international organisation, political party, think tank, academic, media, NGO, trade union, company (business sector).
Respondents were also asked about their main sector of activity and were given the opportunity to indicate one or two areas of specialisation. As shown in the graph below, which features aggregated figures for main and secondary areas of specialisation, 35.5% of the respondents operate in the area of “Political cooperation and security”. “Social, cultural and human exchanges” ranks second as the main area of specialisation of respondents (34%), followed by “migration and justice affairs” 16.5%). Finally, “economic and financial cooperation” comes in fourth place with 14.1%
When analysing the figures above by factoring in the geographical dimension, one finds that the main area of specialisation of European respondents is “political cooperation and security” while most SSM respondents identified “social, cultural and human exchanges” as their area of expertise.

Graph 6: Breakdown of respondents by area of specialisation and by region

Finally, to complete the description of the sample on which this Survey is based, it is important to note that 34% of respondents are women, in line with the gender balance of the last Survey (see Graph 7). When analysing the North/South dimension, the aggregate proportion of women amounts to 29.3% for SSM countries, while it increases to 37.5% for EU countries. By regional groups, the Maghreb and Mashreq fall below the overall gender ratio (see Graph 8).

Graph 7: Breakdown of respondents by gender
Graph 8: Breakdown of respondents by gender and regional groups

- **Rest of EU**: 61% Men, 39% Women
- **Mediterranean EU**: 64% Men, 36% Women
- **European non-EU**: 67% Men, 33% Women
- **Maghreb**: 69% Men, 31% Women
- **Mashreq**: 70% Men, 30% Women

Source: Compiled by the IEMed based on the results of the 8th Euromed Survey