

# CHALLENGES IN AND FOR SOUTHERN AND SOUTHEAST MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES

This third block, made up of three policy-oriented questions, seeks to capture the perception of respondents on the elements that should be prioritised in order to better manage the human movements and migrations in the Southern and Southeast Mediterranean countries. The questions were designed with the idea of differentiating between the countries affected by the Syrian crisis and countries in the Maghreb facing structural migration challenges. The last two questions, based on this geographic differentiation, focused on South-South human movements.

## Main findings

- Among all migration-related challenges identified in the question, enhancing national protection capacities is the issue that governments from Southern and Southeast Mediterranean countries should prioritise, according to the respondents.
- Asked to share their view about their own country, respondents from the Southern and Southeast Mediterranean seem to be more concerned with challenges related to emigration than the Survey mean.
- Humanitarian assistance to refugees is seen as the first element to enhance in countries hosting a high number of Syrian refugees. However, Jordanian and Lebanese respondents believe that the support schemes for host community members are equally important.
- In general, it seems that European participants are more concerned with the socioeconomic integration of refugees in the Southern and Southeast Mediterranean host countries than respondents from the Southern and Southeast Mediterranean.
- Moroccan and Tunisian respondents believe that the development of appropriate reception arrangements (registration and temporary documentation) should be the first priority for their country.
- Respondents with governmental and diplomatic backgrounds attach more importance to return agreements than the average.

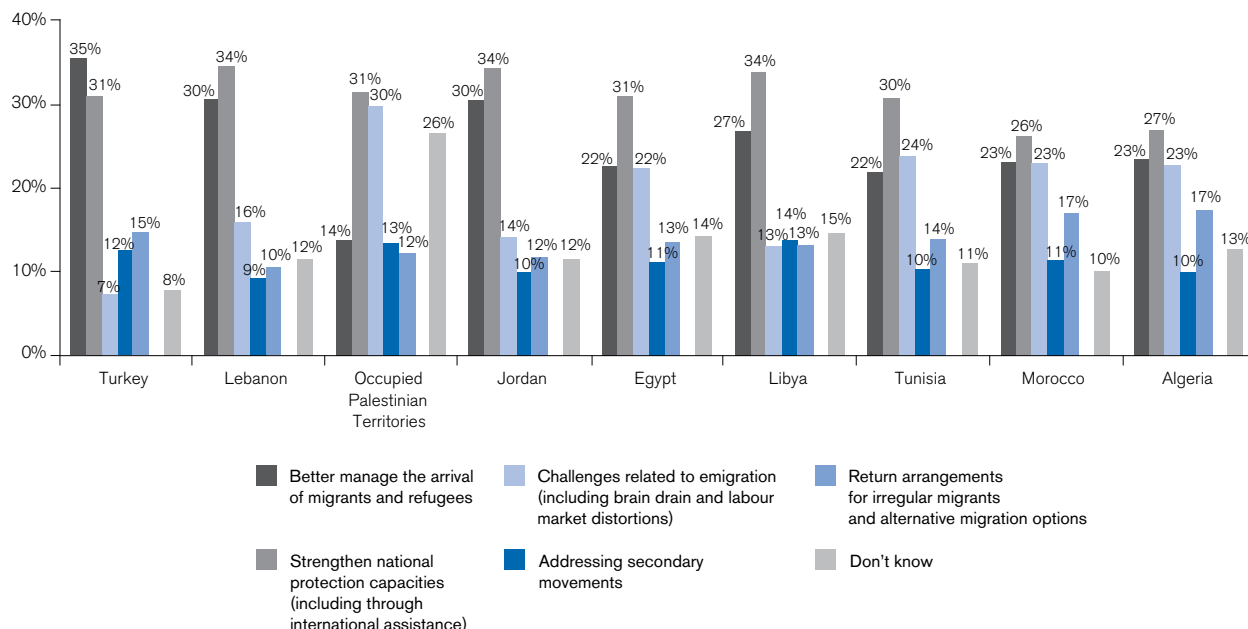
With the first question, respondents were invited to determine the two priorities that the governments of the countries in the region should take into account to better manage migration and human movements affecting them. A general trend highlights the need to enhance national protection capacities as the first priority for all the countries (around 30% of the answers received) with the exception of Turkey. Then come the issues of the management of the arrival of migrants and emigration challenges with differences to be considered for a more detailed picture.

Unsurprisingly, a differentiation between North African countries, on the one hand (Maghreb and Egypt), and countries directly affected by conflicts or by their spill-overs (Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey and Libya), on the other, emerges from the responses.

According to the respondents, the governments of Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and to a slightly lesser extent Egypt should strengthen their national protection capacities (from 26% to 31% of the answers), address emigration challenges (22-24%) and better manage the arrival of migrants and refugees (22-23%) as their main priorities (see Graph 36).

**Graph 36: What should be the main priority issues of the following governments when dealing with human movements and migrations?**

(Respondents chose two options for each country)



Source: Compiled by the IEMed based on the results of the 7th Euromed Survey/Question 20

The respondents' perceptions of the main challenges that Lebanon and Jordan should face are almost identical in percentages. The governments of these two countries hosting a significant number of Syrian refugees are expected by the respondents as a matter of priority to enhance their national protection capacities (34%), and to better manage arrivals of migration and refugees (30%). Respondents also indicated that these two issues should be the top priorities for the Libyan and the Turkish governments as well but in different proportions. Unlike the preceding countries, the Survey shows that, in Turkey, better management of the arrival of migrants and refugees (35%) is the most important issue.

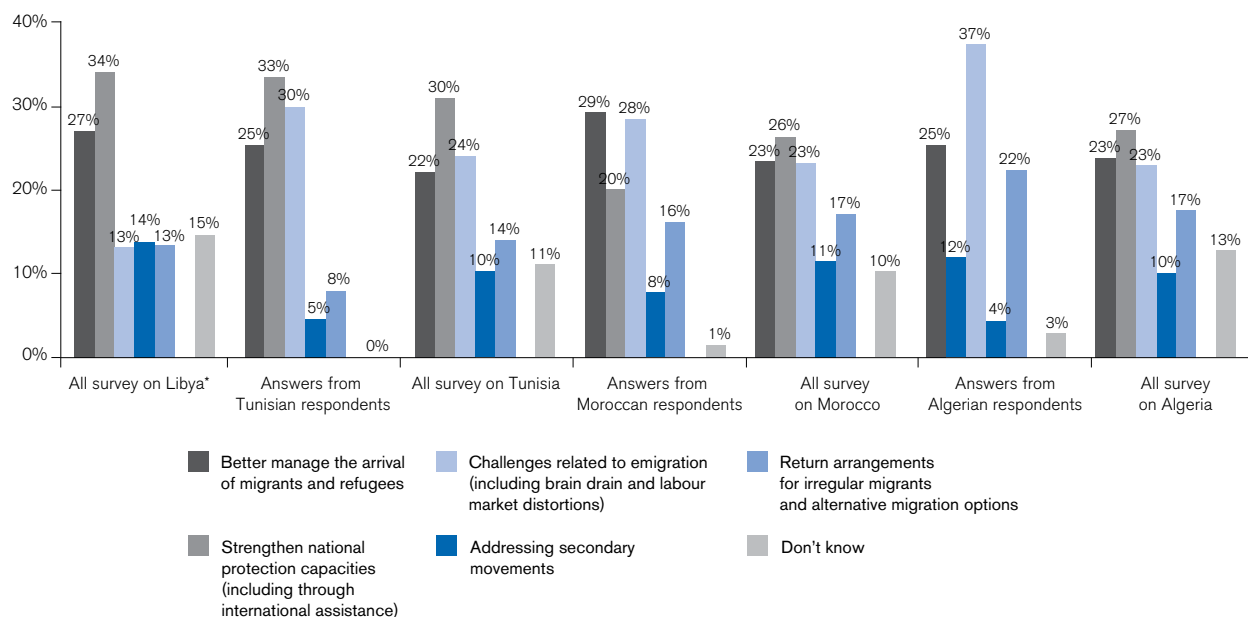
As expected, Palestine is a specific case, with a high proportion of respondents who did not address it. Those who responded indicate that the protection capacities issue and challenges related to emigration should be taken into special consideration by the Palestinian government.

The picture is different when we look at the perceptions that participants from the Southern and Southeast Mediterranean have regarding their own country (see Graphs 37 and 38). For example, they tend to give more importance to the challenges related to emigration than the Survey mean. It is the main concern for Algerian (37%) and Egyptian (33%) respondents while it is of significant importance for Jordanians (30%), Tunisians (30%) and Moroccans (28%).

Maghrebian respondents also perceive the issue of better management of the arrival of migrants and refugees as more important for their respective countries than the Survey mean (see Graph 37).

**Graph 37: What should be the main priority issues of the following governments when dealing with human movements and migrations?**

(Respondents chose two options for each country)

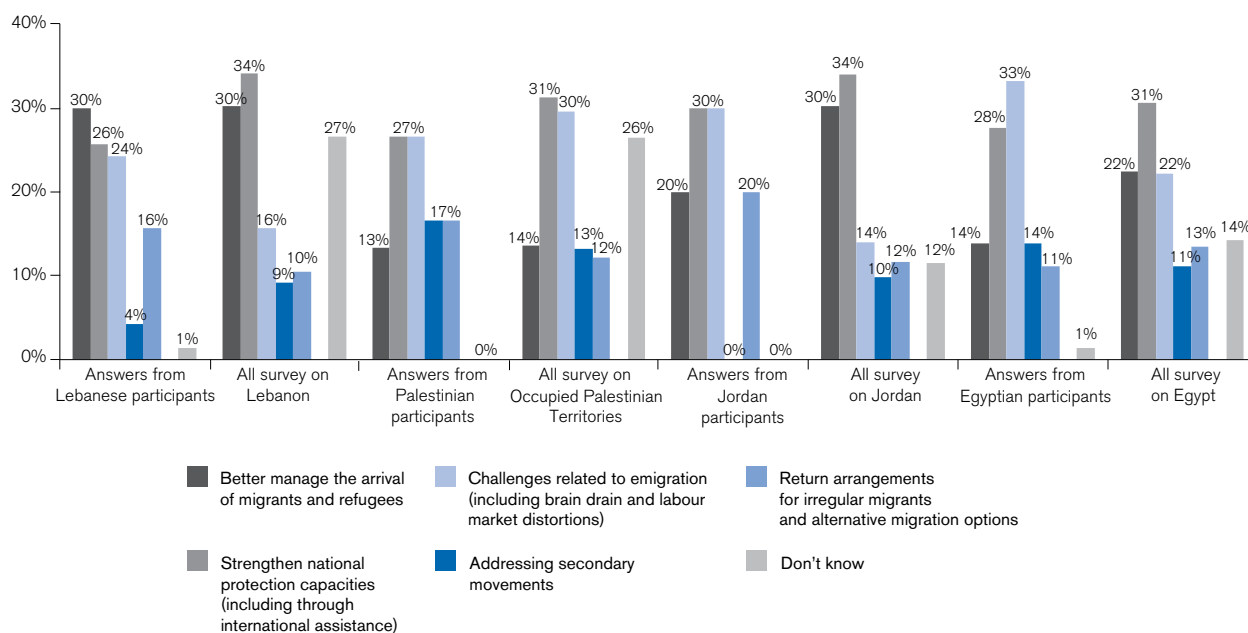


(\*) The low number of answers from Libya doesn't allow for a significant analysis of Libyan respondents

Source: Compiled by the IEMed based on the results of the 7th Euromed Survey/Question 20

**Graph 38: What should be the main priority issues of the following governments when dealing with human movements and migrations?**

(Respondents chose two options for each country)

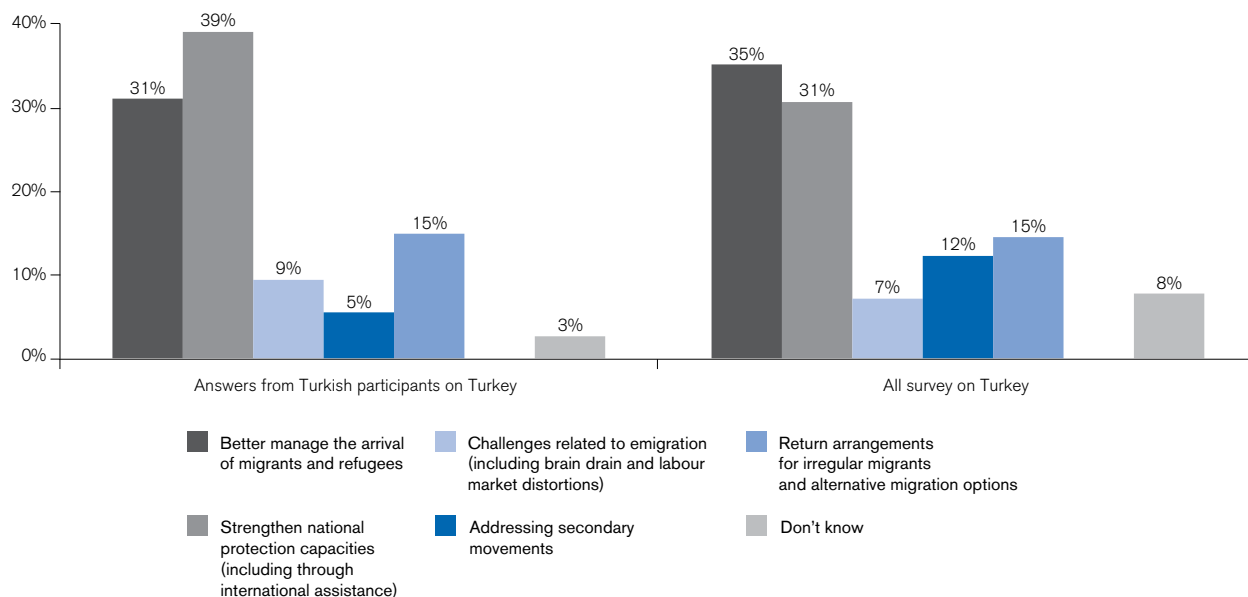


Source: Compiled by the IEMed based on the results of the 7th Euromed Survey/Question 20

Asked about the main priorities for Turkey, Turkish respondents tend to be more concerned about the need to enhance the national protection capacities and less by the need to address the issue of secondary movements than the entire community of respondents (see Graph 39).

**Graph 39: What should be the main priority issues of the following governments when dealing with human movements and migrations?**

(Respondents chose two options for each country)

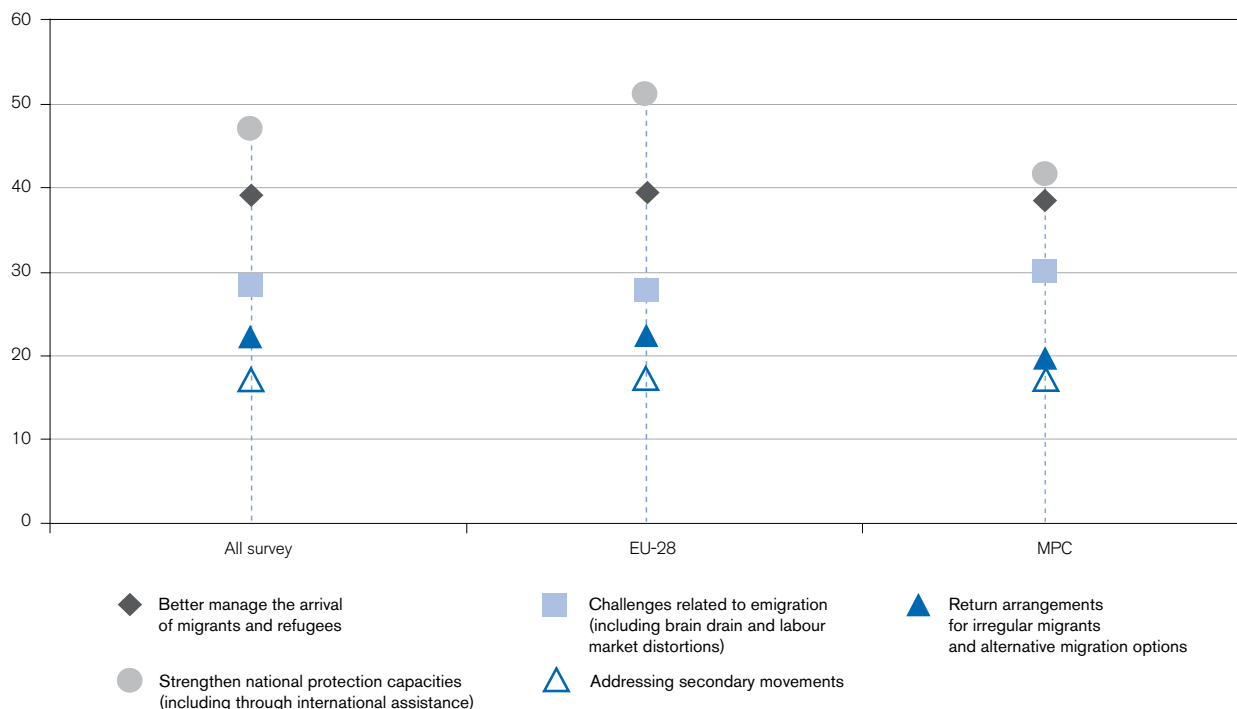


Source: Compiled by the IEMed based on the results of the 7th Euromed Survey/Question 20

The analysis of results also reveals some North-South variations in the answers to Q20. European respondents emphasise more than their counterparts from Southern and Southeast Mediterranean countries the importance of strengthening national protection capacities (see Graph 40).

**Graph 40: What should be the main priority issues of the following governments when dealing with human movements and migrations?**

(Respondents chose two options; mean in % of answers by group of countries)

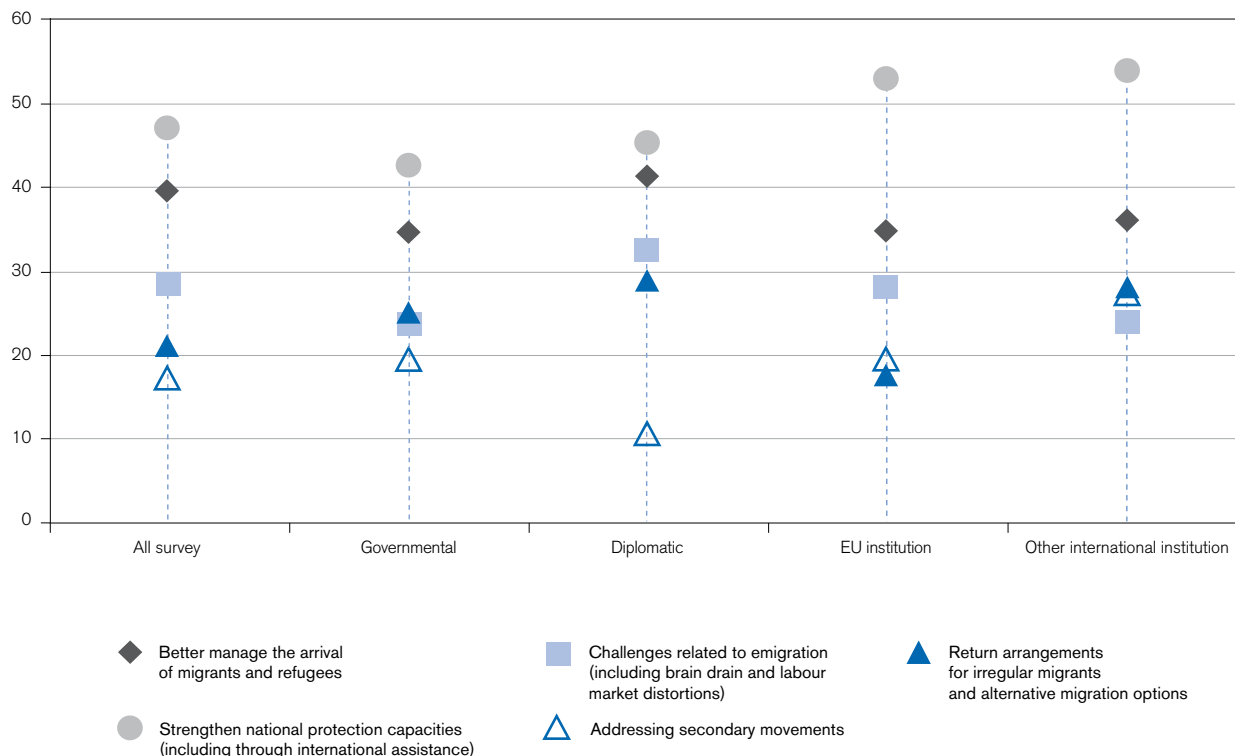


Source: Compiled by the IEMed based on the results of the 7th Euromed Survey/Question 20

Looking at the results that cluster respondents based on their professional affiliation (see Graph 41), the Survey shows that the support expressed by respondents with a governmental and especially diplomatic background for return arrangement for irregular migrants and alternative migration options is above the Survey average. While putting less emphasis on the return issue and alternative migration options than other categories of participants, respondents from EU institutions consider the need to strengthen national protection capacities as the most important priority that governments from Southern and Southeast Mediterranean countries should take into account (with the exception of Turkey).

**Graph 41: To what extent should the following elements be enhanced in order to better manage the arrival of migrants and refugees in the following countries?**

(Respondents chose two options; mean in % of answers by institutional affiliation)

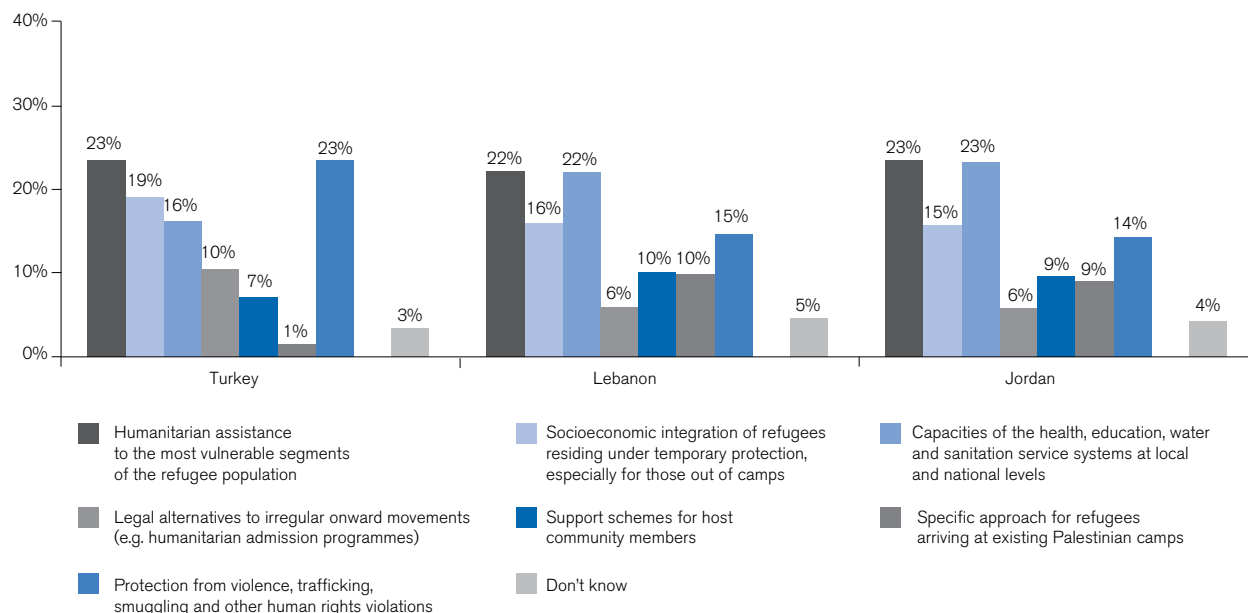


Source: Compiled by the IEMed based on the results of the 7th Euromed Survey/Question 20

In Q21, respondents were asked to share their views on the issues that Syria's neighbouring countries should prioritise to better manage the arrival of refugees. Out of seven possibilities, respondents chose enhancing humanitarian assistance for the most vulnerable segments of the refugee population as the most important element for Jordan, Turkey and Lebanon. Again, answers for Jordan and Lebanon are almost identical (see Graph 42).

**Graph 42: To what extent should the following elements be enhanced in order to better manage the arrival of migrants and refugees in the following countries?**

(Respondents chose three options for each country)



Source: Compiled by the IEMed based on the results of the 7th Euromed Survey/Question 21

Regarding Turkey, it is worth noting that enhancing protection from violence, trafficking, smuggling and other human rights violations obtains a higher ratio (23%) compared to Jordan (14%) and Lebanon (15%). It is the most chosen option and stands at the same level as humanitarian assistance (see Graph 42).

While 22-23% of the respondents judge that the capacities of the Lebanese and the Jordanian governments to deliver basic services should be strengthened, it is seen as less critical for Turkey (16%). The perception that Jordan and Lebanon are subjected to more pressure than Turkey is also reflected by a slightly higher ratio of answers directed towards enhancing support schemes for host community members.

Answers from Jordanian, Lebanese and Turkish participants on their own countries also provide useful insights, as they prove to be quite different from the Survey average. In terms of elements to enhance in their country, Jordanians and Lebanese think that support schemes to host community members should be as important as providing humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable refugees (see Graph 43). This directly echoes the results of Q7 where 86% of participants from the Mashreq consider to a high extent that help for host communities should be integrated by the international refugee protection system. The following comment is illustrative in this regard.

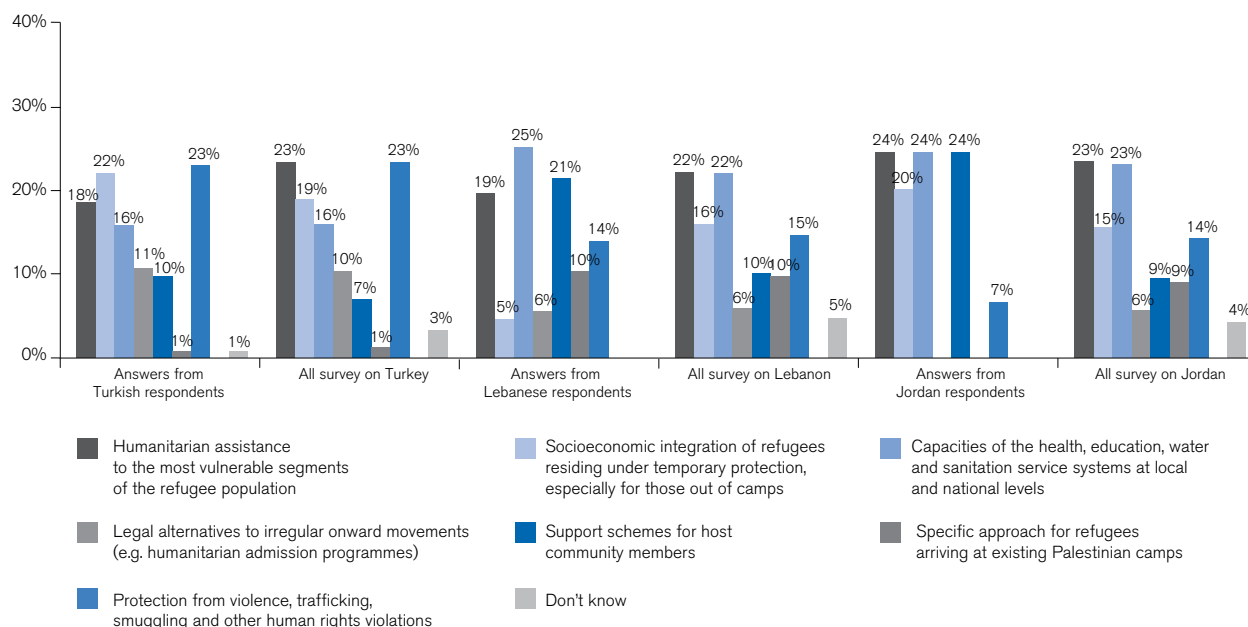
In countries such as Jordan, involving host communities is extremely important because they are often not in a better position than refugee groups and have limited access to alternative sources of aid or services. To ensure that tension does not ferment between communities, this must be taken into consideration.

Jordanian respondent

Unlike Jordanians and Turks, Lebanese respondents do not believe that the socioeconomic integration of refugees residing in their country under temporary protection should be among the first priorities (only 5% of the answers – see Graph 43).

**Graph 43: To what extent should the following elements be enhanced in order to better manage the arrival of migrants and refugees in the following countries?**

(Respondents chose three options for each country)



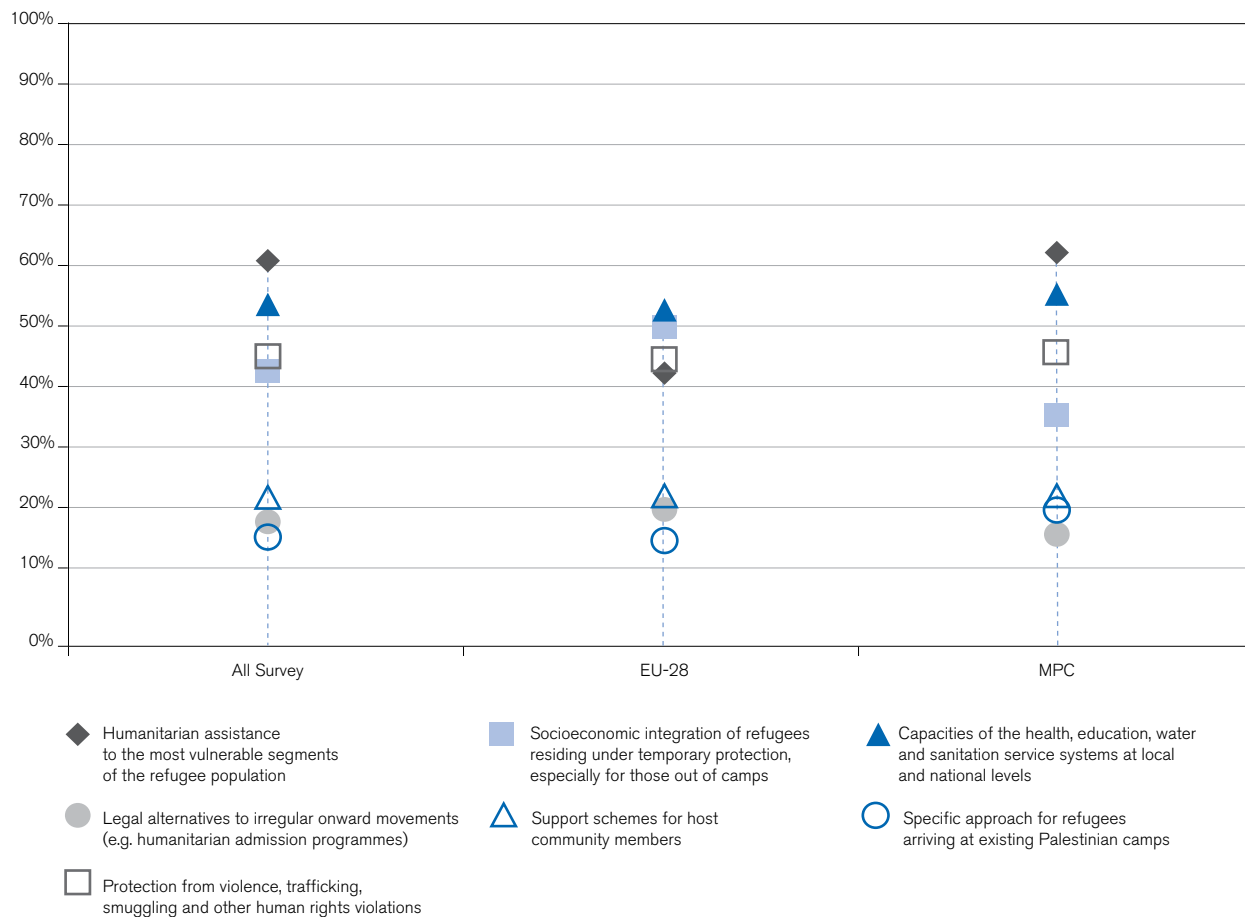
Source: Compiled by the IEMed based on the results of the 7th Euromed Survey/Question 21

Results also highlight that European participants seem to be more concerned with the socioeconomic integration of refugees in the three countries concerned than respondents from these three countries themselves (see Graph 44).



**Graph 44: To what extent should the following elements be enhanced in order to better manage the arrival of migrants and refugees in the following countries?**

(Respondents chose three options; mean in % of answers by country)

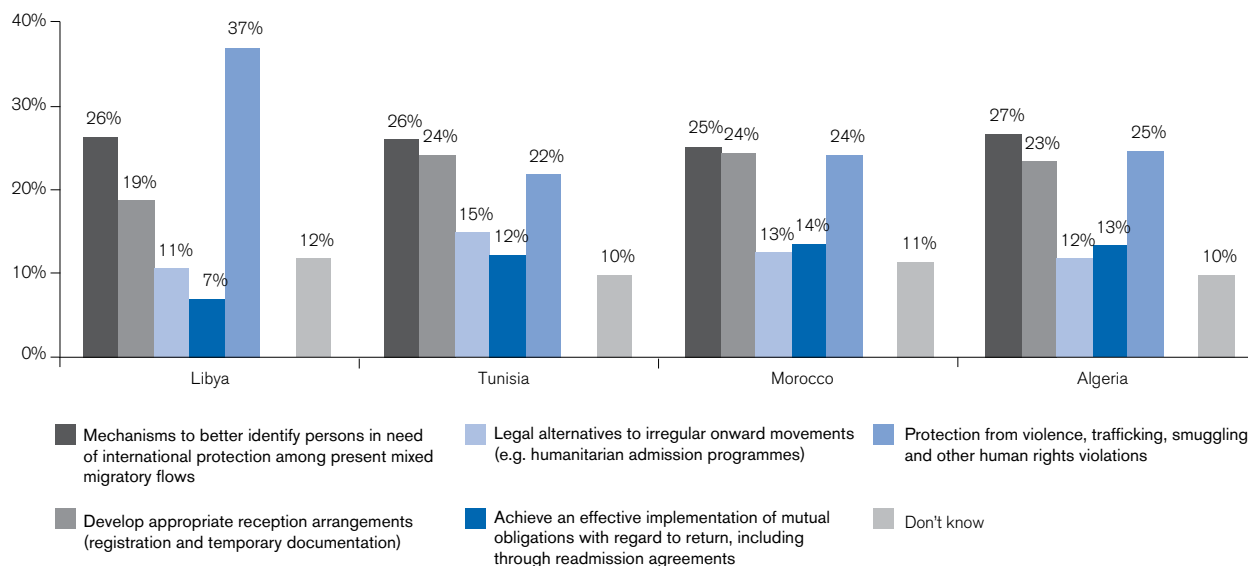


Source: Compiled by the IEMed based on the results of the 7th Euromed Survey/Question 21

Q22 is similar to Q21 but focuses on Maghreb countries with answer options tailored to the reality of flows of migrants and refugees affecting them.

**Graph 45: To what extent should the following elements be enhanced in order to better manage the arrival of migrants and refugees?**

(Respondents chose two options)



Source: Compiled by the IEMed based on the results of the 7th Euromed Survey/Question 22

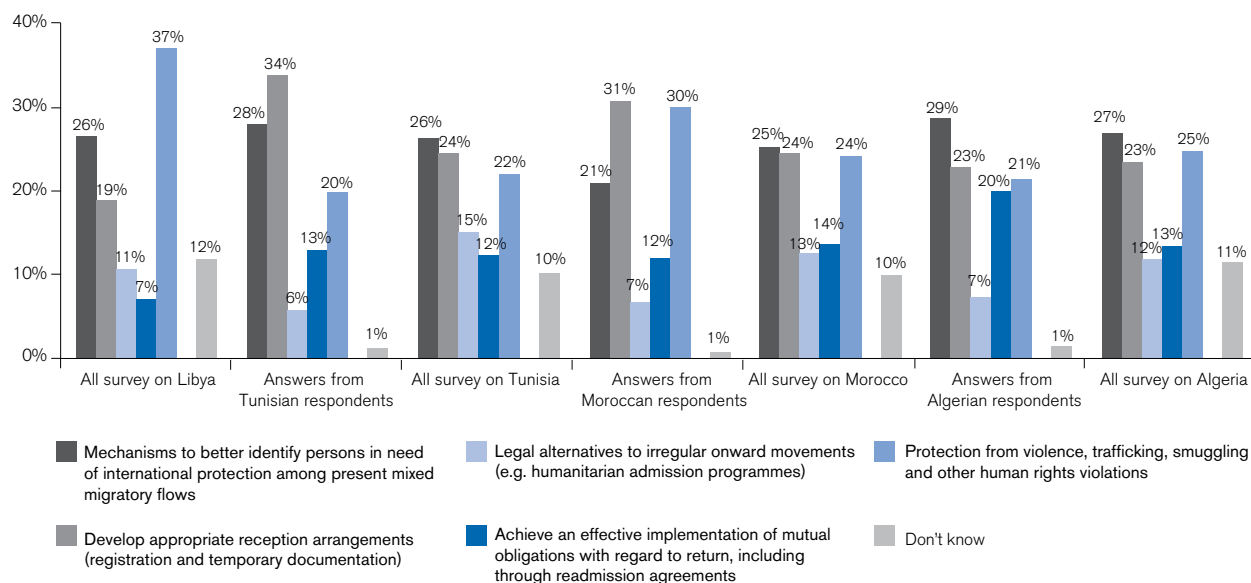
Similar results were obtained for Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia, while results on Libya illustrate the specific situation of this country. For the first three, better identifying persons in need of international protection, appropriate reception arrangements and protection against violence and human rights violations each yield about 25% of responses. Respondents consider legal alternatives to irregular onward movements and the implementation of return arrangements as less important (12-15%).

In view of the situation in Libya, respondents think that the protection of migrants and refugees from violence and human rights should have more priority (37%), while the implementation of mutual obligations regarding return and readmission agreements is the least important element (7%).

When looking at the perceptions of respondents about their own country (see Graph 46), it is worth noting that the Moroccans surveyed put a greater emphasis on the development of appropriate reception arrangements and the protection from violence and human rights violations than the average of respondents. Like Moroccans, Tunisian respondents believe that the development of appropriate reception arrangements (registration and temporary documentation) should be the first priority (34%) for their country, with 10 percentage points above the mean.

**Graph 46: To what extent should the following elements be enhanced in order to better manage the arrival of migrants and refugees?**

(Respondents chose two options)

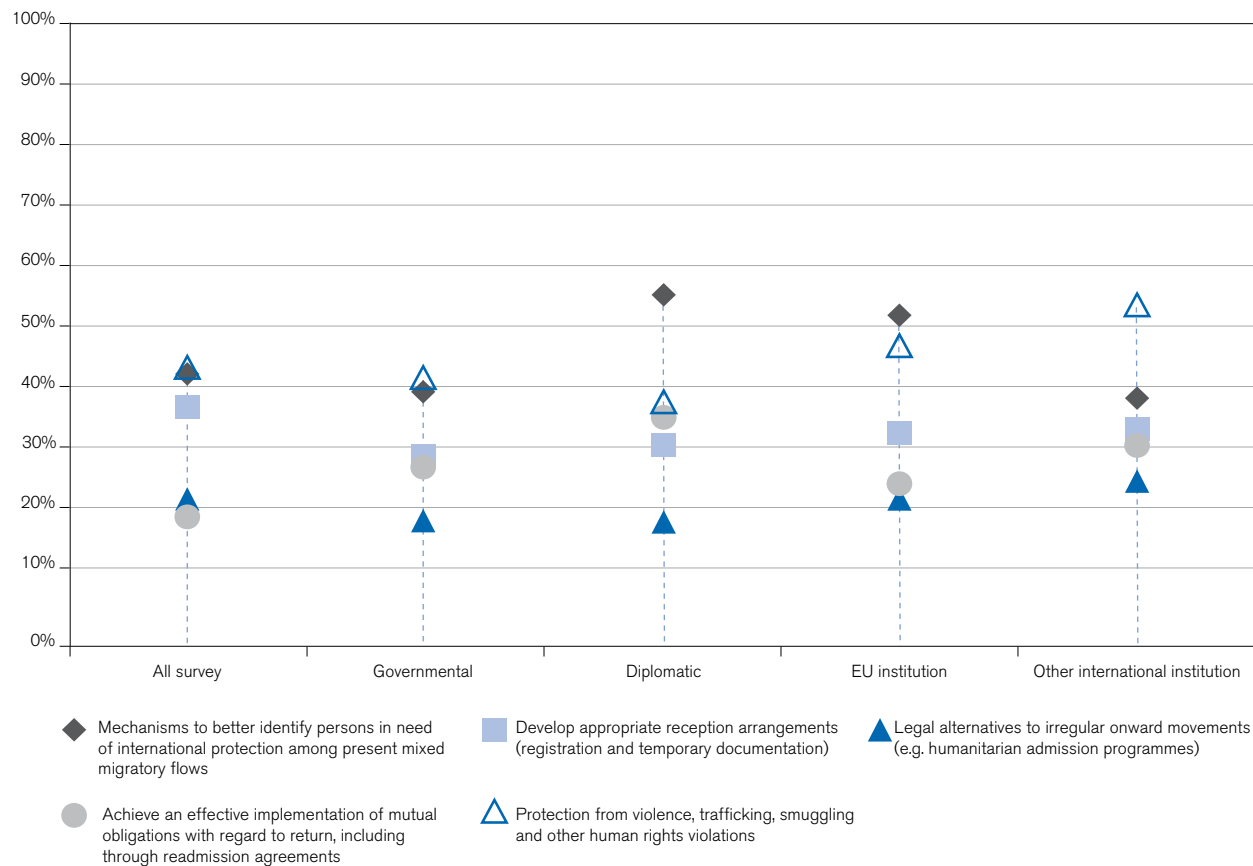


Source: Compiled by the IEMed based on the results of the 7th Euromed Survey/Question 22

Another remarkable trend is that, in line with Q20, policy-makers, especially with a diplomatic background, attach significantly more importance to the effective implementation of mutual obligations with regard to return than the experts and civil society activists surveyed (see Graph 47). This trend is also seen among Algerian respondents who stand above the Survey average (see Graph 46). Unlike for Q20, it is also the case for respondents from EU institutions.

**Graph 47: To what extent should the following elements be enhanced in order to better manage the arrival of migrants and refugees?**

(Respondents chose three options; mean in % of answers by professional affiliation)



Source: Compiled by the IEMed based on the results of the 7th Euromed Survey/Question 22