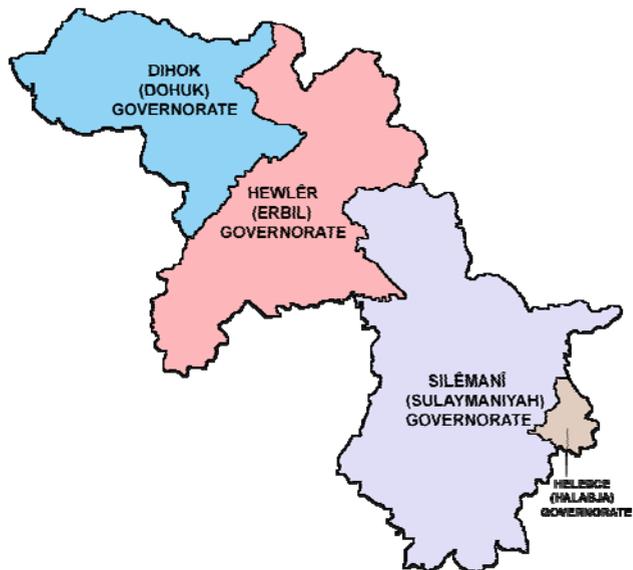


REPORT

WHITHER COEXISTENCE IN TROUBLED TIMES?

A SURVEY OF THE HOST COMMUNITY, IDPS AND REFUGEES IN THE PROVINCES OF DUHOK, ERBIL AND SULAYMANIYAH



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This project was prepared and conducted in partnership between Open Think Tank (NGO based in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq) and Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Syria/Iraq Office.

We hereby thank all the people who took time to participate in this survey and all the collaborators who contributed to this project.

If you have questions about this project or would like additional information, please contact one of the project partners. Copies of this report can be found on the partners' websites: www.ttopen.org and <http://www.kas.de/syrien-irak/>.



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Open Think Tank (OTT) is an independent, non-partisan organization based in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. It aims to promote dialogue, discussion, and diverse points of view on issues of current interest. Research, policy advocacy, and education programs are core activities of the OTT.



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The Syria/Iraq Office has been set up in September 2015 and deals with the political and social situation in both countries, questions regarding the stability of neighboring countries, the refugee situation and security implications arising from the Syrian civil war and the expansion of the Islamic State.

N.B. The views expressed in this document are solely those of the authors, and do not reflect the views of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung.

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SUMMARY OF THE KEY FINDINGS

The refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) who have found refuge in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI) coexist reasonably peacefully with the local population, or host community. They tend to be informed about the current situation and actively engage in discussions about coexistence in the region. However, few think that they can make a difference in the resolution of the crises affecting them and the ones that desire to make a difference do so by being enrolled in political parties. They have a limited number of channels to express their voices and interests, and very few engage actively in any civic form of action or expression of their discontent. The contacts between the communities are rather frequent, but there are no signs of active integration between the three population groups (refugees, IDPs and host community): they coexist and treat each other well, however everybody knows his place and does not rock the boat. The IDPs and refugees living in camps tend to be more isolated than the ones that live in the community and the conflicts within their groups are more frequent than they were before their displacement.

The population is moderately satisfied with the services provided, but the host community tends to complain more about the quality of the services they receive. There is a fairly consistent meeting of basic needs and in this phase, people start thinking more often about their own personal development. Most of the respondents have a more or less clear knowledge of how to solve their problems, and informal intra-group institutions like family, and personal relations with their peers play an important role in mediating the resolution of personal problems. Public authorities along with civil society have a secondary role and are approached mainly after the problem has proved insoluble at the grass roots level.

The future is uncertain. On the one hand, the host community for the most part would prefer the displaced population to return to their homeland voluntarily, while this is less appealing to about half the IDPs and refugees, with the majority of the latter preferring to remain.

STRUCTURE AND CONTENT OF THE REPORT

Far from being an exhaustive list, what follows are some of the foci of this survey: history of displacement, economic self-reliance and revenues, interest and knowledge of the current issues, political participation and involvement in civic action, legality and civil rights, contacts and relationships within the displaced populations and between the displaced and the host community, satisfaction with the quality of services, general trust in institutions, and finally, prospects for the future and what comes next. All these points are presented in this report. Whenever relevant, comparison is made between the responses of the three different groups - host community, refugees and IDPs - to the same questions.

SURVEY METHOD

The period of the survey data collection was August 2017. A cross-sectional design has been adopted in this survey for the host community, IDPs and refugees living in the three historical governorates of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, namely Duhok, Erbil and Sulaymaniyah.

A stratified sample based on age, gender, place of living (rural or urban, camp or non-camp for the IDPs and refugees) and governorate are utilized to identify our respondents. The survey was conducted through face to face individual interviews with close-ended multiple choices questions. The open ended answers were recorded in all the cases where the answer would not fit into the given answer menu.

Please refer to the *Appendix* for the questionnaire, sampling and weighting of data, frequencies and distribution of the results. For more in-depth inferential analysis, please contact the survey partners.

WHO CAN USE THIS DATA?

There is a general lack of knowledge and evidence regarding the attitudes and social dynamics among and between the host community, IDPs and refugees who currently coexist in the KRI. The primary intention

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of this survey is not to provide encompassing answers, nor to create overarching conclusions. On the contrary, we would be pleased if this data and report raised new questions and stimulated discussion regarding the 'what' and 'how' of coexistence during these troubled times.

The results of this inquiry can be of use to practitioners and scholars who are interested in the region and in the dynamics of coexistence in post-conflict and forced displacement situations. Local and regional decision-makers, as well as international organizations and agencies would also be advised to use the data to inform or inspire policies, programs and activities in the KRI.

Although there are advantages that this data can offer, its limitations are considerable and we acknowledge that more work, effort, curiosity and questioning are needed to have a better grasp of the continuously changing situation in the region. A survey can only offer hints concerning some existing and potential problems, but has a limited explanatory capacity. This survey is a snapshot of the situation in the region as of the end of August 2017. Post-survey events like the Kurdish Referendum for Independence held on 25 September, along with the subsequent clashes for territory between Erbil and Iraq, and further decisions imposed by the central government to Erbil, might have challenged or deepened some of the attitudes and beliefs of our respondents. Even so, if changes in attitudes have occurred due to these events, then this might raise an even wider set of questions regarding the vision and critical thinking of the interviewed population.

SURVEY BACKGROUND

The refugee crises provoked by the Syrian civil war which started in 2011, along with the forced displacement that followed the invasion of the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) in 2014, have affected large populations in the KRI. As a result, three populations are willingly or unwillingly forced to coexist. The first is the *host community*, represented by the locals who were living in the area before the 2014 ISIS invasion. The second is the *refugee population*, representing Syrian nationals who arrived in the area after the outbreak of the Syrian civil war in 2011; and the third is the *IDPs population* i.e. Iraqi nationals who fled into the area after 2014 to escape ISIS.

Conflicts and population displacement have created and revealed a number of overlapping crises, related to the situation of IDPs and refugees, together with the problems that the host community was already facing. Waves of displaced peoples have exacerbated some core problems related to institutional incapacities, economic crises, a high reliance on natural resources and below-standard education, health and social policies in the KRI and in Iraq. At the time of writing (end of 2017), the situation in the region has entered into a profoundly uncertain phase, where external funding and intervention of the humanitarian actors is being continuously reduced. The withdrawal of major humanitarian aid and assistance is presenting new challenges.

What are the dynamics and how does coexistence between the three different population groups – host community, IDPs, and refugees – look like in the KRI? What kind of equilibrium is being established within and among the population groups? Are there any potential sources of conflict and what bridges can be strengthened between these populations? These questions constitute the main drivers for this survey.

In dealing with this kind of situation, the focus normally tends to be on the decision-makers, the actors and stakeholders that ‘matter’. Meanwhile, the masses of the displaced – along with the host community that willingly or unwillingly has to host wave after wave these IDPs and refugees – are mute, described by a bureaucratic ‘beneficiary’ terminology, and remain unnamed and unvoiced numbers in budget calculations. This is why we chose to focus specifically on the concerned populations to echo their unheard and not listened to voice.

SURVEY KEY RESULTS:

HISTORY OF DISPLACEMENT

The Syrian refugees and Iraqi IDPs have found shelter in a region where people are already closely acquainted with the problems of displacement, having themselves had recent experience of conflict and mass murders in the late 1980's. Around 40% of host community respondents have been either refugees or IDPs. Iran, Turkey and Syria are the neighboring countries to which Iraqi Kurds fled between the 1960s and 1990s. The displacement experience is stated by our respondents as one of the reasons why they feel a deep empathy with victims of war and conflict.

At the same time, for more than 85% of the IDP and refugee respondents to the survey, this is their first displacement. The refugees have been displaced for four or more years, and 10% of them have been displaced more than once since the beginning of the war in Syria, while 12% of the IDPs have been displaced at least once before. Some of the IDPs mentioned that they have already been displaced several times in the middle of the 1970s.

SURVEY KEY RESULTS:

REVENUES AND ECONOMIC SELF-RELIANCE

About a third of the host community and more than half of the refugee and IDP survey respondents do not have an *individual monthly income*. Approximately 5% of the entire population has less than \$100 monthly income, 5% have between \$100 and \$199. Individuals from the host community have slightly higher individual incomes, with more than 36% earning over \$400 a month, while this percentage is 10% and 11% among refugees and IDPs respectively.

Approximately 15% of the IDP and refugee population declared that they have *no monthly family income*, while 15% receive \$2000 or more as income per family per month. Host community families have a more secure earning profile, with 2% only declaring no income. However, a lower share of them declares a monthly income over \$2000. Families with a higher income have more members contributing to the household: in more than 40% of cases there is only one breadwinner in the household, and in 20% or more cases there are two persons or more who earn money, among which we can find the families earning the most.

But how is that income generated? Job opportunities are considered scarce by our respondents, unemployment being reported as the main personal problem for about 60% of the respondents. When checked for statistical correlations between the individual level of earning and education, gender, age, level of experience, or any other predictors that normally would correlate with the level of income, not even the smallest correlation has been found in our data. In other words, if one attempted to convince a young person to pursue education under these particular conditions, this argument would not 'hold water' in the current situation in the KRI. Other factors are far more important in determining the level of income here. This might seem atypical in a lot of other regions, but it constitutes total normality for the host community, refugees and IDPs in the KRI.

So, how does the population of the KRI cover their living expenses? Do they have any alternative, side streams of income? When asked if they have received money from abroad in the last 3 months, over 90% of the respondents said 'no'. Some 8% of the host community receive money from relatives living abroad, and less than 5% of IDPs and

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refugees benefit from relatives who do so. Other options were included in the answers to this question, such as states, organizations, or other entities based abroad. The number of respondents who declared they receive money from foreign organizations, Iraqi or KRI institutions is under 1%.

SURVEY KEY RESULTS:

KNOWLEDGE AND INTEREST IN NEWS AND CURRENT ISSUES

Knowledge of current issues and interest in the news is an important part of the daily life of individuals. Being informed about current happenings is vital, especially during crises which could involve displacement, in order for people to at least maintain an illusion of control and power over their own lives to take informed decisions.

Our data shows that *television* is the main source of news for the host community, IDPs and refugees in the KRI; four persons out of five from the host community, refugees and IDPs are informed via television news.

Online and social media come in second place regarding the acquisition of news and information. There is a significant difference between the population groups here: 65% of the host community use online and social media, while only 40% of refugees and 35% of IDPs do so. One reason for this difference is the inequality of access to internet infrastructure among the three groups, as shown in a later section of this report.

Interaction with *family* and *friends* is a third important means of receiving news and information. *Newspapers* and *radio* come last among the population of the KRI as a means of acquiring news. One person in five of the host community reads newspapers and one in ten listens to radio. Only 5-10% of IDPs and refugees access newspapers and radio for news. In other words, there are rather uniform answers among the groups, except for social media.

The loss of interest in newspapers and radio can be explained by the increasing *access to and use of the internet*. 75% of the host community use it. However, the internet remains a luxury for approximately half the displaced population and IDPs have even less access to it than refugees. The high cost of internet data could perhaps account for this difference.

Whenever the KRI population goes online, it is for a number of specific reasons:

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Firstly, for approximately 90% of those using the internet, it is a way of keeping in touch with friends and relatives. Secondly, it is a source of news on current issues, mainly via social media.

Most respondents from all the groups regularly check their source of news *one or more times a day*: less than 70% of the host community and over 60% of refugees and IDPs access their preferred source of news at least once a day.

More than half of the population thinks the sources of news are neither reliable nor unreliable. Overall, there is more trust than distrust in sources of news, as it is noteworthy that one person out of ten thinks that the used sources of news are very reliable, while approximately 5% find the news very unreliable.

Overall, the three populations who coexist in the KRI are interested in seeking information about local and national issues. The host community is slightly more interested in seeking such news, while the IDPs are moderately less so.

Displacement has posed challenges directly or indirectly to the entire population of the KRI. Peaceful coexistence is a basic prerequisite for the development of the region and for the well-being of its inhabitants.

Our data shows that 18% of IDPs and 16% of refugees have listened to or read news about coexistence at least *once every day*, when not even 15% of the host community has.. Over 20% of the respondents have been exposed to news related to coexistence *one or more times a week*. However, the majority of respondents from the host community (28%) and over 20% of refugees and IDPs have *never* read or listened to news about coexistence between the community and refugee/IDPs in the KRI in the last two months before the survey. It seems that IDPs and refugees are more informed and discuss more regularly about coexistence than the host community.

These results *do not* indicate the frequency of news being broadcasted regarding coexistence. The issue is extensive and the majority of local or regional news can be interpreted in terms of its impact and implications for coexistence. Instead, our questions measure the extent to which the respondents link the news that they hear with coexistence issues. This is more evident when the population is asked

about its active involvement in discussing such issues. We measure this interest in coexistence by the degree to which people engage in discussions that directly involve coexistence issues. When asked how often they have discussed coexistence between the host community, IDPs and refugees in the KRI during the previous two months, the answers reveal that the population discusses the issues with almost the same frequency as reading and listening about coexistence

When asked *with whom they have discussed coexistence* in the last two months, the majority of respondents in each group have discussed the topic within their own groups. There are some-ongoing discussions between groups too: but these are rather less: approximately a quarter of the host community is engaged in discussions with both the IDP and refugee populations. Only 10%-15% of the refugees and IDPs discuss coexistence between each other. Those living outside camps within the host community in cities and towns have more opportunities and have more discussions with the other groups than those living in camps.

Approximately a quarter of respondents answered that they do not know or do not know to whom they have talked about coexistence issues. UN agencies, INGOs and NGOs are not the most common counterparts to discuss coexistence issues.

SURVEY KEY RESULTS:

POLITICAL INVOLVEMENT AND POSSIBILITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN DECISION-MAKING

Political and civic participation is a basic right of individuals and a measure of the freedom that they enjoy: involvement in politics, participation, having some say in decision-making are essential mechanisms within a democratic system. However, war, conflicts and displacement pose extreme limitations on the freedoms and rights of IDP and refugee populations. Basic needs of physical survival take precedence over civic rights in situations of emergency. The question here is whether these rights are maintained by the displaced people and if so, to what extent. How are their rights expressed in a protracted emergency and how does this affect their coexistence with the other groups? Do the displaced populations seek to influence events that

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directly affect them and, if so, to what extent? To what extent are they involved in political parties and what other organizations do they consider as representing their voice and interests? How do they express their discontent? Do they participate in street protests?

The vast majority of respondents - 77% of the host community and more than 85% of the refugee and IDP populations - answered that they do not have any means to influence decision-making. Only 13% of the host community and about 5% of refugees and IDPs think that they have some means to influence decision-making.

When it comes to the more specific question of participating in the *resolution of the IDP and refugee crises*, a quarter of IDPs and refugees answered that they have some say in this matter.

The political parties have a rather strong base among the host community, with overall 45% declaring themselves affiliated to a political party (from supporters to active members): in Duhok especially, with 75%, followed by far from Sulaymaniyah with 35%, and Erbil 30%. The vast majority of IDPs (76%) and of refugees (71%) declare themselves as not affiliated to a political party. Compared to Erbil and Sulaymaniyah, in Duhok there is a higher range of displaced people affiliated to a political party – over 40% of both IDPs and refugees.

Looking more closely at the results, those affiliated to a political party are more likely to declare they have a say in the resolution of the current situation and in influencing decision-making. More in-depth qualitative studies would be required to grasp the more complex relationship between individuals, the events they are living through, and their deeper motivations concerning politics and affiliation.

The vast majority (65%-70%) from each of the three population groups responded that they do not consider anything or anybody except the political parties as representing their interests or allowing their voices to be heard. IDPs consider Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) then social media as good representatives, while refugees have higher trust in social media than in CSOs to represent their interests and express themselves. It seems here that social media are mostly seen as a means to express oneself and have his/her voice heard. We could deduce from this data that despite their large involvement with the displaced populations civil organizations are seen by the IDPs mostly as service

providers and less as channels towards civic participation. From this, the following recommendation to NGOs is emerging: to shift away from designing development programs with displaced people as passive beneficiaries to programs where they are actively empowered to take control of their own lives and destiny.

Street protests and any other forms of public support for grievances are not the preferred choices of our respondents: 64% of the host community do not participate in any public manifestations and more than 76% of refugees and IDPs ignore this option or don't consider it as appropriate. Only a minority of approximately 5% from each of the population groups always participates in protests and could be considered as activists. However, in Sulaymaniah approximately 20% of respondents – host community and refugees - consider street protests and public manifestations among their preferred choices to express their grievances.

SURVEY KEY RESULTS:

CONTACTS AND RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER GROUPS AND POPULATIONS

Acknowledging any potential issues of conflict and latent sources that might create and perpetuate dissent is key to understanding the daily dynamics of coexistence between the populations in the KRI. In order to analyse this issue, questions were posed as to the frequency and quality of contacts between the host community, IDPs and refugees; and their attitudes towards each other.

Our data reveals that there is a rather weak daily interaction between the host community, refugees and IDPs. Gender and location – urban or rural, in a camp or not – do not impact the frequency of daily interactions between the three populations. However, the host community has more contacts with IDPs and refugees, with around 30% having daily interaction with displaced people.

The question ‘how much would the following groups be of help and support if you were sick, or moving, or having any other kind of problem?’ is intended to measure the extent of trust and expectation of real help in case of need. These expectations are usually based on a previous history of help and interaction and can indirectly tell us to what extent the respondents feel comfortable in an interaction with the rest of their group and with those outside their group.

In general, all the groups’ responses show that the main expectation of help comes from their own family: 87% in the host community, 84% of IDPs, and 76% of refugees rely first and foremost on their own families. Refugees and IDPs expect that the host community will offer greater support than that from their own communities: approximately 34% of refugees and 30% IDPs would rely on the host community to help them, while their reliance on their own community is slightly above 20%. Only 1% of the host community expects refugees and IDPs to be of help or to support them in case of need.

When questioning about the overall treatment among the three population groups – host community, IDPs and refugees - 70% of refugees and 80% of IDPs declared to be satisfied or very satisfied with the way they are treated by the host community. In contrast, few

members of the host community are happy with the treatment received from IDPs and refugees: only some 20%-25% are satisfied or very satisfied with the treatment received from refugees and IDPs. The relationship between refugees and the IDPs is somewhat better, with approximately 45% satisfied with the treatment offered to each other.

SURVEY KEY RESULTS: INTRA-GROUP RELATIONSHIPS

Relationships within the population groups are part of this survey, in an effort to understand their internal dynamics. If the relationship with the other population groups is more distant due to the vulnerabilities of displacement and the assistance situation, connections between members of the same groups are more intimate, have been created over a longer period and go deeper on a personal level. Are the sources of conflict among them more, the same, or less than before their displacement? Has their displacement created new sources of conflict among IDPs and among refugees, and to what extent do they bring with them former problems and traditional animosities?

Overall, for more than 20% of both refugees and IDPs the amount of problems in their community is the same as before their displacement. The conflicts are worse or more frequent than while living at home for 36% of IDPs and 41% of refugees and this percentage increases for those who live in camps.

But what are the main issues that these people face? What could be the direct or indirect trigger of dissent? We offered a closed list of issues to our respondents, asking each to rate to what extent each option constitutes a problem. As mentioned before, unemployment is by far the major problem for approximately 60% of respondents across all three populations.

Problems caused by kidnapping of girls, politics, lack of education, gender inequality, social divisions and tribal divisions are – in this order - relevant to about a third of the host community, which seems to be the most concerned by the listed problems. Refugee problems, in addition to unemployment, are also the kidnapping of girls and the lack of education while other problems listed are only important to less than 20% of refugees. In addition to unemployment, the kidnapping of girls and the lack of education are relevant to more than 25% of IDPs as well, while other social, political, confessional or equality issues are considered less important. These results are not exhaustive and we would certainly not deduce that there are no sources of conflict based on social, tribal or gender divisions within the populations. Be that as it may, these divisions are not perceived as individually problematic by the respondents, and very few deemed to recognize them for this survey.

SURVEY KEY RESULTS:

SATISFACTION WITH THE QUALITY OF SERVICES

The quality and quantity of services offered to the population living in the KRI, regardless of their citizenship, is another chapter of this inquiry. How satisfied are the people with the services received? Are there any differences in access between the host community, IDPs and refugees? Overall, how satisfied are they with the equality and access to the following services: clean water, clothing, culture, education, electricity, food and basic nutrition, health, self-development, security, and transportation?

Out of the above list, security is the service that the respondents are most satisfied with: 80%-90% of the host community, refugees and IDPs declared their satisfaction concerning security. However, it is important to note that the survey took place in late August 2017. The events of October 2017 including the clashes between Erbil and Baghdad might have challenged the sense of security that the population had previously enjoyed.

The first important finding is that the host community is less satisfied than the displaced populations regarding almost all the other services under question. Looking more closely, half the population is satisfied or very satisfied with clothing, food and basic nutrition. For culture, health and education less than 40% are satisfied. Electricity services are the most criticized among the host community, with only 15% of the population being satisfied with the service they received, while satisfaction among IDPs and Refugees is around 30%.

Approximately 50% of the refugees are satisfied or very satisfied with the services related to food and basic nutrition, clean water, health, education, culture and clothing.

SURVEY KEY RESULTS:

LEVEL OF TRUST IN INSTITUTIONS, PROVIDERS OF SERVICES AND INFORMATION, AND OTHER COMMUNITIES

When asked about the satisfaction with the provision of services and the institutions that are responsible for these services, a list of choices was given: Government of Iraq, Kurdistan Regional Government, political parties in general (no names given), religious/ethnic-specific institutions (no names given), civil society organizations, international organizations, local media and international media (no names given).

Among the political institutions, the Kurdistan Regional Government has the highest appreciation among the respondents, with 79% and 72% of refugees and IDPs respectively satisfied or very satisfied, while interestingly, the percentage decreases to 45% among the host community. The satisfaction with the Iraqi Government is noticeably lower: less than 20% of the displaced population and less than 10% of the host community are satisfied with the way the state Government addresses their needs. The data reflects the situation at the end of August 2017, when political tensions between Erbil and Baghdad were high, budgetary cuts were implemented and the KRG was lamenting the burden placed on it by the Iraqi IDP crisis – a burden it had to carry without the state government’s support.

For the rest of the named institutions, the host community is almost equally satisfied with all of them with 20%- 25% of respondents being satisfied with the way these institutions address their needs. Refugees express a slightly higher level of satisfaction (28%-38%), and IDPs even higher than the host community and refugees, one in three declaring that they are satisfied that these institutions address their needs. Significantly, both IDPs and refugees living in Duhok and Erbil camps declare they are more satisfied with the performance of the listed institutions than those living in the city.

Regarding the level of trust among the three communities the results are revealing. The level of trust towards the host community is high among the three groups. The host community’s trust in their own community is 63%, the refugees’ trust towards the host community is 54% and the IDPs’ trust towards the host community is 68%. This reflects the appreciation and endorsement of the refugees and IDPs towards the

host community. However, the host community has less trust in refugees and IDPs. Only 10% of the host community trust refugees and 12% trust IDPs. The refugees' trust in themselves is obviously high (59%) but their trust in IDPs is only 24%. Identically, IDPs' trust in refugees is also 24% i.e., there is lack of trust between IDPs and refugees which could lead to possible conflict among both groups.

SURVEY KEY RESULTS: LEGALITY AND CIVIL RIGHTS

In order to have a better understanding concerning the major issues and challenges that the respondents encounter, the following question was asked: In case you had any problems related to the following issues, whom would you ask for help/assistance in order to resolve them?' Issues related to economic, civil, and individual rights were mentioned, such as opening a private enterprise, getting married or divorced, property issues, acquiring legal documents such as birth or death certificates, finding a job, and violation of civil rights.

This section of the survey is important for a number of reasons. Firstly, it indicates the degree to which civil and human rights are being applied. On the one hand, for human rights to be effectively applied, they have to be effectively communicated by the state, and on the other hand, individuals have to be aware and understand what their legal choices are in a given context. Whenever an individual encounters problems that are more difficult than usual to solve, it occurs because their rights are either not properly communicated, not properly understood, or more often, where 'corrupt' thinking occurs, perhaps on both sides. Whenever the understanding of rights does not perfectly overlap between counterparts, illegal practices occur and extra-legal actors tend to mediate the application and exercise of rights.

The exercise and practice of issues outlined above can create havoc in a lot of contexts and also demonstrate how an individual is performing within the system. Secondly, the answers to these questions indicate to what extent an individual is dependent upon extra-legal actors and to what extent illegal solutions to problems are preferred or imposed, given the limited choices open to respondents.

The following options of legal and extra-legal actors were given to our respondents to indicate which of them they would choose in order to solve their issues: administrative institutions of the region and/province, legal officers and/or police, management of the camp (for Refugees and IDPs), NGOs, tribal, religious and nonreligious leaders of their own community, powerful or rich relatives or acquaintances, family, friends, neighbors or others.

The host community, refugees and IDPs were asked where they would go for help in case they needed assistance to solve issues related

to the *opening of a private enterprise*. For the majority of respondents, a quarter of the host community and refugees, along with 36% of IDPs, opening an enterprise is not a relevant issue, as they would never think of doing so. Only around 10% of the host community and refugees and 6% of IDPs would ask assistance from a legal entity. 16% of refugees and IDPs would ask the management of the camp. Whenever in doubt, they would ask the family (approximately 10%); 5% would ask friends, neighbors, or other members of their own community.

Concerning *getting married or divorced*, about 30% of the entire population, regardless which group they belong to, would seek assistance from their family. The administrative institutions of the province would be the first choice for only a quarter of the host community, for less than 15% of refugees and IDPs, while 15% of the host community and 7% of refugees and IDPs would appeal to a legal entity or the police for help. Tribal leaders would be asked for assistance in marriage/ divorce issues by about 10% of IDPs and 5% of the host community.

Property issues are not relevant for more than 35% of IDPs and refugees. The host community would mostly resort to administrative institutions and legal entities in this regard.

Acquiring legal documents such as a birth or death certificate: under 30% of the host community and about 15% of the displaced population would choose legal entities as a solution. 53% of the host community and 40% of IDPs would go to an administrative institution.

How does the population of the KRI proceed whenever *they need a job*? Approximately 30% of the host community and a quarter of refugees and IDPs would ask friends, neighbors or other members of their community for assistance. A powerful or rich relative or acquaintance would be asked by 20% of the host community, and by less than 10% of refugees and IDPs. One displaced person in ten would ask for assistance from the camp management.

When it comes to the *violation of civil rights*, whenever this is recognized as such, approximately 25% all the three population groups declares that either they do not know, or it is not an issue, or it will never happen to them. Another approximate 10% would appeal to non-legal entities such as family, tribal leaders, or acquaintances. A little over half of the host community would ask the assistance of a legal entity or legal

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representative, which would be the preferred choice among refugees (41%) and IDPs (35%) as well. The refugee population is the least decided on this issue, and more reluctant to answer the question. It mainly involves women and individuals who live outside the camps.

In conclusion, these data offer a glimpse of a more complex interplay of micro and macro systems within which the population is living. Family, neighbor and population peer relationships seem to fill that gap where legal entities and representatives are missing or have not sufficient recognized authority. At the start of the survey we expected that tribal, religious and non-religious community leaders would be among the preferred choices for a large share of our respondents. However, the survey shows that such leaders rank lowest whenever the aforementioned problems appear. This is the case even in the more traditional parts of the KRI, such as Duhok and its environs, where legal entities and family are replacing the authority of tribal and religious leaders.

SURVEY KEY RESULTS:

FUTURE PROSPECTS AND EXPECTATIONS

The IDP and refugee crises have entered into a protracted phase in the KRI. Initial difficulties between the communities and within the population have now passed into a stable phase, where the main security issues for the population have been assured. However, what are the prospects for the future and what are people's expectations? The survey included questions related to durable solutions for IDPs and refugees, along with individuals' personal plans for the future.

Voluntary repatriation, local integration and resettlement are the main options on the table of durable solutions being considered by states and agencies in relation to the displaced populations. However, how do the people concerned view this matter? The results of this survey show that *repatriation* is seen as a durable solution for 80% of the host community, but for only 45% of refugees, who are from Syria, where the war is still ongoing. Around 60% of IDPs consider that for them personally repatriation is a solution. *Local integration* is a solution according to 20% of displaced people, while only a small minority of the host community supports this idea. *Resettlement* to a third country is similar to local integration in terms of preferred solution for the three groups.

When it comes to personal specific plans of the respondents, one person in five is actively thinking about relocation in the near future. Europe is the first choice for 10% of the refugees and 5% of the IDPs. Germany, the Netherlands and Norway being considered the best options. Voluntary repatriation is being actively considered by 10% of IDPs and 5% refugees in the longer term, meaning that IDPs would prefer to return than to emigrate, contrarily to refugees.

CONCLUSION

General attitudes and dynamics within and between the host community, IDPs and refugees coexisting in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq are core to this survey. This region can be compared to a place where large groups and individuals seem to be part of an imaginary laboratory of the history, where the next reaction and result is unpredictable. Despite the hardship of the situation, the relationship between the host community, IDPs and refugees in the KRI can be seen as an example of good practice of coexistence. Despite the low integration of the displaced people within the host community, there is a visible respect and assistance between the displaced population and the host community, but this is apparently less so between refugees and IDPs. This is valid for the time being. However, if external pressures and economic hardship grow, there is large room for sudden changes.

Collective displacements, economic hardship, and high dependence on the help and external assistance are causing an encompassing invisibility of the individual in the process. A shift of political attention towards the beliefs of the single individual is a hard but necessary step to be taken in order to go beyond the approach of continuously creating crises to be solved, towards a future where crises do not exist, or at least do not demand human sacrifices.

The results of this survey can be read in different keys and can be given various meanings, depending upon the point of view of the reader. A key that we suggest here is that efforts to enhance education, health and self-development are never enough, and these should be mainstreamed in all policies of the international, regional and local actors. Political participation and civic engagement are the areas with the largest need, if human rights and freedom are still considered to be the ultimate goals for democracy. Bottom up movement of the democratic values are essential in making the transition from the situation of victim towards empowered citizens of the world.

APPENDIX

A total number of 2164 individuals have been contacted for this survey. The data have been weighted based on population variable, and the number of cases considered in the final analysis is 2022, with 674 cases for each population group.

Distribution by Population Group

	Frequency	Percent
Host Community	674	33.4
IDPs	674	33.3
Refugees	674	33.3
Total	2022	100.0

Distribution by Gender

	Frequency	Percent
Female	1092	54.0
Male	929	46.0
Total	2022	100.0

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Religion

	Frequency	Percent
Muslim Sunni	1670	82.6
Muslim Shia	45	2.2
Christian/Assyrian	89	4.4
Yezidi	211	10.5
Atheist	2	.1
No answer	2	.1
Total	2020	100.0

Education

	Frequency	Percent
No Education	495	24.5
Elementary	402	19.9
Secondary	375	18.6
Institution - After Secondary	69	3.4
High School	296	14.6
Institution - After High school	104	5.1
University	246	12.2
MA	22	1.1
PhD	10	.5
Total	2019	100.0

Ethnicity

	Frequency	Percent
Arab	333	16.5
Assyrian/Chaldean	63	3.1
Kurdish	1600	79.2
Turkmen	8	.4
Shabak	14	.7
Other	2	.1
Total	2020	100.0

Place of Birth

	Frequency	Percent
Iraq - KRI	684	33.8
Iraq - Non-KRI	633	31.3
Iran	23	1.1
Syria	663	32.8
Turkey	5	.2
Other	12	.6
Total	2022	100.0

II. HISTORY OF DISPLACEMENT

Q: Have you ever been an IDP/Refugee?

	Host Community (n=671)	Refugees (n=670)	IDPs (n=672)
Yes, been IDP	13%	1%	12%
Yes, been Refugee	27%	10%	1%
No, never been IDP or Refugee (before this)	60%	89%	87%
	100%	100%	100%

III. HOUSEHOLD AND REVENUES

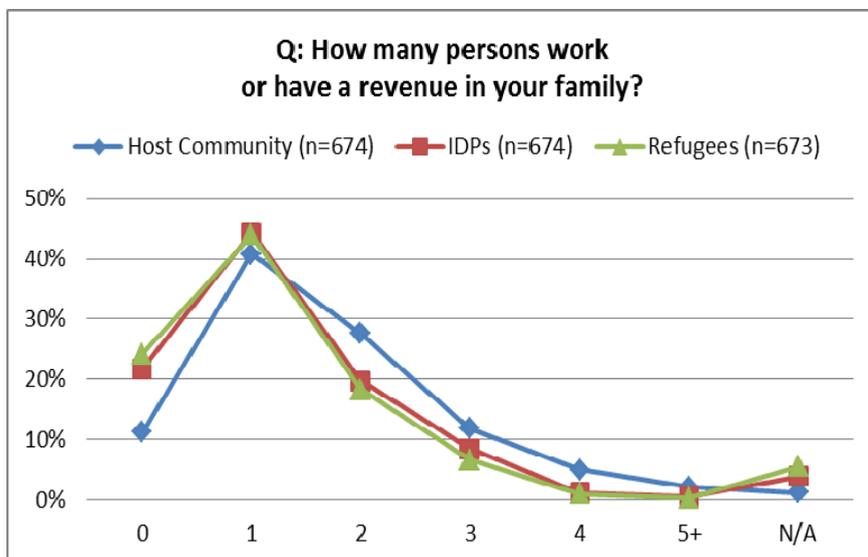
Q: What is your individual overall income per month (in USD)?

	None	less than 100	100 - 199	200 - 299	300 - 399	400 - 499	500 - 599	600 - 699	700 - 799	800 - 899	900 - 999	1000 - 2000	1500 - 1999	≤2000	Don't Know	N/A	Total
Host Community (n=674)	30	4	5	6	10	10	9	5	3	4	2	1	1	1	4	4	100%
IDPs (n=674)	53	5	6	10	8	4	3	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	3	2	100%
Refugees (n=674)	50	5	6	11	8	6	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	4	100%

Q: What is the monthly overall income of your family (in USD)?

	None	less than 100	100 - 199	200 - 299	300 - 399	400 - 499	500 - 599	600 - 699	700 - 799	800 - 899	900 - 999	1000 - 2000	1500 - 1999	2000 or more	Don't Know	N/A	Total
Host Community (n=674)	2	2	3	5	6	8	7	9	9	9	13	8	4	10	5	2	100%
IDPs (n=674)	16	7	10	12	11	8	5	4	2	3	2	0	1	14	4	16	100%
Refugees (n=674)	14	8	14	12	11	9	4	4	1	1	1	0	1	15	4	14	100%

Q: How many persons work or have revenue in your family?

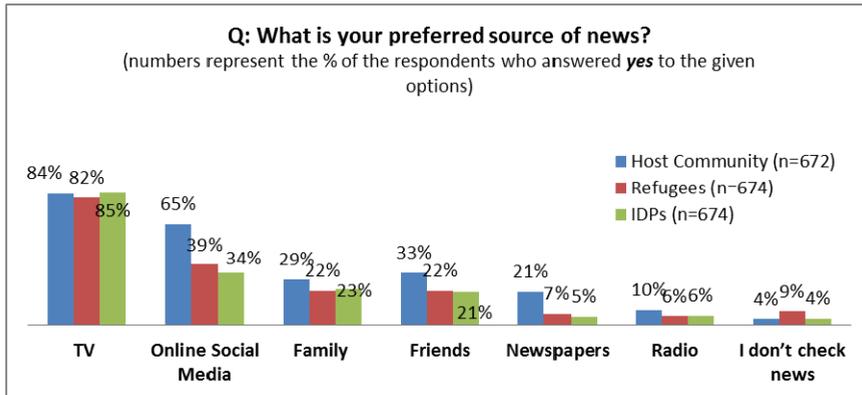


Q. Have you received money from abroad in the last 3 months?

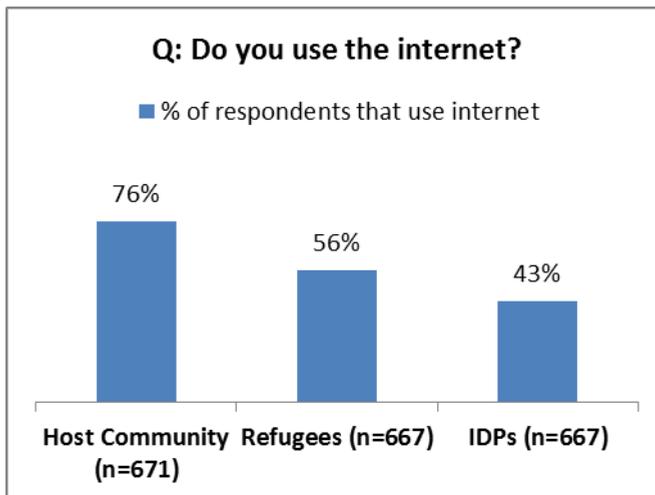
		Host Community	IDPs	Refugees
No		88	93	93
Yes	Political Party	0	0	0
	Relatives	8	3	4
	International Organizations based abroad	0	0	1
	State	0	1	0
	Other	0	0	0
Don't Know	Don't Know	2	2	1
	Refuse to answer	1	1	1
Total		100%	100%	100%

IV. KNOWLEDGE OF CURRENT ISSUES

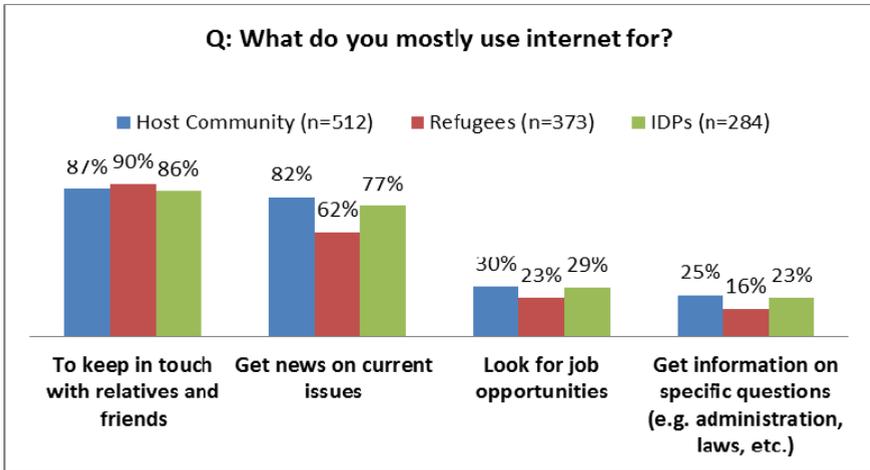
Q: What is your preferred source of news?



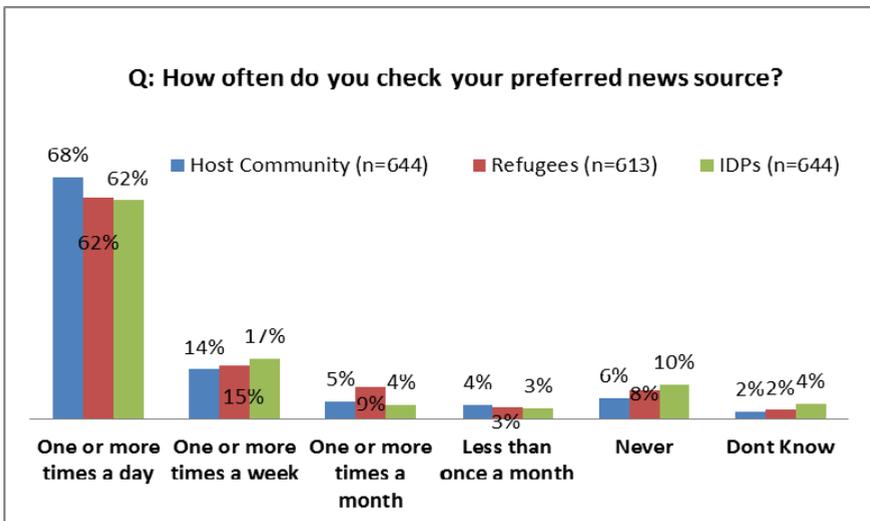
Q: Do you use Internet?



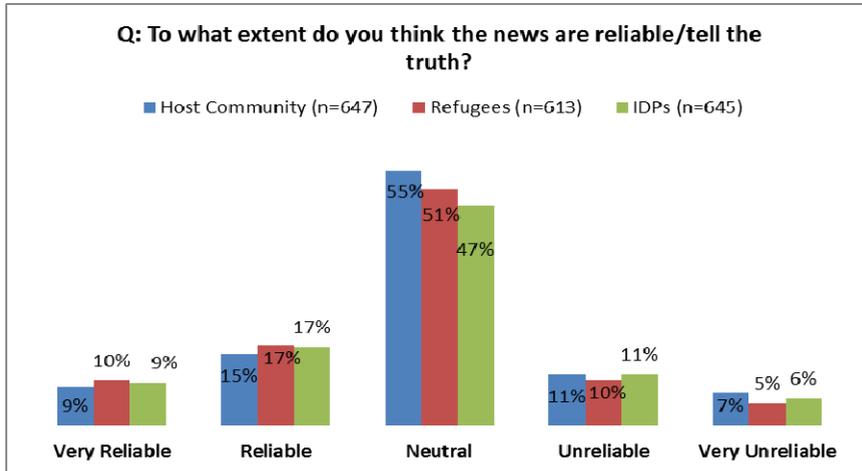
Q: What do you mostly use internet for?



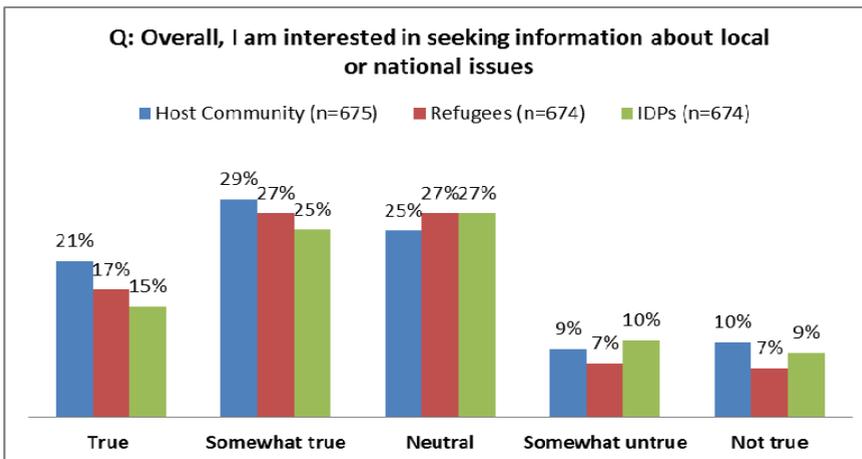
Q: How often do you check your preferred news source?



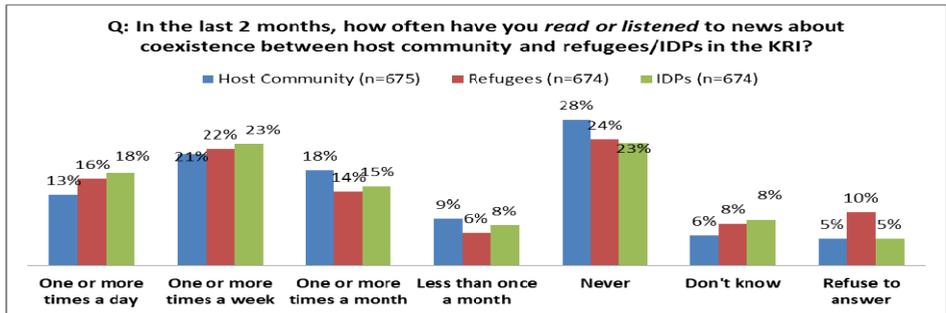
Q: To what extent do you think the news are reliable/tell the truth?



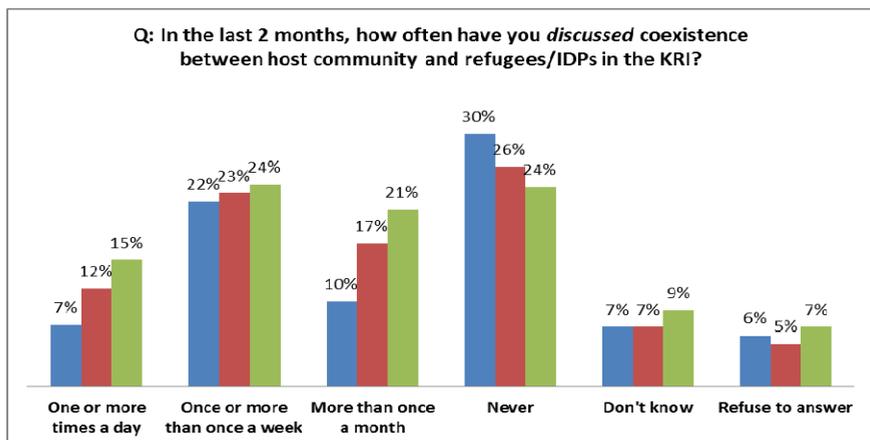
Q: Overall, I am interested in seeking information about local or national issues.



Q: In the last 2 months, how often have you read or listened to news about coexistence between host community and refugees/IDPs in KRI?

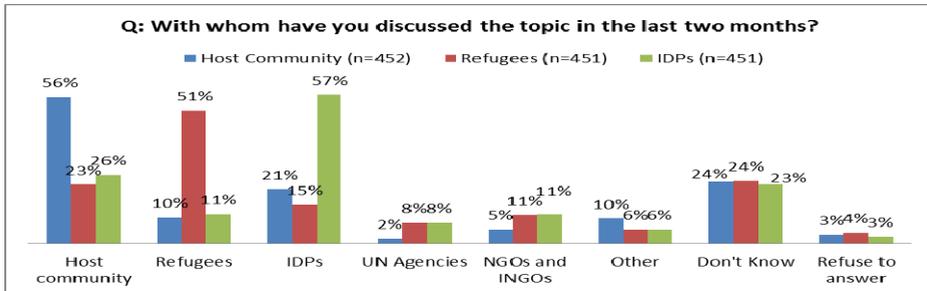


Q: In the last 2 months, how often have you discussed coexistence between host community and refugees/IDPs in the KRI?



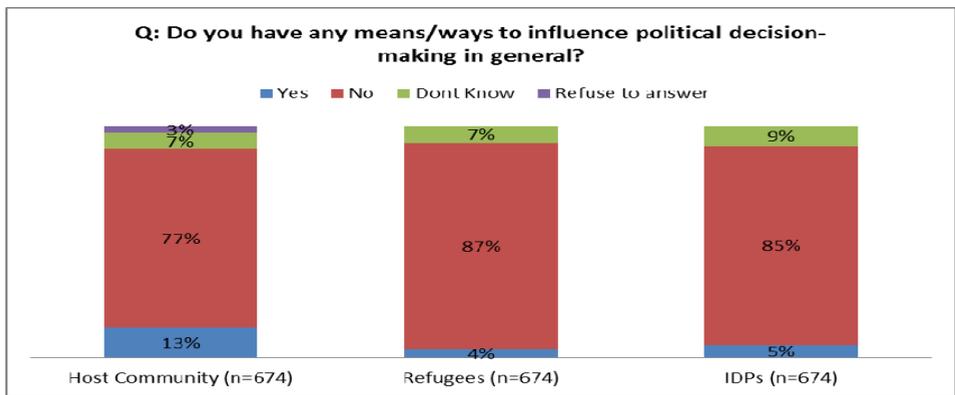
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Q: With whom have you discussed the topic in the last two months?

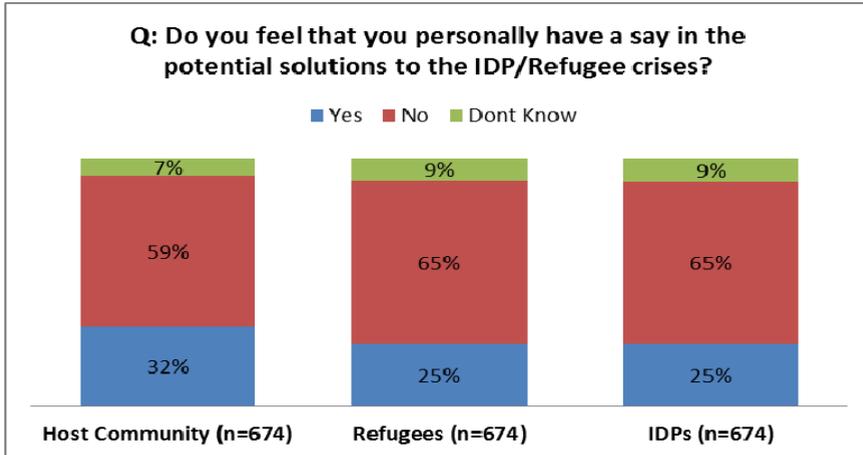


V. INVOLVEMENT IN POLITICAL SITUATION AND POSSIBILITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN DECISION- MAKING

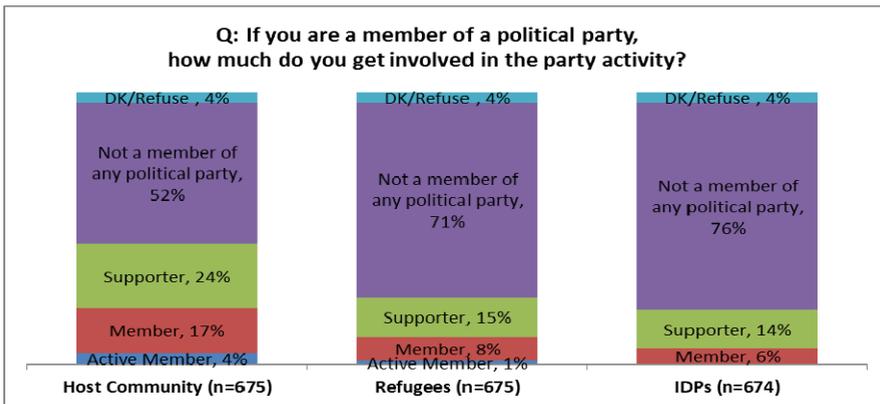
Q: Do you have any means or ways to influence political decision-making in general?



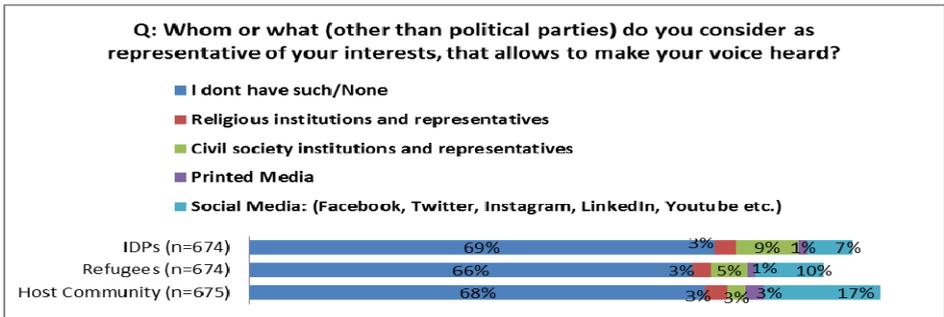
Q: Do you feel that you personally have a say in the potential solutions to the IDP/Refugee crises?



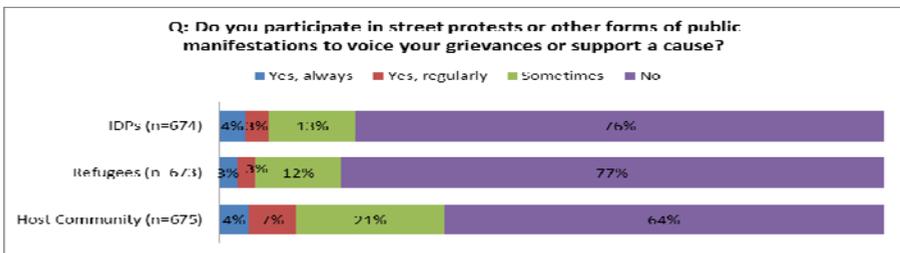
Q: Are you member of a political party? Q: If yes - How much do you get involved in the party activity



Q: Whom or what (other than political parties) do you consider as representative of your interests, that allows to make your voice heard?



Q: Do you participate in street protests or other forms of public manifestations to voice your grievances or support a cause?



VI. CONTACT AND RELATIONSHIP WITH THE OTHER GROUPS AND POPULATIONS

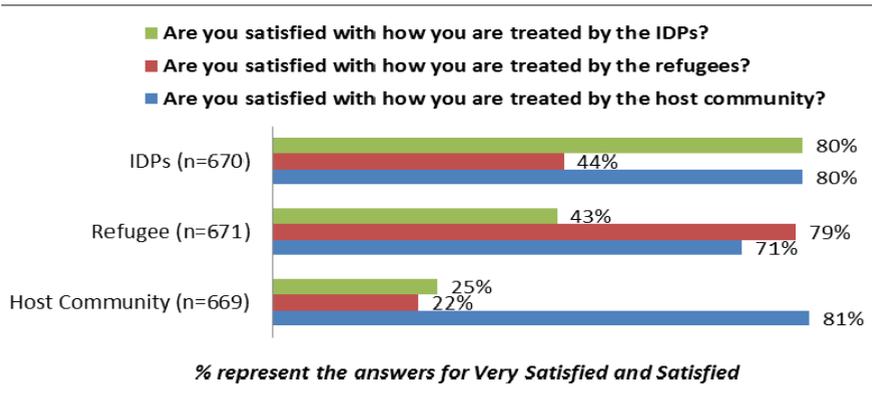
Q: In the last week, how many times have you been in contact with:

	% of responses for the answer: Been in contact <i>Several times a day</i>		
	Host Community (n=674)	Refugees (n=674)	IDPs (n=674)
Members of the host community that live in Kurdistan	81%	31%	31%
Refugees that live in Kurdistan	12%	57%	17%
IDPs that live in Kurdistan	11%	14%	54%

Q: How much would the following groups be of help and support if you were sick, or moving, or having any other kind of problem?

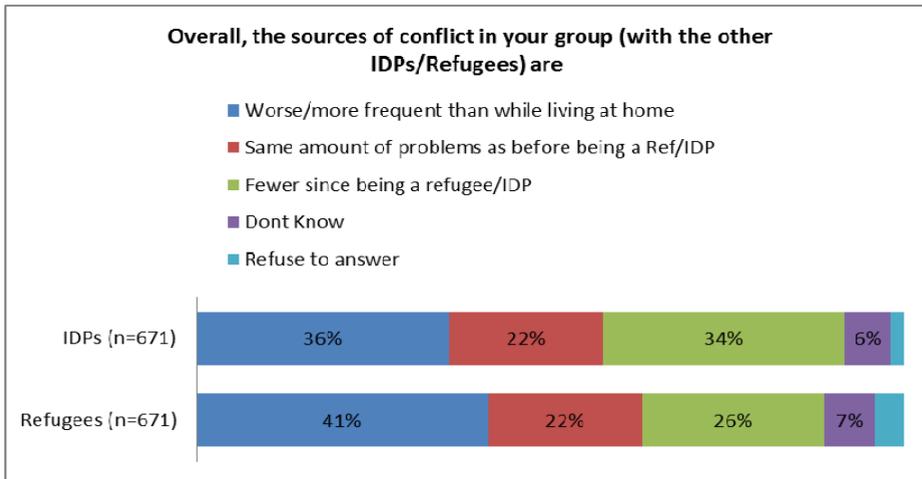
		Host Community (n=674)	Refugee (n=674)	IDPs (n=674)
Your own family	A great deal	87%	76%	84%
	Not at all	1%	5%	2%
Host Community	A great deal	36%	27%	30%
	Not at all	13%	34%	19%
Refugees	A great deal	1%	21%	5%
	Not at all	70%	29%	52%
IDPs	A great deal	1%	4%	24%
	Not at all	68%	58%	23%

Q: Generally speaking, how satisfied are you with the way you are treated by the Host Community/Refugees/IDPs?

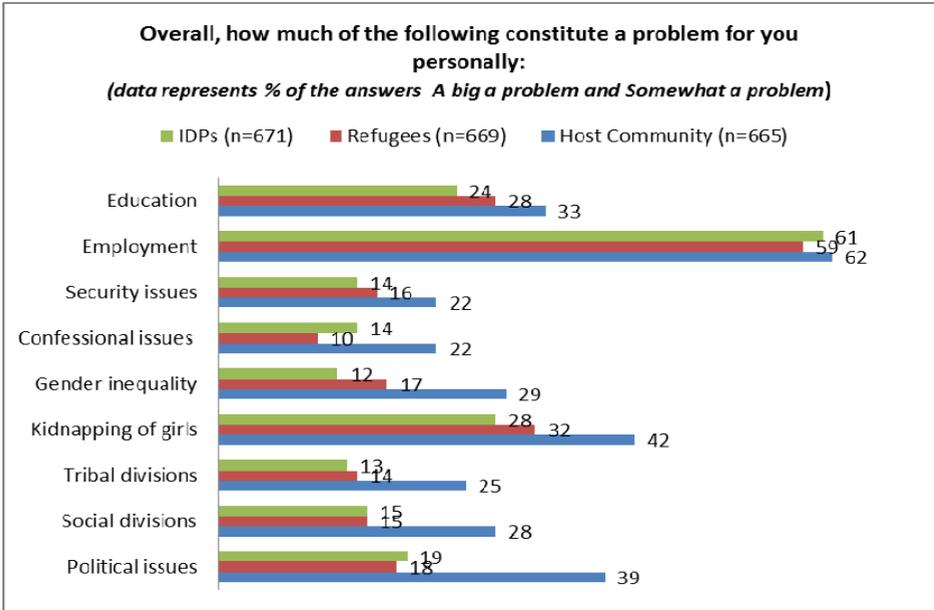


VII. INTRA-GROUP RELATIONSHIPS

Q: Overall, the sources of conflict in your group (with the other IDPs/Refugees) are:

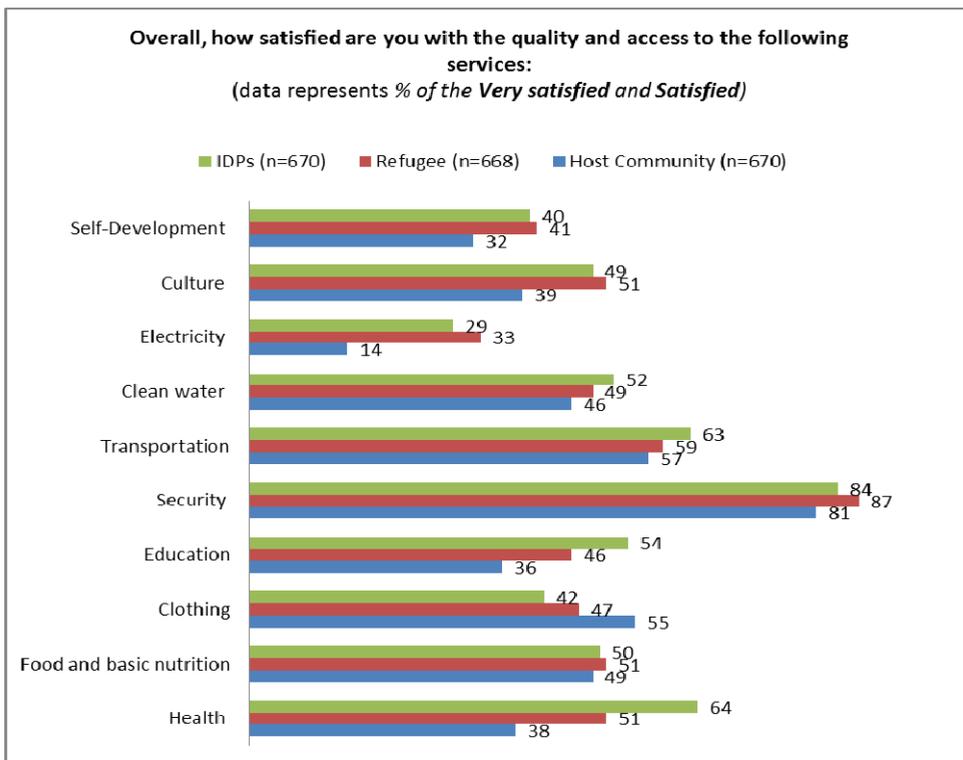


Q: Overall, how much of the following constitute a problem for you personally:



VIII. SATISFACTION WITH THE QUALITY OF SERVICES

Q: Overall, how satisfied are you with the quality and access to the following services?



XI. TRUST IN INSTITUTIONS

Q: How much do you trust that the following institutions are working for your best interests?

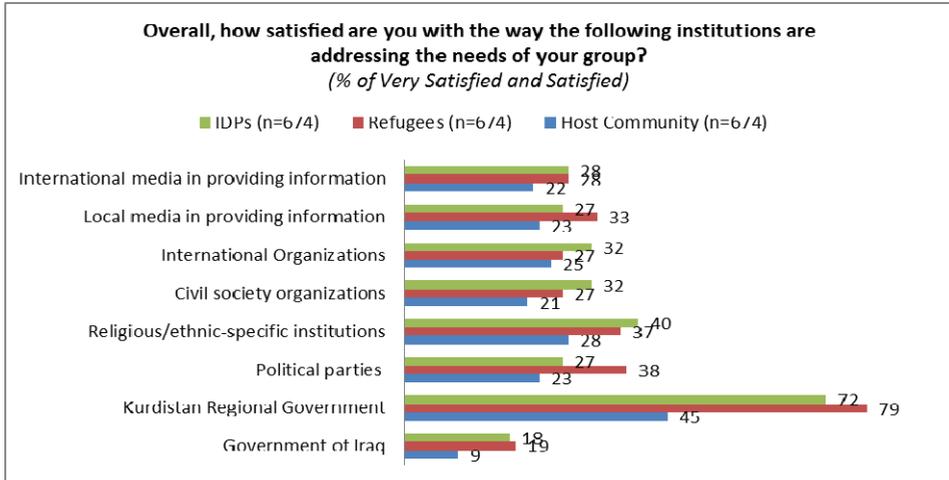
	Host Community (n=673)	Refugees (n=675)	IDPs (n=674)
Iraqi institutions	9%	16%	13%
Kurdistan regional institutions	41%	67%	59%
International institutions (UN agencies and INGOs)	24%	32%	33%
Local media	23%	31%	29%
Iraqi media	9%	11%	15%
International media	20%	17%	19%
Religious institutions	26%	30%	37%
Civil society organisations	20%	27%	30%

Q: Overall, how much do you trust the fellows from the...

	Host Community (n=673)	Refugees (n=675)	IDPs (n=674)
host community?	63%	54%	68%
refugee population?	10%	59%	24%
IDP population?	12%	24%	63%

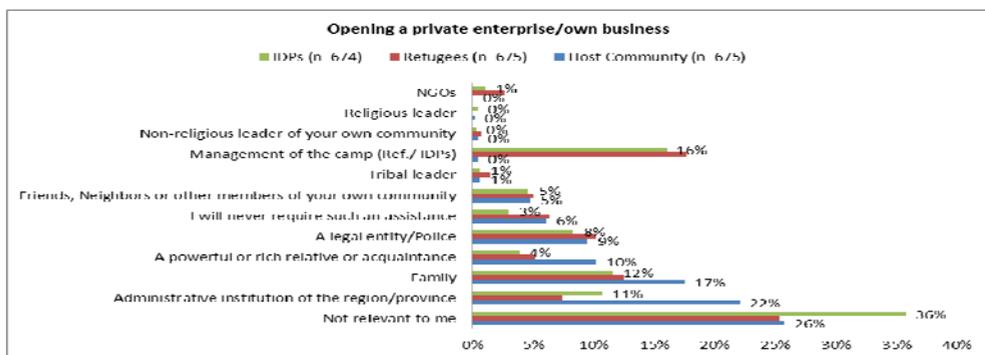
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Q: Overall, how satisfied are you with the way the following institutions are addressing the needs of your group?

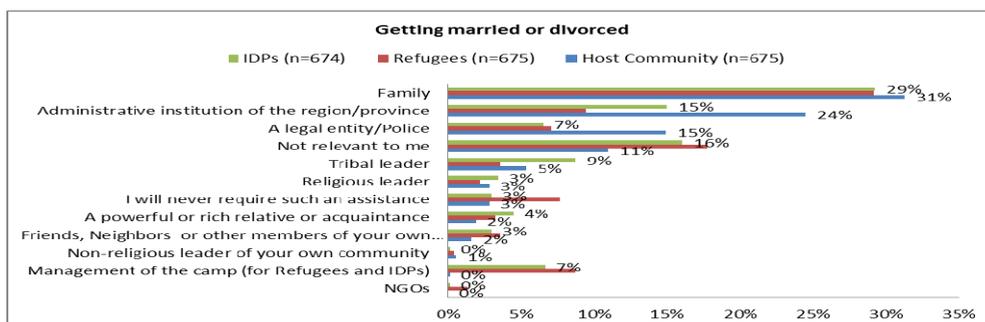


X. LEGALITY AND CIVIL RIGHTS

Q: In case you had any problems related to the following issues, whom would you ask for help/assistance in order to solve the issue? *Opening a private enterprise/own business.*

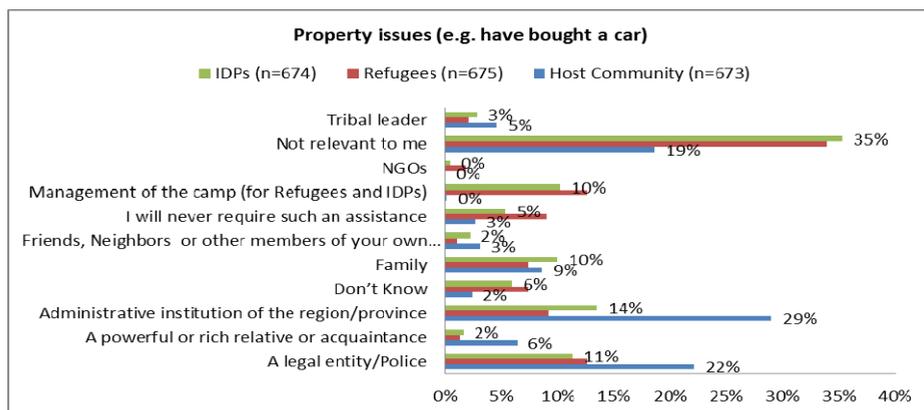


Q: In case you had any problems related to the following issues, whom would you ask for help/assistance in order to solve the issue? *Getting married or divorced*

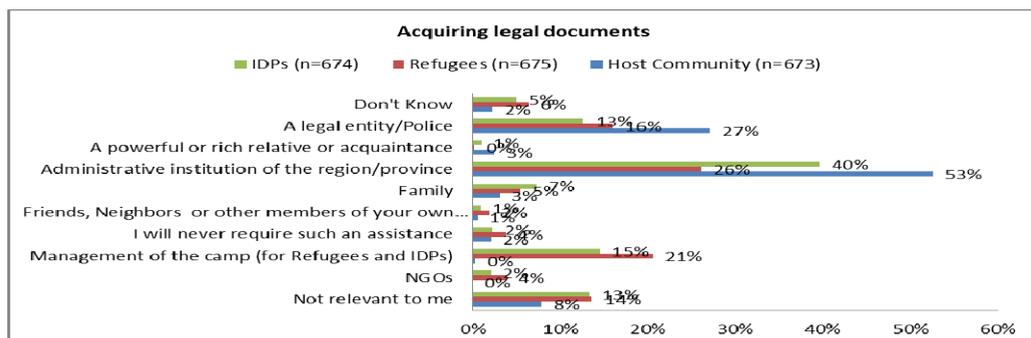


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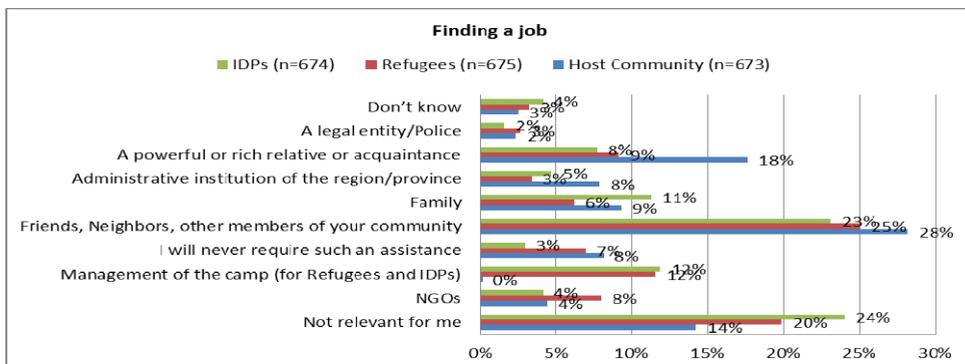
Q: In case you had any problems related to the following issues, whom would you ask for help/assistance in order to solve the issue? *Property issues* (e.g. have bought a car)



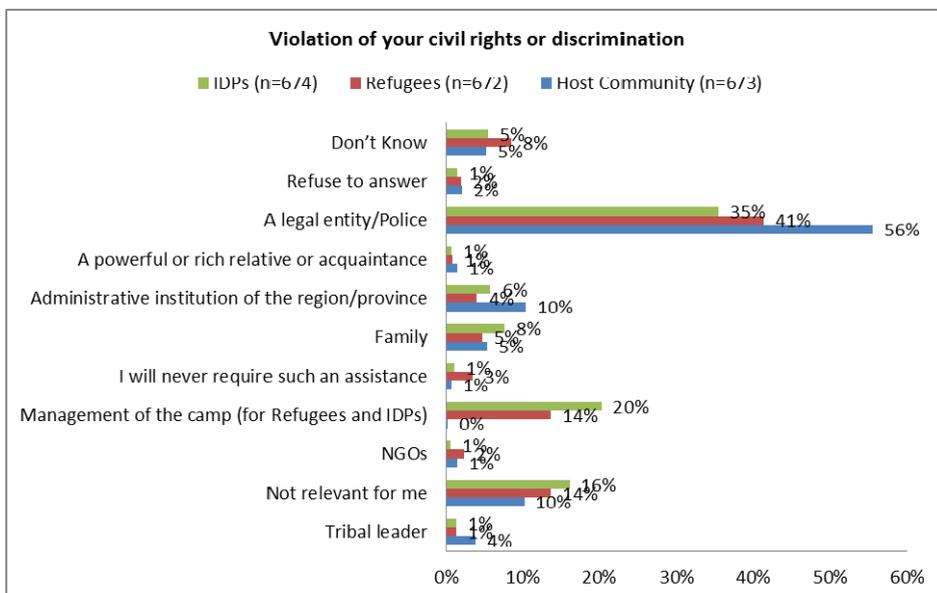
Q: In case you had any problems related to the following issues, whom would you ask for help/assistance in order to solve the issue? *Acquiring legal documents* (e.g. Death and birth certificates)



Q: In case you had any problems related to the following issues, whom would you ask for help/assistance in order to solve the issue? *Finding a job*



Q: In case you had any problems related to the following issues, whom would you ask for help/assistance in order to solve the issue? *Violation of your civil rights or discrimination*

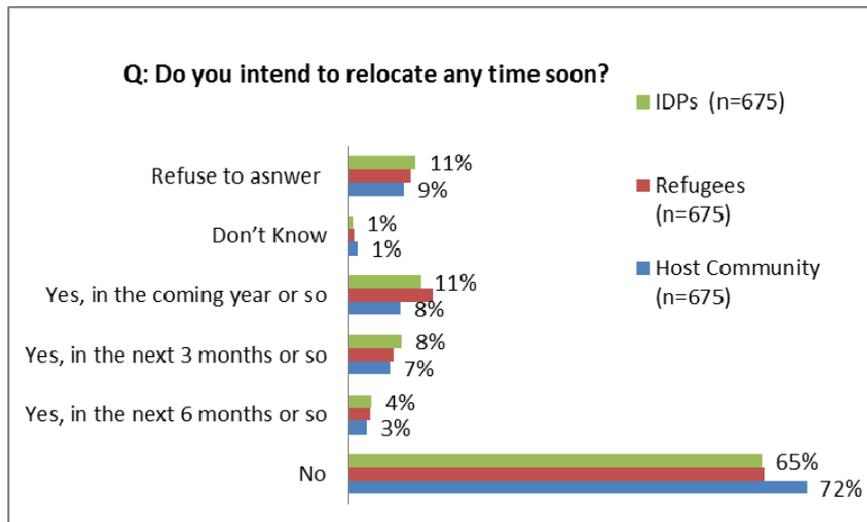


XI.FUTURE PROSPECTS AND EXPECTATIONS

Q: In your opinion, what is the best durable solution for IDPs and refugees?

	Host Community (n=674)	Refugees (n=674)	IDPs (n=674)
Repatriation/return to the original place	80%	45%	57%
Integration in the local community	7%	23%	20%
Resettlement in a third country	7%	24%	18%
Other ... specify	0%	1%	0%
Don't know	6%	6%	4%
Refuse to answer	1%	1%	0%

Q: Do you intend to relocate any time soon?



Q: Do you intend to relocate any time soon? If yes, to where?

Q: Do you intend to relocate any time soon? If yes, to where?		Host Community (n=556)	Refugees (n=516)	IDPs (n=517)
No		82%	76%	77%
Yes	Europe	8%	10%	5%
	US	2%	3%	2%
	Australia	1%	0%	1%
	Another part of MENA	0%	0%	0%
	Another part of Kurdistan	4%	2%	3%
	Another part of Iraq	1%	0%	0%
	Return home	0%	5%	10%
	Other	2%	2%	1%
	Don't know	0%	1%	0%

