Arab Public Opinion on International Relations

Findings from the Sixth Wave of Arab Barometer

Michael Robbins

Princeton University

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الباروميتر العربي
ARAB BAROMETER

About Arab Barometer

- Arab Barometer is the longest standing and largest repository of publicly available data on ordinary citizens' views in MENA
- Arab Barometer has tracked views of ordinary citizens across MENA since 2006 providing insight into changes over time
- Arab Barometer goals
  1. Accurately track attitudes & behavior of ordinary citizens
  2. Build institutional capacity to conduct survey research
  3. Disseminate knowledge about ordinary citizens living in MENA to inform civil society, government, & international organizations

About the project

- ► More than 90,000 personal interviews to date
- ► 70 nationally representative surveys
- ► Six waves across 15 countries providing trend data on how views have changed
  - ► Wave 1 (2006-7) in 7 countries
  - ► Wave 2 (2010-11) in 10 countries
  - ► Wave 3 (2012-14) in 12 countries
  - ► Wave 4 (2016-17) in 7 countries
  - ► Wave 5 (2018-19) in 12 countries
  - ► Wave 6 (2020) in 7 countries
- ► Data are open source & publicly available for analysis at `arabbarometer.org`
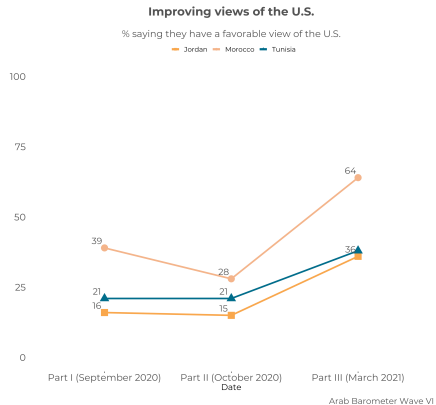
Arab Barometer 6th wave

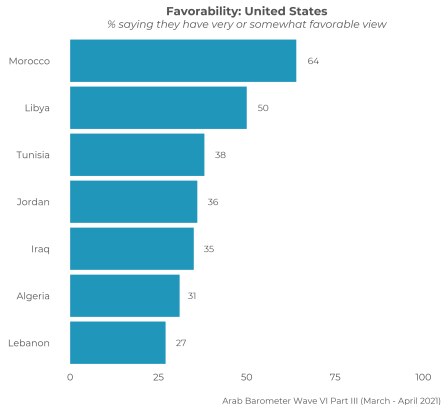- ▶ Phone surveys due to health risks associated with in-person interviews from COVID-19
- ▶ Three rounds of surveys to track changes over the course of the pandemic
  1. July - September 2020
  2. October 2020
  3. March - April 2021
- ▶ Based on a sample of 1,000 respondents per country using random-digit dialing (RDD) techniques
- ▶ Fieldwork conducted by high quality partners based in the region

- ▶ Support for the U.S. has increased dramatically since 2020
- ▶ President Biden's policies are more favored than President Trump's
- ▶ Many view U.S. assistance positively and have a desire for increased support for education & infrastructure
- ▶ China is viewed more favorably than the U.S., but support is low for China, Inc.
- ▶ Saudi Arabia is more popular than Iran, but by moderate margins
- ▶ Among other powers, Germany & Turkey are the most preferred
- ▶ Normalization with Israel is widely rejected except in Morocco

Views of the U.S.

Improving views of the U.S.

Favorability: United States
% saying they have very or somewhat favorable view

Country	Value
Morocco	64
Libya	50
Tunisia	38
Jordan	36
Iraq	35
Algeria	31
Lebanon	27

Arab Barometer Wave VI Part III (March - April 2021)

Improving views of the U.S.

% saying they have a favorable view of the U.S.

Jordan ● Morocco ● Tunisia

Date	Jordan	Morocco	Tunisia
Part I (September 2020)	39	16	21
Part II (October 2020)	28	15	21
Part III (March 2021)	64	36	36

Arab Barometer Wave VI
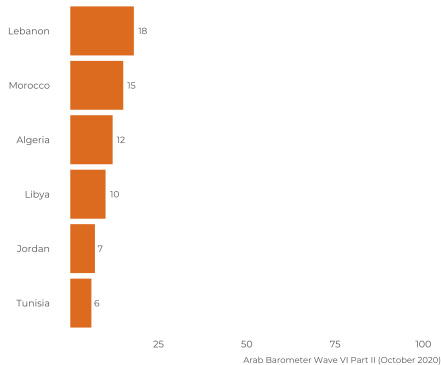
Views of Trump vs. Biden

Assessment of American President Donald Trump's foreign policy toward MENA
% saying it is very good or good

Country	Value
Lebanon	18
Morocco	15
Algeria	12
Libya	10
Jordan	7
Tunisia	6

Arab Barometer Wave VI Part II (October 2020)

Assessment of American President Joseph Biden's foreign policy toward MENA
% saying it is very good or good

Country	Value
Libya	47
Morocco	46
Tunisia	30
Iraq	29
Jordan	24
Algeria	23
Lebanon	19

Arab Barometer Wave VI Part III (March - April 2021)
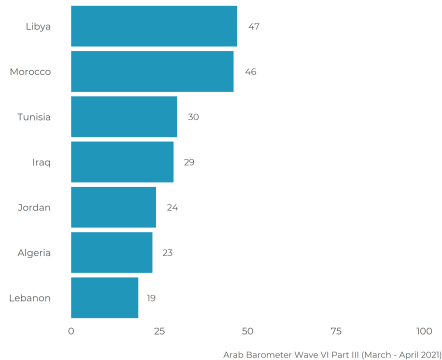
Tunisia: Trump vs. Biden

Assessment of American President Donald Trump's foreign policy toward MENA
% saying

Very good	2
Good	4
Neither good nor bad	3
Bad	17
Very bad	66
Don't know/Refuse	8

Arab Barometer Wave VI Part II (October 2020), Tunisia

Assessment of American President Joseph Biden's foreign policy toward MENA
% saying

Very good	5
Good	24
Neither good nor bad	4
Bad	15
Very bad	17
Don't know/refuse	34

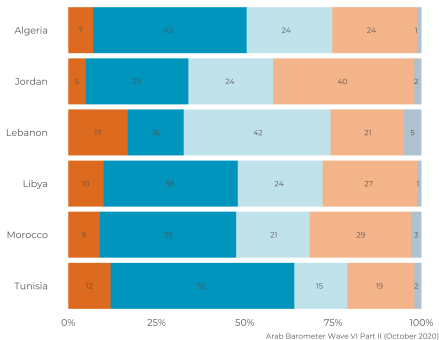Arab Barometer Wave VI Part III (March - April 2021), Tunisia
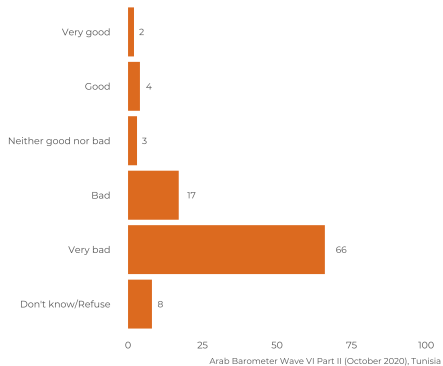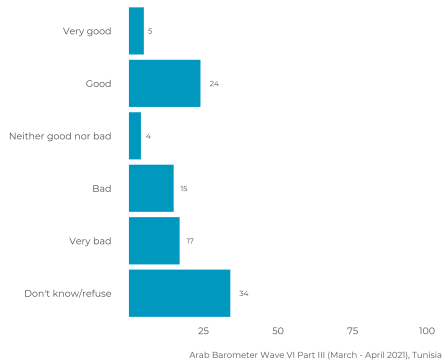
MENA publics hope for change in U.S. policy

Trump vs. Biden on Regional Policies
*% saying this candidate's policies
would be better for the region*

Legend: Trump | Biden | Equally bad | Don't know | Other

Country	Trump	Biden	Equally bad	Don't know	Other
Algeria	7	44	24	24	1
Jordan	5	29	24	40	2
Lebanon	17	16	42	21	5
Libya	10	39	24	27	1
Morocco	9	38	21	29	3
Tunisia	12	52	15	19	2

0% 25% 50% 75% 100%

Arab Barometer Wave VI Part II (October 2020)

Change in US foreign policy toward MENA under Biden from that under Trump
% saying to a great or a medium extent

Country	Value
Libya	60
Morocco	50
Iraq	50
Tunisia	49
Algeria	41
Lebanon	27
Jordan	27

0 25 50 75 100

Arab Barometer Wave VI Part III (March - April 2021)
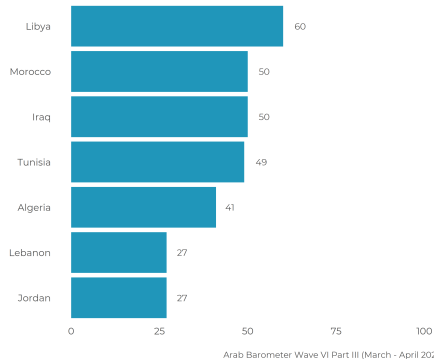
Low support for the normalization with Israel

Normalization of relations between the United Arab Emirates and Israel and Bahrain and Israel
% saying they strongly favor or favor

Country	Value
Lebanon	20
Morocco	9
Algeria	9
Tunisia	8
Libya	7
Jordan	3

Arab Barometer Wave VI Part II (October 2020)
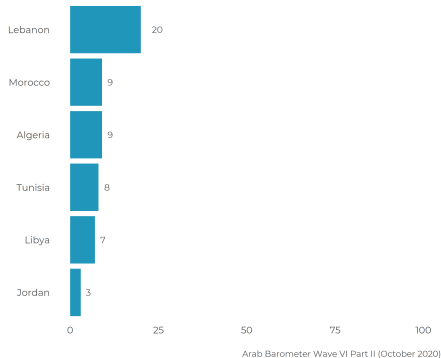
Normalization of relations between Morocco and Israel
% saying they strongly favor or favor

Country	Value
Morocco	41
Iraq	21
Lebanon	14
Libya	9
Tunisia	7
Jordan	6
Algeria	5

Arab Barometer Wave VI Part III (March - April 2021)
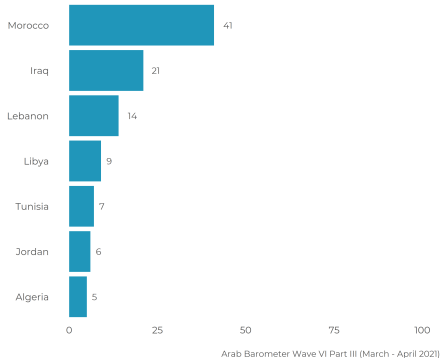
Is U.S. assistance helping?

US foreign aid to your country strengthens civil society
% saying to a great or a limited extent

Country	Value
Lebanon	50
Tunisia	46
Morocco	41
Jordan	40
Algeria	35
Libya	27

Arab Barometer Wave VI Part II (October 2020)
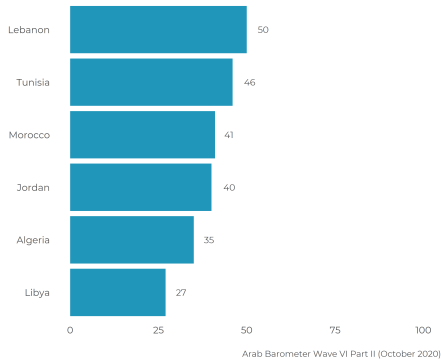
US foreign aid to your country advances women's rights
% saying to a great or a limited extent

Country	Value
Lebanon	48
Tunisia	45
Jordan	43
Morocco	38
Algeria	34
Libya	22

Arab Barometer Wave VI Part II (October 2020)
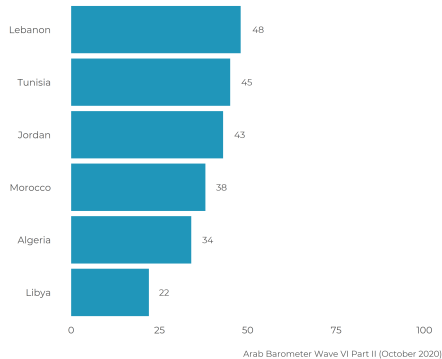
Targeting assistance: focus on education & infrastructure

Prefered area for foreign aid to your country
% saying improving education

Country	Value
Morocco	45
Algeria	41
Libya	40
Tunisia	37
Jordan	34
Iraq	32
Lebanon	12

Arab Barometer Wave VI Part III (March - April 2021)

Prefered area for foreign aid to your country
% saying building infrastructure

Country	Value
Libya	39
Iraq	39
Tunisia	29
Lebanon	27
Jordan	24
Algeria	16
Morocco	13

Arab Barometer Wave VI Part III (March - April 2021)

Top priorities for U.S. engagement in MENA

1. Resolving the Palestinian issue
2. Improving education
3. Building infrastructure
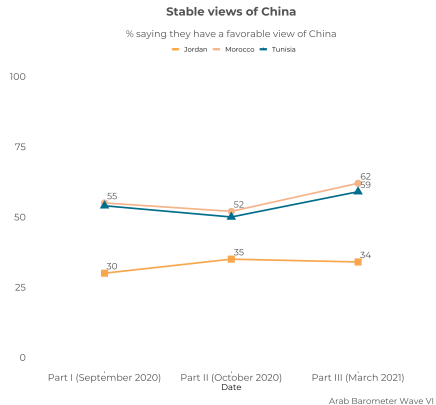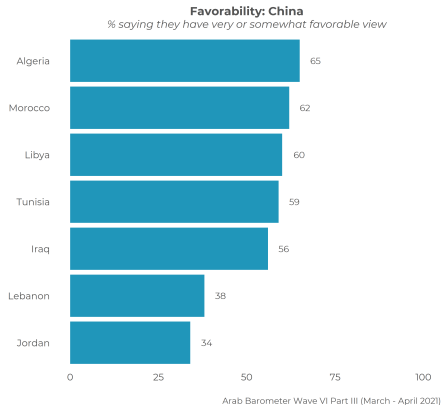4. Safety & security
5. Economic development

Views of China

Views of China are mostly unchanged

Favorability: China
% saying they have very or somewhat favorable view

Country	Value
Algeria	65
Morocco	62
Libya	60
Tunisia	59
Iraq	56
Lebanon	38
Jordan	34

Arab Barometer Wave VI Part III (March - April 2021)

Stable views of China

% saying they have a favorable view of China

Legend: Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia

Date	Jordan	Morocco	Tunisia
Part I (September 2020)	30		55
Part II (October 2020)	35		52
Part III (March 2021)	34	62	59

Arab Barometer Wave VI
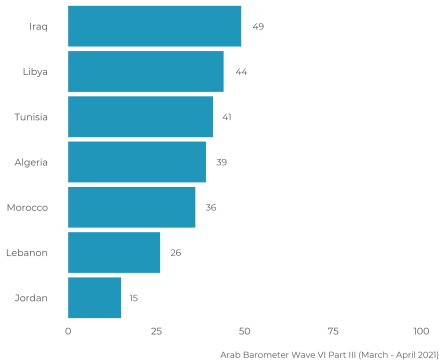
Xi's popularity relatively stable

Assessment of Chinese President Xi Jinping's foreign policy toward MENA
% saying it is very good or good

Country	Value
Iraq	49
Libya	44
Tunisia	41
Algeria	39
Morocco	36
Lebanon	26
Jordan	15

Arab Barometer Wave VI Part III (March - April 2021)

Views toward Chinese Premier Xi Jinping
% saying they favor Xi's foreign policies

Jordan   Morocco   Tunisia

Date	Jordan	Morocco	Tunisia
Part I (September 2020)	18	37	37
Part II (October 2020)	21	39	30
Part III (March 2021)	15	36	41

Arab Barometer Wave VI
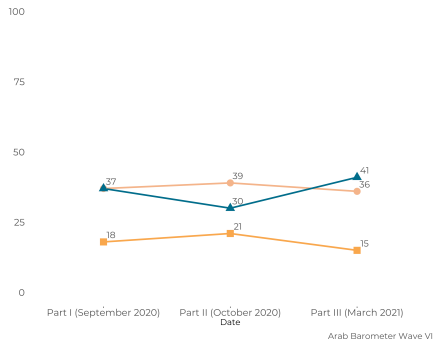
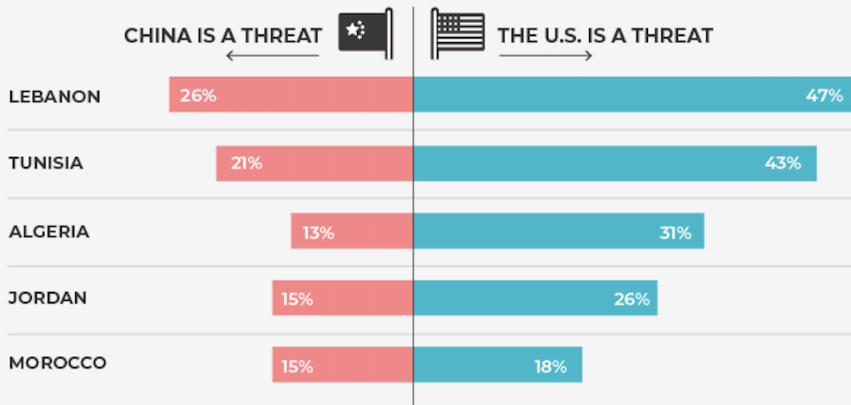## Doing business in MENA

Arab publics worry less about China's economic threat than America's ...

OPINION ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF NATION'S ECONOMIC POWER IN MENA:

CHINA IS A THREAT   THE U.S. IS A THREAT

Country	China is a threat	The U.S. is a threat
LEBANON	26%	47%
TUNISIA	21%	43%
ALGERIA	13%	31%
JORDAN	15%	26%
MOROCCO	15%	18%

Perceptions of China Inc: Quality of product

COUNTRY WITH THE REPUTATION FOR BUILDING THE HIGHEST QUALITY
OPINION IN:
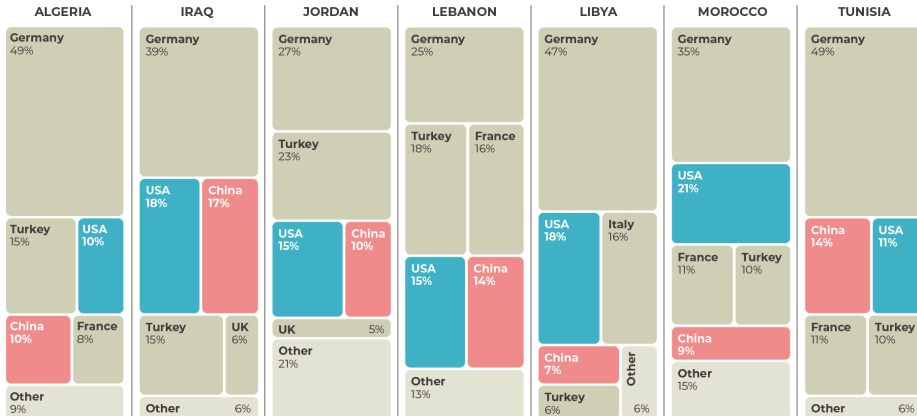
ALGERIA
- Germany 49%
- Turkey 15%
- USA 10%
- China 10%
- France 8%
- Other 9%

IRAQ
- Germany 39%
- USA 18%
- China 17%
- Turkey 15%
- UK 6%
- Other 6%

JORDAN
- Germany 27%
- Turkey 23%
- USA 15%
- China 10%
- UK 5%
- Other 21%

LEBANON
- Germany 25%
- Turkey 18%
- France 16%
- USA 15%
- China 14%
- Other 13%

LIBYA
- Germany 47%
- USA 18%
- Italy 16%
- China 7%
- Other
- Turkey 6%
- 6%

MOROCCO
- Germany 35%
- USA 21%
- France 11%
- Turkey 10%
- China 9%
- Other 15%

TUNISIA
- Germany 49%
- China 14%
- USA 11%
- France 11%
- Turkey 10%
- Other 6%

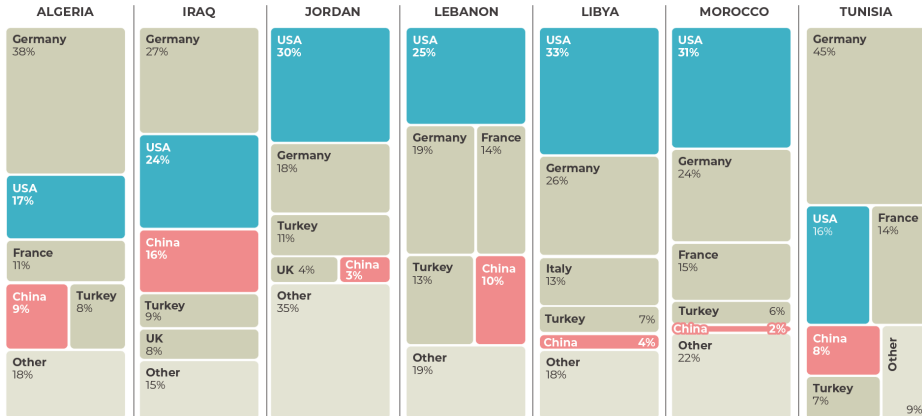"OTHER" INCLUDES NO RESPONSE, DON'T KNOW, OR ANY OTHER COUNTRY   ARAB BAROMETER, WAVE VI, MARCH - APRIL 2021

Perceptions of China Inc: Treatment of local workforce

COUNTRY WITH THE REPUTATION FOR PAYING THE BEST SALARIES
OPINION IN:

ALGERIA	IRAQ	JORDAN	LEBANON	LIBYA	MOROCCO	TUNISIA
Germany 38%	Germany 27%	USA 30%	USA 25%	USA 33%	USA 31%	Germany 45%
USA 17%	USA 24%	Germany 18%	Germany 19% / France 14%	Germany 26%	Germany 24%	USA 16% / France 14%
France 11%	China 16%	Turkey 11%	Turkey 13% / China 10%	Italy 13%	France 15%	China 8% / Other 9%
China 9% / Turkey 8%	Turkey 9%	UK 4% / China 3%	Other 19%	Turkey 7% / China 4%	Turkey 6% / China 2%	Turkey 7%
Other 18%	UK 8%	Other 35%		Other 18%	Other 22%	
	Other 15%					

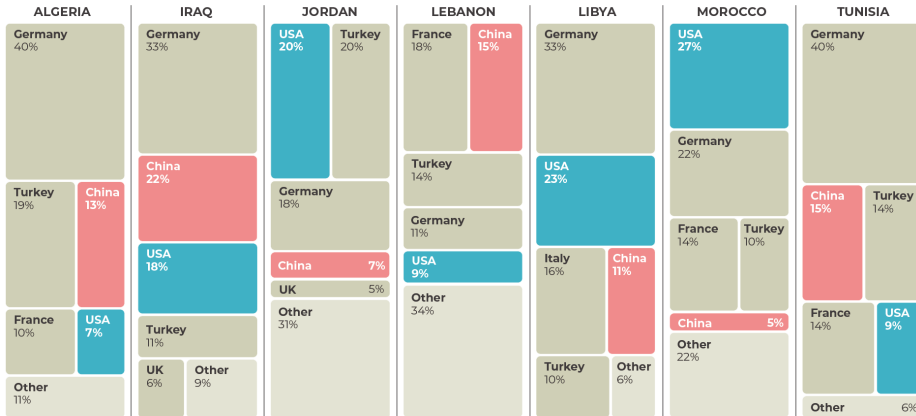"OTHER" INCLUDES NO RESPONSE, DON'T KNOW, OR ANY OTHER COUNTRY   ARAB BAROMETER, WAVE VI, MARCH - APRIL 2021

Perceptions of China Inc: Overall preference

PREFERRED COUNTRY TO BE AWARDED THE CONTRACT
OPINION IN:

ALGERIA
- Germany 40%
- Turkey 19%
- China 13%
- France 10%
- USA 7%
- Other 11%

IRAQ
- Germany 33%
- China 22%
- USA 18%
- Turkey 11%
- UK 6%
- Other 9%

JORDAN
- USA 20%
- Turkey 20%
- Germany 18%
- China 7%
- UK 5%
- Other 31%

LEBANON
- France 18%
- China 15%
- Turkey 14%
- Germany 11%
- USA 9%
- Other 34%

LIBYA
- Germany 33%
- USA 23%
- Italy 16%
- China 11%
- Turkey 10%
- Other 6%

MOROCCO
- USA 27%
- Germany 22%
- France 14%
- Turkey 10%
- China 5%
- Other 22%

TUNISIA
- Germany 40%
- China 15%
- Turkey 14%
- France 14%
- USA 9%
- Other 6%

"OTHER" INCLUDES NO RESPONSE, DON'T KNOW, OR ANY OTHER COUNTRY   ARAB BAROMETER, WAVE VI, MARCH - APRIL 2021

Views of Other Powers

Saudi's Leadership gets higher marks than Iran

But the difference is less than might be expected.

NET DIFFERENCE IN FAVORABILITY

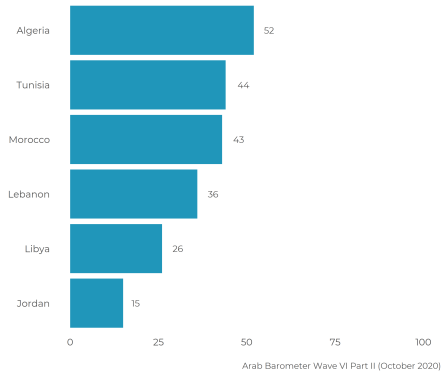|	SAUDI VS IRAN	MBS VS KHAMENEI
ALGERIA	+22%	+16%
JORDAN	+18%	+8%
MOROCCO	+18%	+17%
TUNISIA	+11%	+8%
LEBANON	+2%	+4%

SAUDI MORE FAVORED

MBS POLICIES MORE FAVORED

Views of Russia

Favorability: Russia
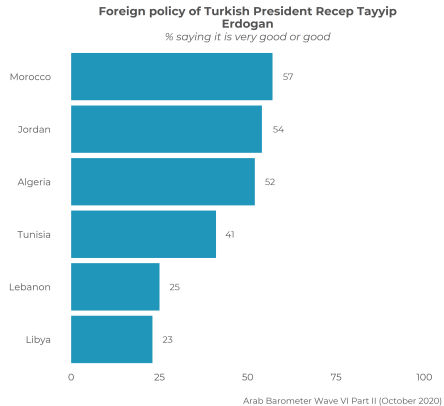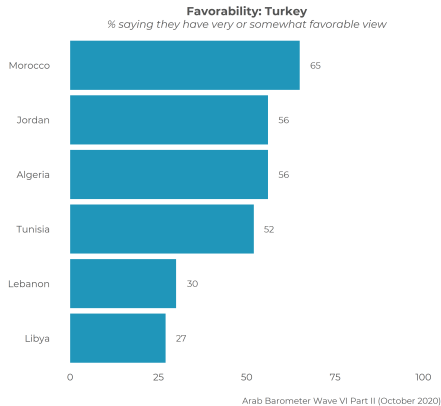*% saying they have very or somewhat favorable view*

Country	%
Algeria	52
Tunisia	44
Morocco	43
Lebanon	36
Libya	26
Jordan	15

Arab Barometer Wave VI Part II (October 2020)

Foreign policy of Russian President Valdimir Putin
% saying it is very good or good

Country	%
Algeria	43
Tunisia	33
Morocco	32
Lebanon	30
Libya	20
Jordan	13

Arab Barometer Wave VI Part II (October 2020)

Views of Turkey

Favorability: Turkey
% saying they have very or somewhat favorable view

Country	Value
Morocco	65
Jordan	56
Algeria	56
Tunisia	52
Lebanon	30
Libya	27

Arab Barometer Wave VI Part II (October 2020)

Foreign policy of Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan
% saying it is very good or good

Country	Value
Morocco	57
Jordan	54
Algeria	52
Tunisia	41
Lebanon	25
Libya	23

Arab Barometer Wave VI Part II (October 2020)

Views of Germany

Favorability: Germany
% saying they have very or somewhat favorable view

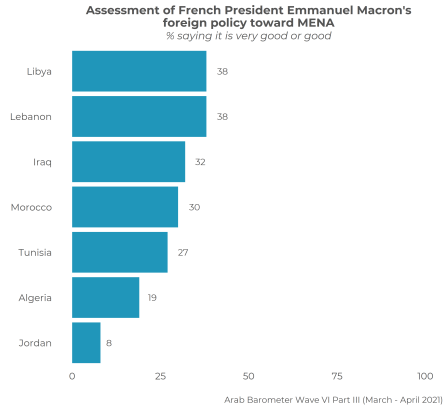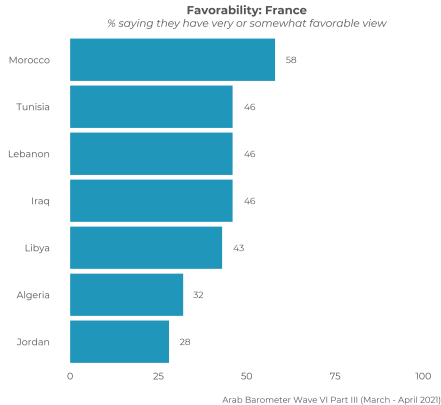| Country	Value
Libya	67
Tunisia	66
Algeria	65
Morocco	57
Iraq	55
Lebanon	41
Jordan	40
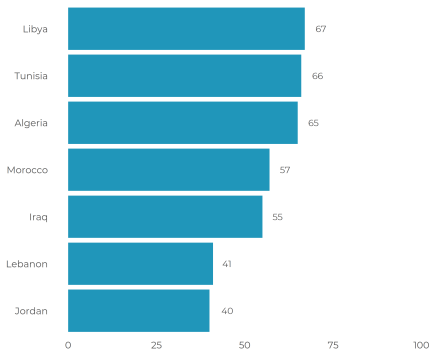
Arab Barometer Wave VI Part III (March - April 2021)

Assessment of German Prime Minister Angela Merkel's foreign policy toward MENA
% saying it is very good or good

Country	Value
Libya	64
Tunisia	56
Iraq	54
Algeria	50
Morocco	45
Lebanon	28
Jordan	21
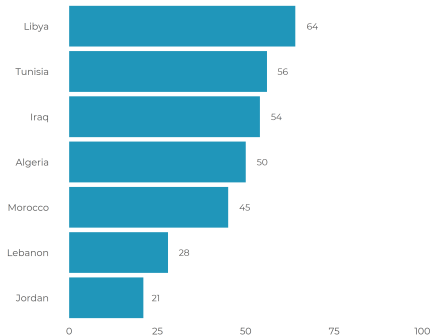
Arab Barometer Wave VI Part III (March - April 2021)

Views of France

Favorability: France
% saying they have very or somewhat favorable view

Country	Value
Morocco	58
Tunisia	46
Lebanon	46
Iraq	46
Libya	43
Algeria	32
Jordan	28

Arab Barometer Wave VI Part III (March - April 2021)

Assessment of French President Emmanuel Macron's foreign policy toward MENA
% saying it is very good or good

Country	Value
Libya	38
Lebanon	38
Iraq	32
Morocco	30
Tunisia	27
Algeria	19
Jordan	8

Arab Barometer Wave VI Part III (March - April 2021)

Michael Robbins, PhD
Director, Arab Barometer
Email: mdr7@princeton.edu

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