

# Regional Public Views & Great Power Competition Amid Escalating Conflict

Findings from Arab Barometer Wave IX

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# About Arab Barometer

- ▶ Arab Barometer is a nonpartisan research network that provides insight into the social, political, and economic attitudes and values of ordinary citizens across the Arab world
- ▶ Arab Barometer is the longest standing and largest repository of publicly available data on ordinary citizens' views in the Middle East & North Africa (MENA)
- ▶ Arab Barometer is housed at Princeton University & the University of Michigan with partners across the MENA region
- ▶ Arab Barometer's mission:
  1. Track attitudes & behavior
  2. Increase institutional capacity for survey research in MENA
  3. Disseminate knowledge about citizens living in MENA

# About the project

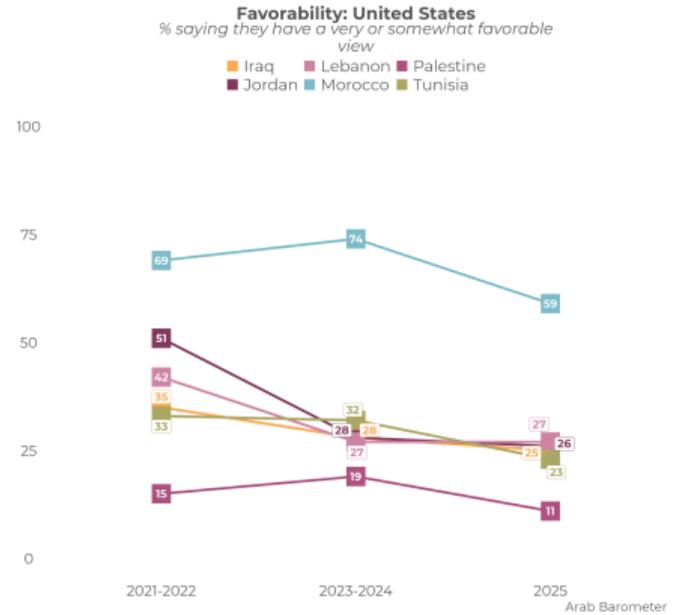
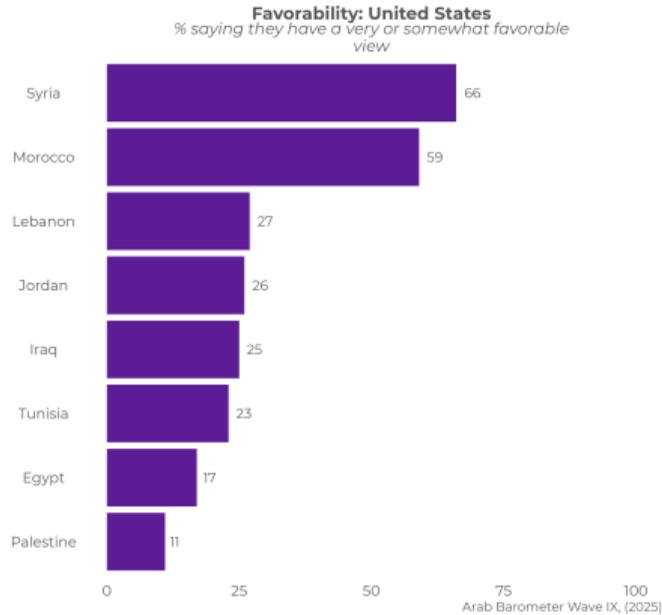
- ▶ More than 145,000 personal interviews to date
- ▶ 102 nationally representative surveys
- ▶ Nine waves across 16 countries providing trend data on how views have changed over time
- ▶ Data are open source & publicly available for analysis at [arabbarometer.org](http://arabbarometer.org)
- ▶ Country and topical reports available for download in both English and Arabic

# About Wave 9

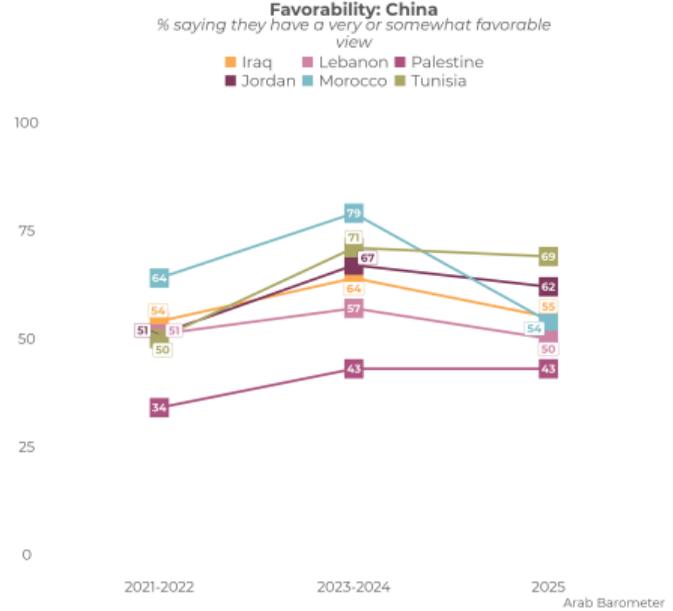
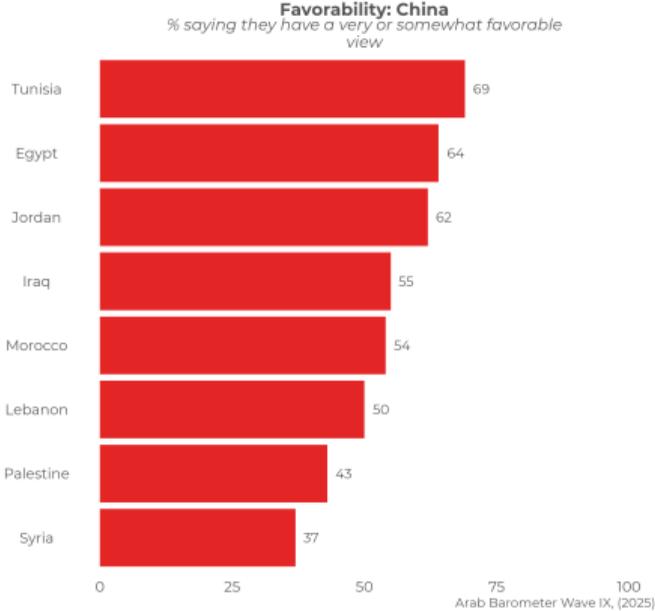
- ▶ Nationally representative surveys of between 1,200 & 1,600 nationals ages 18 and above
- ▶ Conducted in-person in the respondent's place of residence
- ▶ Eight nationally representative surveys completed to date
  1. Morocco (Aug 23 - Sept 6, 2025)
  2. Egypt (Sept 11 - 25, 2025)
  3. Iraq (Sept 28 - Nov 2, 2025)
  4. Jordan (Oct 1 - 12, 2025)
  5. Palestine
    - ▶ West Bank (Oct 8 - 26, 2025)
    - ▶ Gaza (Oct 8 - 15, 2025)
  6. Syria (Oct 29 - Nov 17, 2025)
  7. Tunisia (Oct 30 - Nov 30, 2025)
  8. Lebanon (Nov 3 - 25, 2025)
- ▶ Planned survey in Mauritania
- ▶ Topics include views of government, democracy, environment, women's rights, migration, religiosity, international relations, & more

# A Changing Regional Order

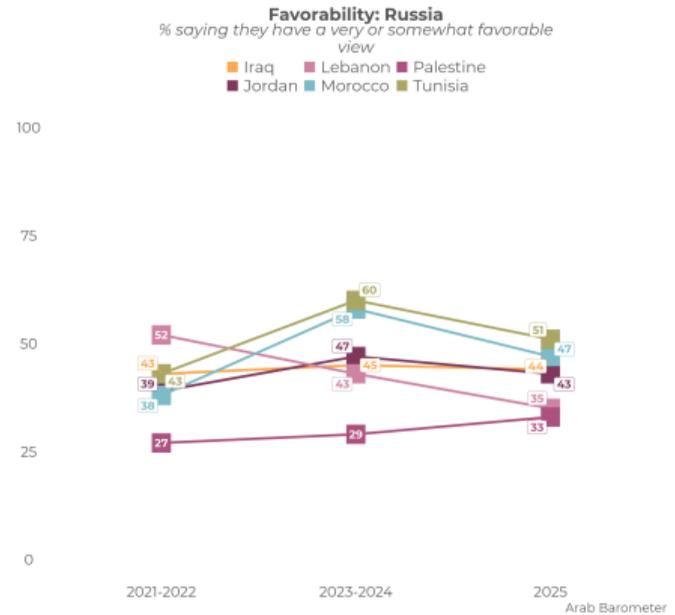
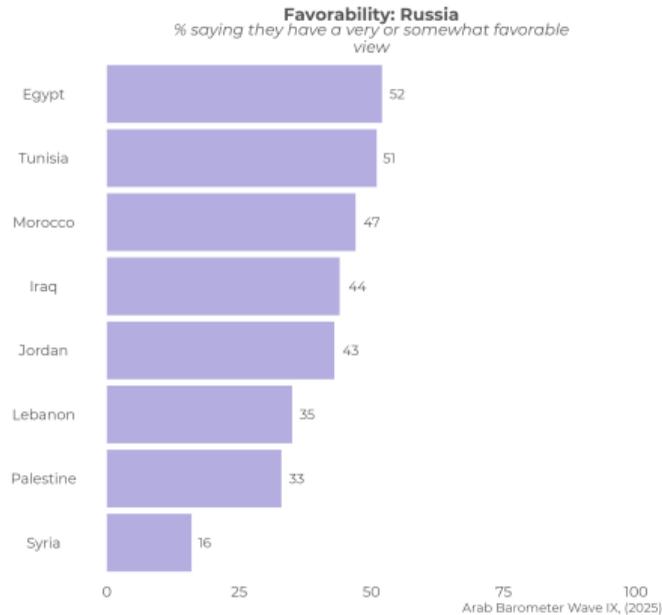
# U.S. image in MENA



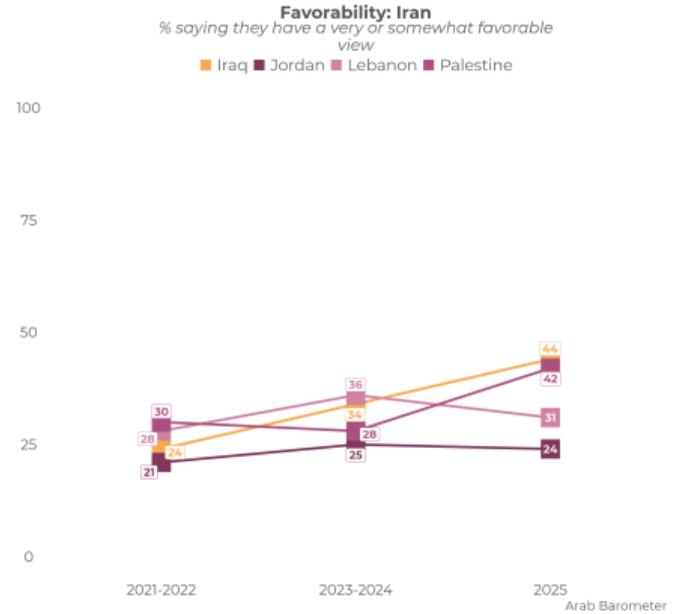
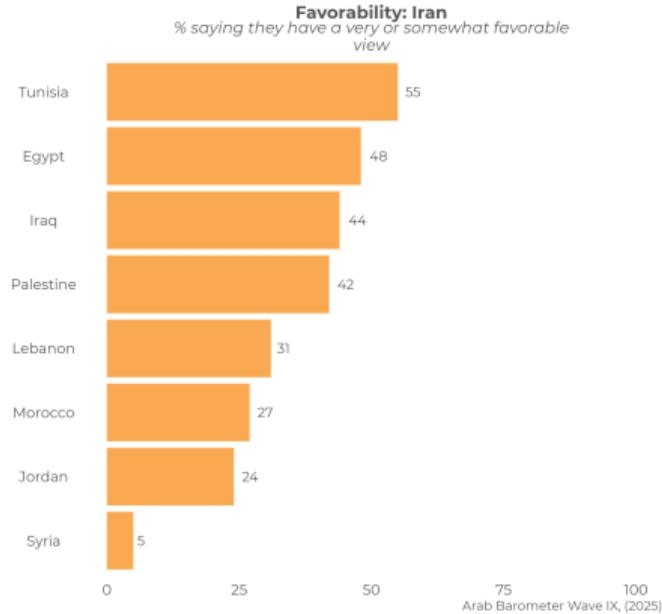
# China image in MENA



# Russia image in MENA

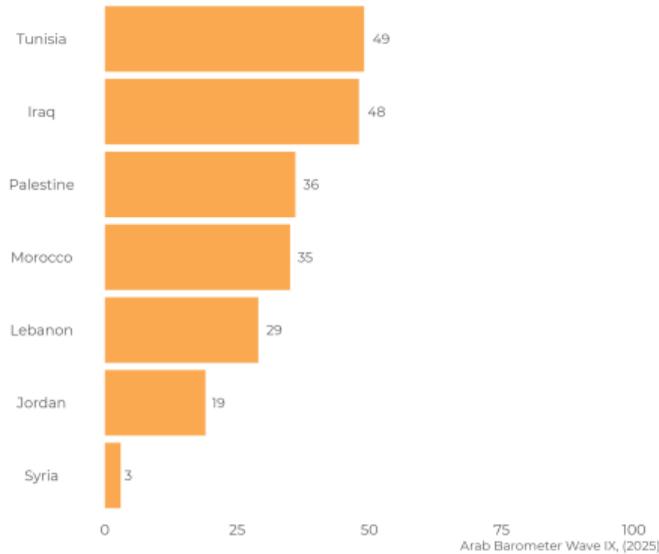


# Iran image in MENA

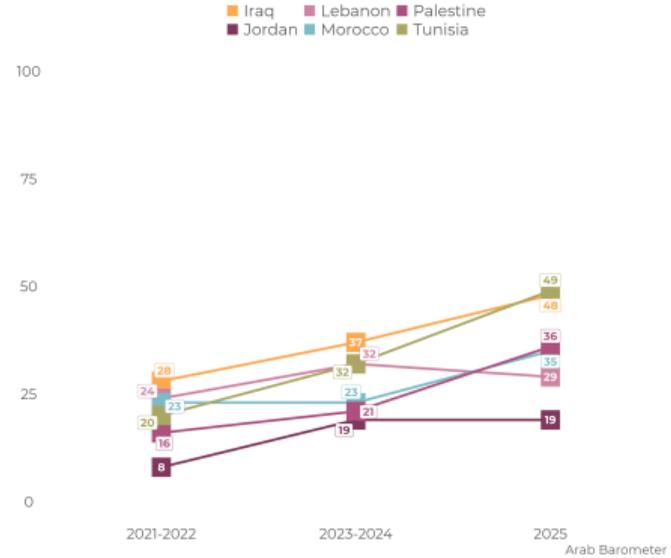


# Khamenei image in MENA

**Iranian Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei's foreign policy toward MENA**  
*% saying it is very good or good*



**Iranian Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei's foreign policy toward MENA**  
*% saying it is very good or good*

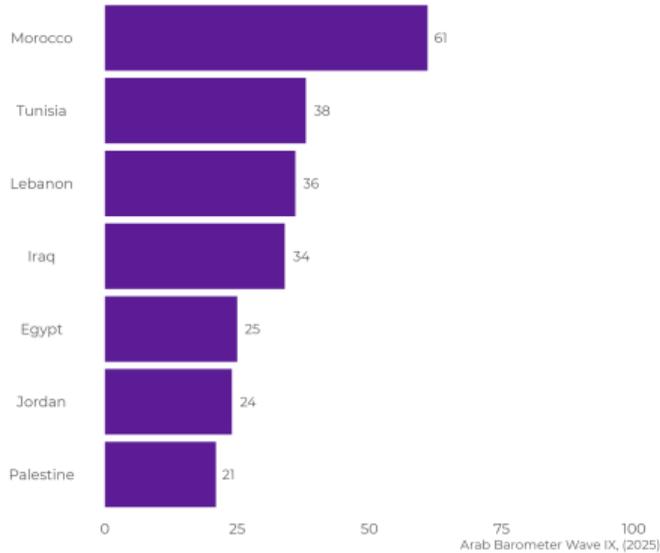


# The Perceived Western Double Standard

# Upholding international law: US vs. China

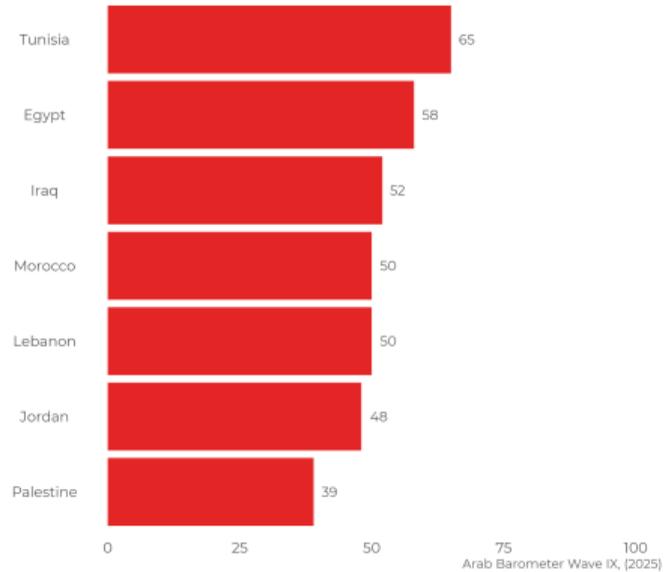
**Opinion on upholding international law: The United States**

*% saying to a great or medium extent*



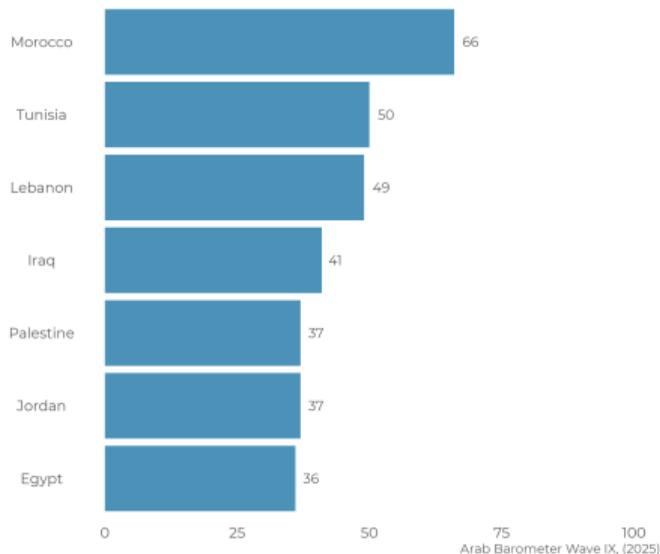
**Opinion on upholding international law: China**

*% saying to a great or medium extent*

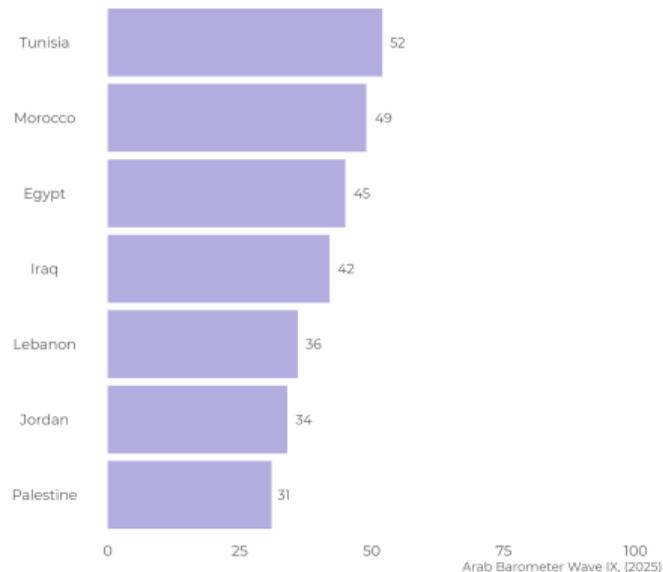


# Upholding international law: EU vs. Russia

**Opinion on upholding international law: The European Union**  
*% saying to a great or medium extent*



**Opinion on upholding international law: Russia**  
*% saying to a great or medium extent*

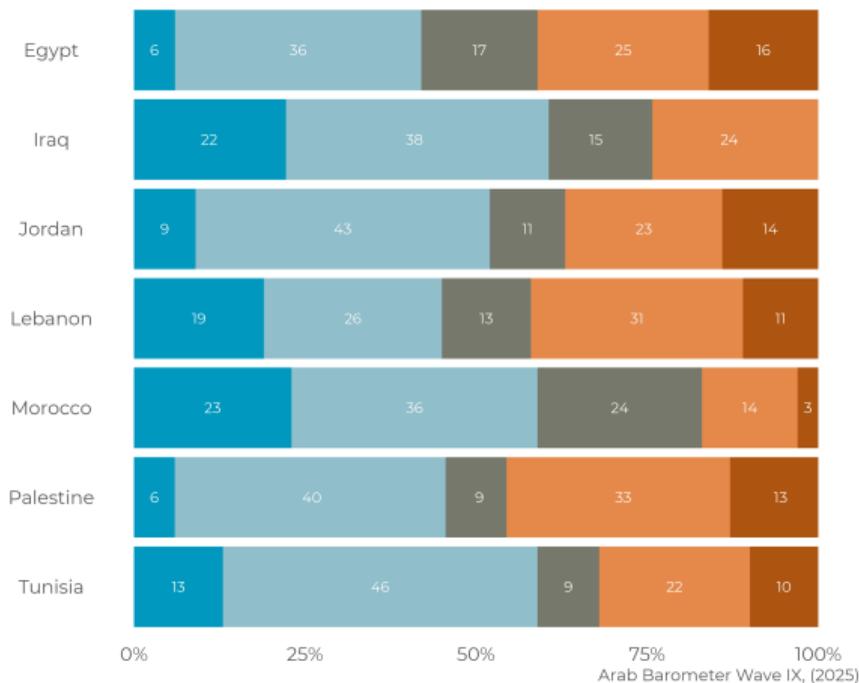


# U.S. vs China: maintaining regional security

## USA vs China: maintaining regional security

*% saying*

American policy is better Chinese and American policies are equally good Don't know/Refuse  
Chinese policy is better Chinese and American policies are equally bad

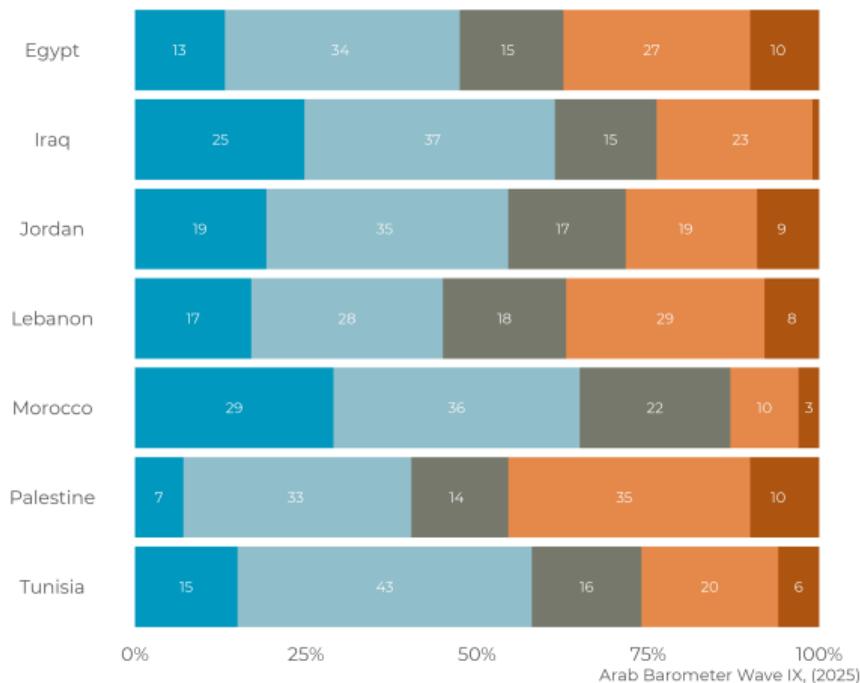


# U.S. vs China: protecting freedoms and rights

## USA vs China: protecting freedoms and rights

*% saying*

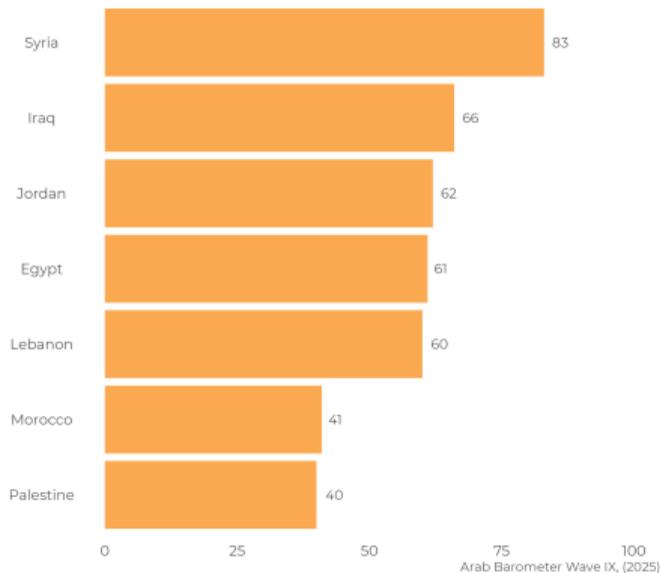
American policy is better Chinese and American policies are equally good Don't know/Refuse  
Chinese policy is better Chinese and American policies are equally bad



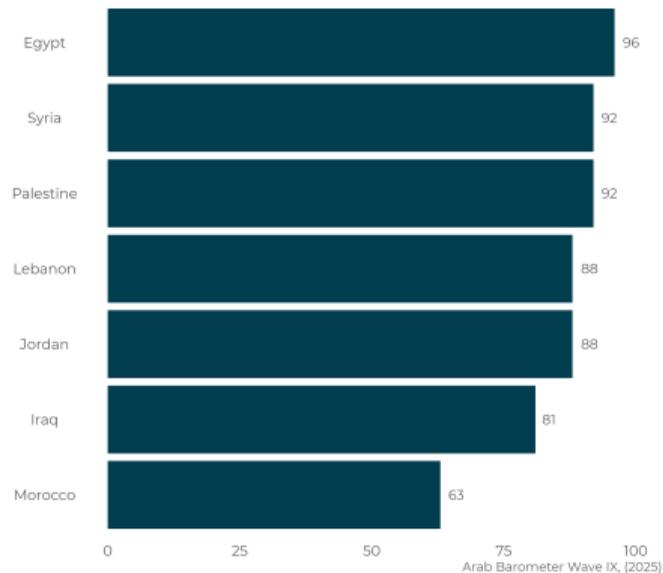
Through Gazan-Colored Glasses

# Iran vs. Israel as critical threats

**Iran's political influence in the region**  
*% saying the threat is critical*



**Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territories**  
*% saying the threat is critical*

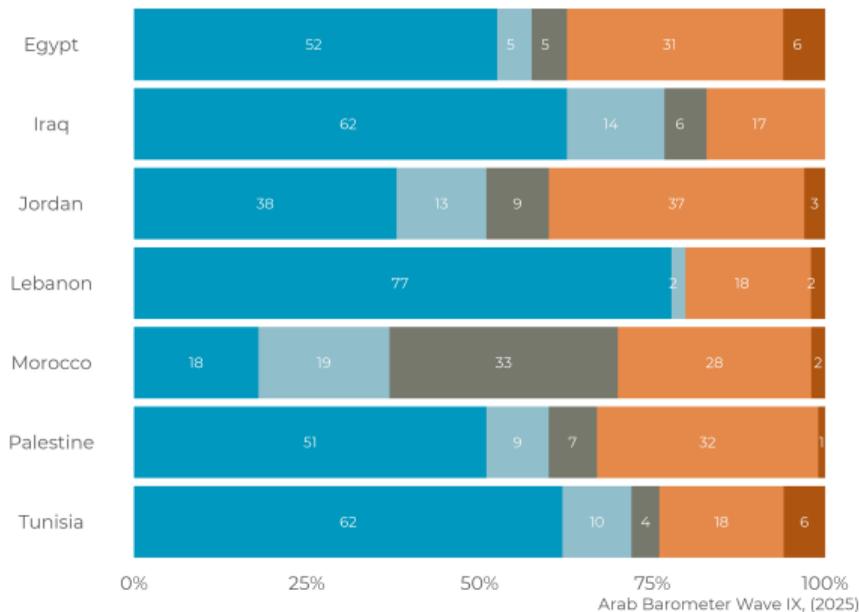


# Iran's commitment to sides in the Israel-Palestine Conflict

## Stance of Iran on Israel-Palestine War

*% saying*

- More committed to defending Palestine than Israel
- More committed to defending Israel than Palestine
- Equally committed to defending both Palestine and Israel
- Unclear on their commitment to defending either Palestine and Israel
- Don't know/Refuse

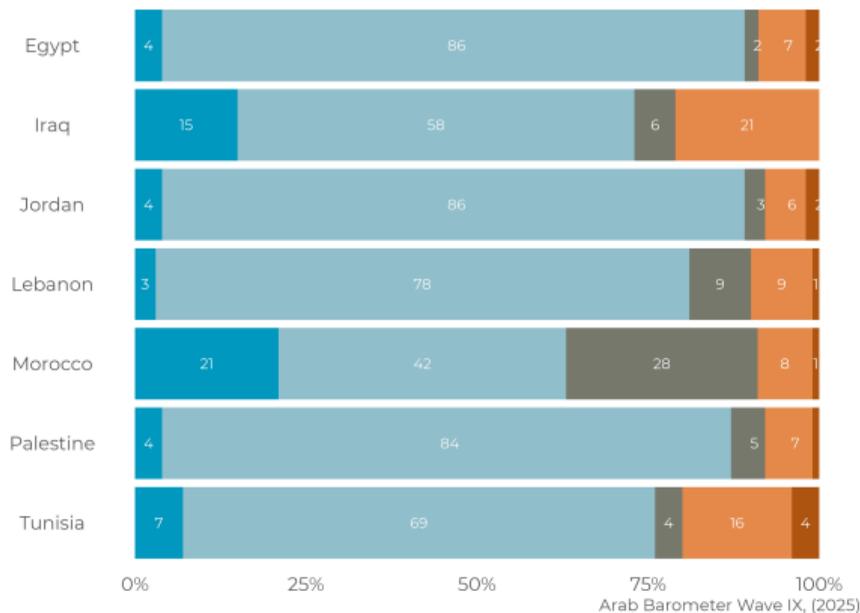


# U.S.'s commitment to sides in the Israel-Palestine Conflict

## Stance of the U.S. on Israel-Palestine War

*% saying*

- More committed to defending Palestine than Israel
- More committed to defending Israel than Palestine
- Equally committed to defending both Palestine and Israel
- Unclear on their commitment to defending either Palestine and Israel
- Don't know/Refuse

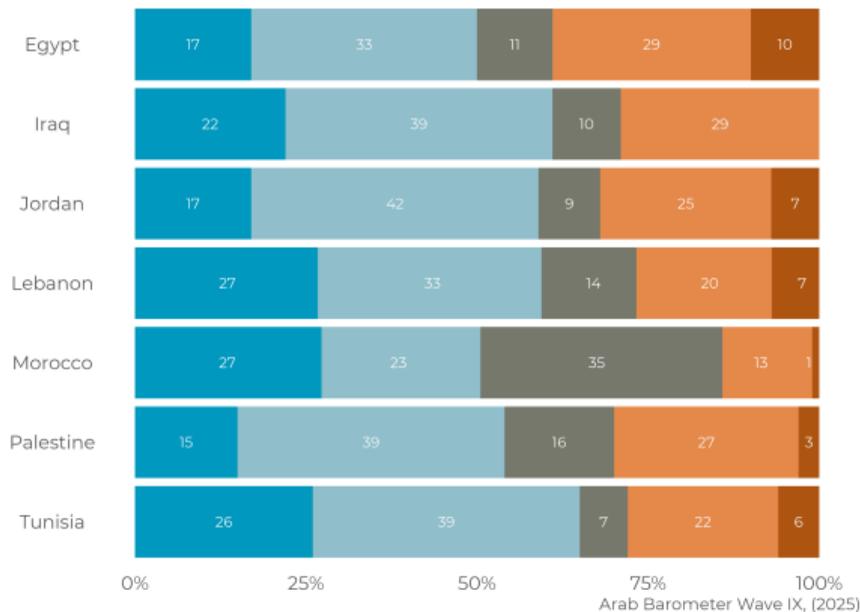


# France's commitment to sides in the Israel-Palestine Conflict

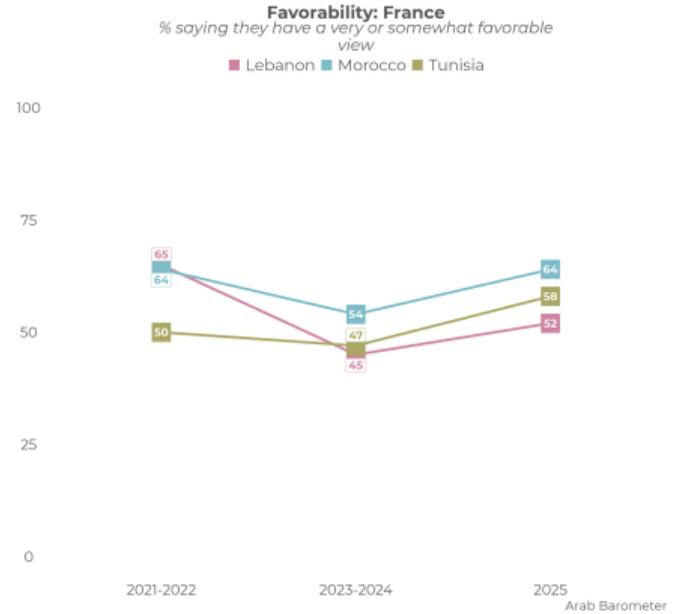
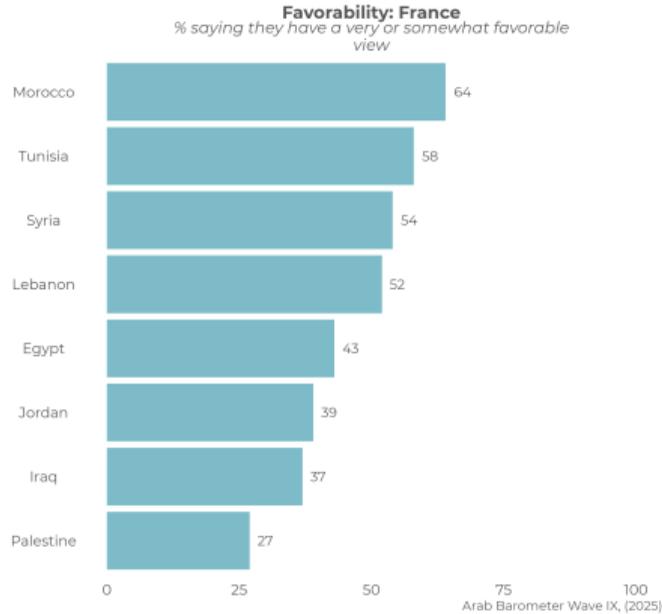
## Stance of France on Israel-Palestine War

*% saying*

- More committed to defending Palestine than Israel
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# France image in MENA

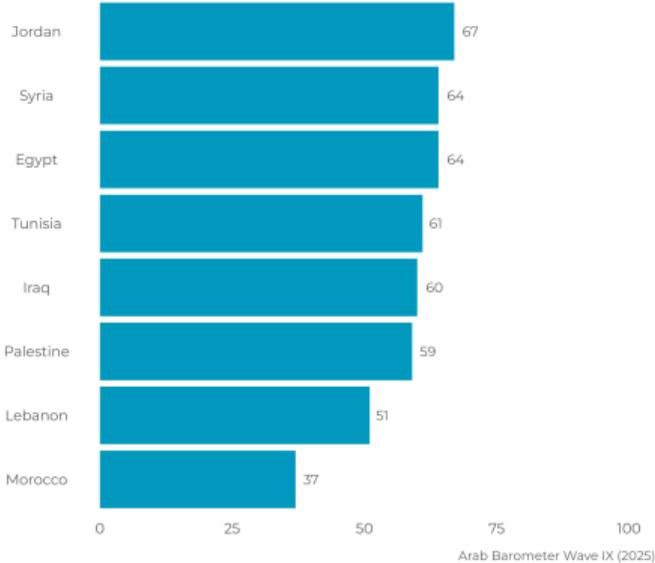


# An Alternative Reality

# Support for the two-state solution

## Preferred solution to Palestinian-Israeli conflict

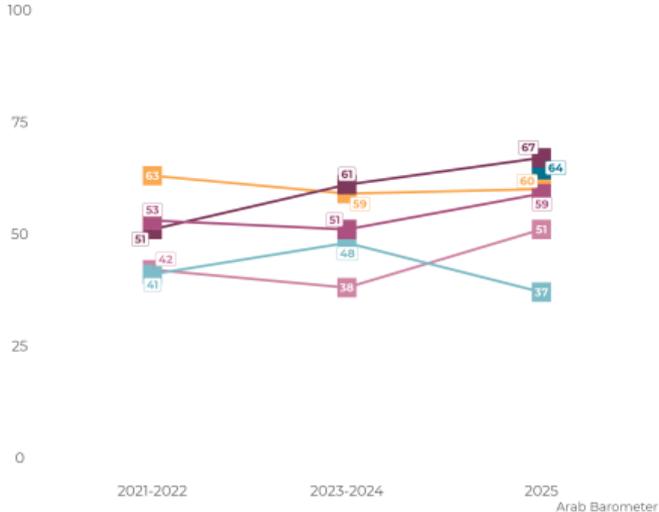
*% saying two states, Palestine next to Israel based on the 1967 borders*



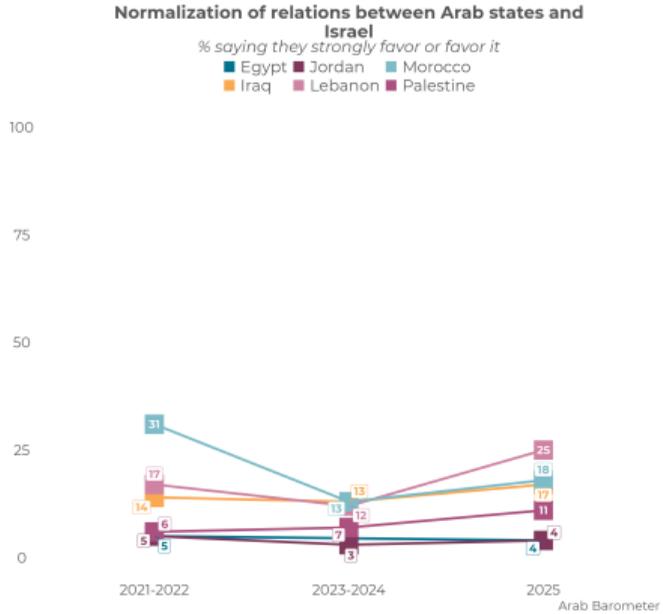
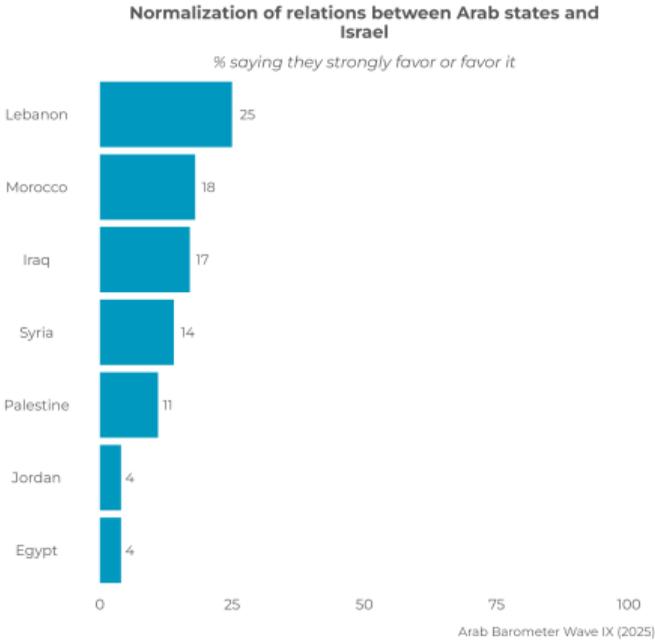
## Solution to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict

*% saying two-state solution*

Legend: Egypt (dark blue), Jordan (dark red), Morocco (light blue), Iraq (orange), Lebanon (pink), Palestine (dark purple)



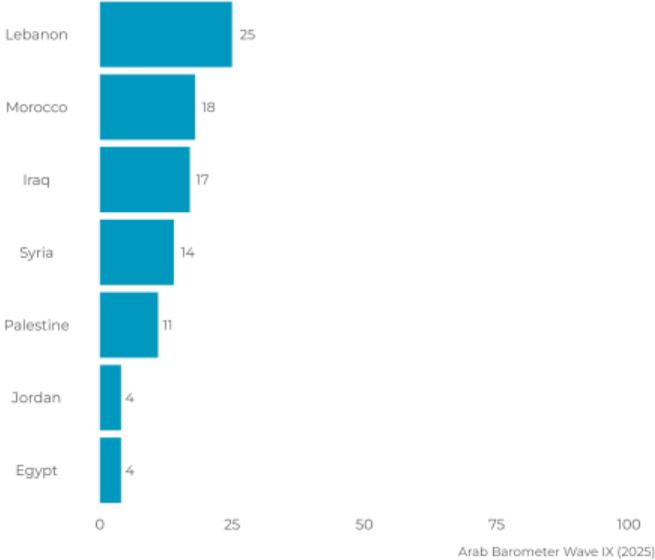
# Support for normalization



# Support for normalization if Israel recognizes Palestine

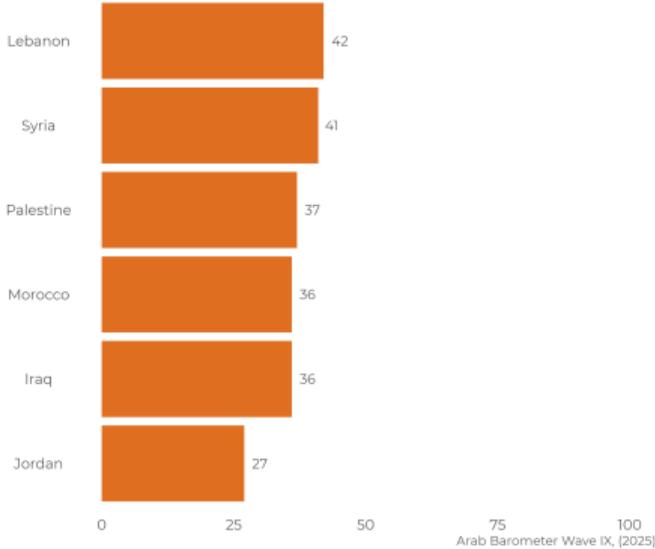
**Normalization of relations between Arab states and Israel**

*% saying they strongly favor or favor it*



**Support for normalization between Israel and the Arab League if it recognizes a Palestinian state**

*% saying they strongly support or somewhat support*





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