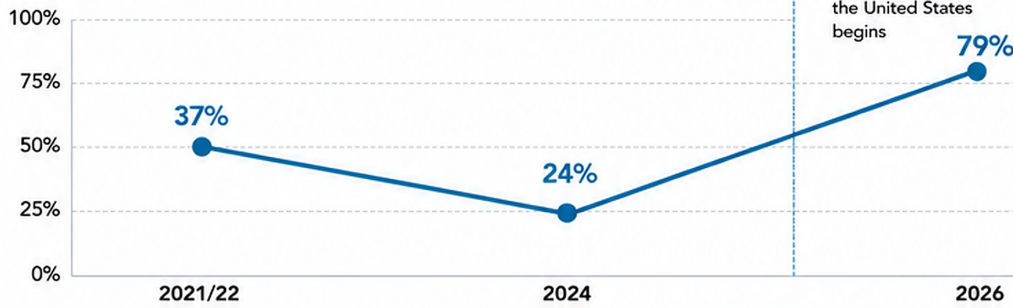


Iran's Popularity Reaches Record Levels in Mauritania

Support for Iran's Foreign Policy Surges in Mauritania

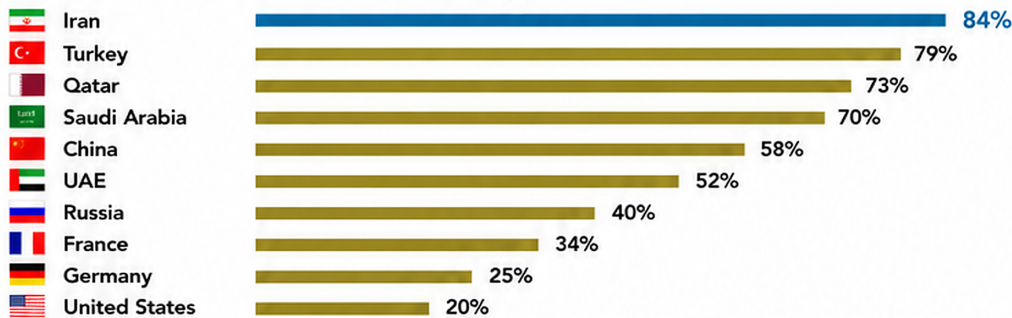
% who evaluate the foreign policies of Iran's leaders positively



+55
percentage points
since 2024

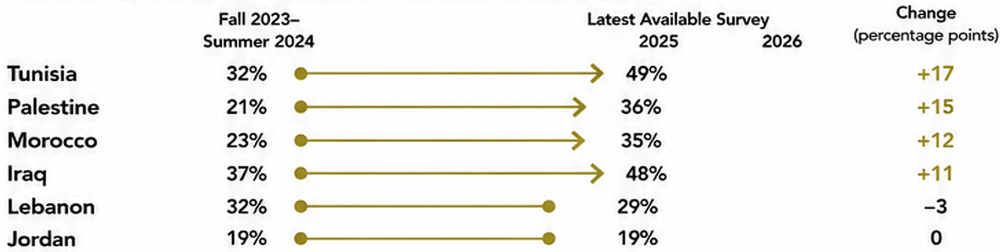
In Mauritania, No Foreign Power Is Viewed More Favorably Than Iran

% with favorable views of selected countries (April–May 2026)



Mauritania: A Possible Signal of Broader Shifts in Views of Iran

Support for Iran was already rising across parts of MENA before 2026. Mauritania may offer an early indication of where those trends are heading.



Tunisia, Palestine, Morocco, and Iraq saw notable increases since Fall 2023–Summer 2024. Jordan and Lebanon show little change, though support remains higher than five years ago.



In Wave IX, Mauritania was surveyed in April–May 2026 after the outbreak of the February 2026 U.S. and Israel–Iran war.

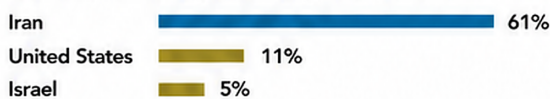
All other countries shown were surveyed in fall 2025, after the June 2025 Twelve–Day War.

What Is Driving Support for Iran Among Mauritanians?

Arab Barometer data suggest that growing sympathy for Iran does not necessarily reflect support for Iran's political system, regional influence, or nuclear program. Rather, the timing and magnitude of the shift suggest that the 2026 U.S. and Israel–Iran war may be a key driver of changing Mauritanians' views.

Positive Influence on Events in MENA

% who say each country has a mostly positive influence



Committed to Upholding International Law

% who say each country is committed to upholding international law to a great or medium extent



What Might This Mean?

While additional data are needed to determine whether similar shifts occurred elsewhere, the findings suggest that publics in parts of the Middle East and North Africa may be becoming more open to engagement with Iran and its role in regional affairs.