

**ON GOVERNING THE SYRIAN  
REFUGEE CRISIS  
COLLECTIVELY: THE  
INTEGRATION ASPECT**

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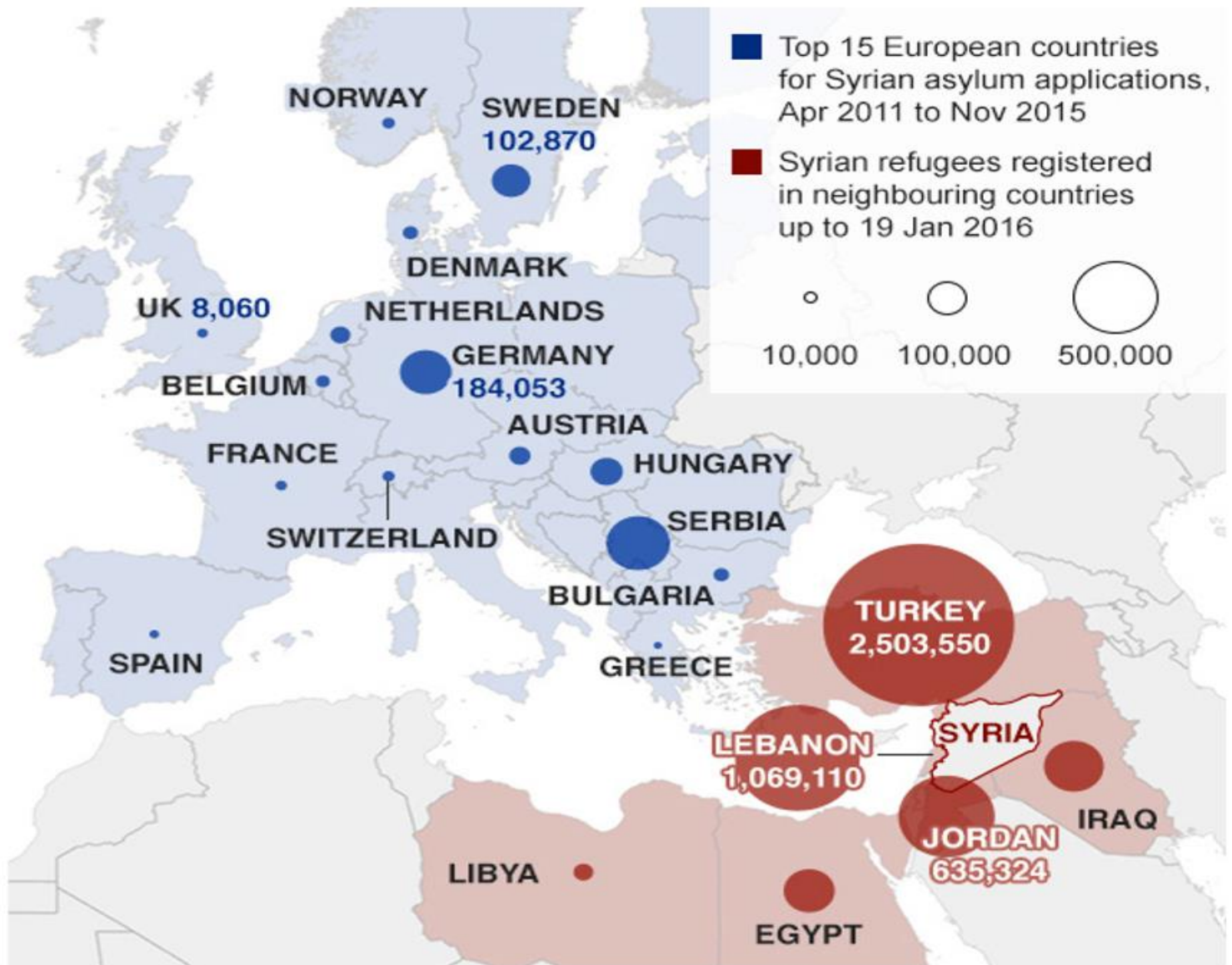
# Inter-Group Relations and Integration

- Yavcan, Basak. “On Governing the Syrian Refugee Crisis Collectively: The View from Turkey.” Near Futures Online 1 “Europe at a Crossroads” (March 2016)
- (2015). IFRC Community Center Project Needs Assessment Report ORSAM Report No: 200 (ISBN: 978-605-9157-0409)
- “Integration and Social Distance: The case of Syrian Refugees in Turkey” paper presented at the Northwestern University Workshop: From Temporary Protection to Permanent Settlement Nov 9th, 2015.

# Syrian Refugees in Perspective

- According to UNHCR, of the 235 million displaced people in the world today, 60 million are forced to leave their countries
- About 80% of this forced migration is destined to arrive in other developing countries
- “European Refugee Crisis” since the Summer of 2015, over 4 million Syrian refugees are hosted by the neighboring countries since 2011

|         | SYRIAN REFUGEES | HOST POPULATION | RATIO |
|---------|-----------------|-----------------|-------|
| JORDAN  | 639,704         | 6,459,000       | 1:10  |
| LEBANON | 1,067,785       | 4,467,000       | 1:4   |
| TURKEY  | 2,715,789       | 74,930,000      | 1:27  |
| EU      | 900,000         | 508,191,000     | 1:588 |



Syrians in neighboring countries and Europe (Source: BBC graphic/UNHCR data)

# Pull and Push Factors

- European Dream
- Ease of access
- Host country conditions

## Why is it important to understand the attitudes of Syrians?

- UNHCR survey conducted with Syrian refugees (N=1,245 ) in various Greek islands between April and September 2015
- Educationally, refugees are some of the most advanced members of their country: 86% say they have secondary school or university education with significant skills such as engineering, computer programming, and teaching.
- Close to two thirds of the arrivals have indicated that they resided in a third country before coming to Greece

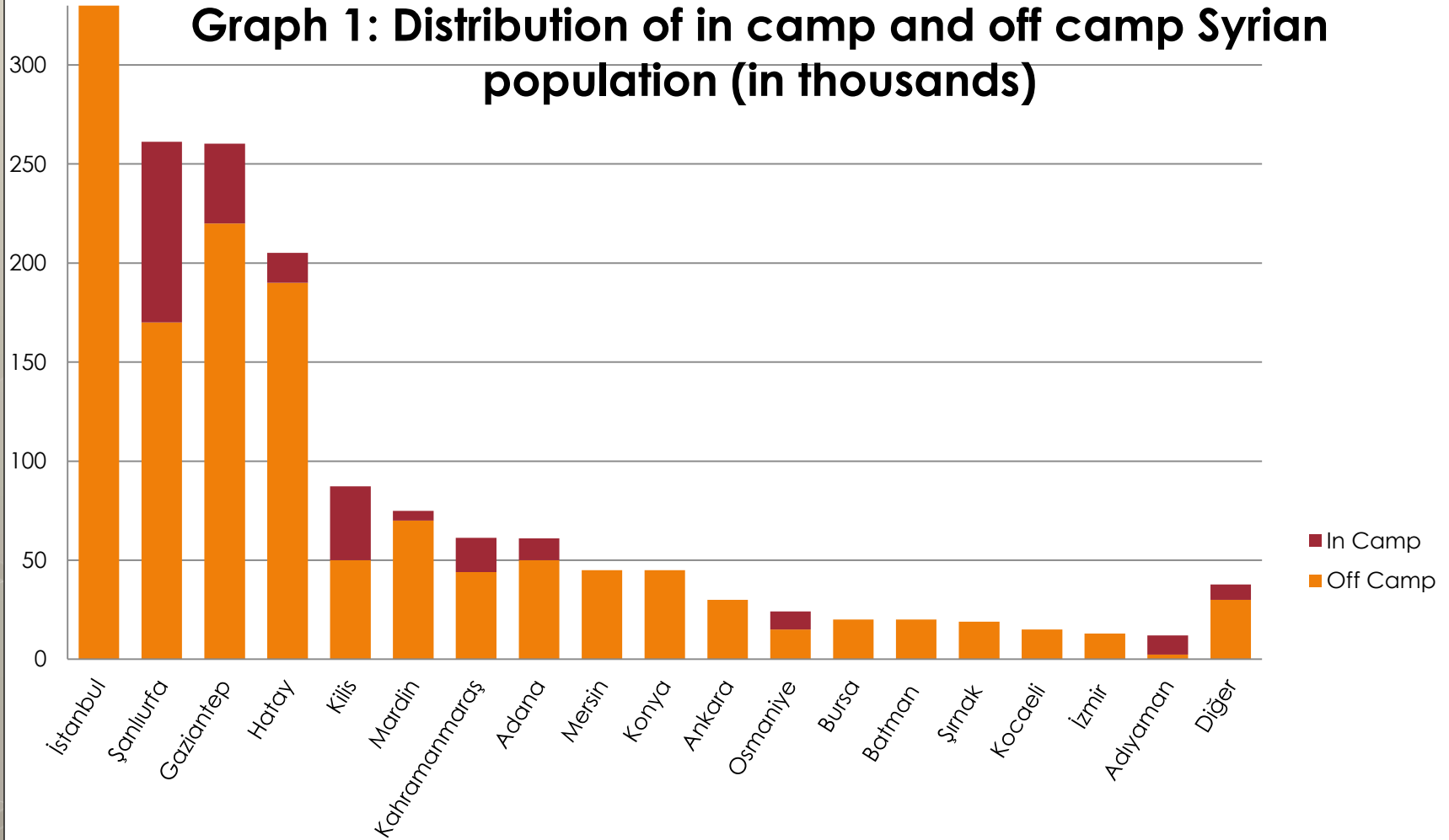
- The interviewees' main reasons for relocating were
    - the lack of non-exploitative employment opportunities that matched their skills,
    - financial needs,
    - concerns for security and protection,
    - search for better opportunities for their children, and
    - the hope for educational opportunities.
- <http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/download.php?id=248>

# Turkey's experience

- Legal Status “temporary protection”
- Camp vs urban refugees
- Employment
- Formal and Informal Education
- Inter-group relations



**Graph 1: Distribution of in camp and off camp Syrian population (in thousands)**



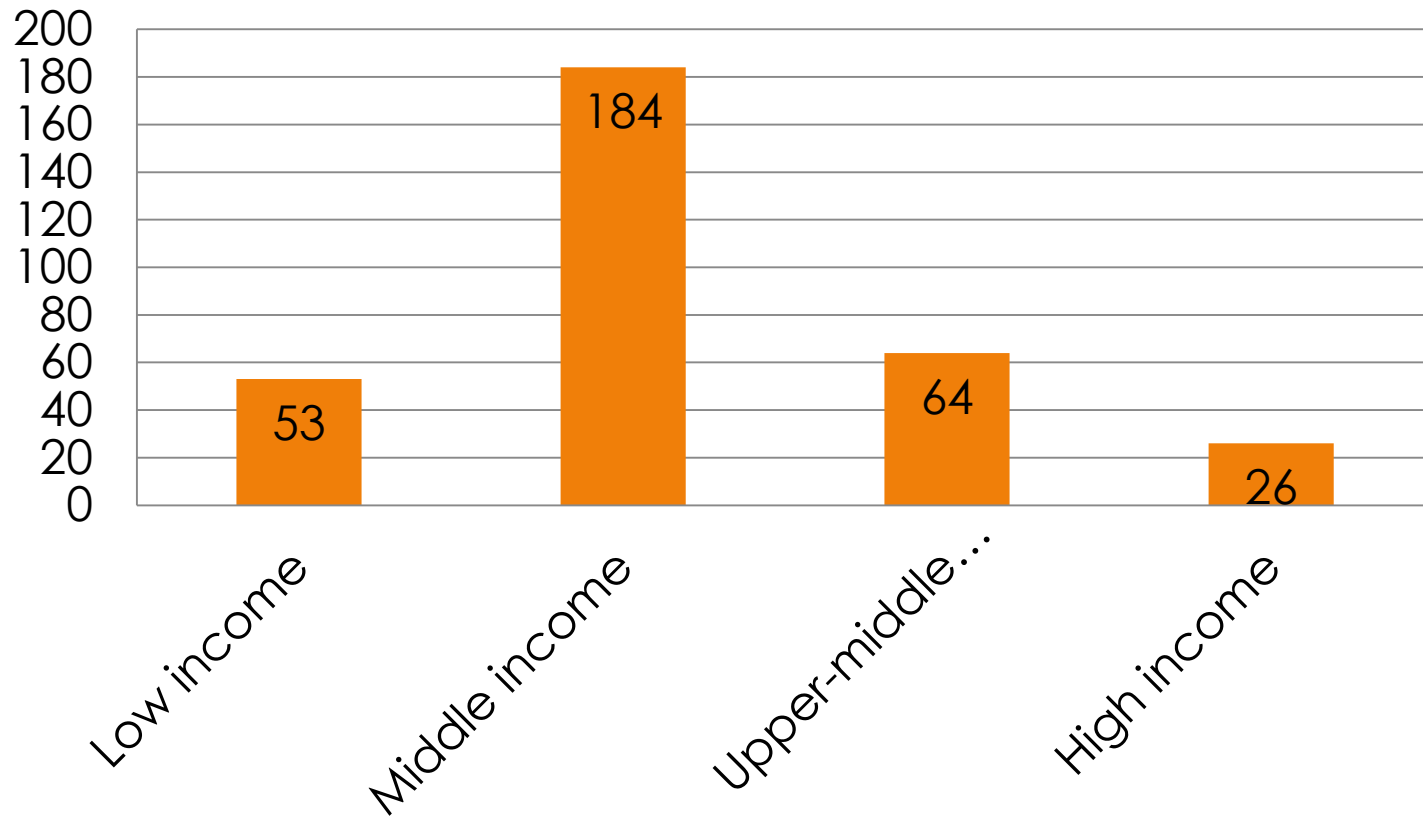
# A note on host society public opinion in Turkey

- No major incidents manifesting intergroup conflict
- But it is a story of tolerance and could be interpreted as a ticking time bomb because
  - The majority of the Turkish population opposes further migration
  - objects to extension of economic and social rights to Syrians
  - maintains a high degree of social distance

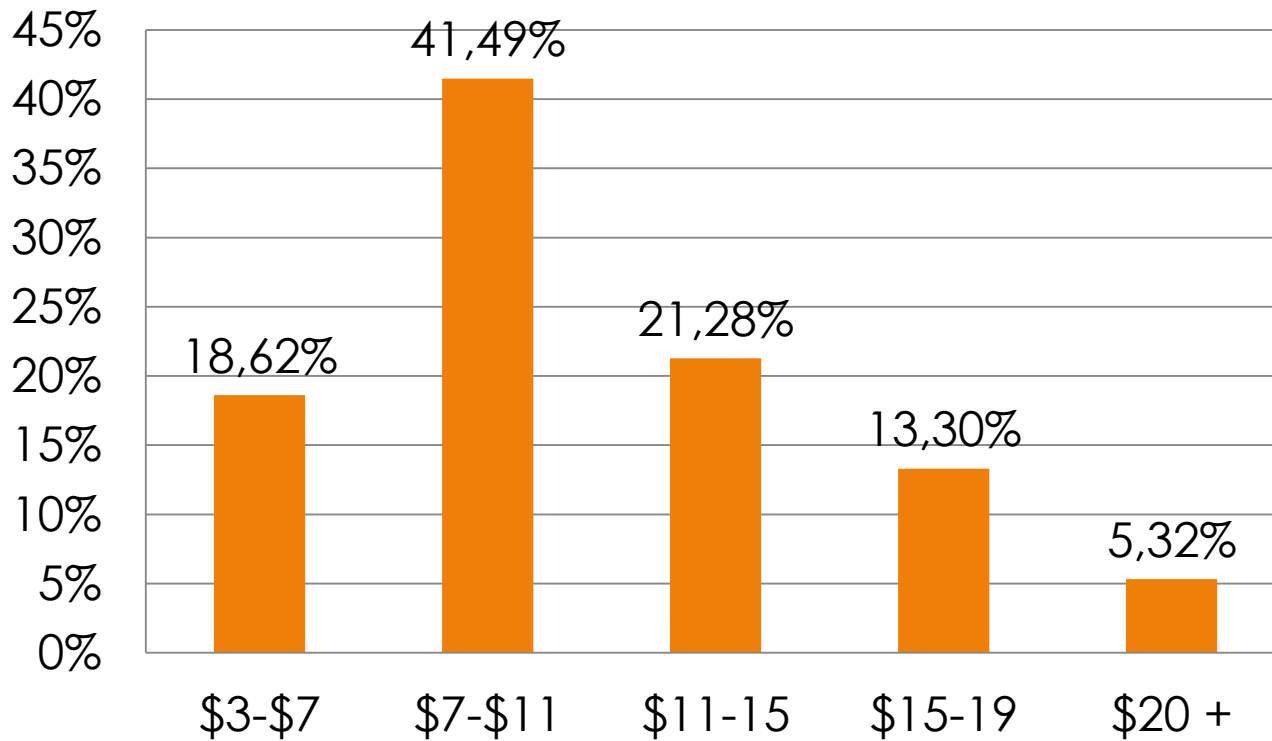
# Meet Rojen (31) from Aleppo



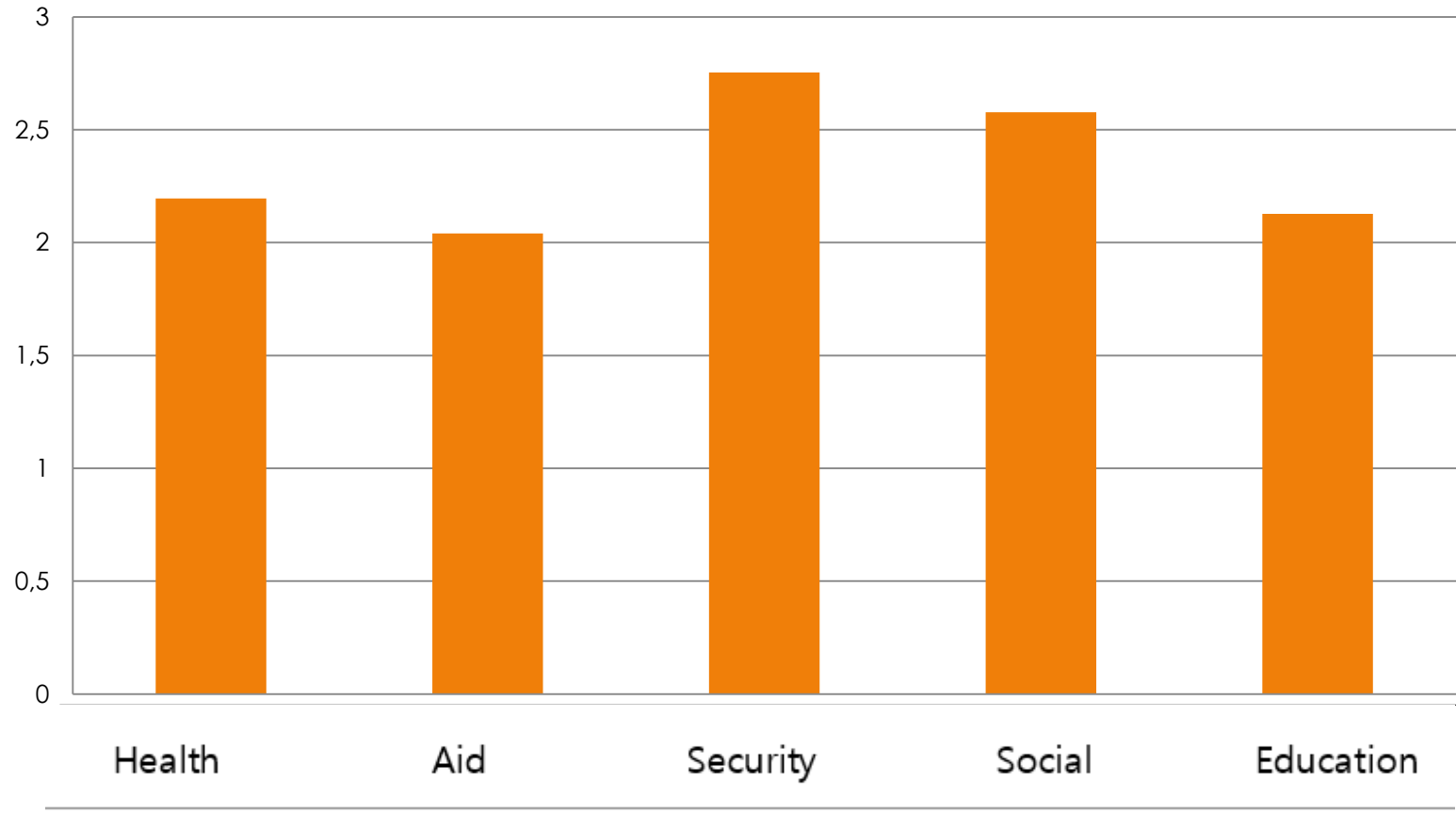
### Graph 3: Income level before immigration



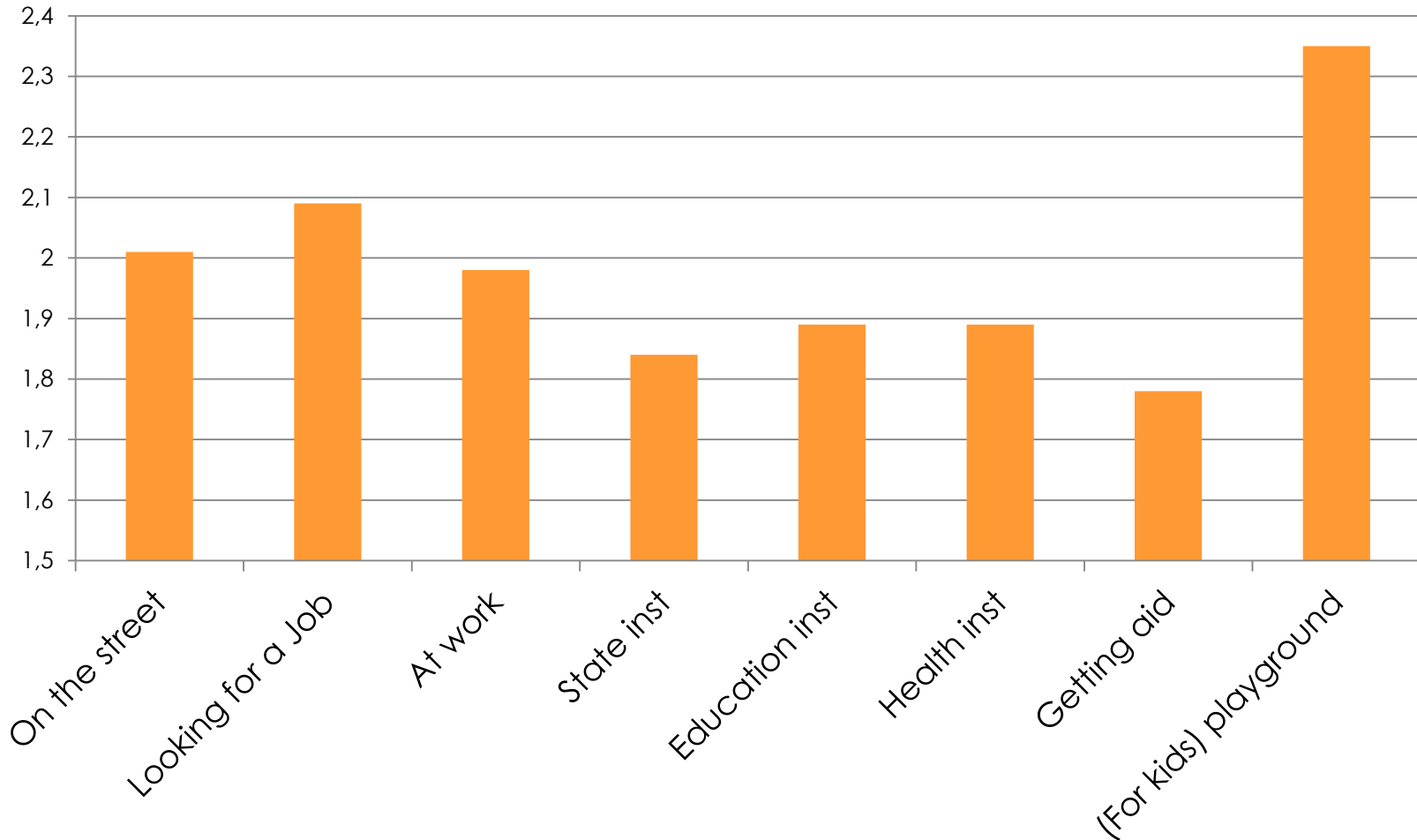
### Graph 4: Daily Income per person



## Graph 7: Satisfaction with Services in Turkey

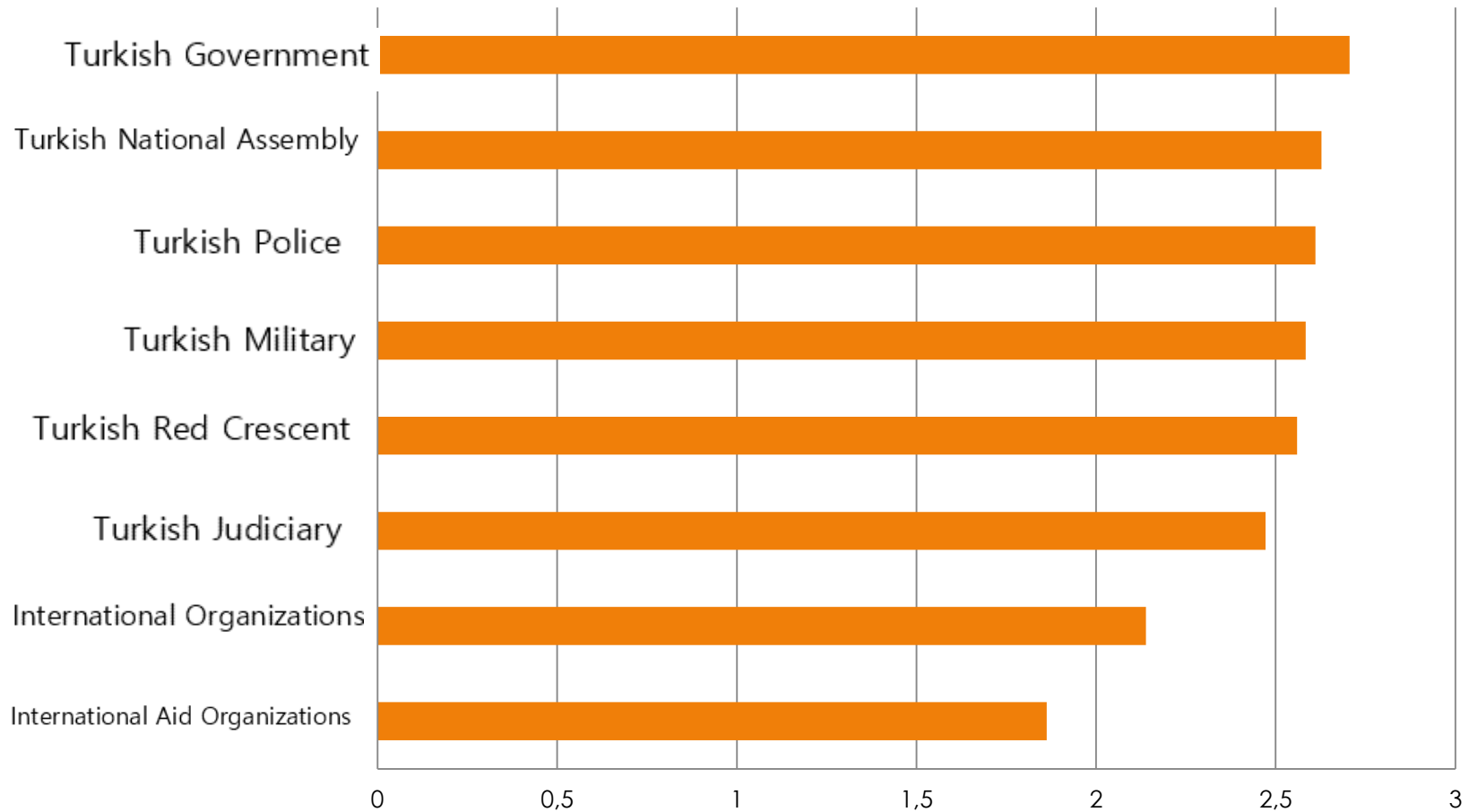


# Experience with Discrimination



# Social Cohesion and Integration

**Graph 8: Trust in Institutions**





## Determinants of Trust in Institutions

- Lower trust to international organizations but a lot more variation
- When we look at what explains Syrians' trust in local institutions in Turkey
  - Older people trust institutions more
  - Newcomers trust institutions a lot less
  - Class relates negatively to trust
  - Future expectations relate positively to trust
  - Inter-group relations seem to play an important role
    - Those with lower social distance to the local society trust the local institutions more
    - Those who have had problems with the locals trust institutions less

## Determinants of Immigration Preferences

- About 16 percent of the participants indicated they are interested in moving to Europe and 5% other places in the ME
- Younger people are a lot more likely to migrate
- Those who feel discriminated also more likely to migrate
- Higher class more likely to migrate/resources
- Being part of a bigger household also results in higher interest in further migration
- Higher economic expectations from Turkey, less interest in moving

# Burden Sharing: EU-Turkey Rapprochement

- Securitization vs Governance & Integration
- Anti-immigrant sentiments
- Building regularized migration paths
- Implications on Turkish Accession to the EU