



Global Consultation on Refugees and Migrants

Report on the 2015 *Initiative for Equality* Poll



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Authors

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Acknowledgements

We are grateful for the cooperation and participation of the many individuals around the world who participated by taking the poll, and giving us feedback on the draft report. We thank the members of the **Equity Action Collaborative Coordinating Committee**, whose discussions and decision-making helped to make the poll and report possible: Adam Cronkright (United States), Bhola Bhattarai (Nepal), Daniela Antons (Germany), Deborah S. Rogers (United States), and Elisabetta Rossi (Italy).

We also thank the members of Initiative for Equality's **Board of Advisors**: Aaron Kalala Karumba (DR Congo), Aliou Barry (Guinea Conakry), Amewu Attah (Ghana), Anna da Costa (India), Bernedette Muthien (South Africa), Bhola Bhattarai (Nepal), Caroline Usikpedo (Nigeria), Dammika Herath (Sri Lanka), Daniel Mathews (Australia), Diana García Lopez (Spain), Fabio Gama (Brazil), Jiří Šteg (Czech Republic), Kwabena Otoo (Ghana), Luisa Dantas (United States), Nfor Monde (Cameroon), Patrick Omari (Kenya), Pradeepta Nayak (India), Purna Nepali (Nepal), Richard Osaliya (Uganda), Williams Ngwakwe (Nigeria), and the members of Initiative for Equality's **Board of Directors**: Deborah S. Rogers (United States), Kaitlin Shilling (United States), Kristín Vala Ragnarsdóttir (Iceland), Roberto Guimaraes (Brazil), Shaheen Anam (Bangladesh), and Soren Ambrose (United States).

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Citation:

Rossi, E and Rogers, DS (2016) **Global Consultation on Refugees and Migrants: Report on the 2015 Initiative for Equality Poll**. Occasional Report # 3 (Rapid City, SD: *Initiative for Equality*).

Global Consultation on Refugees and Migrants

Report on the 2015 Initiative for Equality Poll

1 Introduction and Summary

In mid-2015, a large and increasing number of refugees and migrants attempted to reach the southern borders of the European Union (EU) and make their way to countries in which they could settle, at least temporarily. This caused many people to have great concern for the safety and well-being of the refugees and migrants, while causing some to fear the consequences of so many people entering and settling in the EU. Individuals and countries within the EU and neighboring countries rapidly chose sides – some working to welcome the refugees, and others working to keep them out. The situation was viewed by the news media in Europe and elsewhere as a “crisis,” and was perceived as a new development, at least in magnitude.

Many questions concerning the situation can be asked. Is this a crisis, or a manageable situation? Is it a new situation, or just a new realization by Western countries, once people began coming there in larger numbers? Are these “refugees” seeking protection from real threats, or “economic migrants” seeking a better way of life? Does that matter from a legal standpoint? from an ethical standpoint? On a global scale, where are most refugees and/or migrants coming from? In which countries are they primarily taking refuge – in Europe, or in other regions? What are the causes of the refugee and migrant situation? What are the dangers, and potential benefits, associated with this situation? What are the long-term solutions? What must be done in the short-term to alleviate suffering and protect people’s well-being and human rights? What can concerned individuals and civil society organizations do about the situation? For the most part, these questions can only be answered by people having an in-depth knowledge of the movements of people, and the underlying causes – including researchers – and by the refugees and migrants themselves. However, there is a role for concerned individuals and civil society organizations in sharing information and perspectives in order to develop an informed and helpful response.

Initiative for Equality (IfE), a global network with members in over 100 countries, decided to embark on a consultation, taking input from their own network members as well as from members of several large listservs for academics and activists concerned with social justice, economic inequalities, environmental issues, and sustainable development. This is not a scientific survey because there was no attempt to sample a cross-section of the general public or even the involved and concerned public. It is simply a consultation among our network members and other networks of concerned people to which we had access. The consultation was split into two slightly different questionnaires: one for the IfE network (asking questions specific to IfE’s activities) and one for the larger list (asking questions about the role of civil society organizations).

The following report presents the results of the consultation. Approximately 30,000 people received the consultation invitation, and 185 participated fully. The participants and their answers can be summarized as follows:

(1) We received replies from people in 59 countries. Approximately half the participants identified with countries in the Global North (including Australia and New Zealand), and half from the Global

South. Twenty-four of the participants described themselves as refugees or migrants, while five more said their grandparents or earlier generations were refugees or migrants.

(2) Approximately one-quarter of the participants say their country is generating refugees or internally displaced persons (fleeing conflict), while approximately one-third of the participants say their country is generating migrants (primarily economic) – note that these numbers overlap as certain countries generate both. At the same time, two-thirds of the participants report their countries are hosting refugees, while a little over one-half say their countries are hosting migrants – again, these numbers may overlap. In addition, more than one-quarter report their countries have large numbers on internal economic migrants, while more than one-third say that refugees and migrants are passing through their countries.

(3) Responses to the open-ended question on the situation of refugees and migrants in each participant's country were very diverse, reflecting the diverse circumstances in the 59 countries reported on by participants. Responses concerning reasons for migration ranged from warfare, persecution, or severe poverty to wishes for a better life. Responses concerning the reception of refugees or migrants ranged from hostility and attempts to block them through a welcoming attitude by at least some portion of the population. In general, refugees and migrants were reported to face difficulties.

(4) Entities identified as providing help to refugees and migrants in participants' countries included national governments (54%), local governments (40%), International agencies (50%), organized citizen's groups (60%), and spontaneous citizen actions (54%). Many of the open-ended question participants mentioned help from religious organizations as playing a central role.

(5) Participants generally felt that the refugee and migrant situation is an urgent crisis. Seventy-five percent of participants felt that The current migrant and refugee situation is a crisis that requires urgent responses, while 73% felt that The number of migrants and refugees will continue to be high or even grow over the next few years, unless substantial solutions are implemented. Fifty-six percent agreed that there has been a migrant and refugee crisis for some time, but Europe and the U.S. are just now recognizing it. Very few agreed that the situation is serious but not a crisis (5%), or that the problem will diminish over the next 12 months, regardless of what policies are implemented (3%).

(6) Participants cited many reasons underlying the current large numbers of refugees and migrants. Most people selected several or even a majority of the suggested reasons, indicating that this is seen as a complex problem with multiple causes. The top four reasons selected were:

- discrimination and persecution against certain groups (65%);
- violence or conflict due to lack of sufficient political will or mechanisms to resolve frictions (63%);
- violence or conflict due to military involvement supported by outside forces (58%); and
- inequalities within and among countries, which force people to migrate in search of better conditions (57%).

Three other reasons were selected by approximately 50% of the participants: economic problems caused by lack of appropriate development; economic problems caused by globalization and

neoliberal economic policies; and failed states unable to take care of their own citizens due to economic or military interference by external forces. Reasons receiving fewer selections included climate change (42%); failed states due to an internal lack of culture supporting democracy (38%), and overpopulation (18%).

(7) As with the causes, participants also selected a large diversity of solutions, and most participants selected several or many options. The top four selected solutions were:

- individual nations as well as the international community need to take meaningful steps to reduce the social, economic and political inequalities which force people to migrate (64%);
- we need to change the way nations view migrants - to see them as an economic and/or cultural asset - and to recognize that we are all connected and mutually responsible (61%);
- the wealthy nations beyond Europe - US, Australia, and Gulf States - need to step forward to contribute financially as well as opening to resettlement (60%); and
- solutions must protect human rights at every step of the way (60%).

Other solutions that were popular included:

- the international community needs to prevent military interference that triggers or aggravates conflicts (and resulting extremist responses) destroying the capacity of nations to protect the well-being of their populations (55%);
- the international community needs to take urgent and meaningful steps to halt and reverse carbon emissions that are driving climate change and the resulting severe storms, floods, droughts, and other events that drive climate-related migration (52%);
- there need to be massive resettlement programs with equitable sharing of financial and resettlement burdens globally, based on quotas that take into account the size, capacity, and per capita wealth of nations (51%);
- nations experiencing the arrival of refugees and migrants need to end their militarized response and divert funds away from walls and policing, and into building effective infrastructure and resettlement programs (48%);
- the international community needs to provide safe and legal routes for migrants and refugees to travel, including allowing them to take airline flights, to end trafficking (45%); and
- the international community needs to replace the systemic economic approaches which are responsible for the economic dislocation and much of the conflict (44%).

Solutions that were not selected by many participants included:

- National sovereignty should be protected and borders controlled by monitoring who comes and goes, not by obstructing the movement of migrants and refugees (22%);
- The international community needs to fund and promote effective family planning programs to reduce the populations of countries generating migrants and refugees (17%);
- Refugees should remain in refugee camps in the countries bordering the countries from which they have fled (primarily Pakistan, Iran, Turkey, Jordan, Ethiopia and Lebanon), and the international community needs to donate to the UN agency that supports these camps (14%); and

- Nations experiencing incoming refugees should take strong steps to keep them out, in order to protect the cultural and economic integrity of their nation (4%).

(8) IfE network members strongly endorsed the preparation and release of this report, and conducting Field Hearings among refugee camps or communities to learn how refugees themselves see the situation and what they think should be done.

Participants from outside IfE's network were asked what they thought civil society organizations should do concerning the refugee and migrant situation. Their choices, in order, were as follows:

- CSOs should identify important parts of the needed solutions and then promote these solutions through political processes within their own country and internationally (78%);
- CSOs should stand in solidarity with refugees to prevent or minimize brutal treatment by those opposed to their entry into countries (66%);
- CSOs should volunteer to help refugees in camps and others temporary refugee communities, coordinating distribution of donated food and other necessities (66%); and
- CSOs should coordinate efforts to encourage and help people open their homes to refugees (51%).

Only six percent of participants felt that CSOs should not take on this issue because it is up to governments and intergovernmental agencies.

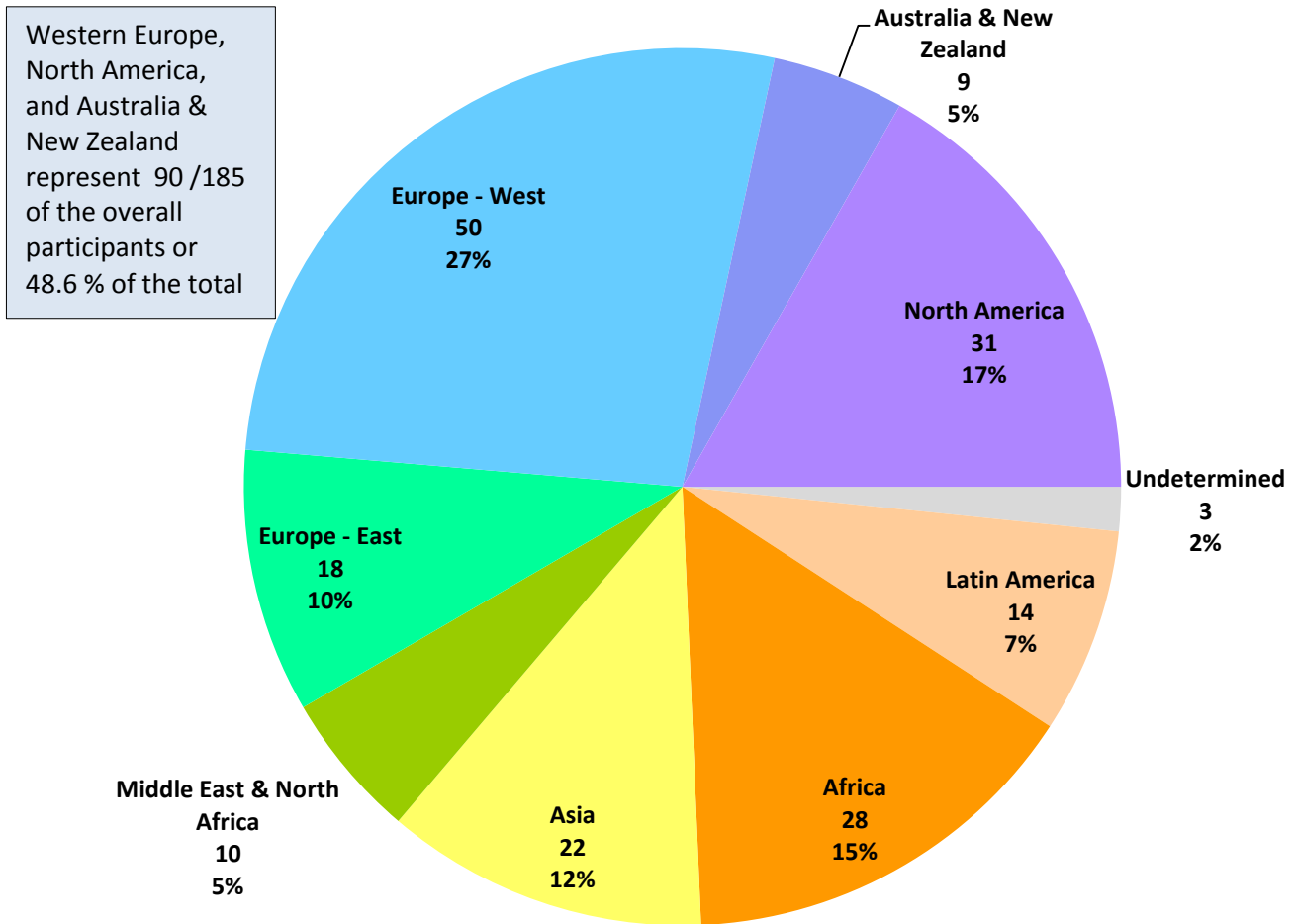
In summary, participants in this consultation view the current refugee and migrant situation as a crisis urgently in need of addressing, and as a complex problem having multiple causes and needing multiple solutions. Many of the causes and solutions identified are global in scope and will require international collaboration and resources. IfE is presently investigating the feasibility of convening a group to undertake a global discussion and collaboration directed at some of the solutions suggested by the participants in this consultation.

Please contact IfE if you are interested in getting involved: info@initiativeforequality.org

1.1 Table showing geographic distribution of the participants

Geographical Area	Total	Total North / South	
Unknown	3	3	1.6%
Latin America	14	90	48.6%
Africa	28		
Asia	22		
Middle East & North Africa	10		
-Europe - East	18		
Europe - West	50	92	49.7%
Australia & New Zealand	9		
North America	31		
All together	185	185	100%

1.2 Pie chart to visualize the geographic distribution of participants



1.3 We received replies from people in 59 countries. Approximately half the participants identified with countries in the Global North (including Australia and New Zealand), and half from the Global South. Twenty-four of the participants described themselves as refugees or migrants, while five more said their grandparents or earlier generations were refugees or migrants.

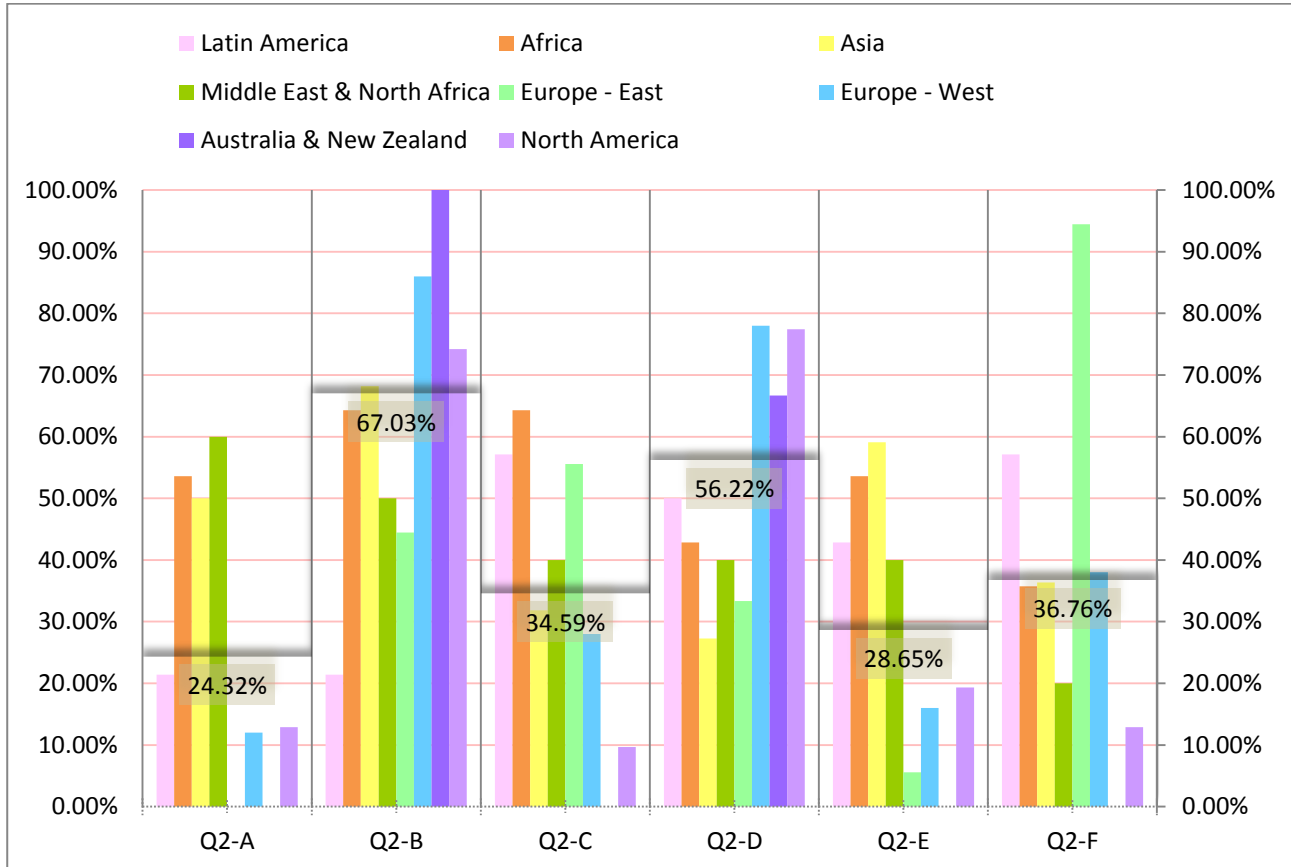
2 Question 2:

What is the situation regarding refugees or migrants in your country?

(You may check more than one answer.)

(See Appendix A with text responses to the open-ended question at the end of Q2.)

2.1 Histogram of percentages selected for different answers and geographic areas



Q2-A: My country is generating refugees or internally displaced persons - people who flee conflict or persecution.

Q2-B: My country is hosting refugees - people who flee conflict or persecution.

Q2-C: My country is generating migrants - people who move to another country in order to make a decent living.

Q2-D: My country is hosting migrants - people who move to another country in order to make a decent living.

Q2-E: My country has a large number of internal migrants who have been forced to move in order to make a living.

Q2-F: Refugees or migrants are passing through my country.

2.2 Things to notice

- higher percentages of choices Q2-B and Q2-D among West Europeans, North Americans, and Australians & New Zealanders: proportionally more participants who would describe their countries as hosting both refugees and migrants.
- Conversely the same group of people is underrepresented among those who picked the other answers.
- Notice also a peak in choice Q2-F (Refugees or migrants are passing through my country) for Eastern Europeans.

2.3 How many selected each answer by geographic area

Q2-	Undetermined	Latin America	Africa	Asia	Middle East & North Africa	Europe - East	Europe - West	Australia & New Zealand	North America	Total
Q2-A	0	3	15	11	6	0	6	0	4	45
Q2-B	0	3	18	15	5	8	43	9	23	124
Q2-C	0	8	18	7	4	10	14	0	3	64
Q2-D	0	7	12	6	4	6	39	6	24	104
Q2-E	0	6	15	13	4	1	8	0	6	53
Q2-F	0	8	10	8	2	17	19	0	4	68
OVER	3	14	28	22	10	18	50	9	31	185

2.4 Approximately one-quarter of the participants say their country is generating refugees or internally displaced persons (fleeing conflict), while approximately one-third of the participants say their country is generating migrants (primarily economic) – note that these numbers overlap as certain countries generate both. At the same time, two-thirds of the participants report their countries are hosting refugees, while a little over one-half say their countries are hosting migrants – again, these numbers may overlap. In addition, more than one-quarter report their countries have large numbers on internal economic migrants, while more than one-third say that refugees and migrants are passing through their countries.

3 Question Q3.

What are the causes or circumstances leading to refugees or migrants leaving from, or arriving in, your country? How do people in your country feel about incoming refugees or migrants (if any)? How has the government responded? How have people responded?

(See Appendix B with text responses to this open-ended question. No data were collected.)

Responses to the open-ended question on the situation of refugees and migrants in each participant's country were very diverse, reflecting the diverse circumstances in the 59 countries reported on by participants. Responses concerning reasons for migration ranged from warfare, persecution, or severe poverty to wishes for a better life. Responses concerning the reception of refugees or migrants ranged from hostility and attempts to block them through a welcoming attitude by at least some portion of the population. In general, refugees and migrants were reported to face difficulties.

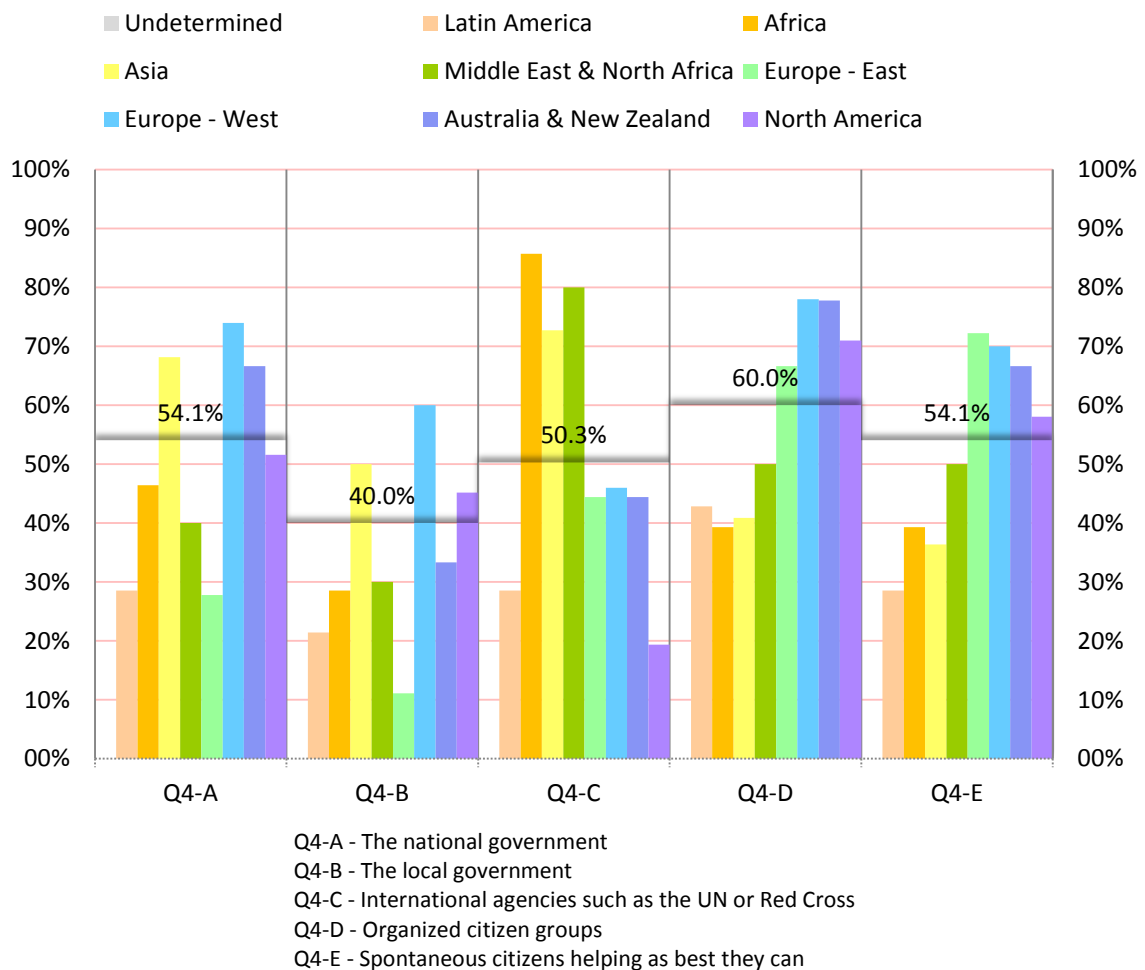
4 Question Q4

Who is helping the refugees or migrants in your country - providing food and shelter, protecting their human rights?

(Answer if relevant. You may check more than one answer.)

(See Appendix C with text responses to the open-ended question at the end of Q4.)

4.1 Histogram of percentages of selections for different answers and Geographical Areas



4.2 Things to notice:

- Q4-D and E (organized or spontaneous citizens, respectively) show larger percentages for Eastern and Western Europeans, North Americans, and Australians & New Zealanders
- Q4-A (the National Government) was selected more frequently by Asians, Western Europeans, Australians & New Zealanders, and to a certain extent by North Americans
- Q4-C (International Agencies such as the UN or the Red Cross) was most selected by African Asians and Middle Eastern people, on the other hand
- Many of the open-ended question participants mentioned help from religious organizations.

4.3 Data table:

Q4-	Undetermined	Latin America	Africa	Asia	Middle East & North Africa	Europe - East	Europe - West	Australia & New Zealand	North America	Total
Q4-A	0	4	13	15	4	5	37	6	16	100
Q4-B	0	3	8	11	3	2	30	3	14	74
Q4-C	0	4	24	16	8	8	23	4	6	93
Q4-D	0	6	11	9	5	12	39	7	22	111
Q4-E	0	4	11	8	5	13	35	6	18	100
OVER	3	14	28	22	10	18	50	9	31	185

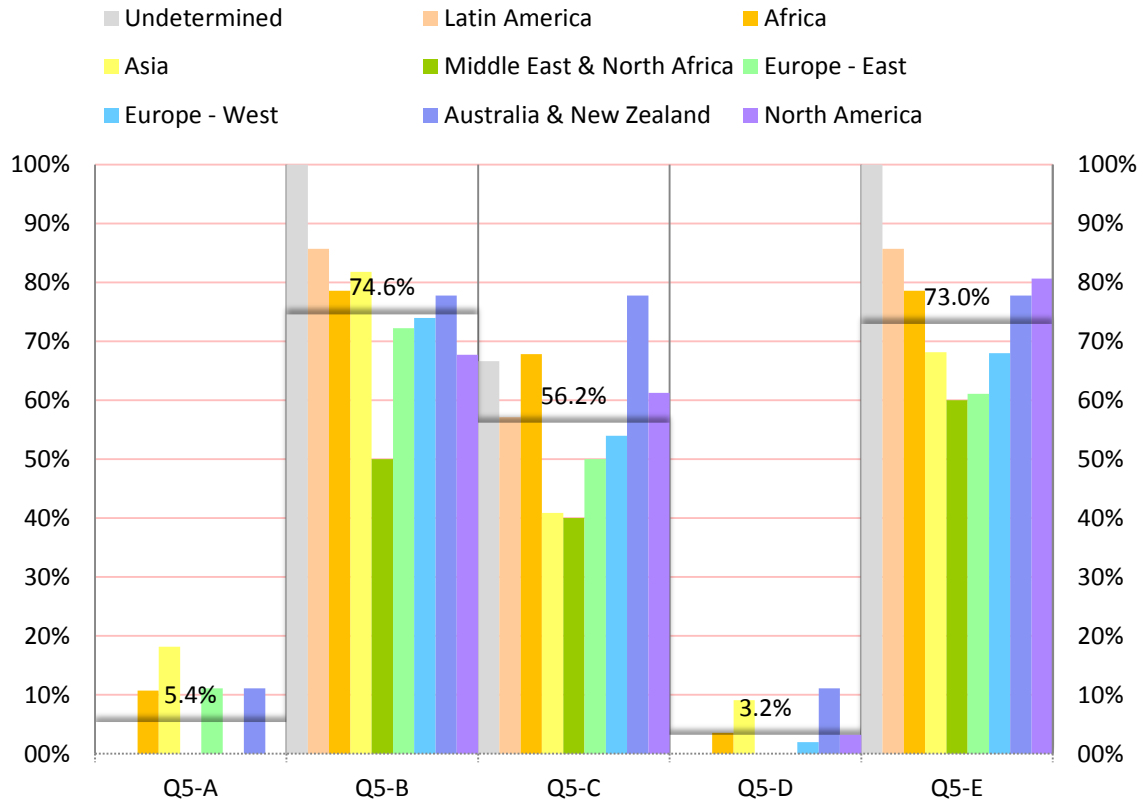
4.4 Entities identified as providing help to refugees and migrants in participants' countries included national governments (54%), local governments (40%), International agencies (50%), organized citizen's groups (60%), and spontaneous citizen actions (54%). Many of the open-ended question participants mentioned help from religious organizations as playing a central role.

5 Question Q5

Please check up to 3 statements that best describe the current global situation regarding refugees and migrants.

(See Appendix D with text responses to the open-ended question at the end of Q5.)

5.1 Percentages of selections for different answers and geographical areas



Q5-A - The current migrant and refugee situation is serious but it is not a crisis.

Q5-B - The current migrant and refugee situation is a crisis that requires urgent responses.

Q5-C - There has been a migrant and refugee crisis for some time, but Europe and the U.S. are just now recognizing it.

Q5-D - The numbers of migrants and refugees will probably diminish over the next 12 months, regardless of what policies are implemented.

Q5-E - The number of migrants and refugees will continue to be high or even grow over the next few years, unless substantial solutions are implemented.

5.2 Things to notice:

- Almost equally selected, and reaching nearly 75%, were the statements
 - Q5-B chosen by 138, and
 - Q5-E chosen by 135

So, almost 3 out of 4 of our participants believe that we are facing a crisis that requires urgent responses, and that it will continue to get worse unless we do something substantial about it;

- The third most frequently selected statement, chosen by 104 (more than 56%), was statement Q5-C, indicating that more than half our participants think that this crisis is not at all new, but only recently “discovered” by the U.S. and Europe;

- Only very few people selected
 - Q5-A – chosen by 10, and
 - Q5-D – chosen by only 6

This indicates that very few of our participants believe that the current situation is not a crisis, or that it is only temporary and that things will get better on their own.

5.3 Data table

Q5-	Undetermined	Latin America	Africa	Asia	Middle East & North Africa	Europe - East	Europe - West	Australia & New Zealand	North America	Total
Q5-A	0	0	3	4	0	2	0	1	0	10
Q5-B	3	12	22	18	5	13	37	7	21	138
Q5-C	2	8	19	9	4	9	27	7	19	104
Q5-D	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	1	1	6
Q5-E	3	12	22	15	6	11	34	7	25	135
OVER	3	14	28	22	10	18	50	9	31	185

5.4 Participants generally felt that the refugee and migrant situation is an urgent crisis. Seventy-five percent of participants felt that The current migrant and refugee situation is a crisis that requires urgent responses, while 73% felt that The number of migrants and refugees will continue to be high or even grow over the next few years, unless substantial solutions are implemented. Fifty-six percent agreed that there has been a migrant and refugee crisis for some time, but Europe and the U.S. are just now recognizing it. Very few agreed that the situation is serious but not a crisis (5%), or that the problem will diminish over the next 12 months, regardless of what policies are implemented (3%).

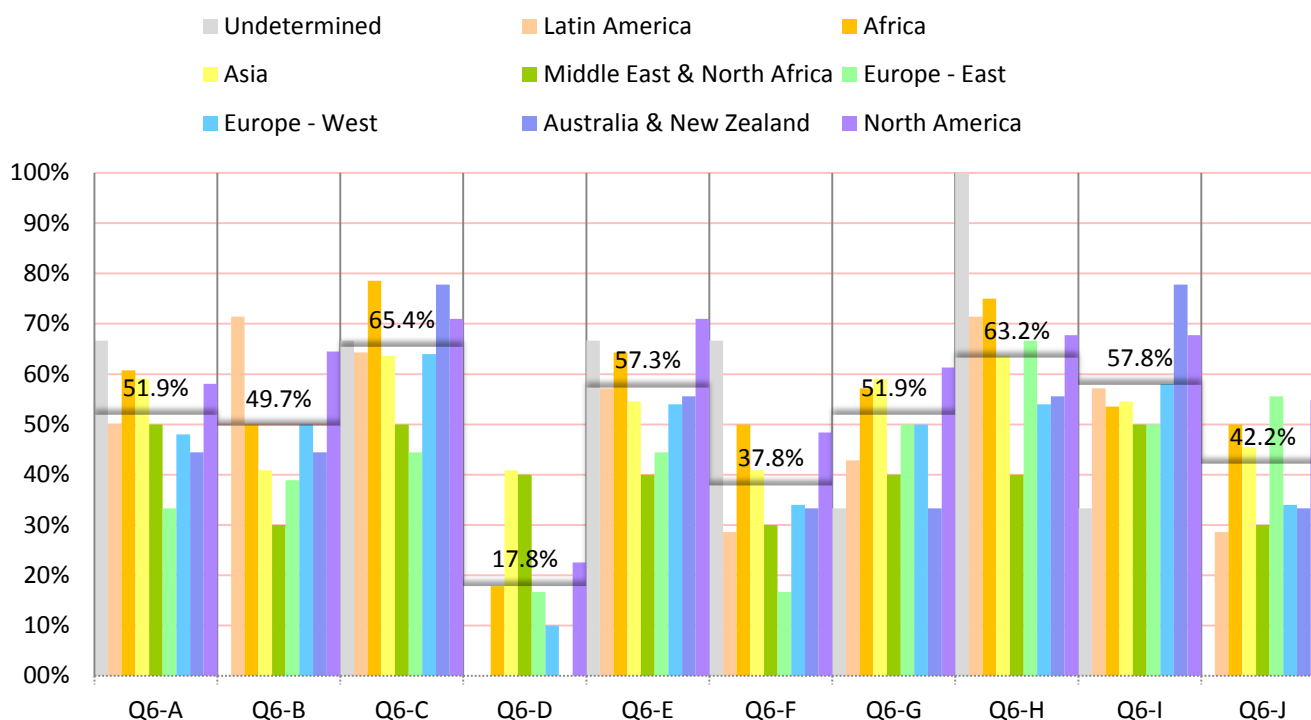
6 Question Q6

What do you see as the primary causes of the current high numbers of refugees and migrants?

(You may check more than one answer.)

(See Appendix E with text responses to the open-ended question at the end of Q6.)

6.1 Percentages of selections for different answers and geographic areas



Q6-A - Economic problems caused by lack of appropriate development in the countries generating migrants.

Q6-B - Economic problems caused by globalization, financialization and neoliberal economic policies impacting the countries generating migrants.

Q6-C - Discrimination and persecution against certain ethnic, religious, socioeconomic, gender, or other groups.

Q6-D - Overpopulation of the countries generating migrants and refugees.

Q6-E - Inequalities within and among countries, which force people to migrate in search of better conditions or survival for their families.

Q6-F - Failed states that are unable to take care of their own citizens due to an internal lack of culture supporting democracy.

Q6-G - Failed states that are unable to take care of their own citizens due to economic or military interference or destruction by external forces.

Q6-H - Violence, conflict or civil war due to lack of sufficient political will or mechanisms to resolve frictions and differences.

Q6-I - Violence, conflict or civil war due to military involvement, attacks, or invasion by outside forces.

Q6-J - Displacement of families and/or reduced agricultural productivity due to the severe storms, droughts, floods, or altered growing seasons associated with climate change.

6.2 Things to notice:

- Factor Q6-D – (Overpopulation), indicated by only 33 participants, scored considerably lower than all the other factors;
- Around 40% of participants identified the following factors as being at play:
 - Q6-F (states failure for lack of democratic culture) indicated by 70 people, slightly below 40%
 - Q6-J (reduced agricultural productivity due to climate change) with 78 ticks, slightly above 40%
- Between slightly less than 50% and almost 60% of people selected the following factors:
 - Q6-B (economic problems due to globalization of neoliberalism) – selected by 92
 - Q6-A (economic problems due to lack of development) – selected by 96
 - Q6-G (states failure due to external economic or military interference or destruction) – selected by 96
 - Q6-E (Inequalities within and among countries) – selected by 106
 - Q6-I (conflict due to external military involvement, attacks, or invasion) – selected by 107 votes

- Well above 60% of the participants recognized factors:
 - Q6-C (Discrimination and persecution) – selected by 121
 - Q6-H (incapacity or unwillingness to resolve conflicts) – selected by 117

6.3 Data Table

Q6-	Undetermined	Latin America	Africa	Asia	Middle East & North Africa	Europe - East	Europe - West	Australia & New Zealand	North America	Total
Q6-A	2	7	17	13	5	6	24	4	18	96
Q6-B	0	10	14	9	3	7	25	4	20	92
Q6-C	2	9	22	14	5	8	32	7	22	121
Q6-D	0	0	5	9	4	3	5	0	7	33
Q6-E	2	8	18	12	4	8	27	5	22	106
Q6-F	2	4	14	9	3	3	17	3	15	70
Q6-G	1	6	16	13	4	9	25	3	19	96
Q6-H	3	10	21	14	4	12	27	5	21	117
Q6-I	1	8	15	12	5	9	29	7	21	107
Q6-J	0	4	14	10	3	10	17	3	17	78
OVER	3	14	28	22	10	18	50	9	31	185

6.4 Participants cited many reasons underlying the current large numbers of refugees and migrants. Most people selected several or even a majority of the suggested reasons, indicating that this is seen as a complex problem with multiple causes. The top four reasons selected were:

- discrimination and persecution against certain groups (65%);
- violence or conflict due to lack of sufficient political will or mechanisms to resolve frictions (63%);
- violence or conflict due to military involvement supported by outside forces (58%); and
- inequalities within and among countries, which force people to migrate in search of better conditions (57%).

Three other reasons were selected by approximately 50% of the participants: economic problems caused by lack of appropriate development; economic problems caused by globalization and neoliberal economic policies; and failed states unable to take care of their own citizens due to economic or military interference by external forces. Reasons receiving fewer selections included climate change (42%); failed states due to an internal lack of culture supporting democracy (38%), and overpopulation (18%).

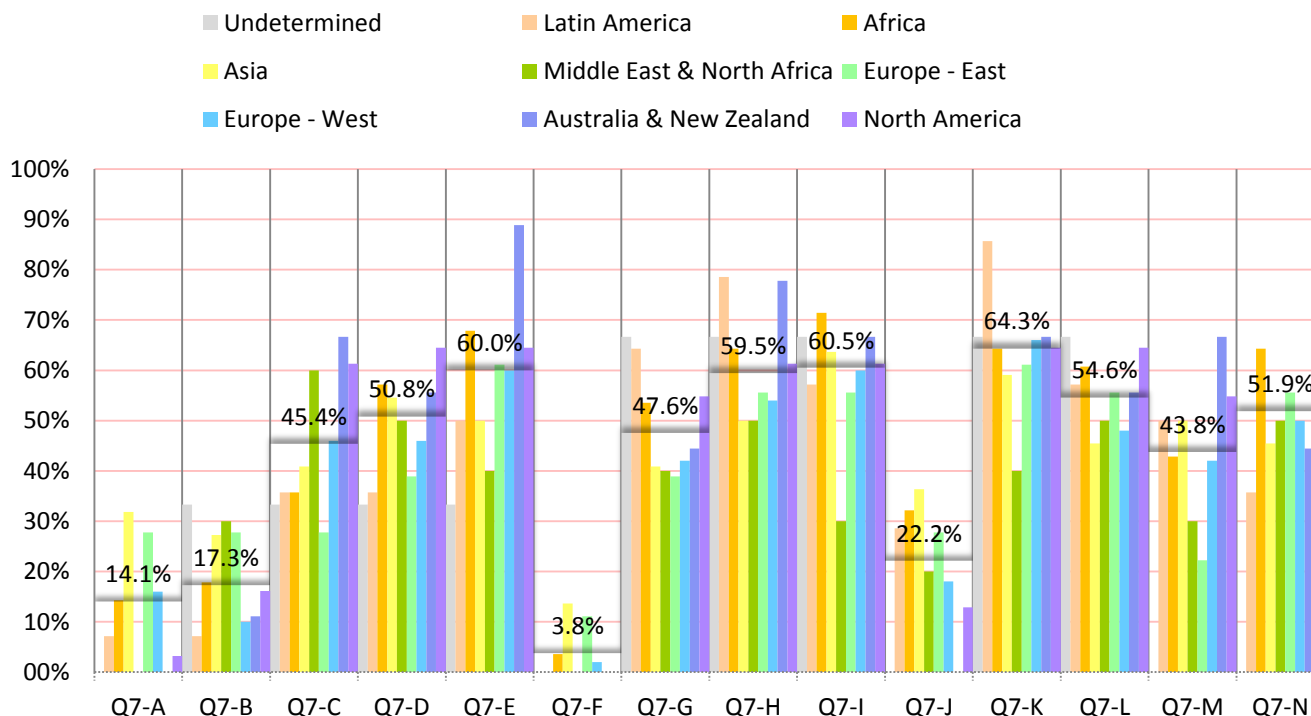
7 Question Q7

What do you see as the primary solutions that must be implemented?

(You may check more than one answer.)

(See Appendix F with text responses to the open-ended question at the end of Q7.)

7.1 Percentages for the different geographic areas



Q7-A - Refugees should remain in refugee camps in the countries bordering the countries from which they have fled (primarily Pakistan, Iran, Turkey, Jordan, Ethiopia and Lebanon), and the international community needs to donate to the UN agency that supports these camps.

Q7-B - The international community needs to fund and promote effective family planning programs to reduce the populations of countries generating migrants and refugees.

Q7-C - The international community needs to provide safe and legal routes for migrants and refugees to travel, including allowing them to take airline flights. This could end the problem with trafficking.

Q7-D - There need to be massive resettlement programs with equitable sharing of financial and resettlement burdens globally, based on quotas that take into account the size, capacity, and per capita wealth of nations.

Q7-E - The wealthy nations beyond Europe - US, Australia, and Gulf States - need to step forward to contribute financially as well as opening to resettlement.

Q7-F - Nations experiencing incoming refugees should take strong steps to keep them out, in order to protect the cultural and economic integrity of their nation.

Q7-G - Nations experiencing the arrival of refugees and migrants need to end their militarized response and divert funds away from walls and policing, and into building effective infrastructure and resettlement programs.

Q7-H - Solutions must protect human rights at every step of the way; governments that violate human rights of incoming migrants (by withholding food & shelter, blocking movement, threatening with force, inciting hate through discourse) must be prosecuted under applicable laws.

Q7-I - We need to change the way nations view migrants - to see them as an economic and/or cultural asset - and to recognize that we are all connected and mutually responsible.

Q7-J - National sovereignty should be protected and borders controlled by monitoring who comes and goes, not by obstructing the movement of migrants and refugees.

Q7-K - Individual nations as well as the international community need to take meaningful steps to reduce the social, economic and political inequalities which force people to migrate in search of a better life.

Q7-L - The international community needs to prevent military interference that triggers or aggravates conflicts (and resulting extremist responses) destroying the capacity of nations to protect the well-being of their populations.

Q7-M - The international community needs to replace the systemic economic approaches which are responsible for the economic dislocation and much of the conflict.

Q7-N - The international community needs to take urgent and meaningful steps to halt and reverse carbon emissions that are driving climate change and the resulting severe storms, floods, droughts, and other events that drive climate-related migration.

7.2 Things to notice:

- the 7 most frequently selected solutions, according to our participants, all scored above 50% and are the following (from most voted to least popular):
 1. Q7-K – was chosen by 119 participants or 64.3%
 2. Q7-I – was chosen by 112 participants or 60.5% - this was the top solution according to our African participants, receiving 71.4% from them. It was also the most popular option for Asian participants, with 63.6% of them selecting it.
 3. Q7-E – was selected by 111 participants or 60.0%. Interestingly, both Australian & New Zealanders and North American participants selected this solution with a higher than average frequency of almost 90% and 64.5% , respectively
 4. Q7-H – was selected by 110 participants or 59.5%
 5. Q7-L – chosen by 101 or 54.6%
 6. Q7-N – chosen by 96 or 51.9%
 7. Q7-D – chosen by 94 or 50.8%
- Then there are 3 proposals that got less that 50% but above 40% of the votes:
 - Q7-G – chosen by 88 participants or 47.6%
 - Q7-C – chosen by 84 participants or 45.4% – note that this statement was selected by 6 of our 10 Middle Eastern participants
 - Q7-M – chosen by 81 participants or 43.8%
- Proposals Q7-J, Q7-B, Q7-A and Q7-F were far less popular, and were selected by fewer than 25% of the participants.

7.3 Data Table

Q7-	Undetermined	Latin America	Africa	Asia	Middle East & North Africa	Europe - East	Europe - West	Australia & New Zealand	North America	Total
Q7-A	0	1	4	7	0	5	8	0	1	26
Q7-B	1	1	5	6	3	5	5	1	5	32
Q7-C	1	5	10	9	6	5	23	6	19	84
Q7-D	1	5	16	12	5	7	23	5	20	94
Q7-E	1	7	19	11	4	11	30	8	20	111
Q7-F	0	0	1	3	0	2	1	0	0	7
Q7-G	2	9	15	9	4	7	21	4	17	88
Q7-H	2	11	18	11	5	10	27	7	19	110
Q7-I	2	8	20	14	3	10	30	6	19	112
Q7-J	0	4	9	8	2	5	9	0	4	41
Q7-K	2	12	18	13	4	11	33	6	20	119
Q7-L	2	8	17	10	5	10	24	5	20	101
Q7-M	0	7	12	11	3	4	21	6	17	81
Q7-N	0	5	18	10	5	10	25	4	19	96
OVER	3	14	28	22	10	18	50	9	31	185

7.4 As with the causes, participants also selected a large diversity of solutions, and most participants selected several or many options. The top four selected solutions were:

- individual nations as well as the international community need to take meaningful steps to reduce the social, economic and political inequalities which force people to migrate (64%);
- we need to change the way nations view migrants - to see them as an economic and/or cultural asset - and to recognize that we are all connected and mutually responsible (61%);
- the wealthy nations beyond Europe - US, Australia, and Gulf States - need to step forward to contribute financially as well as opening to resettlement (60%); and
- solutions must protect human rights at every step of the way (60%).

Other solutions that were popular included:

- the international community needs to prevent military interference that triggers or aggravates conflicts (and resulting extremist responses) destroying the capacity of nations to protect the well-being of their populations (55%);
- the international community needs to take urgent and meaningful steps to halt and reverse carbon emissions that are driving climate change and the resulting severe storms, floods, droughts, and other events that drive climate-related migration (52%);
- there need to be massive resettlement programs with equitable sharing of financial and resettlement burdens globally, based on quotas that take into account the size, capacity, and per capita wealth of nations (51%);
- nations experiencing the arrival of refugees and migrants need to end their militarized response and divert funds away from walls and policing, and into building effective infrastructure and resettlement programs (48%);
- the international community needs to provide safe and legal routes for migrants and refugees to travel, including allowing them to take airline flights, to end trafficking (45%); and
- the international community needs to replace the systemic economic approaches which are responsible for the economic dislocation and much of the conflict (44%).

Solutions that were not selected by many participants included:

- National sovereignty should be protected and borders controlled by monitoring who comes and goes, not by obstructing the movement of migrants and refugees (22%);
- The international community needs to fund and promote effective family planning programs to reduce the populations of countries generating migrants and refugees (17%);
- Refugees should remain in refugee camps in the countries bordering the countries from which they have fled (primarily Pakistan, Iran, Turkey, Jordan, Ethiopia and Lebanon), and the international community needs to donate to the UN agency that supports these camps (14%); and
- Nations experiencing incoming refugees should take strong steps to keep them out, in order to protect the cultural and economic integrity of their nation (4%).

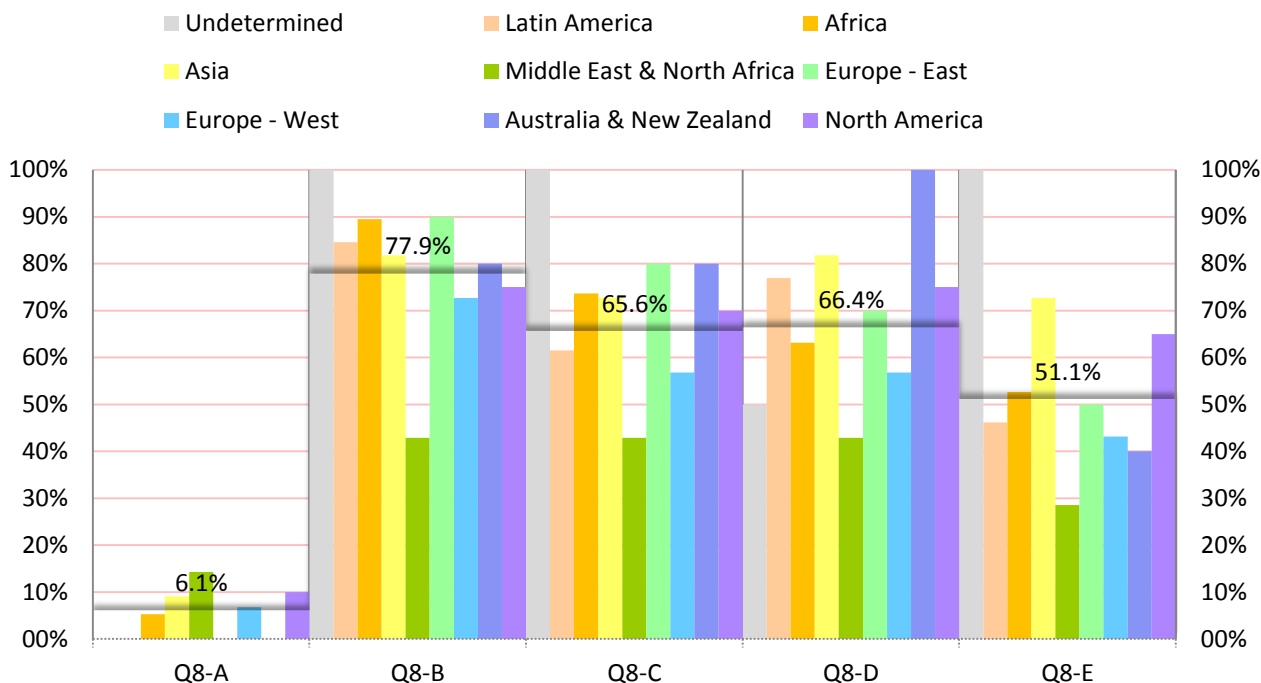
8 Question Q8

What should civil society organizations (CSOs) do to address the migration and refugee situation?

(You may check more than one answer.)

(See Appendix G with text responses to the open-ended question at the end of Q8.)

8.1 Percentages over geographic areas



Q8-A - CSOs should not take on this issue because it is up to governments and intergovernmental agencies such as the UN's High Commissioner on Refugees.

Q8-B - CSOs should identify important parts of the needed solutions and then promote these solutions through political processes within their own country and internationally.

Q8-C - CSOs should volunteer to help refugees in camps and others temporary refugee communities, coordinating distribution of donated food and other necessities.

Q8-D - CSOs should stand in solidarity with refugees to prevent or minimize brutal treatment by those opposed to their entry into countries.

Q8-E - CSOs should coordinate efforts to encourage and help people open their homes to refugees.

8.2 Things to notice:

- Option Q8-A (not doing anything) was chosen by only 8 people, or 6.1%
- Option Q8-B (identifying and promoting politically the needed solutions) was the most popular choice, at almost 80%
- Q8-C (volunteer help in camps and with distributing donations) and Q8-D (solidarity against brutal treatment) were close to being tied, with almost 2 out of 3 participants indicating that they wanted CSOs to take those actions
- Q8-E scored relatively high, as more than half of participants believe that CSOs should encourage and coordinate people's hospitality in private homes

8.3 Data Table

Q8-	Undetermined	Latin America	Africa	Asia	Middle East & North Africa	Europe - East	Europe - West	Australia & New Zealand	North America	Total
Q8-A	0	0	1	1	1	0	3	0	2	8
Q8-B	2	11	17	9	3	9	32	4	15	102
Q8-C	2	8	14	8	3	8	25	4	14	86
Q8-D	1	10	12	9	3	7	25	5	15	87
Q8-E	2	6	10	8	2	5	19	2	13	67
OVER	2	13	19	11	7	10	44	5	20	131

8.4 IfE network members strongly endorsed the preparation and release of this report, and conducting Field Hearings among refugee camps or communities to learn how refugees themselves see the situation and what they think should be done.

Participants from outside IfE’s network were asked what they thought civil society organizations should do concerning the refugee and migrant situation. Their choices, in order, were as follows:

- CSOs should identify important parts of the needed solutions and then promote these solutions through political processes within their own country and internationally (78%);
- CSOs should stand in solidarity with refugees to prevent or minimize brutal treatment by those opposed to their entry into countries (66%);
- CSOs should volunteer to help refugees in camps and others temporary refugee communities, coordinating distribution of donated food and other necessities (66%); and
- CSOs should coordinate efforts to encourage and help people open their homes to refugees (51%).

Only six percent of participants felt that CSOs should not take on this issue because it is up to governments and intergovernmental agencies.

APPENDICES – to be added later

Appendix A. Text for Open-ended Question at End of Question Q2

Appendix B. Text for Open-ended Question at End of Question Q3

Appendix C. Text for Open-ended Question at End of Question Q4

Appendix D. Text for Open-ended Question at End of Question Q5

Appendix E. Text for Open-ended Question at End of Question Q6

Appendix F. Text for Open-ended Question at End of Question Q7

Appendix G. Text for Open-ended Question at End of Question Q8

Appendix H. Text for Open-ended Question at End of Question Q8-bis