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### ***Forced Migration of Syrians to Jordan: An Exploratory Study***

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**EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE, FLORENCE  
ROBERT SCHUMAN CENTRE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES  
MIGRATION POLICY CENTRE (MPC)**

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## Introduction

The revolution in Tunisia at the end of 2010 and through 2011 forced significant changes in the Arab region in economic, security, political and demographic terms. The fall of Ben Ali in 2011, followed by the fall of the Egyptian regime, in addition to events in Yemen, have all marked the Arab world. The most recent events in Dara'a saw thousands of Syrian citizens fleeing from their homes.

The protest movement in Syria was at first modest, and took a while to gain momentum. Protests began on 26 January 2011 with individual actions then, 15 March, the protest movement escalated, as simultaneous demonstrations took place in major cities across Syria. Increasingly, the city of Dara'a became the focal point for the uprising. This city had been straining under the influx of internal refugees who were forced to leave their north-eastern lands due to a drought - a drought exacerbated by the government's lack of food provisions. Protests also spread to other Syrian cities, including Homs, Hama, Baniyas, Jassem, Aleppo, Damascus and Latakia. In April, the uprising became more extensive and, sadly, there was the killing of innocents and the displacement of still more Syrians. As the revolution grows in Syria, Syrians are travelling to neighbouring countries, namely: Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Iraq.

Since Jordan is the country closest to Syria in social, religious and economic terms, it has seen a good deal of Syrian migration since 2011; around 110,000 Syrians according to the Jordanian government<sup>1</sup>. The number of Syrians registered with the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), meanwhile, stood at 13,854 at the end of May, to which must be added new asylum-seeking applications of up to 4,500 applications according to UNHCR<sup>2</sup>. UNHCR alone is entrusted with the responsibility of determining who is a refugee and who is not, and this is in accordance with a Memorandum of Understanding signed with Jordan on 8 April, 1998<sup>3</sup>.

Why do Syrians travel to Jordan? There is the deteriorating security situation; the desire of Syrians for a secure life for themselves and their families; the proximity to Syria and the presence of relatives, friends, common social life and economic life; not to mention the freedoms enjoyed in the Kingdom. It is worth noting that not all Syrian refugees live in camps, as they either live with their relatives, mostly in Ramtha and Mafraq on the Syrian border, or they live in rented housing at low prices or donated housing in Jordan. Most Syrian refugees crossed the borders legally, though some did it illegally due to the restrictions of the Syrian authorities.

There are many issues related to the presence of Syrian refugees in Jordan. One of the principle are school students, where the number of Syrian students studying at government schools stands at 5,500<sup>4</sup>, a number which is expected to grow. The number of Syrian students studying at private schools stands, meanwhile, at only 666<sup>5</sup>. In light of prevailing conditions, the number of Syrians coming to Jordan will increase as well as the asylum applications submitted to UNHCR.

The number of Syrians who came to Jordan is impressive considering that Jordan has fewer than six million citizens. We can add to this number: the number of Palestinian refugees registered with UNRWA (2 million refugees in Jordan, 17% of them in ten official refugee camps)<sup>6</sup>; as well as Iraqi

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<sup>1</sup> UNHCR declaration, 24-4-2012, CNN net work, [www.cnn.com](http://www.cnn.com)

<sup>2</sup> UNHCR, [www.unhcr.org](http://www.unhcr.org), Syrian regional refugee response, 3-5- 2012

<sup>3</sup> MoU, Official Gazette No. 4277, May 3, 1998.

<sup>4</sup> <sup>4</sup>Jordanian Minister of Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation declaration, 4-4-2012, Asharq Al-Awsat newspaper, [www.aawsat.com](http://www.aawsat.com)

<sup>5</sup> Ministry of Education declaration to Al Rai newspaper, 22-2-2012, [www.alrai.com](http://www.alrai.com)

<sup>6</sup> UNRWA official website – Jordan camp profiles, [www.unrwa.org](http://www.unrwa.org)

refugees (in 2009, registered Iraqi refugees in Jordan numbered about 450,000)<sup>7</sup>: With these refugee populations already present, Jordan becomes the first country in the world in terms of the refugee to total population ratio.

### **The study: its problems and its significance**

This study is to explore the economic, social and legal conditions of Syrian refugees in Jordan. This has been achieved by examining different variables for these refugees as well as examining the divergence of other variables. Additionally, the study looks at the potential effects of Syrian refugees on Jordan.

This study is exceptional in the sense that no similar studies have addressed Syrian migration to Jordan after the civil war in 2011. It is also valuable as it includes Syrians residing in several provinces in Jordan (Irbid, Mafraq, Amman and Salt), and will, therefore, provide researchers, decision makers and those interested in the subject with a base for further studies, analysis and/or research. The study also looks at the role of Jordan as a host country and the capability of Jordan in dealing with Syrian refugees there.

### **Objectives of the study:**

The study aims to identify the social, economic and legal condition of Syrian families residing in Jordan as follows:

1. By identifying the legal framework relevant to Syrians' entry, stay and departure from the Kingdom.
2. By demonstrating the Kingdom's commitment to the principle of the non-re-foulment of refugees.
3. By highlighting some aspects of the human rights enjoyed by the Syrians residing in Jordan, particularly, education and health.
4. By estimating the likely impact of Syrian refugees on Jordan.
5. By picking out the most important obstacles facing the Syrians who are in Jordan.
6. By providing researchers, decision makers and those interested in the subject with a base for further studies and/or research.

### **Study questions:**

This study set out to answer the following questions:

1. What are the legal conditions for Syrian families residing in Jordan?
2. What are the economic conditions of Syrian families residing in Jordan?
3. What are the social conditions of Syrian families residing in Jordan?
4. What are the health and education services provided to Syrians in Jordan?

### **Executive summary**

The study attempts to identify the economic, social and legal conditions of Syrian refugees residing in Jordan, subsequent to the events of March 2011 in Syria. The study sample consists of 105 interviews, which were conducted with the household heads of Syrian families residing in four governorates;

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<sup>7</sup> UNHCR Global Report 2009, Iraq situation, [www.unhcr.org](http://www.unhcr.org)

Irbid, Mafraq, Balqa and Amman. The respondents were interviewed and they were asked to answer the 55 question survey included in the study questionnaire.

The results of this exploratory study involved significant indicators regarding the challenges and difficulties faced by the Jordanian government as a result of hosting Syrian refugees on its territory. There is an urgent need to support the vital sectors necessary for refugees like health and education and the provision of adequate housing in addition to cash assistance to refugees. Thus, the UNHCR and the international community as a whole have to do their duty towards Syrian refugees in countries where they have taken refuge (Iraq, Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan).

The following will cover the main results of the four parts of the study, the legal framework based on the results, the methodology of the study (Annex 1) and the study findings in detail, with figures in illustrative tables (Annex 2) and the study questionnaire (Annex 3).

### **Summary results of the first part: General information**

Most of the interviewees are males (83%) and most of them are in the 31-40 years age group, and 68.6% of them are married. The emigration of Syrians to Jordan means, above all, the emigration of families, where the average number of children in each family is 2, and where the vast majority (96.2%) were born in Syria. Most Syrian emigrants in Jordan have lower than high school education (71.4%). Interviews showed that the average monthly income for their families residing in Jordan is 2,000 Syrians Liras (18.1%), but that there is a disparity in income levels between them. Most of the Syrians were, according to the interviews, previously self-employed (36.2%).

### **Summary results of the second part: Residency in Jordan**

These results highlight how the number of refugees (the participants in the study) increased significantly in 2012. In fact, more than two thirds of the sample arrived in 2012 and this number is expected to increase in the absence of stability in Syria and given the continuity of violence.

The results show that most respondents had entered across the land borders, and this makes sense given that Syria shares a land frontier with Jordan and has several crossing points. The results suggest that about 19% of Syrians in Jordan arrived illegally.

35% of respondents answered that they entered accompanied by their children and (31.1%) had been accompanied by their wives while 17.5% came individually. Another question revealed that they many respondents were considering bringing more of their family members from Syria. In other words, there will potentially be an increase in the number of refugees in Jordan with associated burdens.

Why do respondents come to Syria? The most common reason given was security, stability and proximity to Syria and the presence of friends and family. However, economic life and living conditions are also mentioned, in addition to links of descent and kinship and the economic ties between Jordan and Syria that is now decades-old. In fact, Jordan has a long history of hosting refugees from different neighbouring countries. The majority of respondents stated that they did not want to go to a country other than Jordan: in the case of 81.9% this was given as the reason for choosing Jordan in the first place. The remainder is seeking to go to a country other than Jordan through UNHCR, as well as through friends and relatives abroad.

It is interesting that only 23.8% of the respondents applied for asylum with UNHCR, and that only two families have received approval to date.

### **Summary results of the third part: social and living conditions**

Results demonstrate that 27.6% of the children of the respondents are enrolled in schools given that not all respondents have children. The total number of children among the respondents was 326.49,

or 15% of the total, are already enrolled in schools,<sup>8</sup> and most of them are enrolled in government schools in Jordan, with 80% of all children enrolled in school. Results also show that 32% have faced difficulties registering and that this is primarily due to legal reasons in addition to overcrowding in the classroom.

Enrolment numbers are expected to increase significantly next year because some families sought asylum during the school year, or because they were unable to complete their papers. Additionally, many children will reach the age of enrolment in primary school by next year; which means a heavy burden for Jordan. As for health services, respondents stated that they have received health services and treatment. Most of these services were provided by hospitals and government health centres.

90.5% of the respondents stated that they did not fear expulsion, a matter which reflects the Syrian refugees' trust in the Jordanian government. Moreover, 99% of the respondents stated that they had not been arrested by the Jordanian security services for reasons of residence in Jordan. This suggests that the Jordanian government understands and sympathises with the refugees' situation. 94.3% of the respondents believe that the competent authorities provide them with adequate protection. 38.1% of the respondents answered that they did not contact the competent Jordanian authorities to claim their rights. But they also noted that they do not feel afraid to claim those rights (95.2%), while 93.3% of them feel that they enjoy freedom of opinion and expression in Jordan.

These results amply demonstrate that Syrian refugees are in serious need of services such as housing. The Jordanian government has not yet decided whether to build formal refugee camps, particularly in border governorates such as Mafraq and Irbid "Ramtha"<sup>9</sup>. Some Syrian refugees depend on their relatives and friends in Jordan in addition to the charitable contribution of NGOs and individuals. Others, however, are in need of housing given the increasing numbers of arrivals and the intentions of current refugees to bring their family members to Jordan. Although Jordan and NGOs have provided schools, health facilities, material and monetary aid, Jordan has modest potential to deal with the refugee crisis as it faces various internal challenges which makes it unable to deal with all these burdens.

### **Summary results of the fourth part: Economic Conditions**

The results here show that most Syrian refugees are facing difficult economic conditions. Indeed, 61.9% do not receive any aid from their families at home, while most of the rest are receiving only modest financial aid. It is logical, given the present situation, that most of them do not have adequate financial resources to help family in Syria. 94.3% of the respondents stated that they were not able to send any financial assistance to their families in Syria. Respondents who send aid stand at 5.7% and these provide only modest aid. Most respondents were receiving financial and material assistance from different entities, most notably NGOs. Respondents' answers demonstrated that only 20% of them got a job, while those who did not get a job stood at about 80%. Refugees do not believe that they can get jobs easily, so their dependence on financial aid and cash will be high. As such, Syrian refugees remain dependent on aid for their survival.

### **The legal framework of Syrian entry, residence, and departure**

The state's right to control the entry and departure of foreign nationals is central to the idea of sovereignty. But it is subject to the general principles of international law regarding the same. Refugees are entitled to protection through several international conventions, most importantly, the

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<sup>9</sup> UNHCR declaration, 24-4-2012, CNN net work, [www.cnn.com](http://www.cnn.com)

1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees ('1951 Convention')<sup>10</sup>. Jordan is a party to several international conventions on human rights. But it is not yet a party to the 1951 convention and the 1967 protocol relating to the status of refugees, which widened the scope of the convention. Therefore, Syrian refugees are treated as foreign nationals subject to entry and residence in accordance with national laws. The Jordanian Law of Residency and Foreigners' Affairs No.24 Of 1973 and its amendments regulate foreign entry and residence in the Kingdom. Neither this nor any other law addresses refugee affairs directly. It does though include references to the treatment of asylum seekers (Articles 4, 6, 10, and 29), without defining refugees or specifying which entities are responsible for determining refugee status.

Jordan allows Syrians to enter the Kingdom without a visa or a residence permit, provided that they hold valid passports. Nevertheless, should they wish to work, they need a work permit. Since the MoU of 1998, UNHCR shoulders responsibility for refugees' status determination, as Jordan does not have a status determination mechanism in place. Protection can only be temporary in Jordan which rejects the idea of total integration, while long-term solutions depend on resettlement opportunities. Under Article 2 of the MoU, both parties agree to enforce the *non-refoulement* principle. The *non-refoulement* obligation applies whether or not a refugee's status has been officially recognized, and regardless of the refugee's entry, be that entry legal or illegal. Jordan has upheld the *non-re-foulement* principle, and there is no fear that the country is going to deport Syrians with illegal residency or those who are not registered with UNHCR. Jordan has not been accused of turning Syrians away at the borders, or of expelling them.

## Annex (1)

### Methodology:

#### Study population and sample:

The study population consists of a number of Syrian families residing in Jordan; the estimated number of Syrians residing in Jordan is 110,000 people<sup>11</sup>. The sample of the study included 105 interviews that were conducted with heads of Syrian families residing in Jordan. Typically, intentional sampling methods are intended for exploratory research or pilot studies. The research team identified the areas where Syrian refugees live, and then choose a number of respondents randomly to interview.

The study took this approach taking into consideration three important questions:

1. The great difficulty was in identifying families to be interviewed: their exact whereabouts in the two governorates is not documented by any official or international organizations or NGOs. In addition, there is a difficulty in obtaining the addresses of Syrians residing in Jordan through the Public Security Department. Most change the address that was first registered in official records upon entering the Kingdom. Syrians do not return to inform the Public Security Department of their residence. In contrast, UNHCR in Amman has only the addresses of families who have registered as refugees or those who have accessed other services.
2. This study does not aim to generalize the results among all Syrian families residing in Jordan. Rather it explores many of the economic, social and legal characteristics of these families. Although the outcomes of this study cannot be generalized under intentional sampling methodology, the results offer some information about the society from which the sample has been drawn.

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<sup>10</sup> Migration Trends and Patterns in Jordan, Olwan M. 2011, Center for Migration and Refugees Studies.

<sup>11</sup> UNHCR declaration, 24-4-2012, CNN net work, www.cnn.com



3. There is a third consideration: the terms of time available to complete this study and allocated expenditure.

**Instrument of study:**

The researchers set up and developed a questionnaire for the exploratory study; it consisted of four parts: The first part consists of general information about interviewees, the second part deals with the arrival, residence and departure data for Syrian families and family members. The third part is related to their social and living conditions and the fourth part is concerned with the economic conditions of these families (Annex 3).

**Statistical analysis:**

After data collection, interviewing, checking and definition, the data was entered into the computer to be analysed statistically. To do so, we employed the statistical program known as the "Statistical Package for Social Sciences" SPSS ". There the focus was mainly on a descriptive analysis. Its purpose was to serve the objectives of the study and answer questions thereof.

**Determinants of the study:**

1. This study was limited to a sample of 105 Syrian families residing in Jordan, in four provinces (Irbid, Mafraq, Amman and Salt), during the first half of 2012. Areas of field work were determined through charitable organizations frequently visited by Syrians in search of help. Places of residence were hunted down through their typical places of residence.
2. Results of this study are based on the answers of households heads from the families in the sample. The study used a questionnaire as a tool to collect required data (Annex 3).

## Annex (2)

### Demonstrative Tables

#### Analysis and discussion of results

#### First: analysis of general information:

This part of the questionnaire includes eight questions asked for general information relating to participants in the survey. The following is a brief review including frequencies, percentages and categories for each question:

#### 1. Gender

**Table 1. Frequencies and percentages of general information relating to the gender of participants in the survey**

Category	Frequency	percentage
Male	88	83.5
Female	17	16.2
Total	105	%100

Table 1 gives general information relating to participants in the survey according to gender. The majority are males, at 83.5%, while 16.2% were females.

#### 2. Age

**Table 2. Frequencies and percentages of general information relating to the age of participants in the survey**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Less than 30 years	41	39
31-40 years	44	41.9
41 and more	17	16.2
No answer	3	2.9
Total	105	%100

Table 2 give the frequencies and percentages of general information relating to participants in the survey according to age, where results show convergence in the first category (less than 30 years) and the second (31-40 years), where the ratio is respectively 39% and 41.9% whereas the age group (41 and over) had the lowest percentage at 16.2%.

## 3. Marital Status

**Table 3. Frequencies and percentages of general information relating to the marital status of participants**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Married	72	68.6
Single	30	28.6
divorced	0	0
Widow/widower	1	1.0
No answer	2	1.9
Total	105	%100

Table 3 demonstrates that the majority of the study sample was married (68.6%). The fourth question was about the overall number of children and the number of male children in each family with the following results:

## 4. The number of children in the family:

**Table 4-A. Frequencies and percentages of general information relating to the number of children in the family of each participant**

Category (total number of children)	Frequency	Percentage
1	7	9.5
2	13	17.6
3	11	14.9
4	12	16.2
5	6	8.1
6	12	16.2
7	4	5.4
8	4	5.4
9	3	4.1
11	1	1.4
12	1	1.4
Total	74	%100

Table 4-A demonstrates that families with 2 children are most common at 17.5%. Next come families with 4 and 6 children at 15% for both. Then, in third place, are families with 3 children at 16.3%.

**Table 4-B. Frequencies and percentages of general information relating to the number of male children of participants in the survey**

Category (number of male children)	Frequency	Percentage
0	3	4.1
1	26	35.1
2	13	17.6
3	19	25.7
4	9	12.2
5	2	2.7
6	1	1.4
7	1	1.4
Total	74	%100

Table 4-B shows that families with one male child form the highest percentage at 35.1%. Next come families with three male children, 25.7%. And, in third place, there are families with two male children at 17.6%. It is noteworthy that the total number of children of married respondents is 326, of whom 168 were male. Therefore, 51.5% of children were male and 48.5% were female.

#### 5. Educational Level

**Table 5. Frequencies and percentages of general information relating to the education level of participants**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Illiterate	13	12.4
Less than general secondary degree	75	71.4
Diploma	9	8.6
BA/Bsc	7	6.7
Higher education	0	0
No answer	1	1
Total	105	%100

Table 5 demonstrates that the typical educational level for the majority of the study sample is less than high school: 71.4%. In second place came those who were illiterate, 12.4%.

#### 6. Place of birth

**Table 6. Frequencies and percentages of general information relating to participants' nation of birth**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Syria	102	%96.2
Country other than Syria	1	1
No answer	3	2.9
Total	105	%100

Table 6 demonstrates that the place of birth for the vast majority of respondents, 96.2%, was Syria.

## 7. Previous occupation in Syria

**Table 7. Frequencies and percentages of general information relating to the previous occupation of participants in the survey**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Employee in public sector	1	1.0
Employee in private sector	33	31.4
Self Employed	38	36.2
Other	27	25.7
No answer	6	5.7
Total	105	%100

Table 7 demonstrates that the previous profession in Syria, for the sample was in order: self-employed 36.2%, followed by workers in the private sector, 31.4%, and, in third place, employees in other areas at 25.7%. Respondents stated that “other” refer to jobs in agriculture, the vocational professions and other simple professions.

## 8. Incomes before coming to Jordan/ in Syria (in Syrian Lira)

**Table 8. Frequencies and percentages of general information relating to the monthly income of participants in the survey (head of household) before coming to Jordan/ in US dollars**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
65.6	1	1.0
109.4	2	1.9
131.3	2	1.9
153.2	7	6.7
175.1	5	4.8
196.9	2	1.9
218.8	12	11.4
262.6	5	4.8
284.5	2	1.9
306.3	2	1.9
328.2	14	13.3
350.1	2	1.9
372.0	1	1.0
393.9	3	2.9
437.6	19	18.1
481.4	2	1.9
547.0	8	7.6
590.8	1	1.0
656.5	5	4.8
765.9	1	1.0
875.3	2	1.9
1094.1	2	1.9
No answer	5	4.8
Total	105	%100

Table 8 demonstrates that the monthly income of the sample individuals (head of households) ranges from 65.6 to 1094.1 \$. The results also showed that respondents who had a monthly income of \$437.6 are the most frequent with a percentage of 18.1%. Next are those with a monthly income of \$328.2 (13.3%) and those with a monthly income of \$218.8 (11.4%), and, finally, those with a monthly incomes ranging from \$656.5-\$1094.1 (9.6%). It is worth mentioning here that the average monthly income according to the Central Bureau of Statistics is \$242.2 as per [www.syria-news.com](http://www.syria-news.com). Unofficial estimates, meanwhile, suggest that the average monthly income is \$196.9.

(This question asks the head of households about their monthly income in Syrian lira before arrival, the amounts counted in US dollars based on the exchange rate (\$1= 45.7 SP) before currency changes, while the exchange rate currently is (\$1 = 68.8 SP), and it is expected to decrease or at least to fluctuate.

### **Second: analysis to the questions relating to residence in Jordan**

This part of the questionnaire includes twenty questions on legal and regulatory questions relating to Syrian refugees: how and why they come to Jordan, as well as future intentions (Syria, Jordan or other countries). The following is a brief review including the frequencies, percentages and categories for each question:

#### 9. Entrance to Jordan

**Table 9. Frequencies and percentages of general information relating to participants in the survey vis a vis entrance to Jordan**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
2011		
6	5	4.8
9	8	7.6
10	3	2.9
11	6	5.7
12	14	13.3
2012		
1	10	9.5
2	47	44.8
3	10	9.5
No answer	2	1.9
Total	105	%100

The unrest in Syria started in March 2011. The violence and bloodshed were part of an unexpected escalation, which explains why Syrians' only escaped their country in the last months of 2011. The numbers grew dramatically in the first three months of 2012 and continued to grow as there are no signs that the crisis is easing.

Table 9 demonstrates that 34.3% of the respondents came to Jordan in 2011, from (6/June-9/Sep.) whereas 65.7% came to Jordan in 2012, up until mid-March, (the date of the preparation of this study).

## 10. Entrance point to Jordan

**Table 10. Frequencies and percentages of general information relating to the entrance point to Jordan for participants in the survey**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Jaber Border Center	50	47.6
Ramtha Border Center	33	31.4
Airport	2	1.9
Other	20	19.0
Total	105	%100

Table 10 demonstrates that most of the participants in the study came to Jordan overland: in order, the Jaber Border Center (47.6%), followed by Ramtha Border Center (31.4%). Whereas, 19% of the respondents entered in other ways, most of them illegally without reference to an official land border because of their fears of the Syrian authorities. The Jordanian government its security department and UNHCR are together handling these entries so as to register them. It is important to note that the Jordanian government has announced that it understands the refugees' situation and their fear and the manner in which they left Syria. There have not been any cases of the detention of entrants; save for former members of the Syrian armed forces, who have been detained for security purposes.

## 11. Accompanying Family Members

**Table 11. Frequencies and percentages of general information relating to the accompanying family members of participants**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Enters alone	31	17.5
With wife	55	31.1
With children	62	35.0
With parents	13	7.3
With one or more siblings	15	8.5
Other	1	0.6
Total	177	%100

Table 11 sets out the type of accompanying family members of refugees upon entrance to Jordan. This question included the possibility of choosing more than one family member, in which case the frequencies indicate that the respondents choose more than one accompanying family members. 35% of respondents entered Jordan, accompanied by their children, 31.1% entered Jordan along with their wives and 17.5% entered alone. The estimate size of population is 527, including household heads<sup>12</sup>

<sup>12</sup> (105) the head of households + (55) respondents indicates that they came with their wives + (326) sons and daughters (table 4-A) + (26) as (13) respondents indicates that they came with their parents + (15) as (15) respondents indicates that they came with more than one sibling, but as the question didn't ask in details the number of those sibling, its assumed at least to be one for each response

## 12. Bringing other family members from Syria

**Table 12. Frequencies and percentages of general information relating to participants interested in bringing family from Syria**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	66	62.9
No	33	31.4
No answer	6	5.7
Total	105	%100

Table 12 demonstrates that the majority (62.9%) of the sample seeks to bring their families from Syria. Therefore, the number of refugees in Jordan is expected to increase.

## 13. Jordan being the first country the refugee arrived in

**Table 13. The frequencies and percentages of general information relating to whether Jordan was the first country the refugee arrived at and, if not, what countries they passed through before arriving to Jordan.**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	101	96.2
No	4	3.8
Total	105	%100

Table 13 demonstrates that the vast majority of respondents for whom Jordan was the first and only country they passed into stood at 96.2%. Four respondents stated that they arrived in Jordan after passing through another country: 2 from Libya, and 2 refused details

## 14. The Reason for Coming to Jordan

**Table 14. The Frequencies and percentages of general information for participants' reasons for coming to Jordan**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Proximity to Syria and potential for easy return	64	20
Have relatives or friends there	53	16.6
Security and stability	94	29.4
Education for children	12	3.8
Economic life	41	12.8
Democratic life	27	8.4
Medical treatment	28	8.8
Have property in Jordan	1	0.3
Other	0	0.0
Total	320	%100

Table 14 sets out the reasons behind the selection of Jordan as a refuge, and respondents were allowed to give more than one reason. Results showed that the most common reason was 'security and stability' (29.4%) This was followed by: proximity to Syria and the possibility of easy return (20%). In third place was the presence of relatives and friends (16.6%). And, in fourth place, economic life and living conditions in the Kingdom (12.8%).



## 15. Having Relatives outside Jordan and Outside Syria

**Table 15. Frequencies and percentages of general information of participants with relations outside Jordan and Syria**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	61	58.1
No	37	35.2
No answer	7	6.7
Total	105	%100

Table 15 demonstrates that 58.1% of respondents have relatives outside Jordan and that 35.2% had no relatives outside Jordan.

## 16. Going to another Country

**Table 16-A. Frequencies and percentages of general information relating to the potential that participants in the survey will go to another country**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	19	18.1
No	86	81.9
Total	105	%100

Table 16-A shows that the vast majority of respondents are not able or do not desire to go to another country (81.9%). 18.1%, meanwhile, do think of leaving. The next question (16-B) covers this possibility.

**Table 16-B. Frequencies and percentages of general information relating to the participants' potential for going to a third country**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Arab	6	31.6
European	9	47.4
North America	1	5.3
South America	1	5.3
Other	2	10.5
Total	19	%100

Table 16-b demonstrates that 47.4% of those who expressed their desire to go to a country other than Jordan wanted to go to European countries. 31.6% wanted to go to other Arab countries. They also, in 16-C, were asked why they wanted to go to another country:

**Table 16-C. Frequencies and percentages of general information relating to why participants wanted to go to a third country**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Temporal migration	3	15.8
Permanent migration	6	31.6
Asylum seeking	8	42.1
Other	2	10.5
Total	19	%100

Table 16-C shows that 42.1% of those who wanted to go to a country other than Jordan intended to do so as asylum seekers. 31.6% had, in mind, a temporary migration project and 15.8% were considering permanent immigration. There was also a question about the entities to which they would like to submit their applications in order to leave and the results were as follows:

**Table 16-D. Frequencies and percentages of general information relating to participants' choice of the entity for enabling migration to a third country**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
International organizations	3	10.7
UNHCR	13	46.4
Embassies of foreign countries	2	7.1
Relatives	5	17.9
Friends	5	17.9
NGOs	0	0.0
Other	0	0.0
Total	28	%100

Table 16-d sets out the entities that would be contacted for migration purposes with some respondents giving more than one entity. Results showed that those who wanted to leave for another country sought to contact UNHCR in the first place (46.4%). In joint second place they tried to communicate with relatives and friends (17.9%). There was also a question about actually contacting the entities stated above the following results.

**Table 16-E. Frequencies and percentages of general information relating to participants accessing a contact point for the purpose of going to a third country**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	10	52.6
No	9	47.4
Total	19	%100

Table (16-e) demonstrates that 52.6% of those who want to go to another country have communicated with the competent entities. 47.4% have not yet communicated with the entities through which they will leave for another country.

## 17. Asylum-seeking applications submitted to the UNHCR

**Table 17-A. Frequencies and percentages of general information relating to participants who have put in an asylum-seeking applications to UNHCR**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	25	23.8
No	79	75.1
No answer	1	1
Total	105	%100

Table (17-a) demonstrates that the majority of respondents have not so far applied for asylum or registration with UNHCR (75.1%). 23.8% of them, meanwhile, have registered with UNHCR<sup>13</sup>. The next question gives the chronological details for these inquiries:

**Table 17-B. Frequencies and percentages of general information relating to when participants put in asylum-seeking applications to UNHCR**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
2011		
7	1	4
10	1	4
11	1	4
12	4	16
2012		
1	4	16
2	7	28
3	5	20
No answer	2	8
Total	25	%100

Table 17-b demonstrates that 25 respondents (23.8%) have applied to UNHCR. 28% had done so in July - October - November - December 2011. And 64% of applications came in 2012 during the first three months (January - February - March). The results showed that only two applied for asylum and were recognized as refugees by UNHCR: the first did so at the end of 2011, the other in March 2012.

#### 18. Returning to Syria

**Table 18-A. Frequencies and percentages of general information relating to participants returning to Syria**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	10	9.5
No	89	84.8
No answer	6	5.7
Total	105	%100

Table 18-a demonstrates that the majority of respondents have not returned to Syria since their arrival in Jordan (84.8%). While those who did return to Syria was 9.5%. "They were interviewed in Jordan", and the average number of returns was 7.

**Table 18-B. Frequencies and percentages of general information relating to participants' plans for returning to live in Syria**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	11	10.5
No	94	89.5
Total	105	%100

<sup>13</sup> This question intend to ask about wither the respondents apply for asylum to UNHCR in Jordan, while (Table 16-D) asks about the respondents intention to apply application for asylum through UNHCR to other country than Jordan

Table 18-b shows that the vast majority of respondents do not wish to return to Syria at the present time (89.5%). 10.5% intend to return and were asked for their reasons (18 - c):

**Table 18-C. Frequencies and percentages of general information relating to participants' reasons for returning to Syria**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Join family	3	27.3
Return to work	1	9.1
Sense improvement in the security	3	27.3
Other	5	36.4
Total	11	%100

Table 18-c demonstrates the reasons why some respondents (10.5%) intend to return to Syria. 36.4% stated that they have "other" reasons. Three stated that property and homes were the reason they planned to return., One answered that his desire to return is because he cannot stand the alienation of being away from his home country. Three said that they sensed an improved security situation and three also talked of re-joining (27.3% for both).

### Third: social and living conditions

The questionnaire included seventeen questions on the social and living conditions of the respondents; the following is a brief review including frequencies, percentages and categories for each question:

#### 19. Children attending schools

**Table 19-A. Frequencies and percentages of participants' children attending school**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	29	27.6
No	76	72.4
Total	105	%100

Table 19-a demonstrates that 27.6% of participants had children who go to schools and that 72.4% do not. There was also an inquiry about male and female enrolment, it was found that 13 of the schoolgoers were female (52%) and 12 were males (48%). There was also a question about the school type in which they were enrolled, results were as follows:

**Table 19-B. Frequencies and percentages of general information relating to participants' use of public or private schooling**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Governmental	21	80.0
Private	5	16.0
Both	0	4.0
Total	25	%100

Table 19-b demonstrates that the majority of school-going children (80%) are enrolled in government schools while 16% of them go to private schools.

**Table 19-C. Frequencies and percentages of social and living conditions for participants in the exploratory survey according to the difficulty of enrolling in schools**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	8	32
No	14	56
No answer	3	12
Total	25	%100

Table 19-c shows that families who registered their children in schools did not face difficulties in the registration process (56%). 32%, meanwhile, faced difficulties in registering and when asked about the main difficulties they faced, the results were as follows:

**Table 19-D. Frequencies and percentages of social and living conditions relating to participants difficulties in enrolling in schools**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Financial	2	25
Legal	3	37.5
Overcrowding in classrooms	3	37.5
Other reasons	0	0
Total	8	%100

Table 19-d shows how the main difficulty in enrolment (for those parents who experienced problems) was legal or involved over-crowding in the classroom (37.5% for both). Next came financial difficulties at 25%: it should be remembered that elementary school is free in the Kingdom.

**Table 19-E. Frequencies and percentages of social and living conditions relating to the education expenditure per year in US dollars of participants**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
141	1	6.7
169	1	6.7
211	3	20.0
282	2	13.3
423	1	6.7
563	2	13.3
634	1	6.7
704	1	6.7
986	1	6.7
1408	1	6.7
2113	1	6.7
Total	15	%100

Fifteen respondents answered this question and table 19-e shows the average annual expenditure on education in US dollars. The most common rate of spending is \$211 (20%), followed by \$282 and \$563 (13.3% each), while the rest of the values obtained the same ratio.

## 20. Children who go to college

**Table 20. Frequencies and percentages of the social and living conditions of participants on the basis of their children going to college**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	0	0
No	105	100
Total	105	%100

Table (20) demonstrates that there are no children going to college in the study sample.

## 3.3. Medical treatment in hospitals and governmental health centers

**Table 21. Frequencies and percentages of social and living conditions in terms of the attainment of medical treatment in hospitals and governmental health centres on the part of the respondents**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	21	20
No	79	75.2
No answer	5	4.8
Total	105	%100

Table 21 demonstrates that 20% of the respondents and their families received medical treatment in hospitals and government health centres, while 75.2% of the respondents and their families did not request or apply for health services. Medical treatment in hospitals and governmental centres is free of charge for Syrian refugees. Also there were inquiries about receiving medical aid, where the results were as followed:

**Table 22. Frequencies and percentages of social and living conditions in terms of medical aid being received by participants**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	22	21
No	70	66.7
No answer	13	12.4
Total	105	%100

Table 22 sets out data relating to the receipt of medical aid by the respondents and their families. Here 21% have received medical aid, while 66.7% of the respondents and their families did not request or apply for medical aid. They were also questioned as the source of these health services. Respondents stated that most of these services are provided by government health centres.

23. Fear of *re-foulement***Table 23. Frequencies and percentages of social and living conditions relating to the fear of re-foulement among participants**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	10	9.5
No	95	90.5
Total	105	%100

Table 23 demonstrates that the vast majority of respondents are not afraid of deportation (90.5%). A minority (9.5%) were concerned about re-foulement but gave no reason for their concern.

#### 24. The protection of refugees by the Jordanian authorities

**Table 24. Frequencies and percentages of social and living conditions relating to the protection of refugees by the competent Jordanian authorities according to participants**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	99	94.3
No	6	5.7
Total	105	%100

Table 24 demonstrates that the majority of respondents feel that they are adequately protected by the Jordanian authorities (94.3%). This is because the Jordanian authorities as well as the Jordanian people understand the difficult situation in which the Syrians find themselves; a situation which is different from that experienced by the Palestinians.

#### 25. Arrest by security bodies for reasons related to residence

**Table 25. Frequencies and percentages of social and living conditions relating to participants' arrest by security bodies for reasons related to residence**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	1	1
No	104	99
Total	105	%100

Table 25 demonstrates that the vast majority (99%) of respondents are not arrested by the public security for reasons of residence.

#### 26. Access and contact of Jordanian authority to claim one's rights

**Table 26-A. Frequencies and percentages of social and living conditions relating to participants' contact with the Jordanian authorities to claim their rights**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	40	38.1
No	65	61.9
Total	105	%100

Table 26-A demonstrates that 38.1% of respondents contacted the Jordanian authorities claiming rights. This included expressing their opinion, demanding decent life conditions as to several services, for their right to contact the UNHCR and other national and international non-governmental organization. 61.9% did not claim their rights. Another question as to the fear of claiming rights was also asked.

**Table 26-B. Frequencies and percentages of social and living conditions relating to participants fear of claiming their rights**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	5	4.8
No	100	95.2
Total	105	%100

Table 26-B demonstrates that the majority of respondents (95.2%) do not feel afraid to claim their rights while 4.8% of them are afraid to do so

**Table 26-C. Frequencies and percentages of social and living conditions relating to participants in the exploratory survey according to freedom of expression in Jordan**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	98	93.3
No	7	6.7
Total	105	%100

Table 26-c demonstrates that the majority of respondents have a high sense of freedom of expression in Jordan, hitting a percentage of (93.3%).

#### **Fourth, Economic Conditions:**

The questionnaire included ten questions on the economic conditions of the respondents; the following is a brief review including frequencies, percentages and categories for each question:

##### 27. Receiving financial aid from family abroad

**Table 27-A. Frequencies and percentages for social and living conditions based on financial aid sent to participants from family abroad**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	40	38.1
No	65	61.9
Total	105	%100

Table 27-a demonstrates that one third of the respondents received financial aid, from family abroad (38.1%), while (61.9%) of them did not receive any financial assistance.

**Table 27-B. Frequencies and percentages of social and living conditions in terms of financial aid received by participants from family abroad**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Syria	6	33.3
Outside Syria	12	66.7
Total	18	%100

Table 27-b demonstrates that almost one third of respondents received financial aid, from family abroad in Syria (33.3%). Two thirds of respondents were receiving financial assistance from family abroad (66.7%). They were also asked about the amount of money received.



**Table 27-C. Frequencies and percentages of social and living conditions relating to participants on the basis of the amount of financial aid received monthly from family abroad/ in US dollars**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
70	2	11.1
106	1	5.6
141	5	27.8
169	2	11.1
211	1	5.6
239	1	5.6
282	3	16.7
352	1	5.6
563	1	5.6
845	1	5.6
Total	18	%100

Table 27-c demonstrates that one third of respondents (18) receive financial aid between \$70 and \$845. The largest percentage, namely 27.8%, was for those who received \$141, followed by recipients of \$282 (16.7 %), and in third place were those who received \$70 and \$169 (11.1%).

#### 28. Sending financial aid to family abroad

**Table 28-A. Frequencies and percentages of the social and living conditions of participants who send financial aid to family abroad**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	6	5.7
No	99	94.3
Total	105	%100

Table 28-a demonstrates that the majority of respondents do not send financial aid to family abroad (94.1%). Indeed, only 5.7% provide help for family in this way. In a question to those who send financial aid the answers were as illustrated in the following table.

**Table 28-B. Frequencies and percentages of social and living conditions of participants in terms of the destination to which financial aid is being sent (family abroad)**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Syria	4	66.7
Outside Syria	2	33.3
Total	6	%100

Table 28-b illustrates to whom Syrians in Jordan are currently sending money "only (5.7%) of the total respondents" as indicated in table 28-A. 66.7% of respondents (4) are sending financial aid to Syria. And almost one third (33.3%) of respondents send financial aid to family in countries other than Syria.

Upon inquiring about the amount of money sent in aid, the answer was as illustrated in the following table:

**Table 28-C. Frequencies and percentages of the social and living conditions of participants in terms of the amount of financial aid sent to family abroad in US dollars**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
70	1	16.7
141	4	66.7
282	1	16.7
Total	6	%100

Table 28-c demonstrates that 66.7% send \$141 in financial assistance, while two of the respondents answered that they sent \$70 (in one case) and \$282 (in the other) and their percentage together is 16.7%.

### 29. Receiving financial and material aid

**Table 29. Frequencies and percentages of the social and living conditions of participants in the exploratory survey in terms of financial and material aid**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Governmental entity	10	9.5
International organization	16	15.2
NGO	38	36.2
Other	34	32.4
No answer	7	6.7
Total	105	%100

Table 29 shows that the majority of respondents receive assistance in kind and financially, where non-governmental organizations occupy the highest percentage of providers (36.2%), followed by other sources (most importantly committees of mosques through voluntary funds and some individual philanthropists), then international organizations (15.2%) and, in fourth place, there is assistance provided by governmental agencies (9.5%).

### 30. Work in Jordan

**Table 30-A. Frequencies and percentages of the social and living conditions of participants in the exploratory survey according to the opportunity to work in Jordan**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
There is work in Jordan	21	20.0
There is no work in Jordan	84	80.0
Total	105	%100

The results of table 30-a demonstrate that the majority of respondents do not have work in Jordan i.e. a percentage of 80% and respondents who do have work in Jordan arrived stands at 20%.

When inquired about the nature of their work in Jordan, those with jobs replied as follows:

**Table 30-B. Frequencies and percentages of the social and living conditions of participants in terms of their work in Jordan**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Employee in the governmental sector	1	5
Employee in the private sector	6	30
Self-Employed	9	45
Other	4	20
Total	20	%100

The results of table 30-b demonstrates that 45% of respondents work as entrepreneurs, and that 30% work in the private sector.

**Table 30-C. Frequencies and percentages of the social and living conditions of participants in terms of the expectation of finding work in Jordan**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Expect to work	33	39.3
Expect not to work	41	48.8
No answer	10	11.9
Total	84	%100

Table (30-c) demonstrated that 39.3% of respondents expect to get a job, while 48.8% they would not find work.

### Annex (3)

#### Study Questionnaire

The researchers are conducting an exploratory study to identify the social, economic and legal characteristics of Syrian refugees, who came to Jordan due to the events in Syria. We appreciate your kind cooperation and assure you that the information you provide will be treated with the utmost confidentiality, and will only be used for the purposes of academic research.

The researchers

#### Questions for the first part: General Information

1. Gender Male Female
2. Age (in years) 30 years or below\_ 31-40 41 or over
3. Marital Status Married Single  Divorced  Widowed/Widow
4. A. Number of children in the family \_\_\_\_\_ B. How many of these are males? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Academic Qualification:  
 Illiterate less than high school two-year diploma  
Bachelor Degree Graduate Degree
6. Place of Birth \_\_\_\_\_
7. Previous Occupation in Syria:  
 Governmental employee private sector employee entrepreneurship  other
8. Last monthly income before arriving to Jordan, in SL \_\_\_\_\_

#### Questions of the second part: Residence in Jordan

9. When did you arrive in Jordan? Month \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_
10. From Which Border Point did you Enter Jordan?  
 Alkarama  Jaber  Alramtha  airport  other, specify \_\_\_\_\_
11. Who accompanied you from your family members?  
 Alone  Wife  Children  Parents  One or more Siblings  Other
12. Do you consider bringing your family from Syria?  yes  no
13. Is Jordan the first country you arrived in after leaving Syria?  yes  no
14. Why did you choose to come to Jordan rather than another country? (you can have more than one answer)  
 because it's the closest to Syria and I may return easily and quickly.  
 because I have relatives and friends  
 because of stability and security  
 because there is an opportunity to educate my children

- because of economic and living conditions
  - because of democratic life here
  - for medical treatment
  - because I have property in Jordan
  - other, specify \_\_\_\_\_
15. 16. Do you have relatives outside Jordan and Syria?  yes  no
- 16-A. Are you considering going to another country?  yes  no
- 16-B. If the answer is yes, where do you intend to go?
- Arab country  European country  North America  South America
  - Other, specify \_\_\_\_\_
- 16-C. What is your purpose in heading for another country?
- Permanent immigration  Temporal Residence  Seeking Asylum
- 16-D. What is the entity through which you seek to move to another country? (you may have more than one answer)
- International Organizations  UNHCR  Embassies of foreign countries
  - Relatives  Friends  NGOs  Other, specify \_\_\_\_\_
- 16-E. Have you contacted any of the above for this purpose?
- yes  no
- 17-A. Have you sought asylum at the UNHCR or registered there?
- yes  no
- 17-B. If the answer is yes, when was that? Month \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_
- 18-A. Have you returned to Syria since you arrived in Jordan?
- no  yes, number of times \_\_\_\_\_
- 18-B. Do you intend to return to Syria in the present time?  yes  no
- 18-C. If the answer is yes, what are your reasons? (you may have more than one answer)
- Join the family  return to previous work  sense an improvement in security
  - other, specify \_\_\_\_\_
- 19-A. Do you have children who go to school?  yes  no
- 19-B. Are they in:
- public schools  private schools  both public and private
- 19-C. Have you faced difficulties in enrolling your children in schools in Jordan?  yes  no
- 19-D. If the answer is yes, is the difficulty:
- financial
  - legal
  - overcrowding in classrooms
  - Other, specify \_\_\_\_\_
- 19-E. How would you estimate your average of education expenditures a year? (.....)SL

### Questions of the third part: Social and Living Conditions

20. Do you have children who go to college?

yes no

21. Have you been treated in a governmental hospital or in a government health center in Jordan? yes no

22. Have you or any of your family members received aid for medical aid?

yes, resource \_\_\_\_\_  no

23. Are you worried about *refoulement*? yes no

24. Do you sense you enjoy adequate protection from competent Jordanian authorities?  yes no

25. Have you been arrested by public security services for reasons relating to residence in Jordan? yes no

26-A. Do you contact Jordanian authorities to claim your rights?

yes no

26-B. Are you afraid to claim your rights? yes no

26-C. Do you enjoy freedom of expression and opinion in Jordan? yes  no

### Questions of the fourth part: Economic Conditions

27-A. Do family members abroad send you financial aid?

yes no

27-B. If the answer is yes, where does the aid come from? Syria Outside Syria

27-C. If the answer is yes, what's the sum of the financial aid received?

\_\_\_\_\_ SL /month

28-A. Do you send financial aid to your family abroad? yes no

28-B. If the answer is yes, to which country? Syria Outside Syria

28-C. If the answer is yes, what's the monthly sum of financial aid?

\_\_\_\_\_ SL/month

29. Do you receive financial or material aid from?

A governmental entity International Organizations NGOs

Other, specify \_\_\_\_\_

30-A. Do you currently have work in Jordan? yes no

30-B. If the answer is yes are you?

Governmental employee private sector employee entrepreneurship  other

30-C. If the answer is no, do you expect to find a job in Jordan?

yes no

End of Questions

Thanks for your Cooperation

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