In Jordan’s Refugee Crisis, Resilience and Solidarity

The knowledge gap
Most academic research about how people view migrants focuses on a few Western countries—overlooking places like Jordan that host the most refugees.

Where do the world’s refugees live?
About 85% of refugees live in developing countries, while only 15% live in other regions.

Where do Syrian refugees live?
About 81% of Syrian refugees live in countries bordering Syria: Turkey, Lebanon, Iraq, and Jordan.

Hardships and hospitality
About 75% of Jordanians feel that the refugee crisis has negatively affected their country...

...but a majority continues to support hosting and assisting Syrian refugees.

Concern for the vulnerable
Jordanians favor admitting female refugees by 9 percentage points and widowed refugees with children by 10 percentage points, compared to single refugees.

Religion matters
Jordanians living in areas with more Syrian refugees are more likely to view them favorably.

And even though younger Jordanians might have to compete with Syrian refugees for scarce jobs, they have more positive attitudes toward them.

Jordanians favor admitting female refugees by 9 percentage points and widowed refugees with children by 10 percentage points, compared to single refugees.

Compared to Sunni refugees, they are less likely to welcome Muslim Alawite refugees (34 percentage points) and Christian refugees (15 percentage points).