

“Voices of Syria” Project

Vera Mironova
University of Maryland

Loubna Mrie
Syria

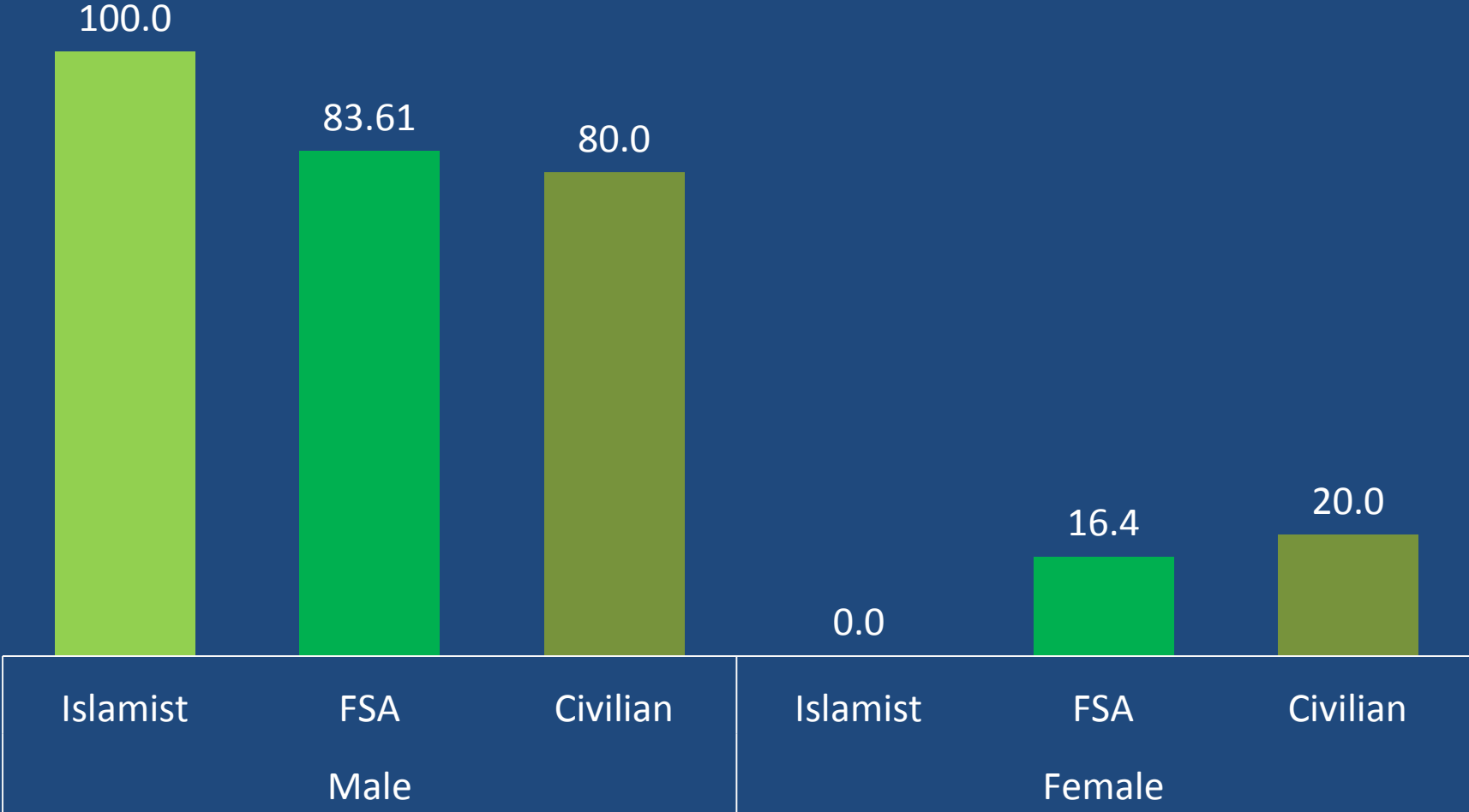
Sam Whitt
High Point University

Methodology

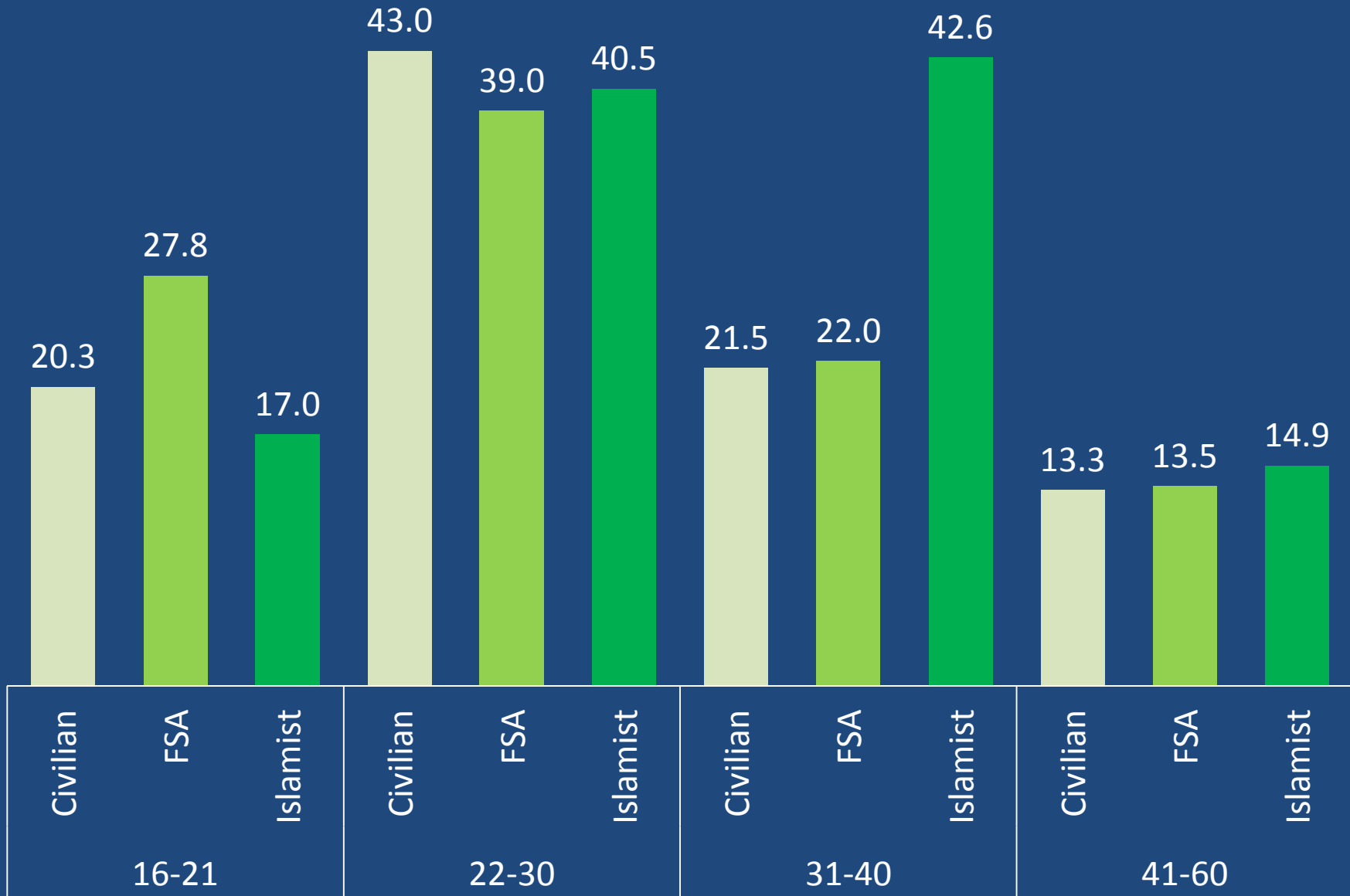
- Unknown population parameters and security concerns preclude random sampling
- We rely on non-probability, cluster sampling
- No more than 5 per cluster, 1 per household
- Civilian/FSA interviews in Aleppo and Idlib (August 2013-December 2013)
- Refugee Interviews in Turkey (Jan- April 2014)
- Islamist fighters, mostly from Islamic Front (May 2014)
- N = 310

Demographics

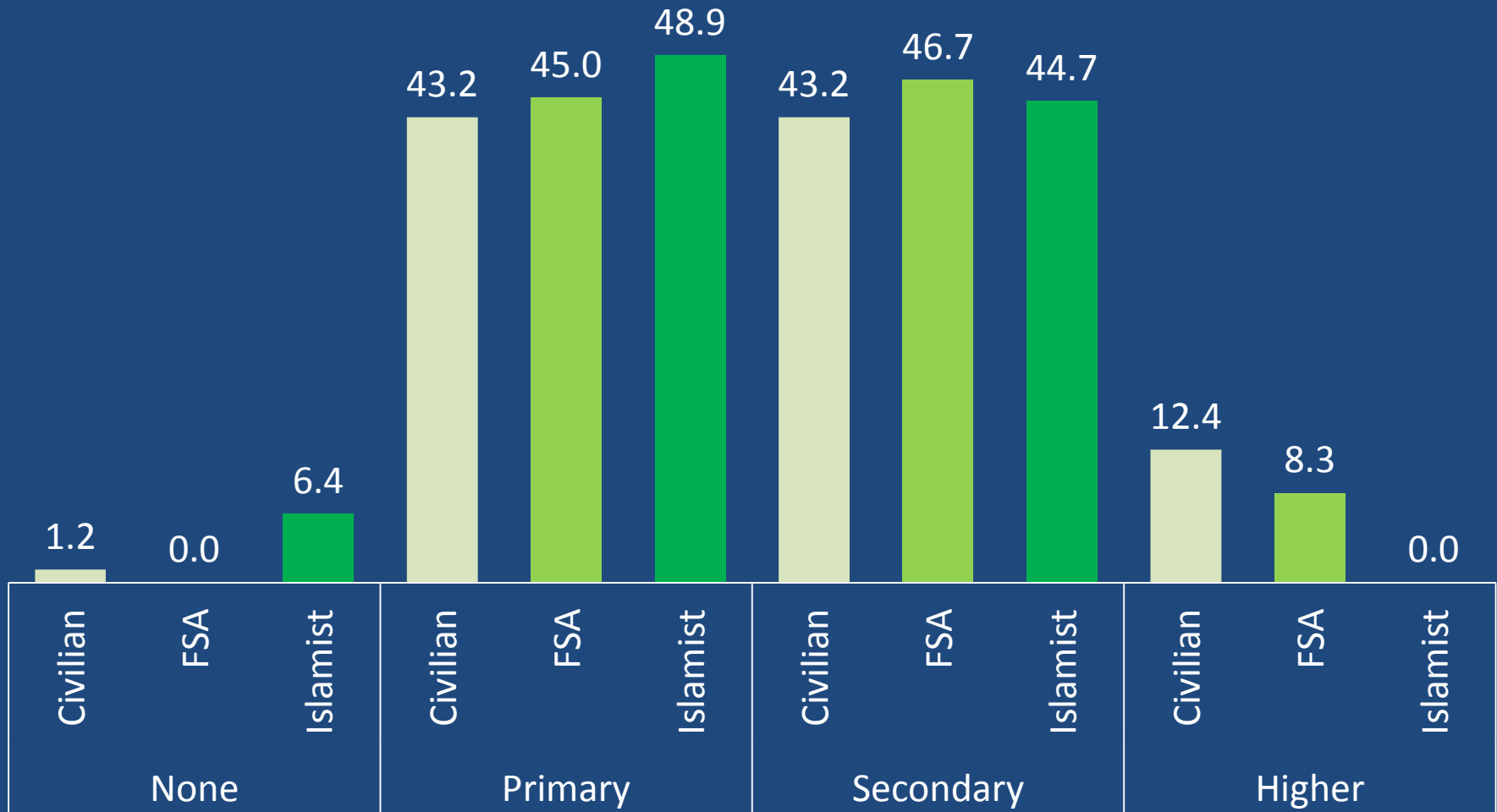
Respondents Gender



Respondents Age Group



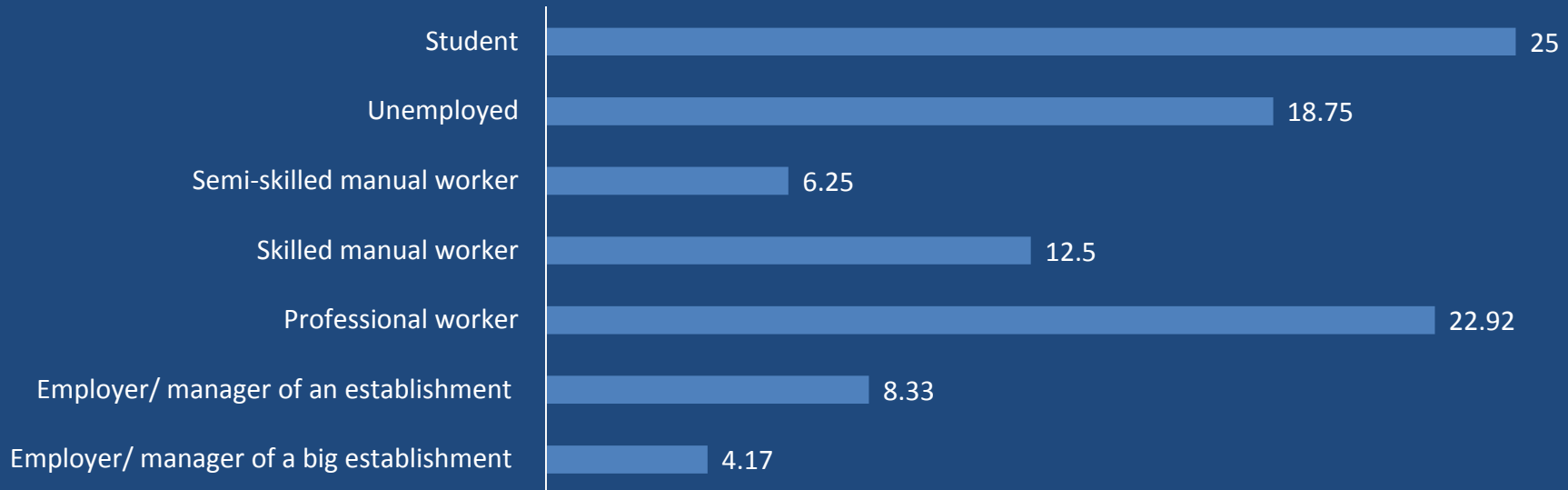
Respondents Education Levels



"Voices of Syria" Mironova, Mrie, Whitt

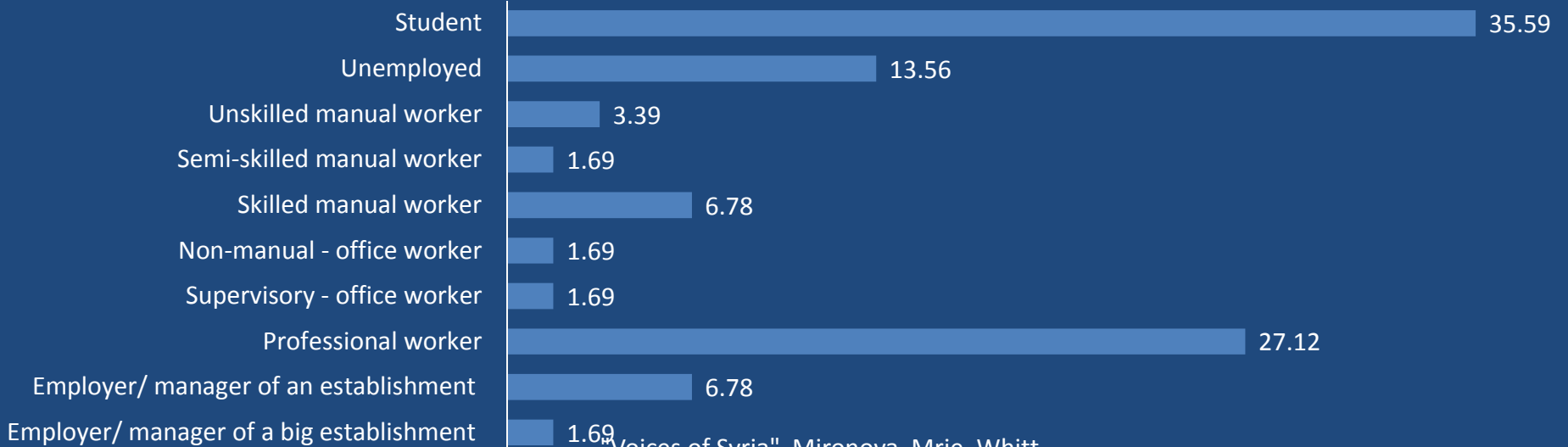
Occupation Before the War (Islamists)

Q: What type of work were you doing before the war began ?



Occupation Before War (FSA)

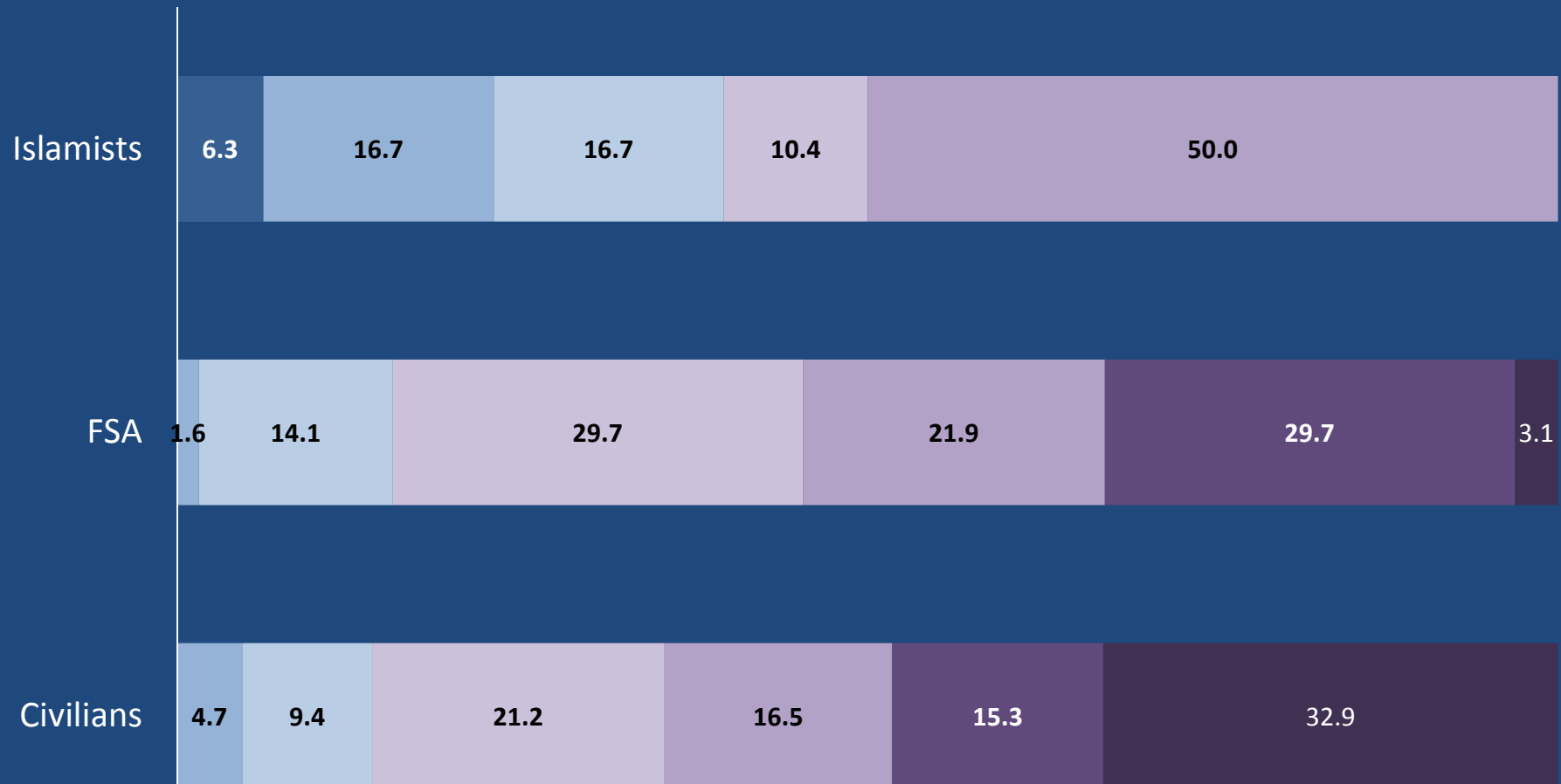
Q: What type of work were you doing before the war began ?



Displacement

Time at Current Location

Q: How long have you been in the location where you are currently living/seeking shelter?

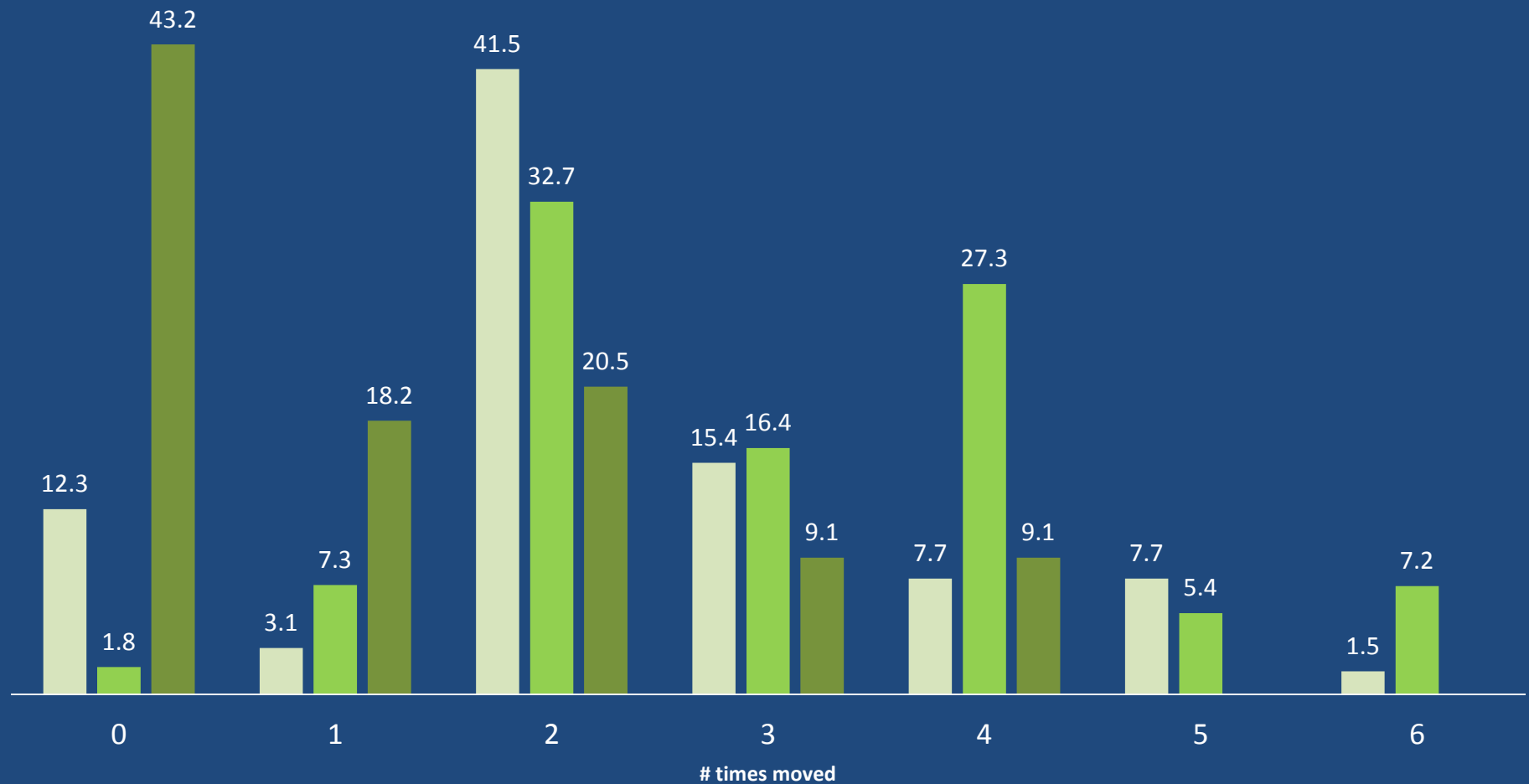


"Voices of Syria" Mironova, Mrie, Whitt

Displacement by Conflict

Q: How many times have you moved since the war began?

■ Civilians ■ FSA ■ Islamist



"Voices of Syria" Mironova, Mrie, Whitt

Safety and Security

Assessment of Current Conditions

Q: Compared to 12 months ago, do you think conditions here have:

■ Got a lot worse ■ Got a little worse ■ Stayed the same ■ Got a little better ■ Got a lot better

Islamist



FSA

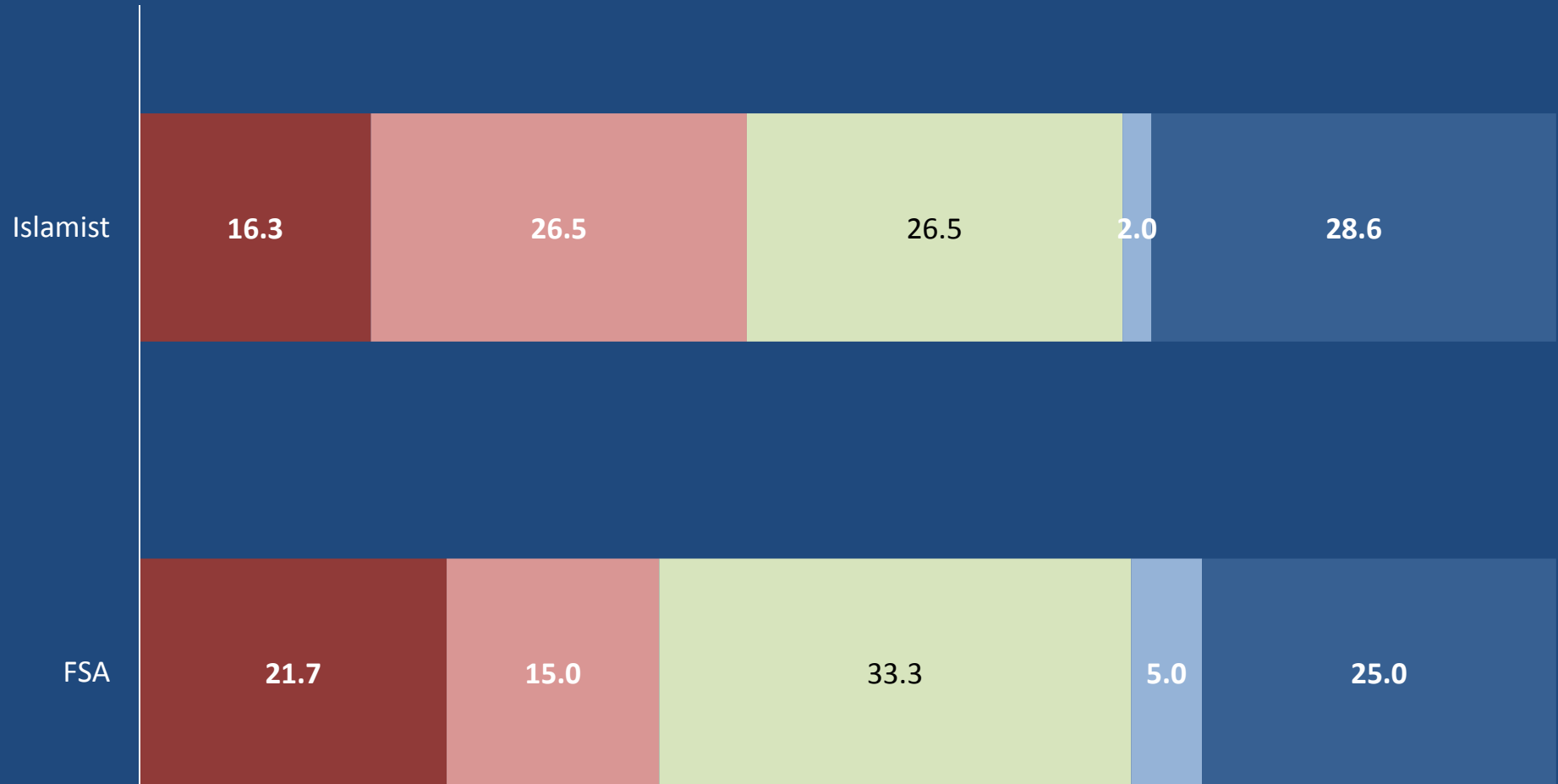


"Voices of Syria" Mironova, Mrie, Whitt

Expectations for the Future

Q: And over the next 12 months, do you expect conditions here to ...
?

■ Get a lot worse ■ Get a little worse ■ Stay the same ■ Get a little better ■ Get a lot better

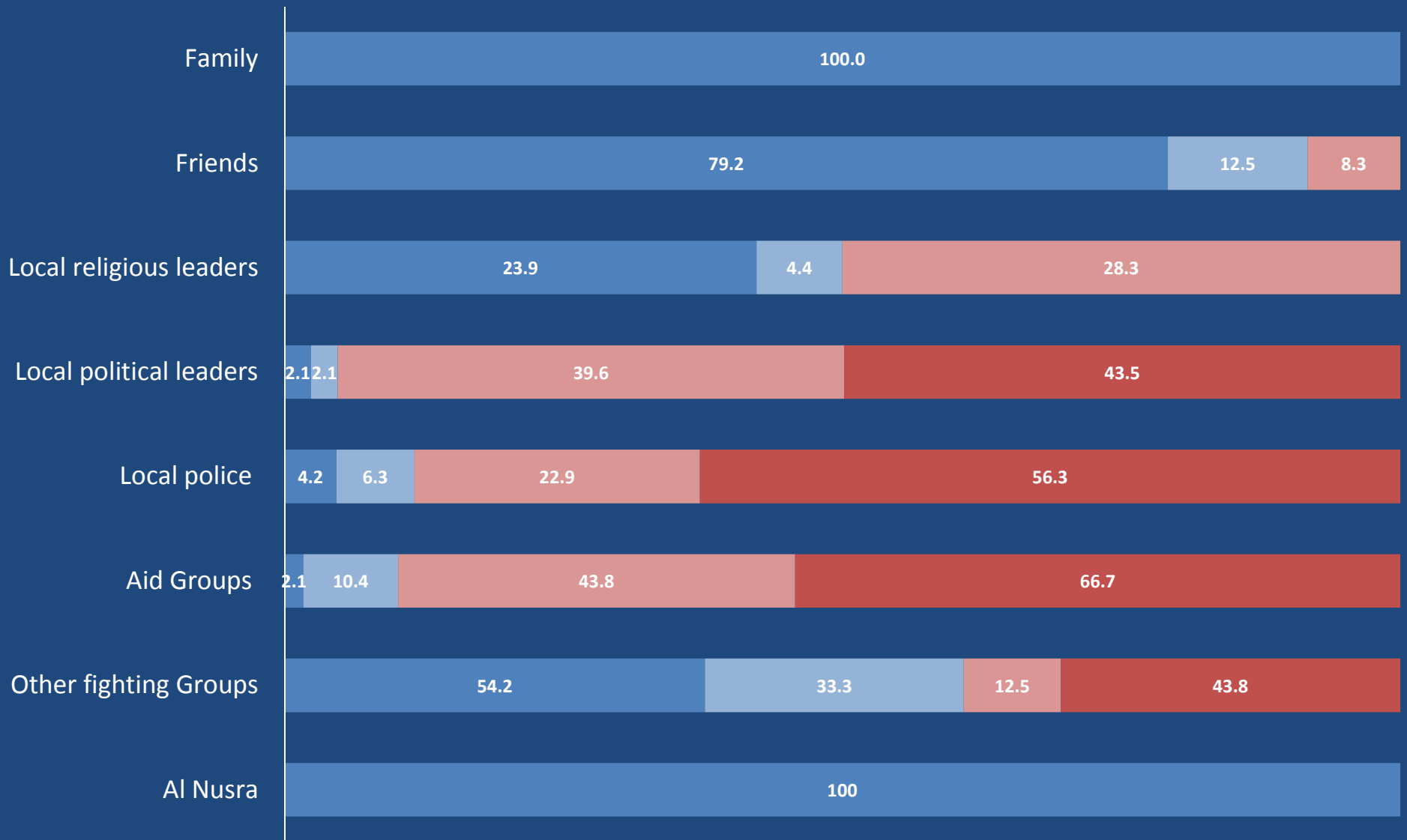


"Voices of Syria" Mironova, Mrie, Whitt

Reliance on Others for Safety and Security (Islamists only)

Q: How much confidence do you have in the following to help keep you safe?

Strongly agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat disagree Strongly disagree

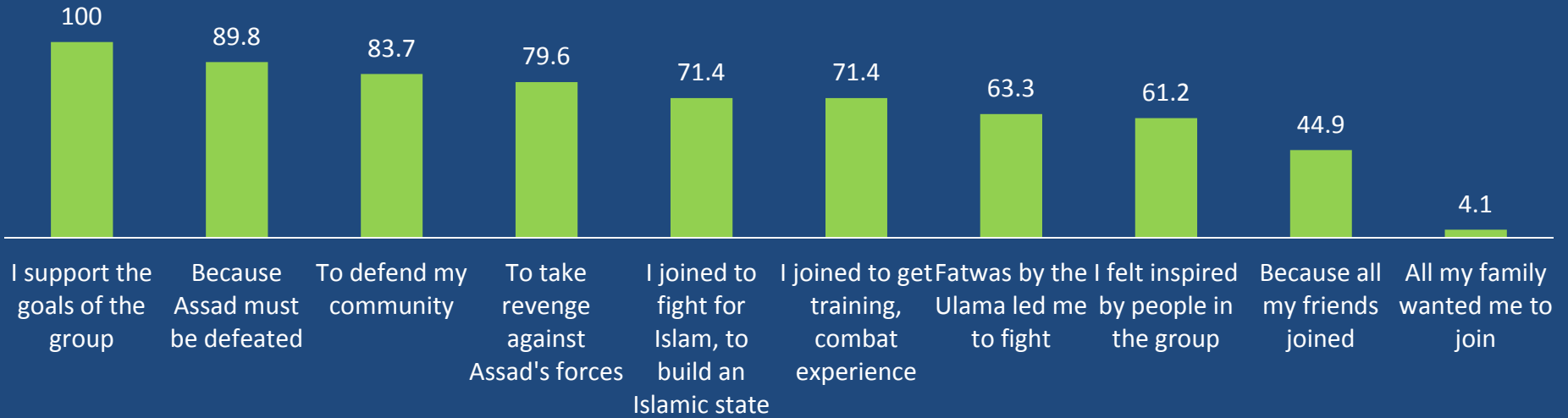


"Voices of Syria" Mironova, Mrie, Whitt

Rebel Recruitment

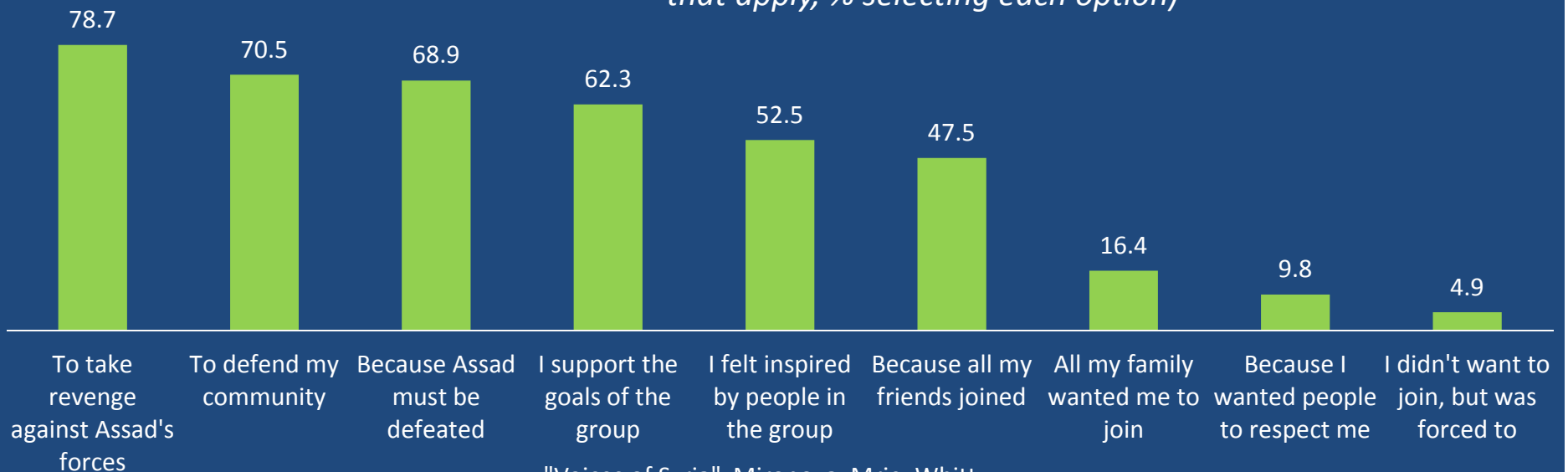
Reasons Given for Joining Rebel Groups (Islamists)

Q: If you are currently fighting or have fought, why did you join? (select all that apply, % selecting each option)



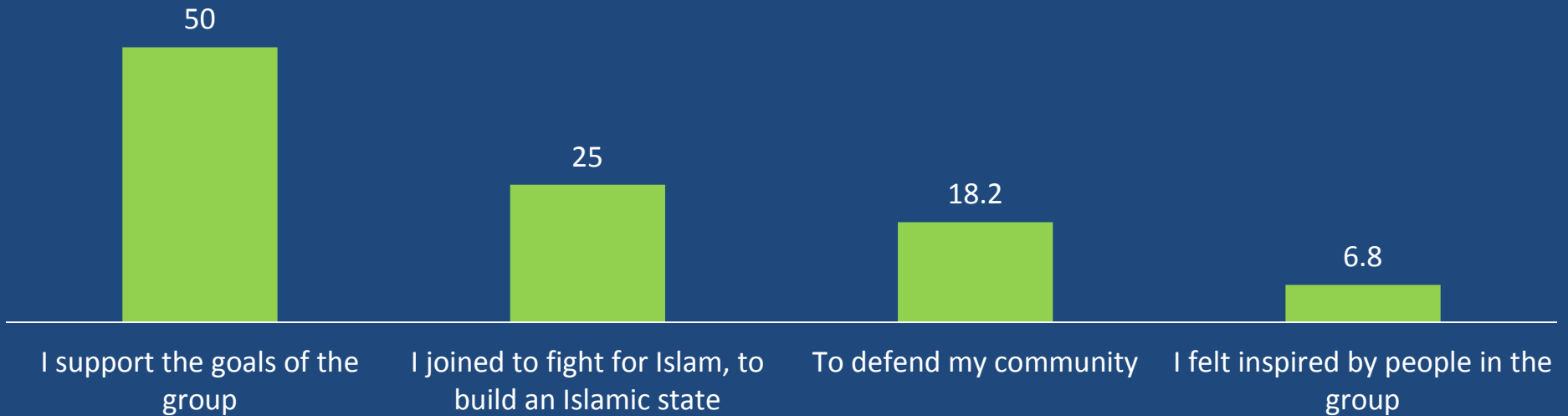
Reasons Given for Joining Rebel Groups (FSA)

Q: If you are currently fighting or have fought with the FSA, why did you join? (select all that apply, % selecting each option)



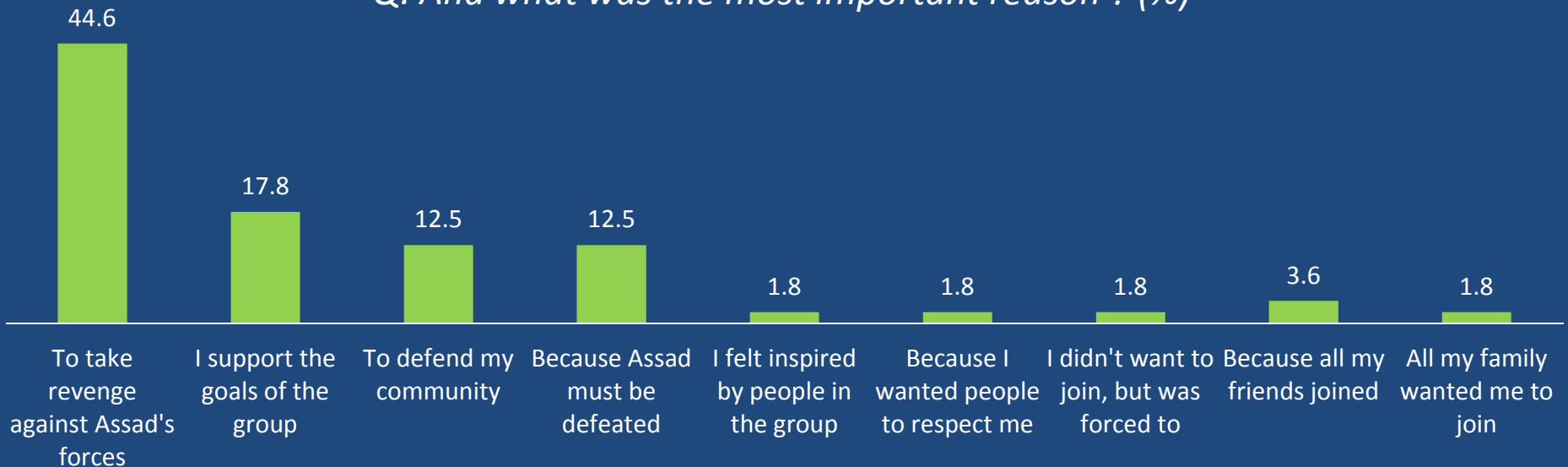
Main Reason Given for Joining Rebel Groups (Islamists)

Q: And what was the most important reason ? (%)



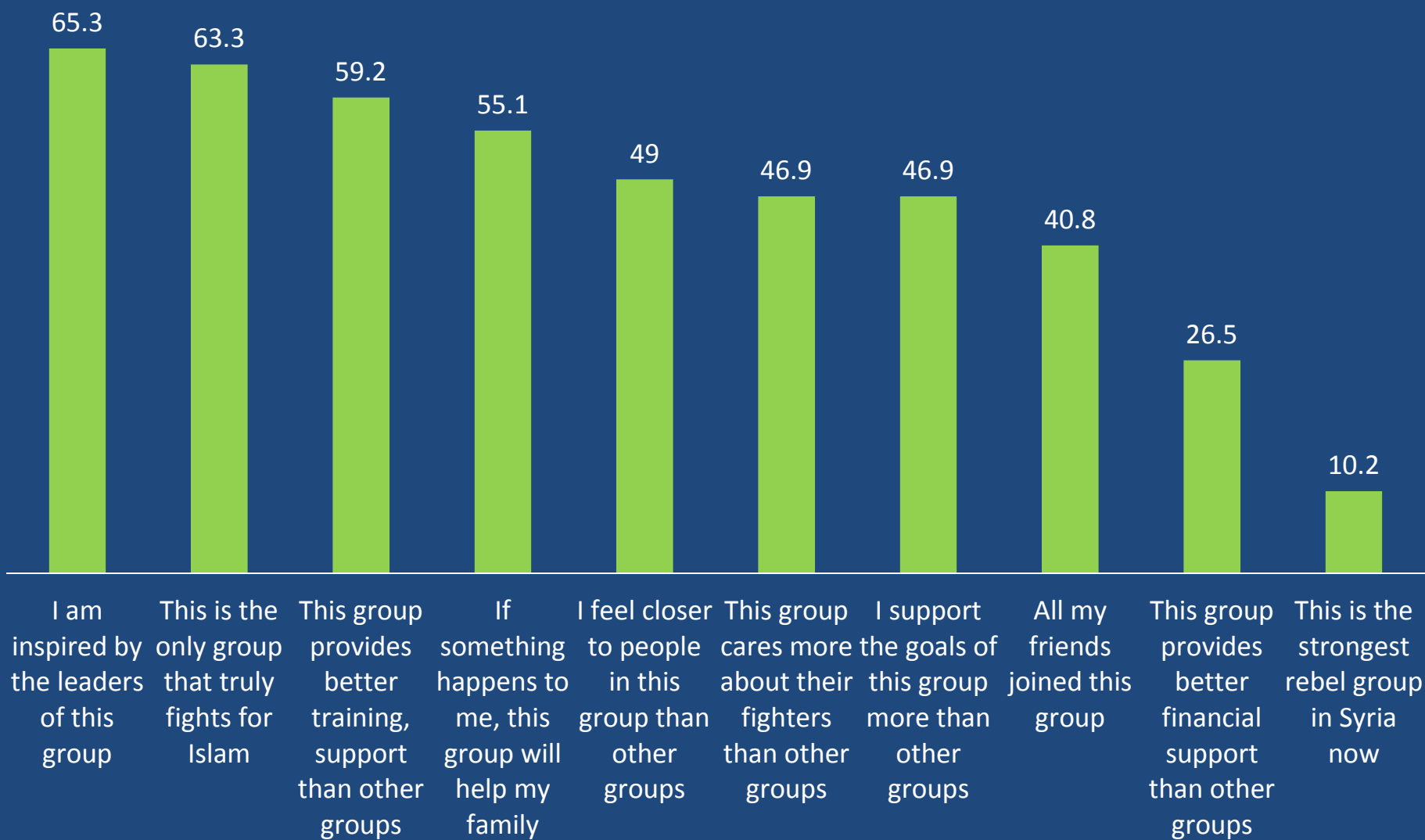
Main Reason Given for Joining Rebel Groups (FSA)

Q: And what was the most important reason ? (%)



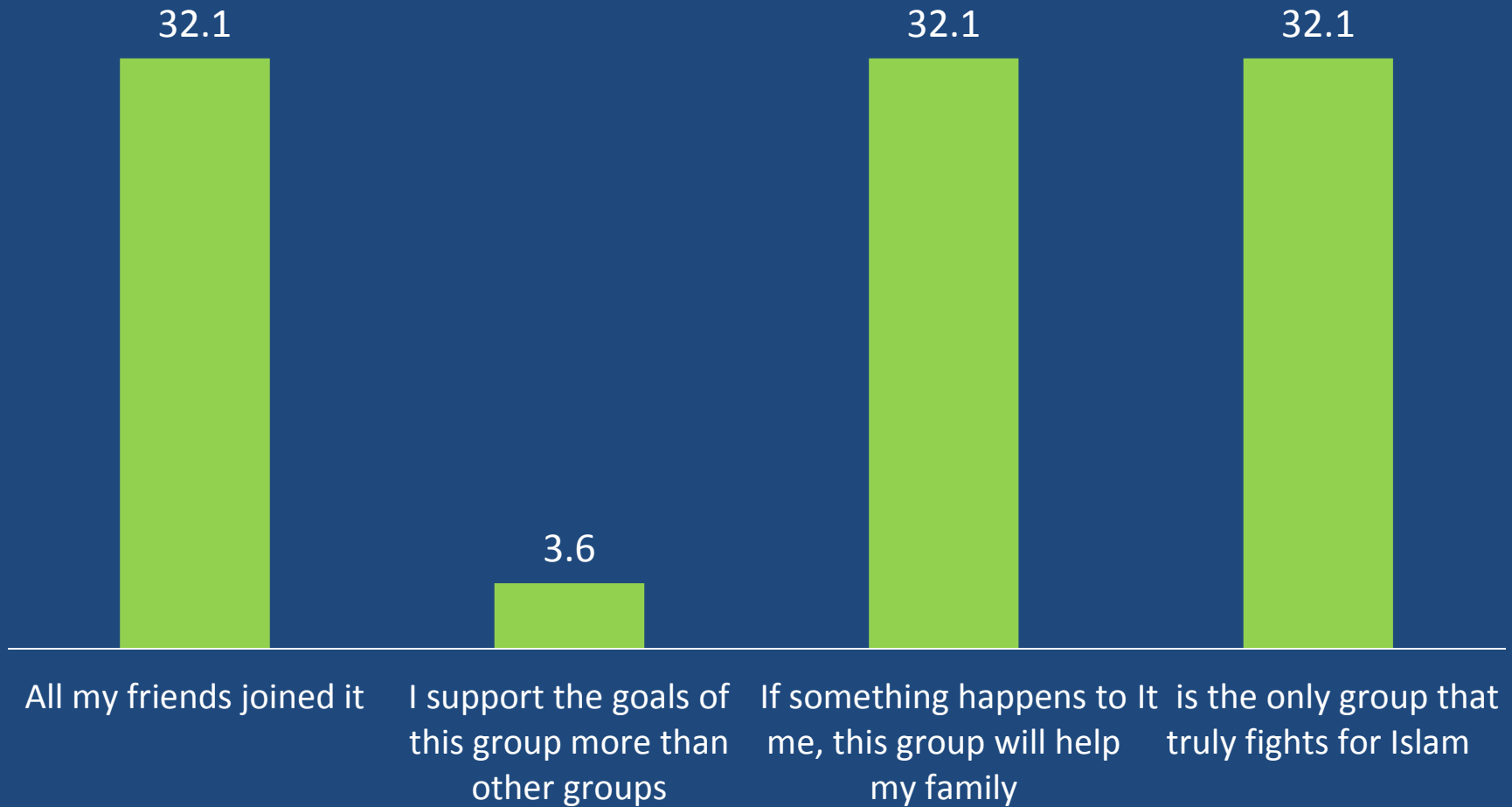
Reasons Given for not Joining Other Groups (Islamists)

Q: Why did you join this group as opposed to FSA or other rebel groups?



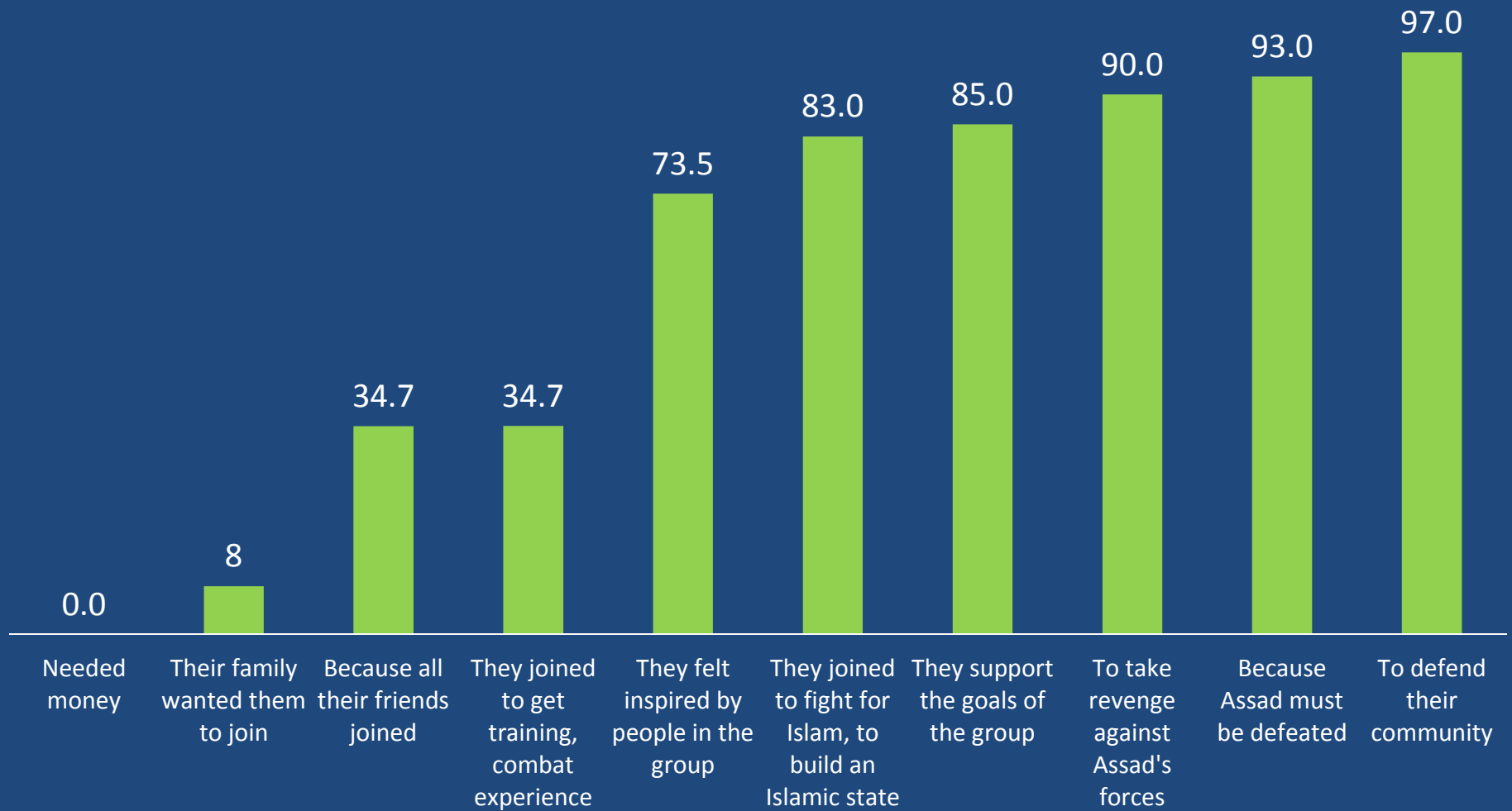
Reasons Given for not Joining Other Groups (Islamists)

Q: And what was the most important reason ? (%)



Reasons Given For Why Others Joined Your Group (Islamists)

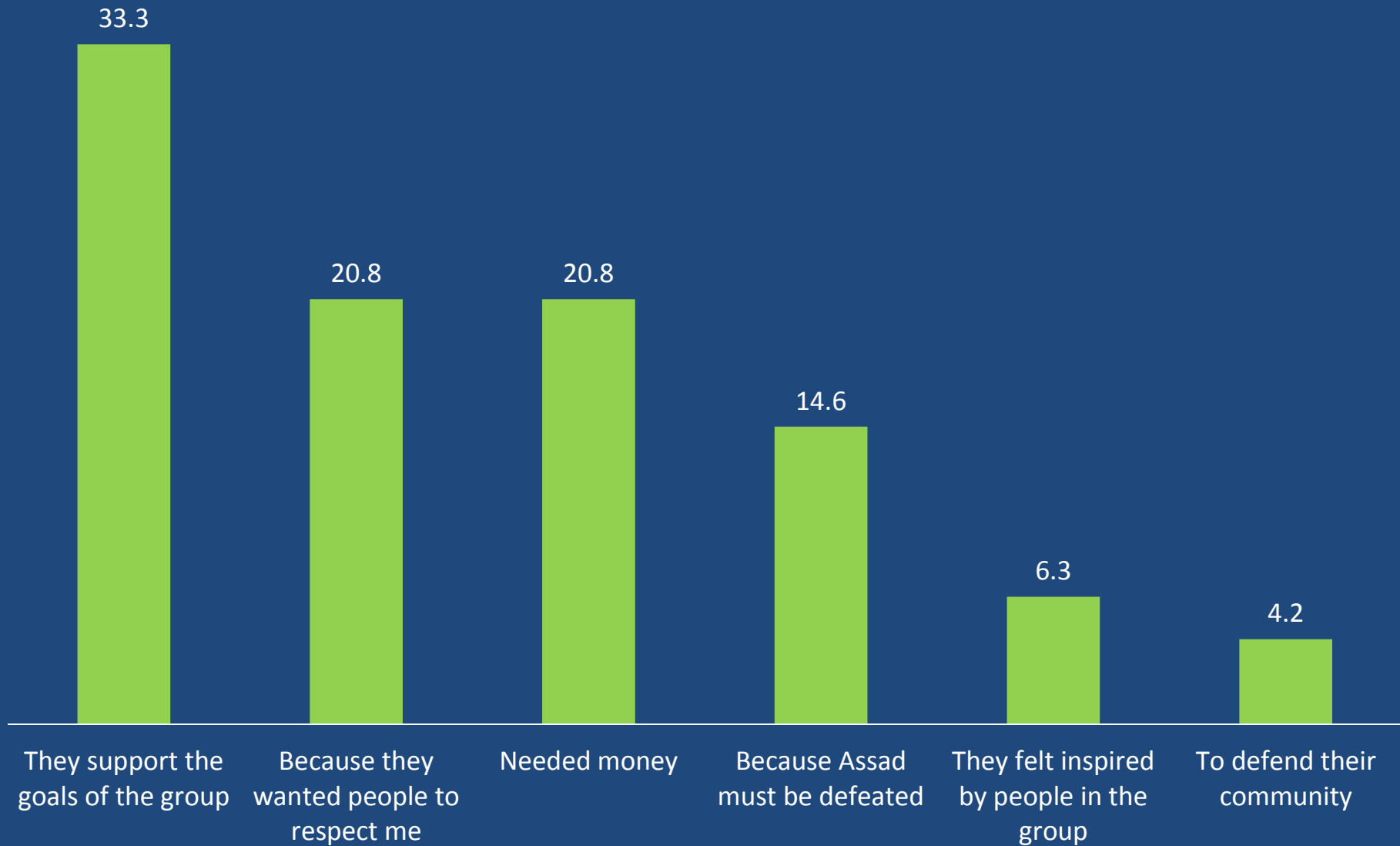
Q: Why do you think most people join your group ? (select all that apply, % selecting each option)



"Voices of Syria" Mironova, Mrie, Whitt

Main Reason Given For Why Others Joined Your Group (Islamists)

Q: And what was the most important reason ? (%)

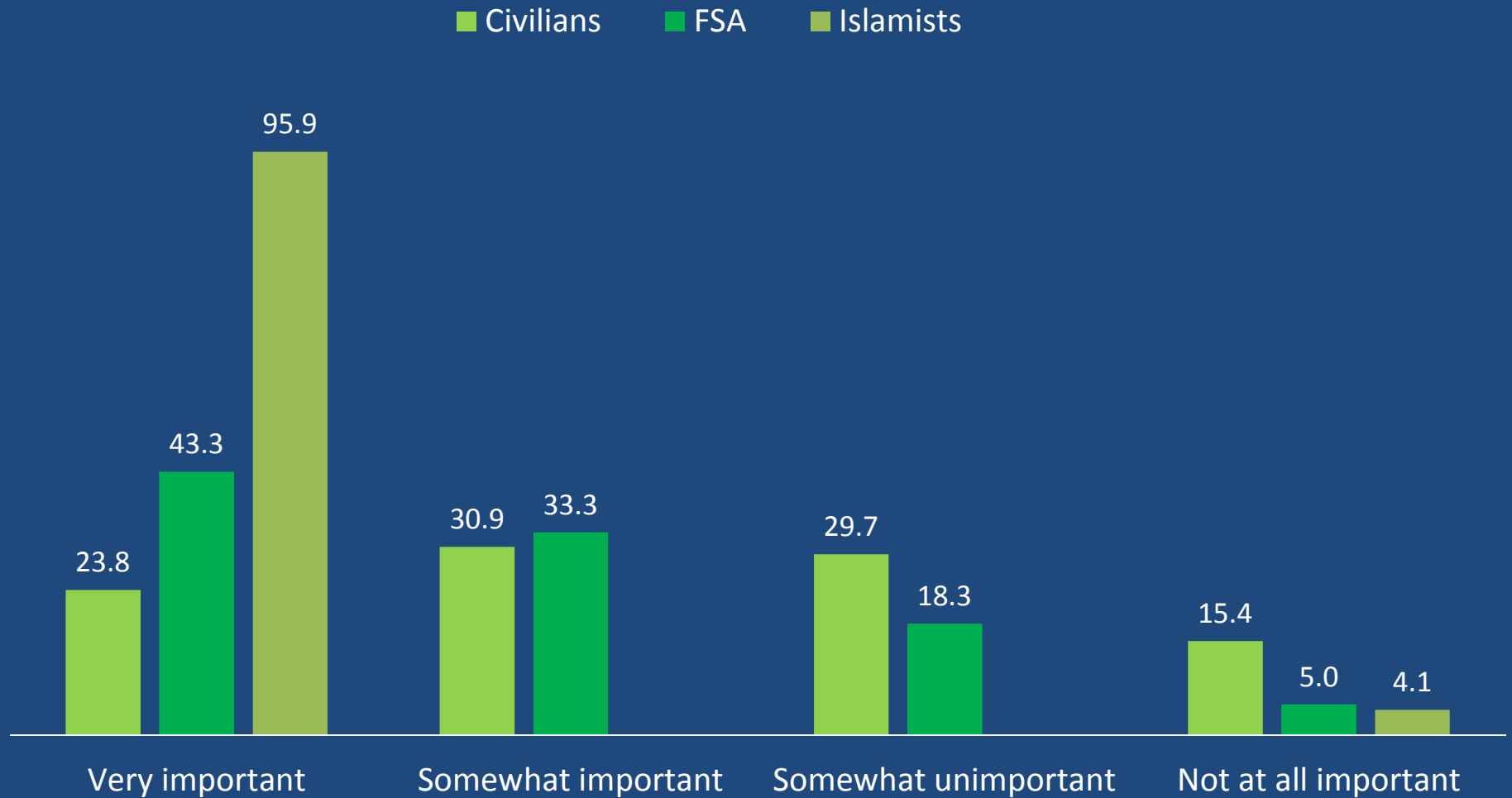


"Voices of Syria" Mironova, Mrie, Whitt

Religion

Importance of religion

Q: In general, how important are your religious beliefs to you in your daily life ?

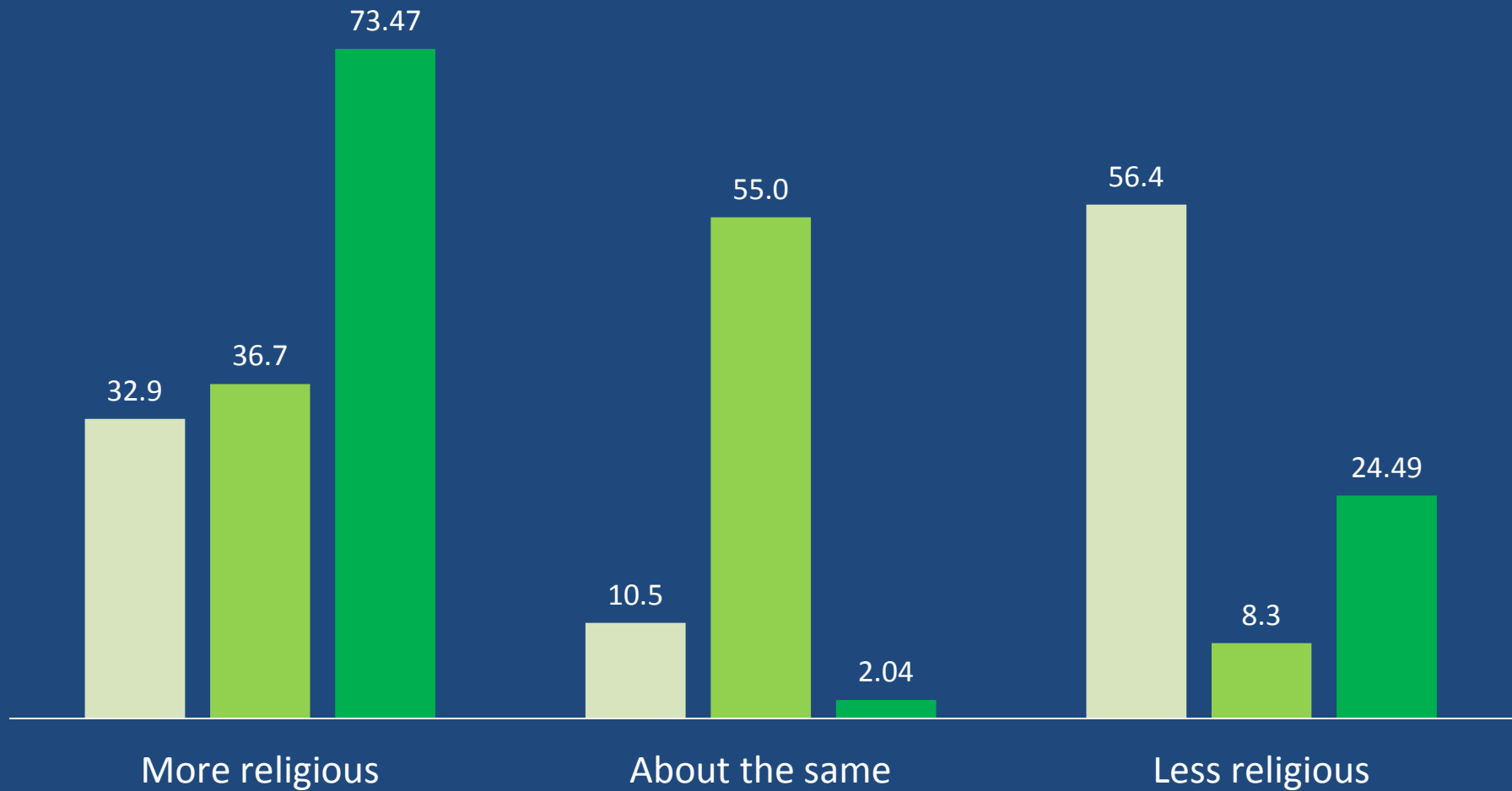


"Voices of Syria" Mironova, Mrie, Whitt

Change in Religiosity Since the Beginning of the War

Q: Since the war started do you think you have become more religious, less religious, or are about the same ?

■ Civilian ■ FSA ■ Islamist

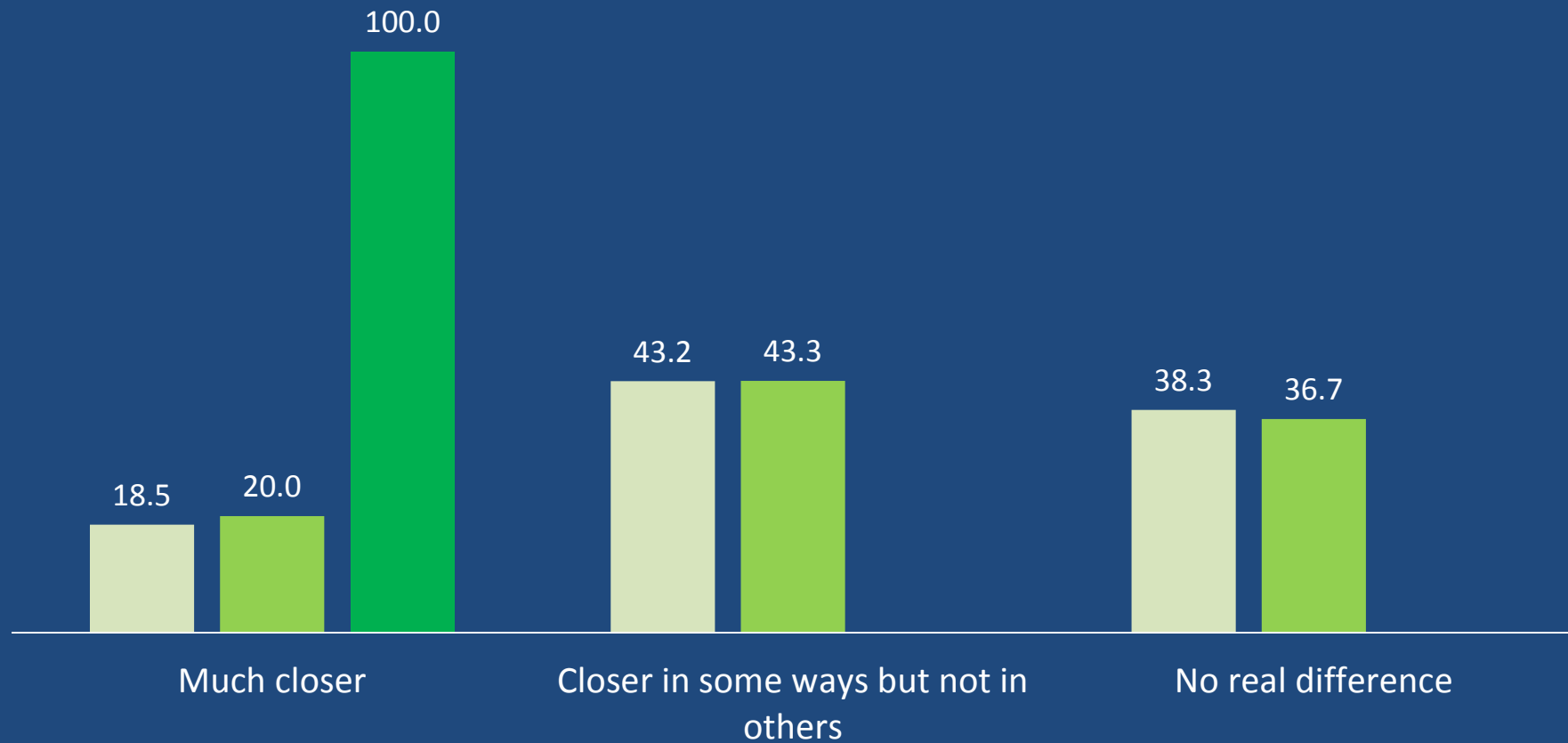


"Voices of Syria" Mironova, Mrie, Whitt

Salience of Sectarian Divisions

Q: In general, how close do you feel to people of your religion compared to other people in Syria ?

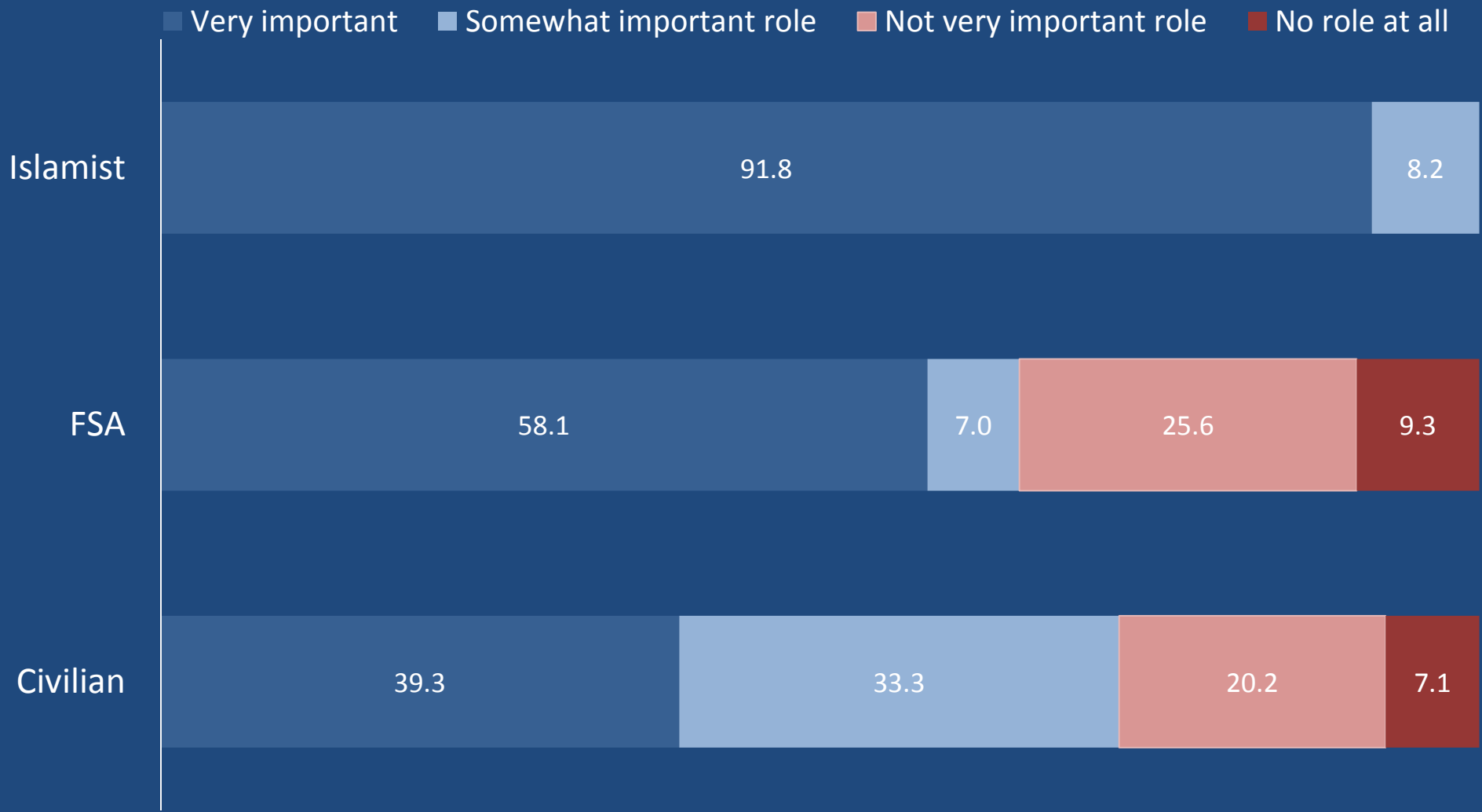
■ Civilian ■ FSA ■ Islamist



"Voices of Syria" Mironova, Mrie, Whitt

Role of Religion in Syria's Future Politics

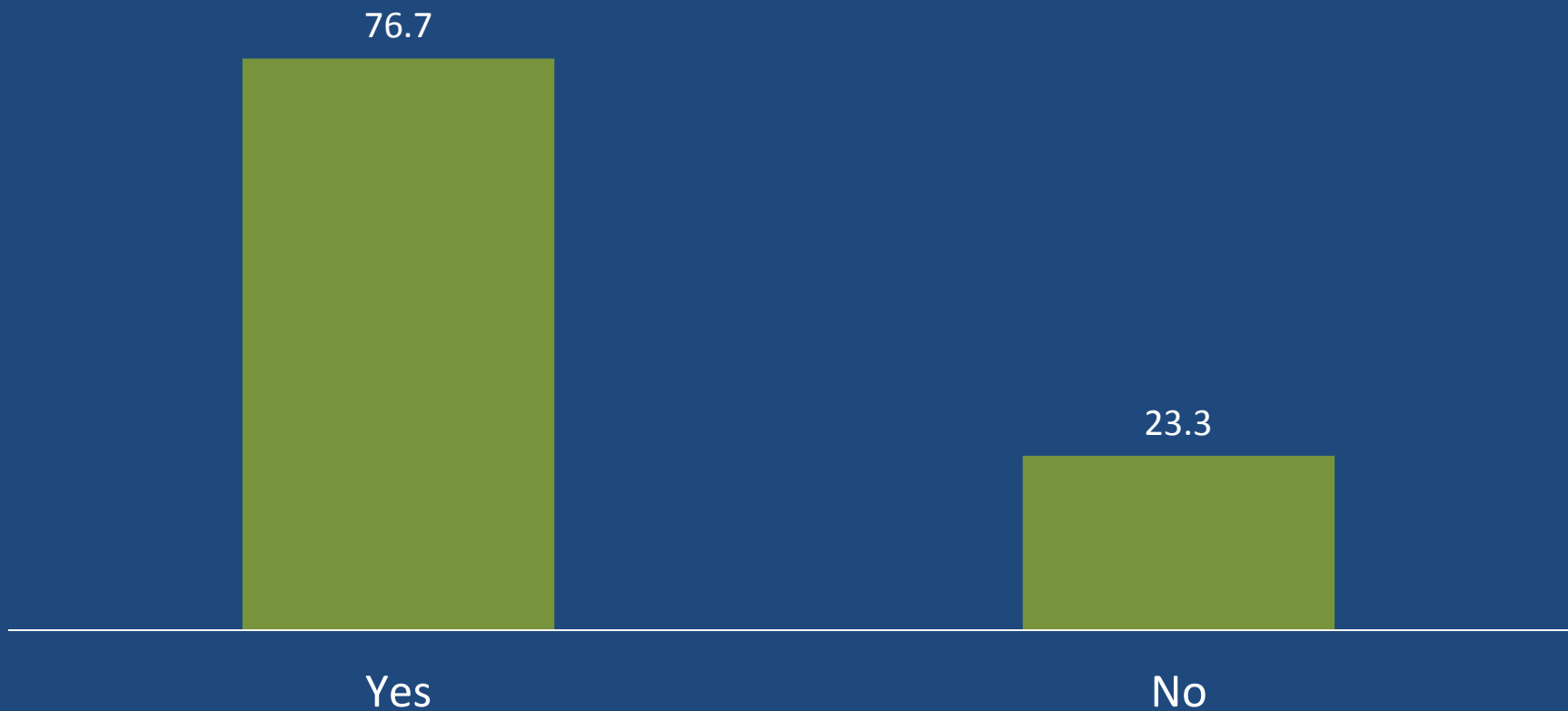
Q: In your opinion, what role should religion play in Syrian politics in the future ?



"Voices of Syria" Mironova, Mrie, Whitt

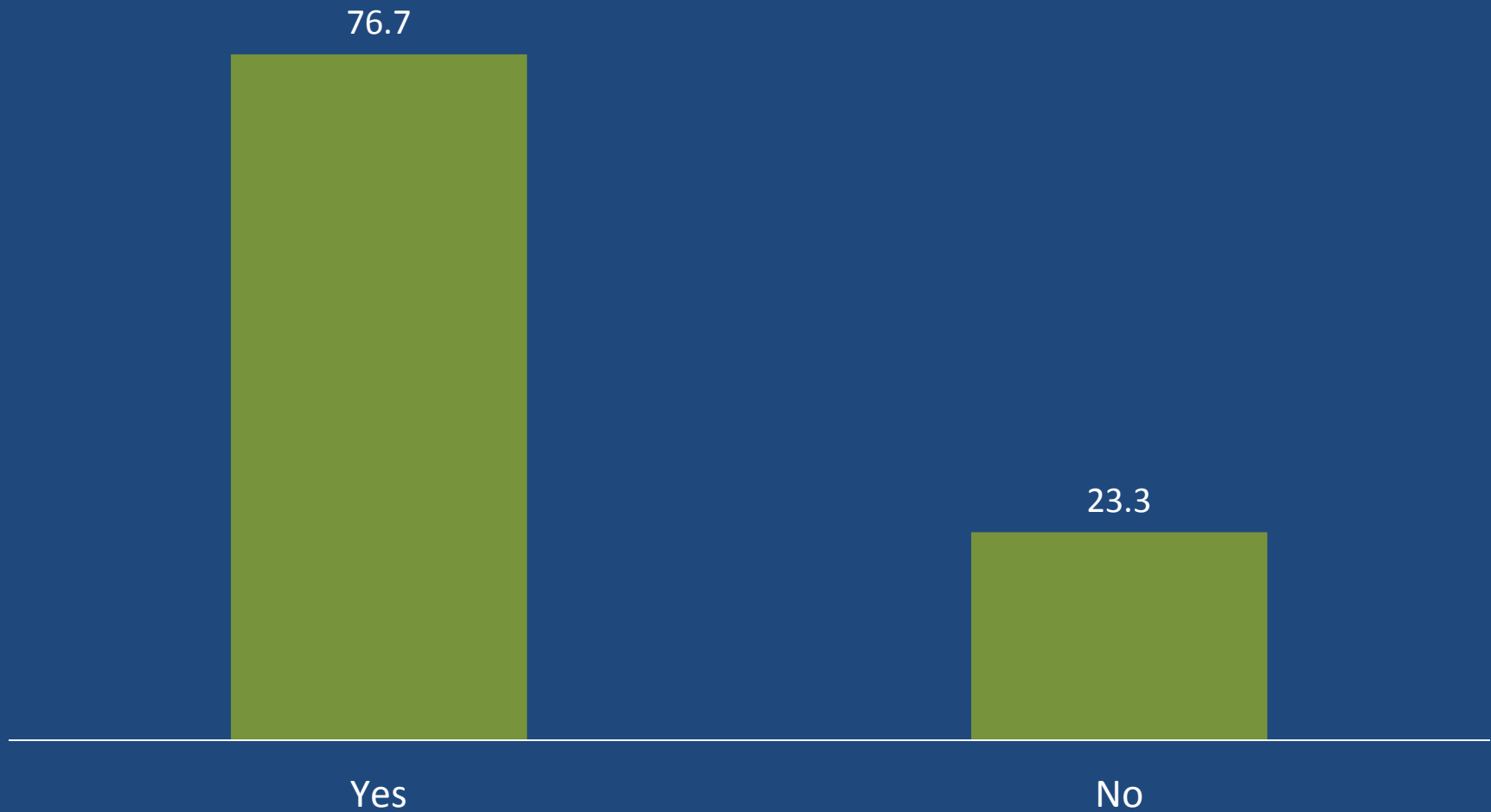
Jihad and war in Syria (Islamists)

Q: Do you believe that the war in Syria today is a Jihad according to Islamic law ?



Jihad Means Revenge (Islamists)

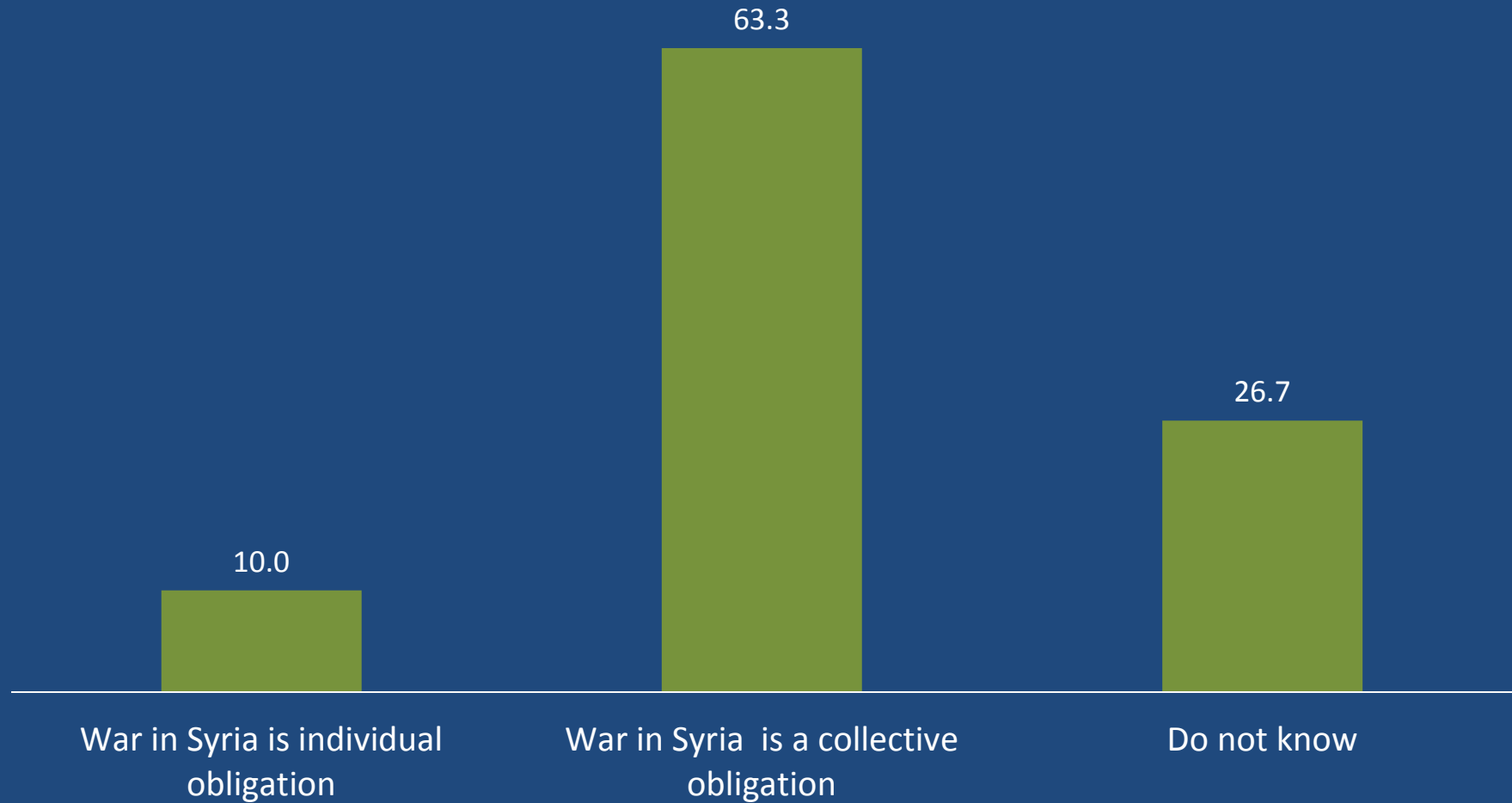
Q: do you believe that Jihad is in some ways about taking revenge?



"Voices of Syria" Mironova, Mrie, Whitt

Who has to fight in Syria (Islamists)

Q: *Is the Syrian Jihad fard ayin (an individual obligation) or fard kifayya (a collective obligation)?*



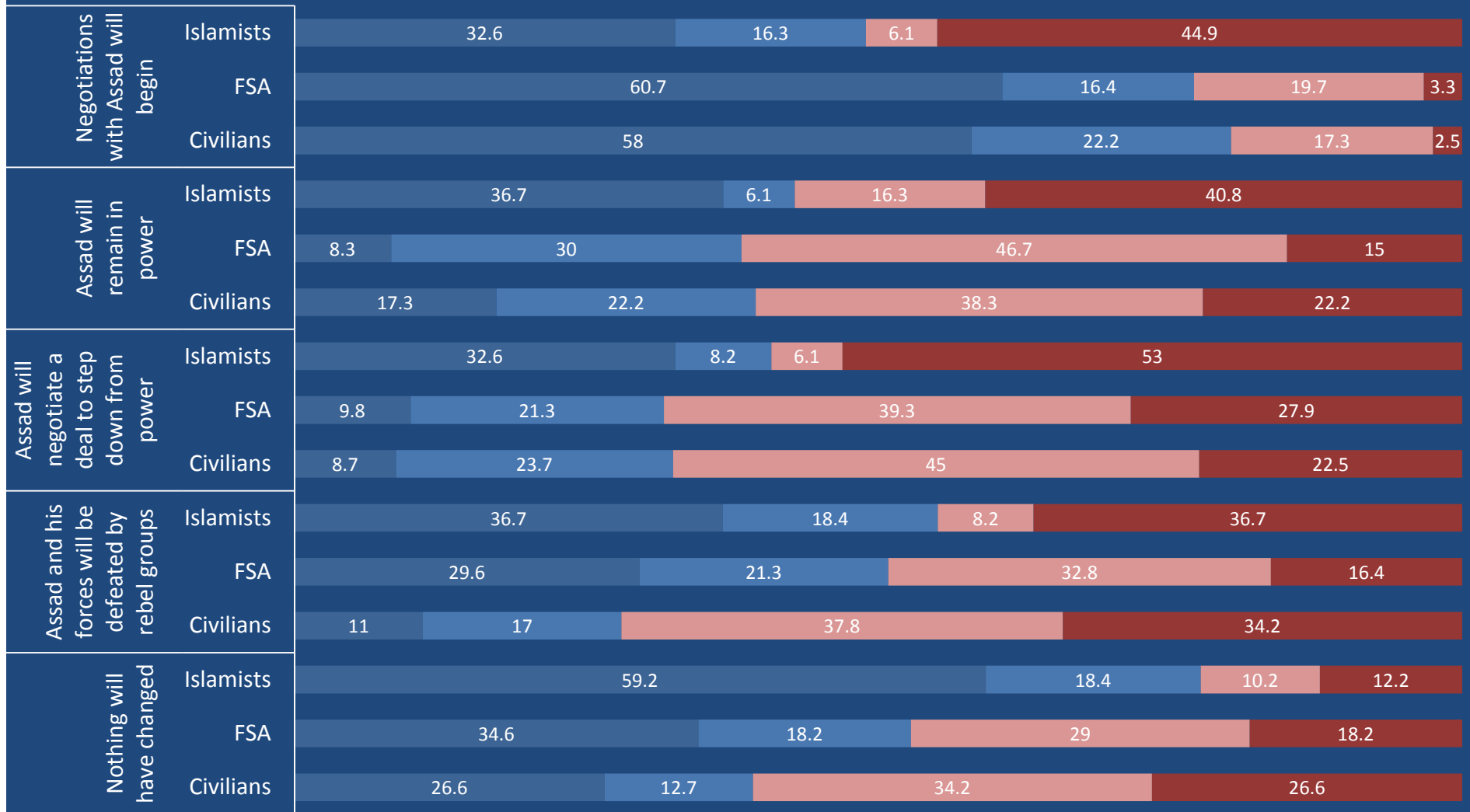
"Voices of Syria" Mironova, Mrie, Whitt

Political views

Future Expectations

Q: How likely the following is to happen within the next year ?

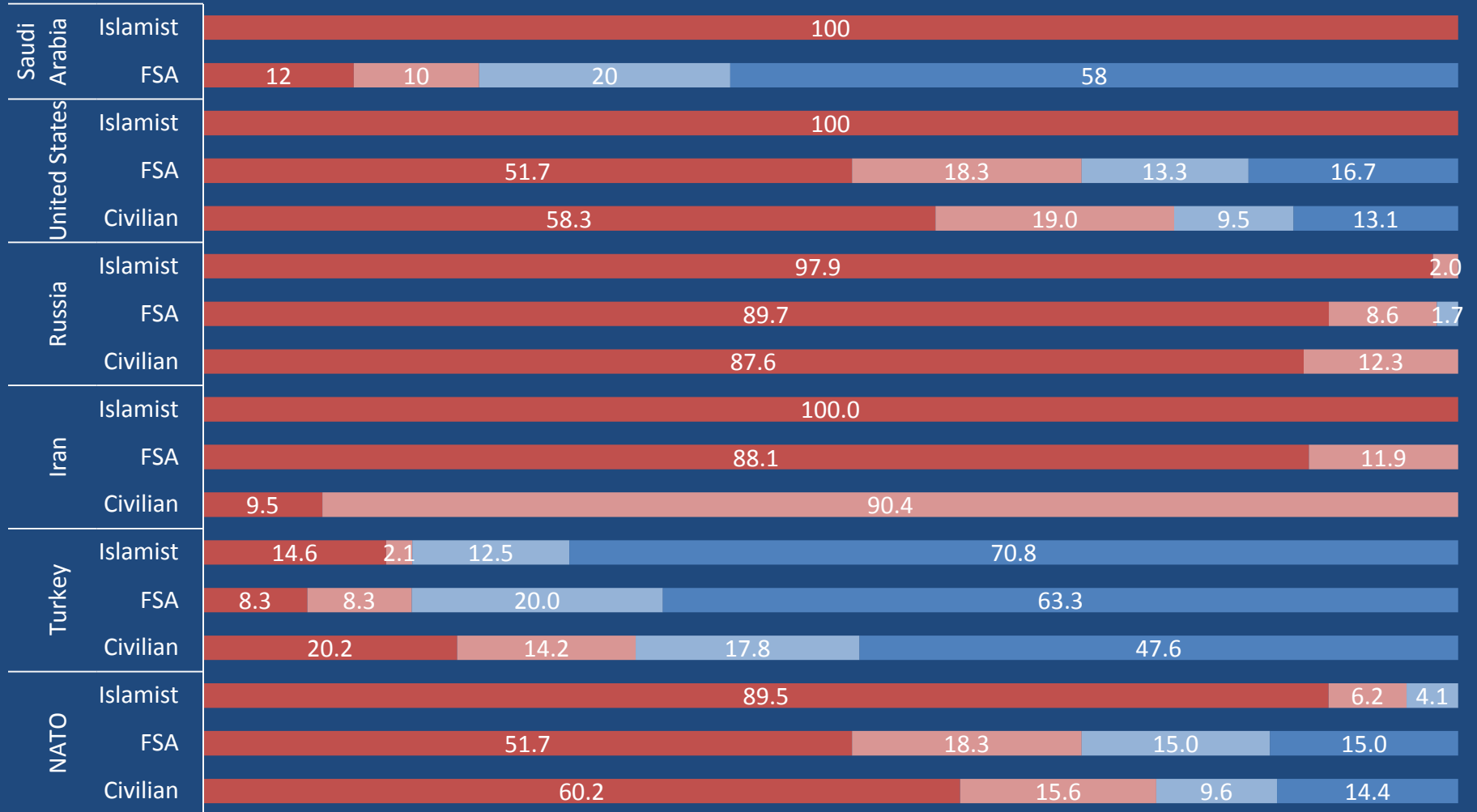
■ Very Likely
 ■ Somewhat Likely
 ■ Not Very Likely
 ■ Not At All Likely



Views of Other Countries

Q: Please tell me if you have a very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable view of the following:

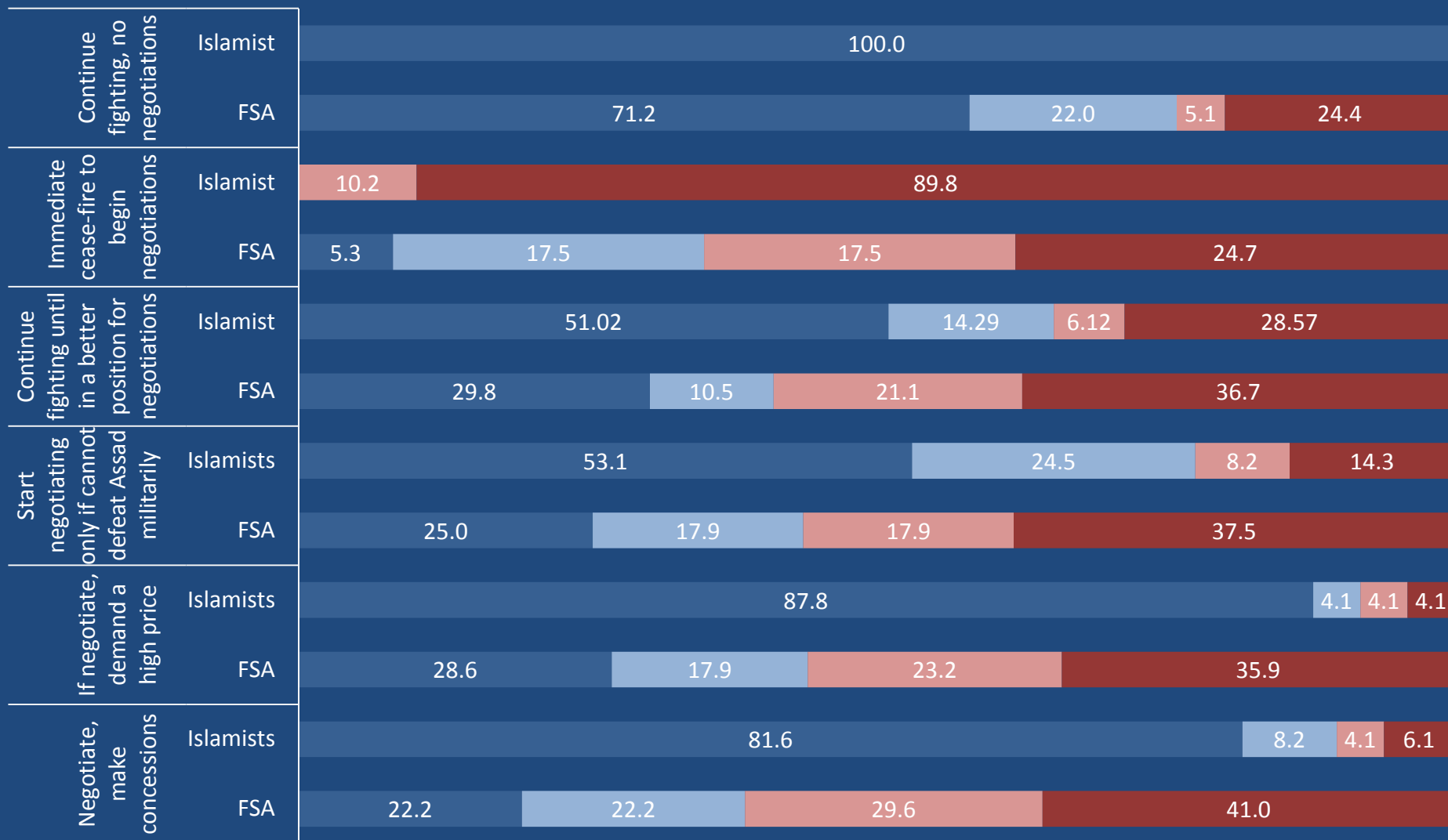
Very Unfavorable Somewhat unfavorable Somewhat favorable Very Favorable



Views on Negotiations with Assad

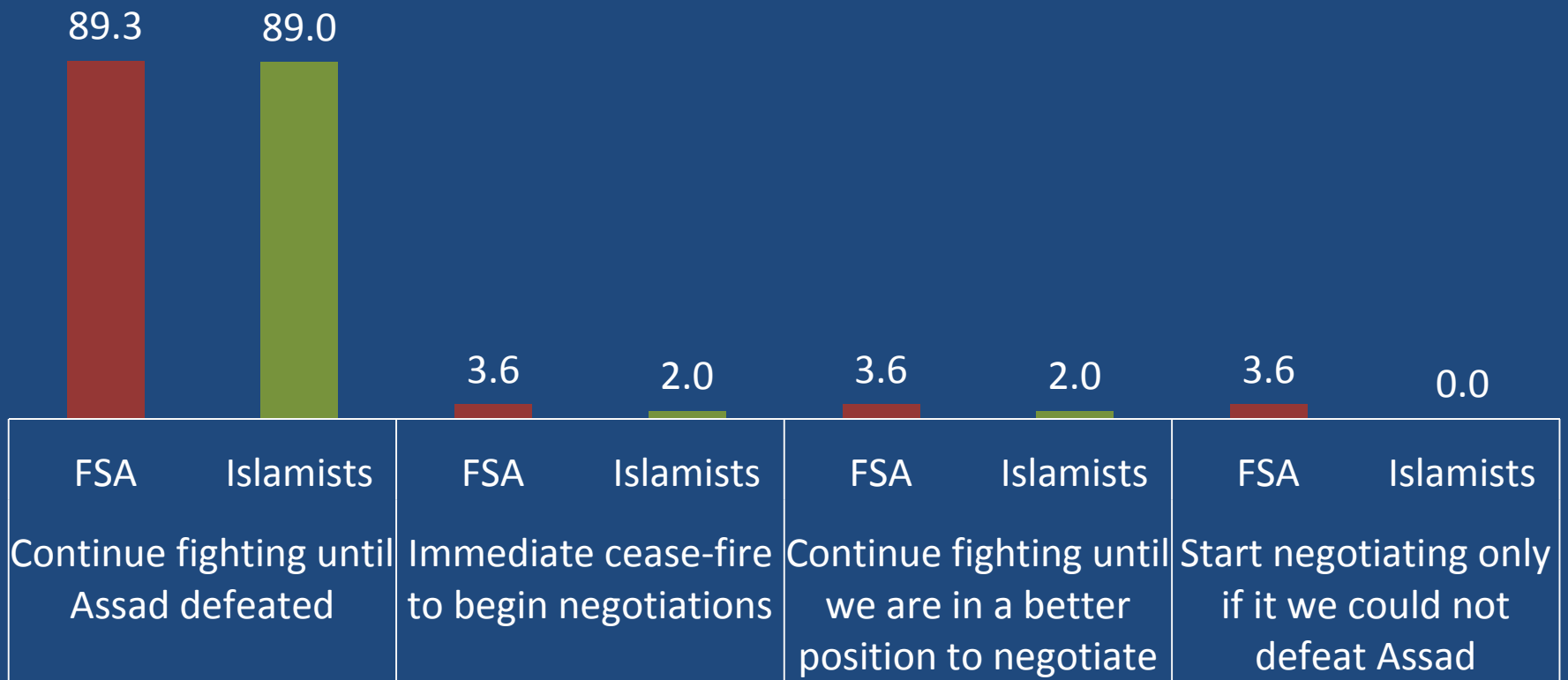
Q: Tell me whether you strongly support, somewhat support, or strongly oppose the following (%)

Strongly support somewhat support somewhat oppose Strongly oppose



Views on negotiations with Assad

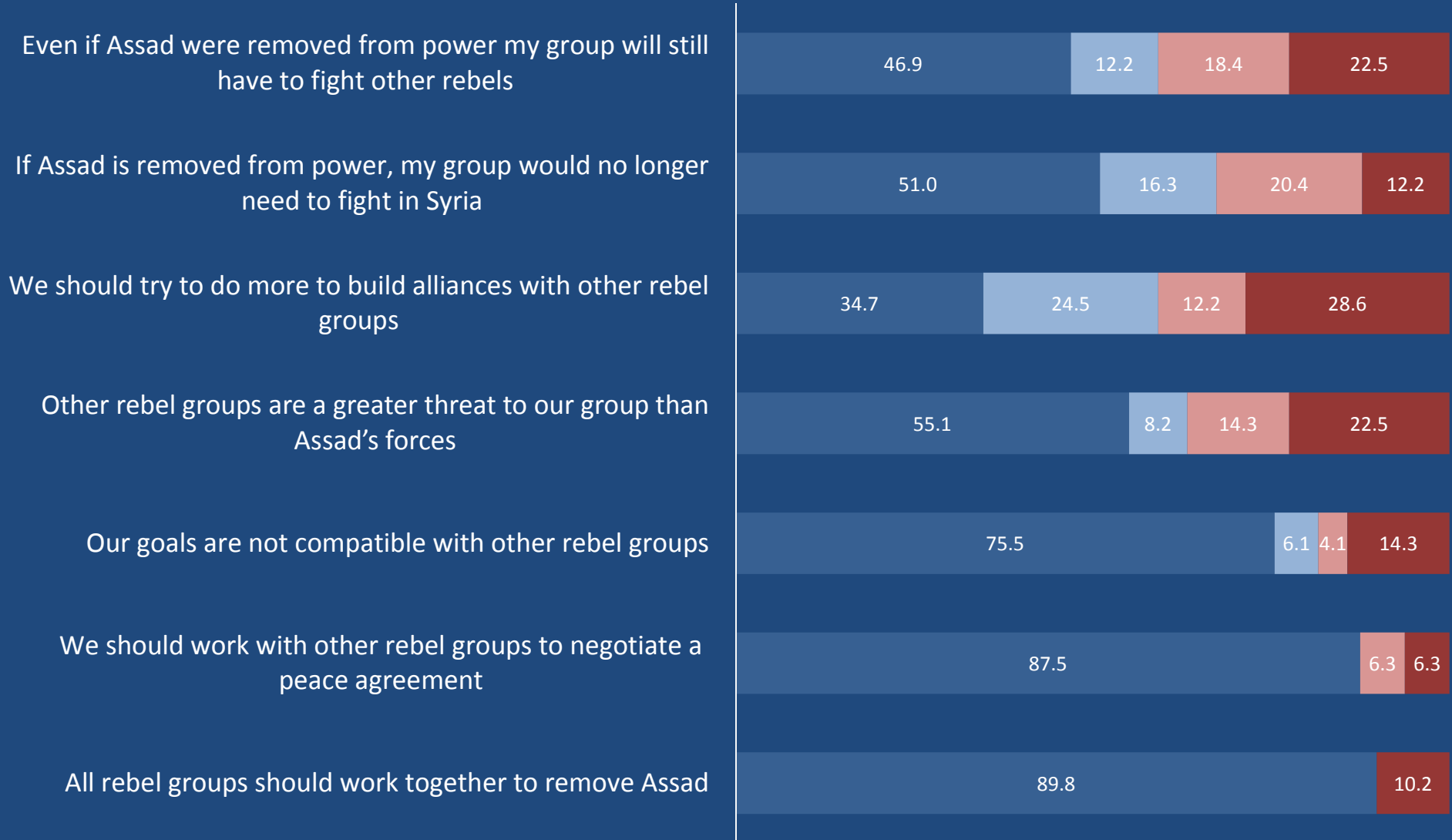
Q: Which of these options do you support the most



Rebel Groups Cooperation (Islamists)

Q: Please tell me the extent to which you agree with the following statements

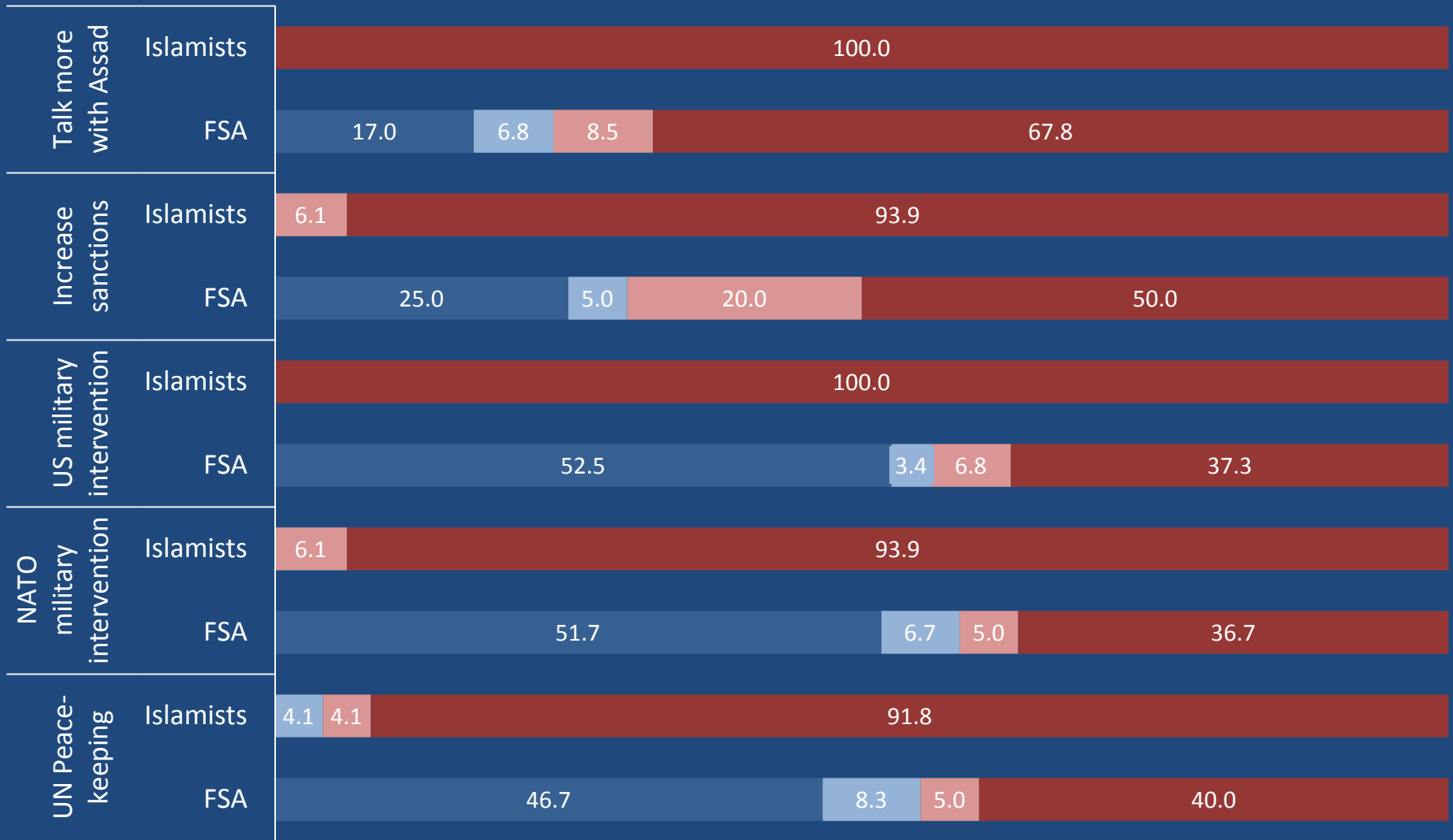
■ Strongly agree
 ■ somewhat agree
 ■ somewhat disagree
 ■ strongly disagree



Views on Outside Intervention in Syrian Conflict

Q: There is often discussion about the role of what other countries could do to bring an end to the Syrian conflict. To what extent do you support the following? (%)

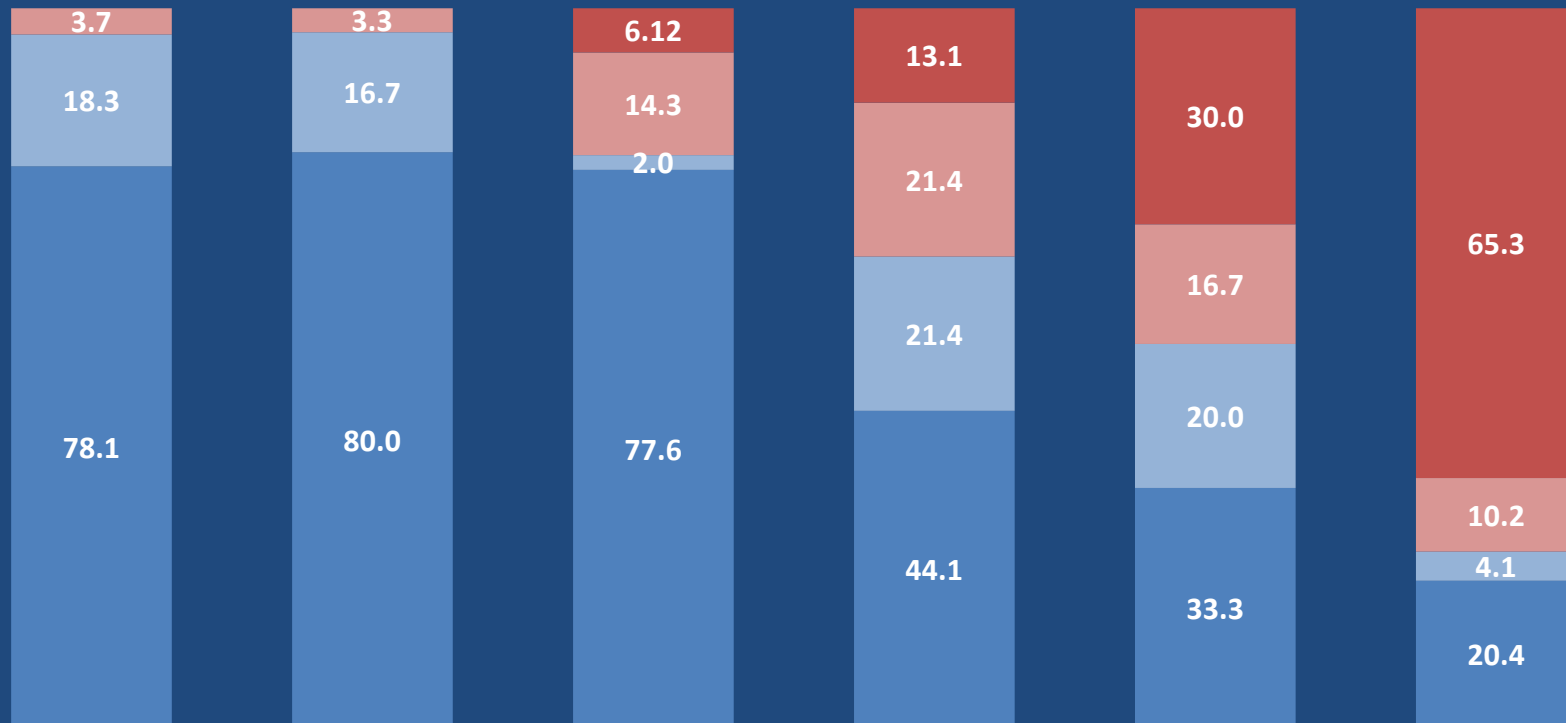
■ Strongly support ■ somewhat support ■ somewhat oppose ■ strongly oppose



Views on Syrian Unity

Q: To what extent do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree with the following statements

■ Strongly support ■ somewhat support ■ somewhat oppose ■ strongly oppose



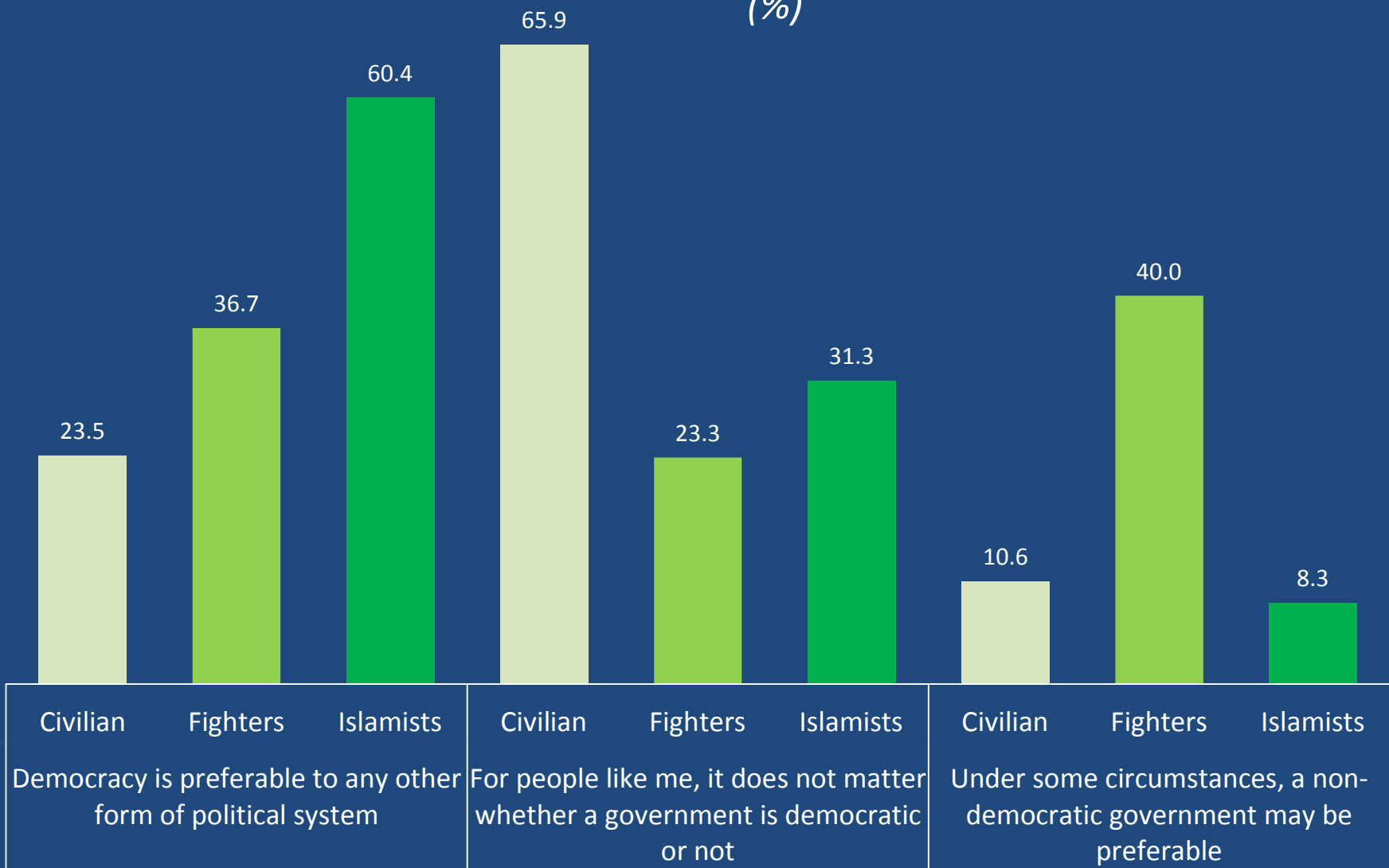
Civilians FSA Islamists
It is essential that Syria remains a unified state

Civilians FSA Islamists
Parts of Syria should be allowed more regional autonomy

Support for Democracy

Q: Which of these two statements comes closer to your own view?

(%)

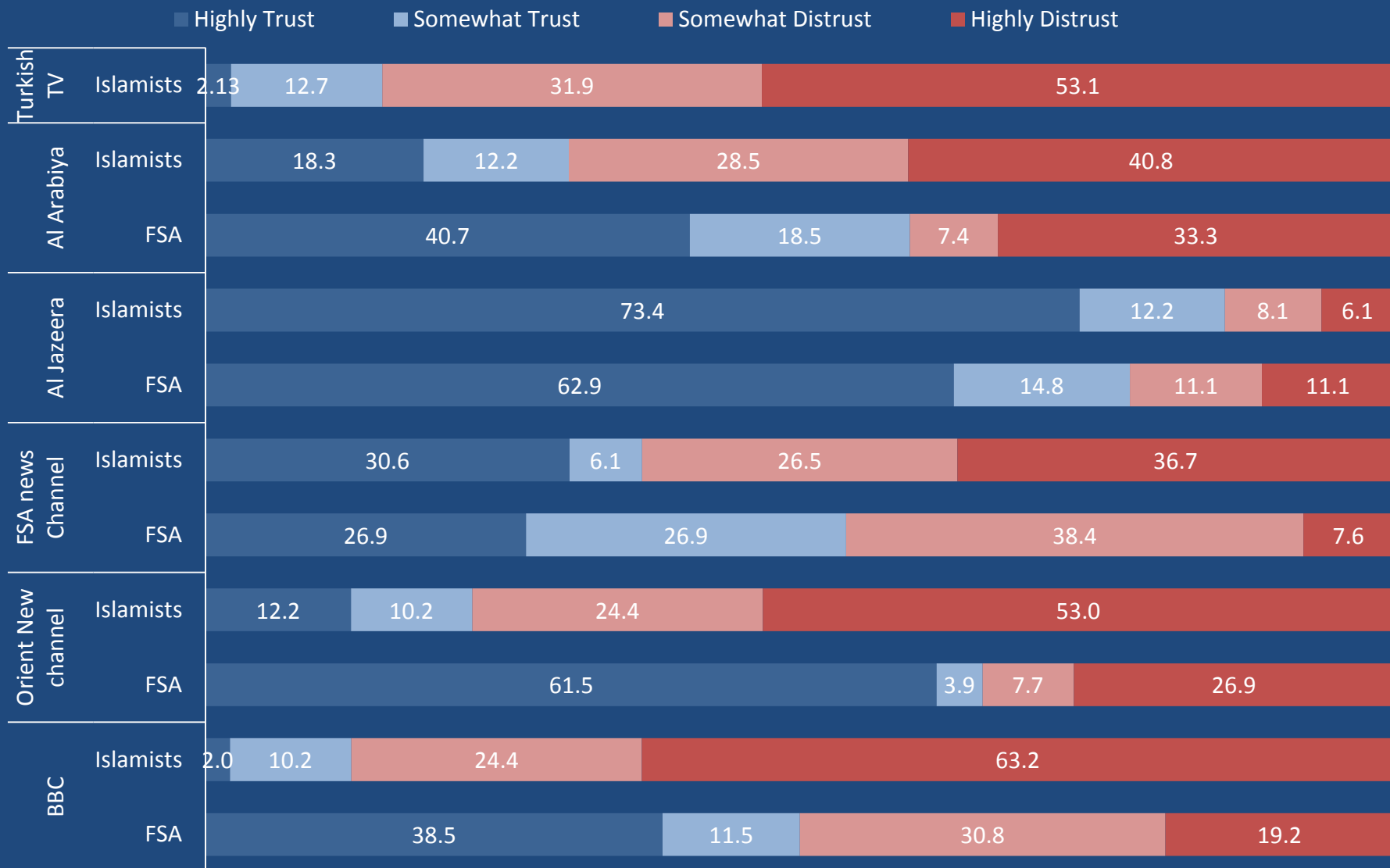


"Voices of Syria" Mironova, Mrie, Whitt

Mass Media

Trust in Major Media Outlets' Syria Coverage

Q: How much do you trust the following news sources for objective reporting about what is happening daily in Syria? (%)



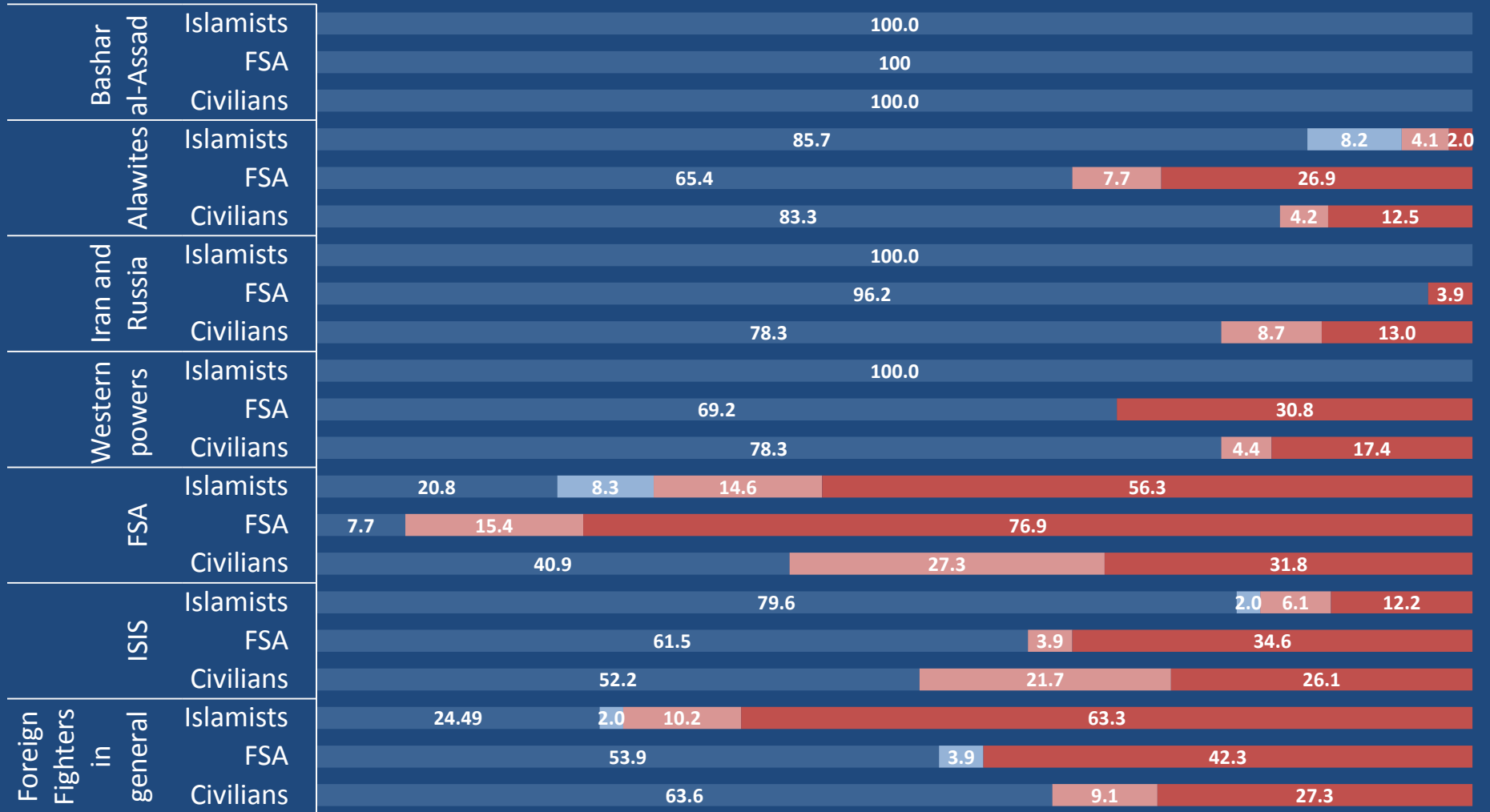
"Voices of Syria" Mironova, Mrie, Whitt

Assigning Blame for the Conflict

Assigning Blame for the Conflict

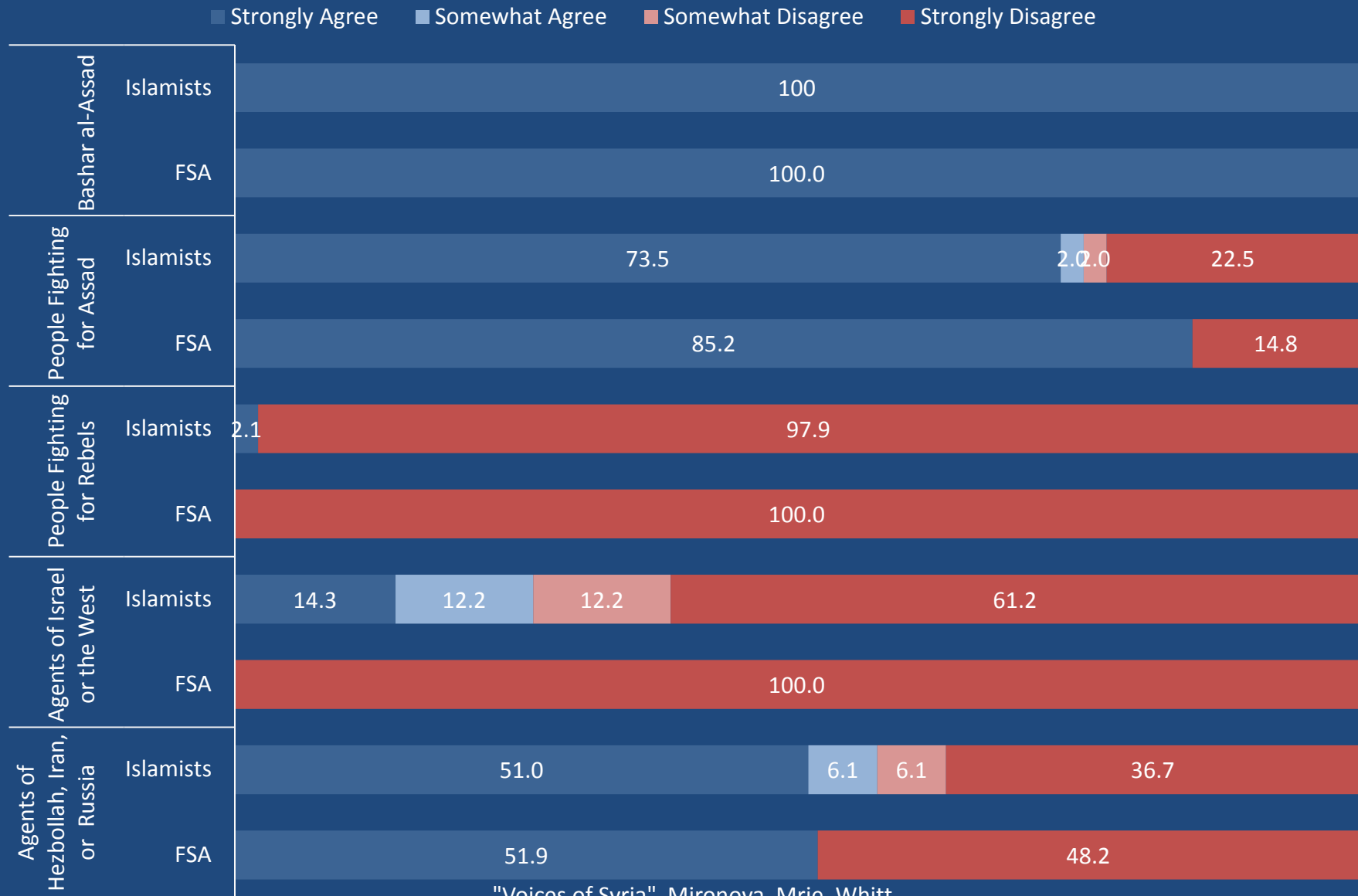
Q: In your opinion, who deserves the blame for the protracted conflict in Syria ?

■ Strongly Agree ■ Somewhat Agree ■ Somewhat Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree



Assigning Blame for Chemical Weapons Attacks

Q: In your opinion, who is responsible for the chemical attack in Ghouta?

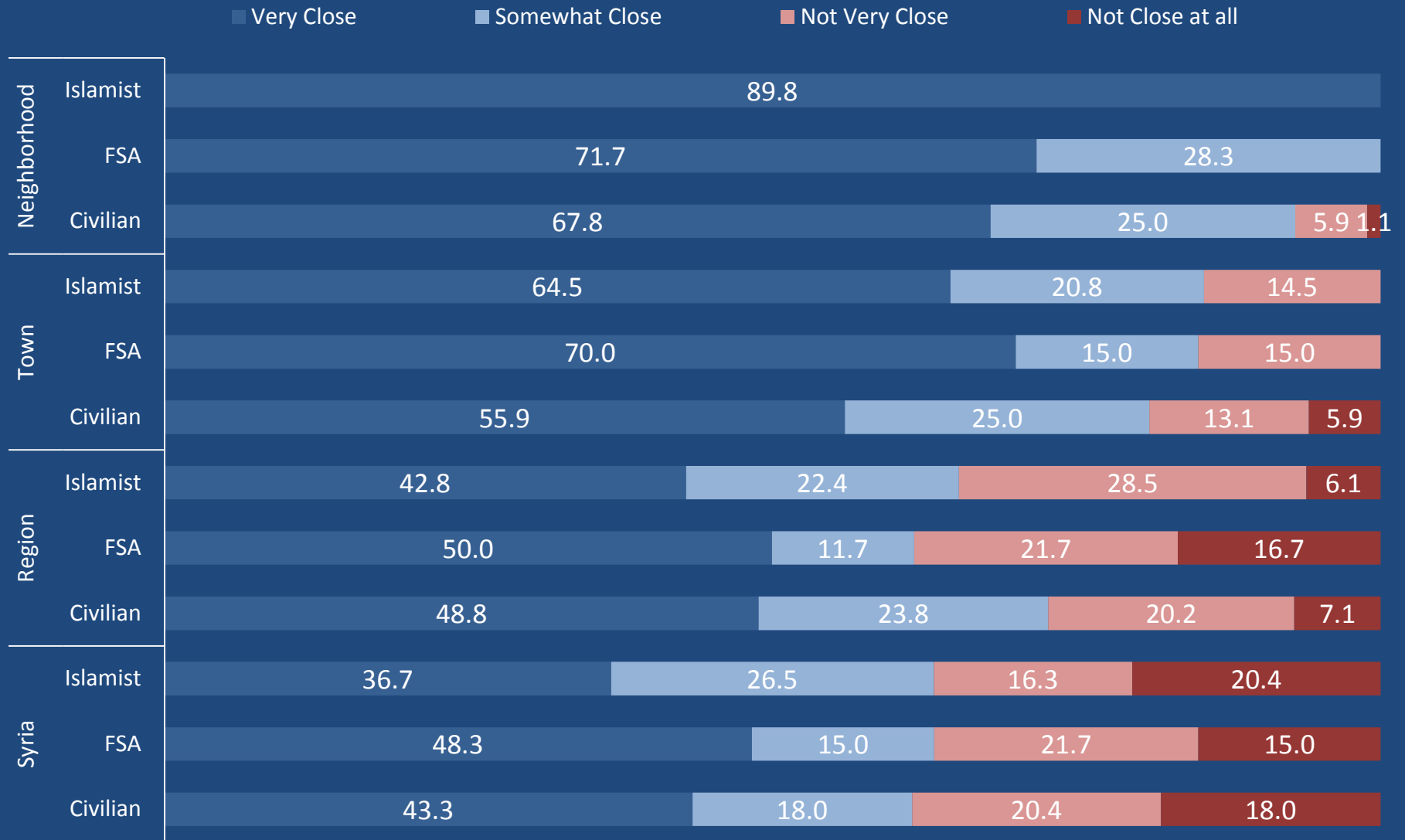


"Voices of Syria" Mironova, Mrie, Whitt

Social Capital

Social Distance by Location

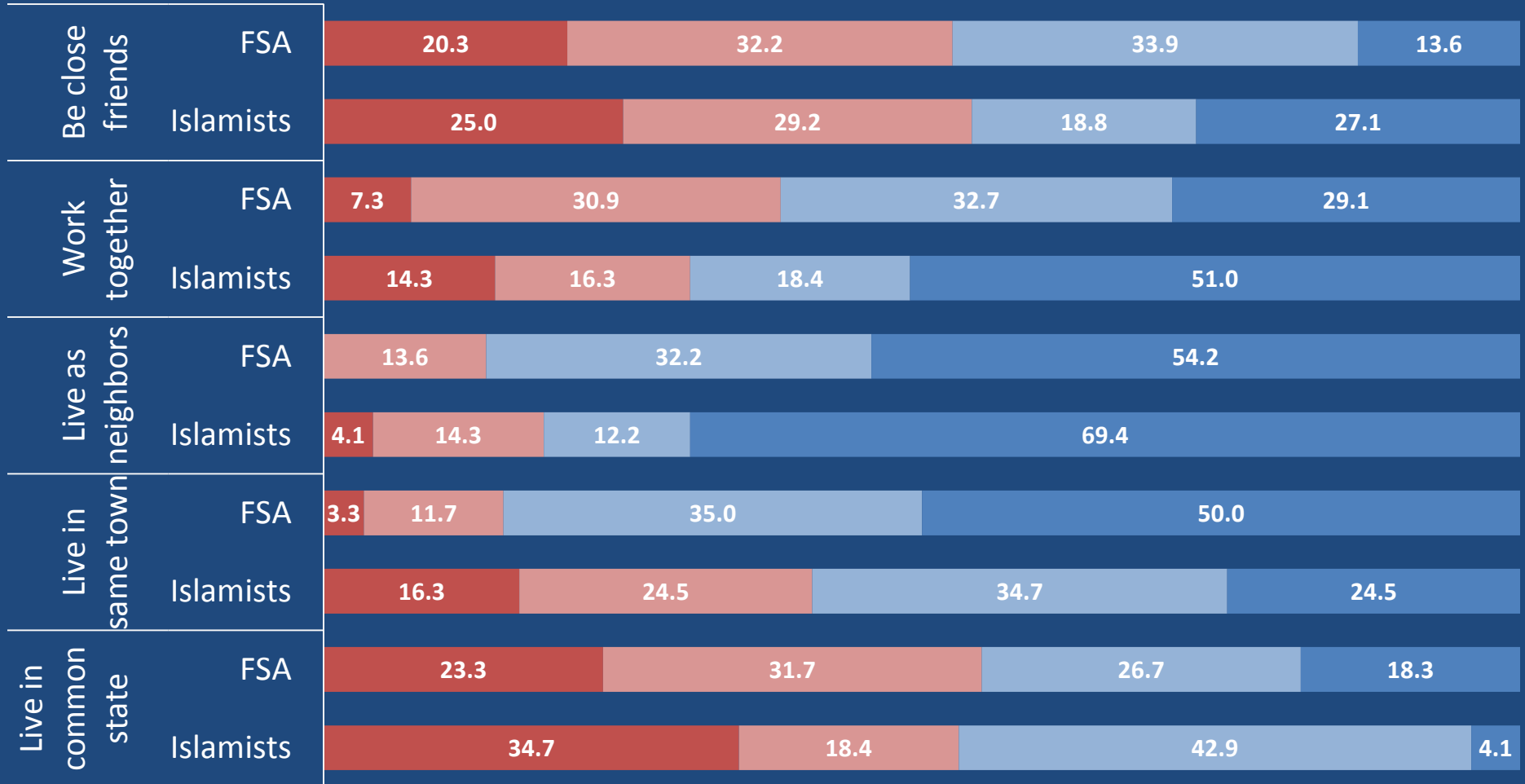
Q: In general, how close do you feel to other people in the following locations ?



Views on Reconciliation After Violence I

Q: Giving the way things are now, to what extent do you think Syrians on different sides of this conflict will be able to do the following:

Definitely not Probably not Probably Yes Definitely Yes



Views on Reconciliation After Violence II

Q: Giving the way things are now, to what extent do you think Syrians on different sides of this conflict will be able to do the following:

Definitely not Probably not Probably Yes Definitely Yes

