

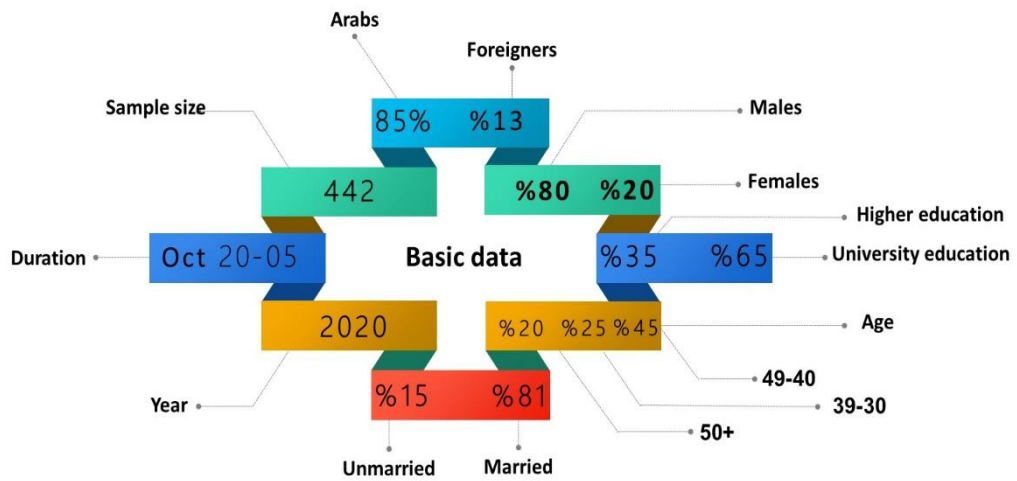


Opinion Poll Report:

**Muslim Brotherhood and Parallel State: Directing the Struggle against the Nation-
State**

October 2020

Basic Data for the Opinion Poll on the Respondents' awareness of the danger of the Muslim Brotherhood



Findings of the Opinion Poll and Analysis:
Level of respondents' awareness of the danger of the Muslim Brotherhood

Fifth question



The Muslim Brotherhood exploited the middle east crises to establish a parallel state of its own.

Fourth question



The Muslim Brotherhood group is not different from other Islamist, terrorist and extremist groups in terms of ideology and principle and the way they view the nation-state.

Third question



The Muslim Brotherhood's concept of "caliphate" cannot be an alternative to modern nation-state.

Second question



The Muslim Brotherhood does not have a modern view of the nation-state components.

First question



The ideological premises of the Muslim Brotherhood are a threat to the nation-state

Executive Summary

TRENDS Research & Advisory carried out an opinion poll on the Muslim Brotherhood and the parallel state and how it directs the struggle against the nation-state. The most important findings, based on the survey of 442 respondents, are as follows:

- ✓ Most respondents were Arabs (87 percent), followed by other nationalities (13 percent).
- ✓ The gender-wide percentage varied considerably. Males constituted 80 percent, while females constituted 20 percent of total respondents.
- ✓ Percentage of participants with a university qualification was more than half (65 percent), followed by those with postgraduate degrees (33 percent). This reflects the interest of the educated class in the Muslim Brotherhood's role in establishing a parallel state that resembles the nation-state.
- ✓ Most respondents were in the age group of 40-49 years (45 percent), followed by 30-39 years (25 percent), while the age group of more than 50 years constituted 20 percent of respondents.
- ✓ Married respondents constituted about 81 percent while unmarried comprised 15 percent, reflecting the interest taken by many respondents in understanding the threat arising from the Muslim Brotherhood's quest to establish a parallel state, which poses a serious threat to the nation-state.
- ✓ **Question 1:** An overwhelming majority of respondents (86 percent) agreed that the ideological premises of the Muslim Brotherhood are a threat to the nation-state. Those who disagreed were only 12 percent.
- ✓ **Question 2:** The Muslim Brotherhood believes that its entity distinguishes it from the nation-state. However, it has a different concept of the nation-state and its components. Hence, 86 percent of the respondents said the Muslim Brotherhood does not have any modern vision about the components of the nation-state. However, 12 percent said the group has a modern vision related to the concept of the nation-state.
- ✓ **Question 3:** Eighty-seven percent of the respondents said the Muslim Brotherhood's concept of the "caliphate" does not constitute an alternative to the present form of the nation-state. Around 9 percent said "caliphate" according to the perspective of the Muslim Brotherhood can constitute an alternative to the nation-state.
- ✓ **Question 4:** The results of the opinion poll showed that the Muslim Brotherhood, in terms of ideology and principle, is not different from other Islamist, terrorist, and extremist groups in the way they view the nation-state. According to 76 percent of the respondents, the Brotherhood's view of the nation-state does not differ much from

other extremist and terrorist groups. In comparison, 15 percent said the group's views are different.

- ✓ **Question 5:** Over two-thirds of respondents (78 percent) said the Brotherhood had exploited the ongoing crises in the Middle East to build its entity in the form of a parallel state, which has all the components of the nation-state but not subject to its authority. The laws of the Muslim Brotherhood group govern this parallel state, the group's norms define its objectives, and its economic might support it financially. About 18 percent of the respondents did not agree with this idea.

Introduction:

TRENDS Research & Advisory conducted an opinion poll on the Muslim Brotherhood and the parallel state and how it directs the struggle against the nation-state. The objective was to understand the views of a sample of respondents on this subject. The poll contained the following five questions:

- 1- Do the ideological premises of the Muslim Brotherhood pose a threat to the nation-state?
- 2- Does the Muslim Brotherhood has a modern view of the concept of the nation-state?
- 3- Is it possible for the “caliphate,” based on the Muslim Brotherhood perspective, to constitute an alternative to the nation-state in its present form?
- 4- Does the Muslim Brotherhood’s views on the nation-state differ from that of other extremist and terrorist groups?
- 5- Has the Muslim Brotherhood exploited crises in the region to establish a parallel state and undermine the nation-state?

The poll questionnaire was posted in Arabic and English on the TRENDS website for two weeks to enable individuals to participate.

Objectives

The poll sought to:

- 1- Assess the respondents’ awareness of the Muslim Brotherhood’s danger and its quest for a parallel state.
- 2- Understand the respondents’ views on the Muslim Brotherhood’s ideological premises and the extent of their threat to the nation-state.
- 3- Assess the respondents’ views on whether the Muslim Brotherhood has a modern vision of the concept of the nation-state.
- 4- Identify the respondents’ opinion about whether there is a difference between the Muslim Brotherhood’s view of the nation-state and other extremist and terrorist groups.

Polling and data collection method:

Given the current precautionary measures to combat the spread of Covid-19, the research team used the electronic data collection method. It digitized and coded the questions and posted them on the TRENDS website using approved electronic programs to ensure the accuracy of answers and the speed and ease of response.

Poll sample:**a- Sampling method:**

The sample size contained 442 individuals contacted through databases available at the Center and its various social media platforms. Snowball sampling technique was used where each individual contacted would, in turn, send the questionnaire link to their acquaintances to elicit more responses.

b- Sample characteristics:

The sample was representative, covering males and females of various age groups and nationalities.

c- Margin of error:

The margin of error was small, falling within the acceptable range in electronic surveys. This was taken into account in the analysis process to ensure the accuracy of the findings.

d- Level of response:

The level of response to the survey questionnaire was high, thanks to the use of the electronic data collection method. However, the following points were noted:

- 1- The response from Arab nationalities was higher than that of other nationalities.
- 2- The response to the English version of the questionnaire was low. This might be because Arabic speakers preferred to answer the Arabic version of the questionnaire.

Questions:

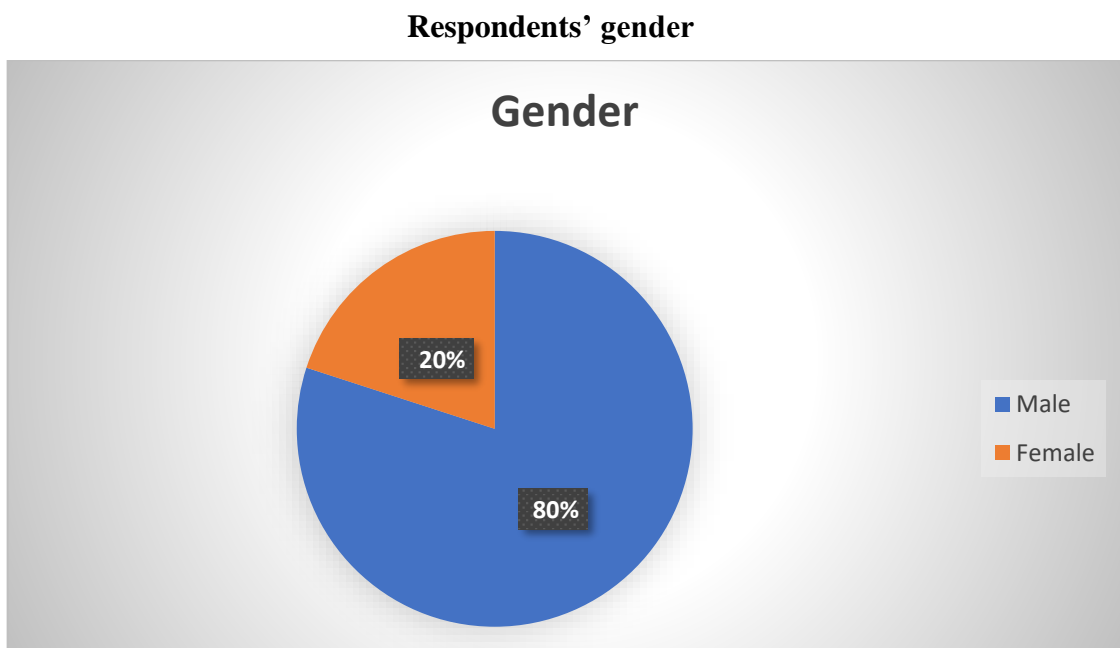
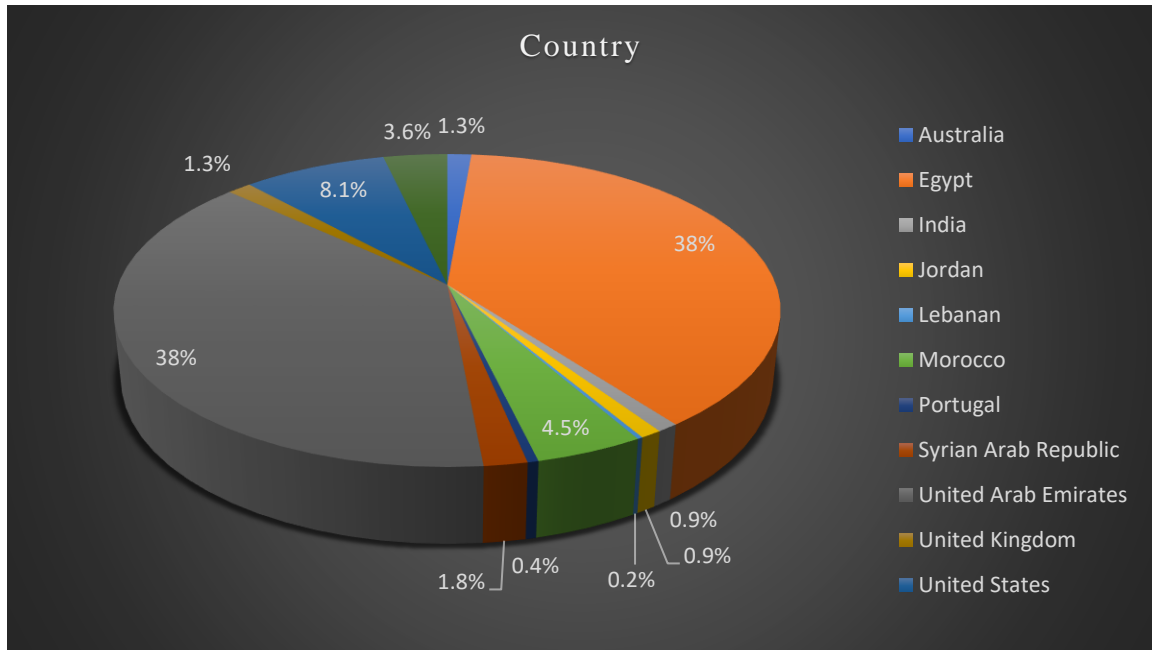
Five questions were designed to gauge the respondents' knowledge and their awareness of the threat of the Muslim Brotherhood and its idea of the parallel state.

Duration:

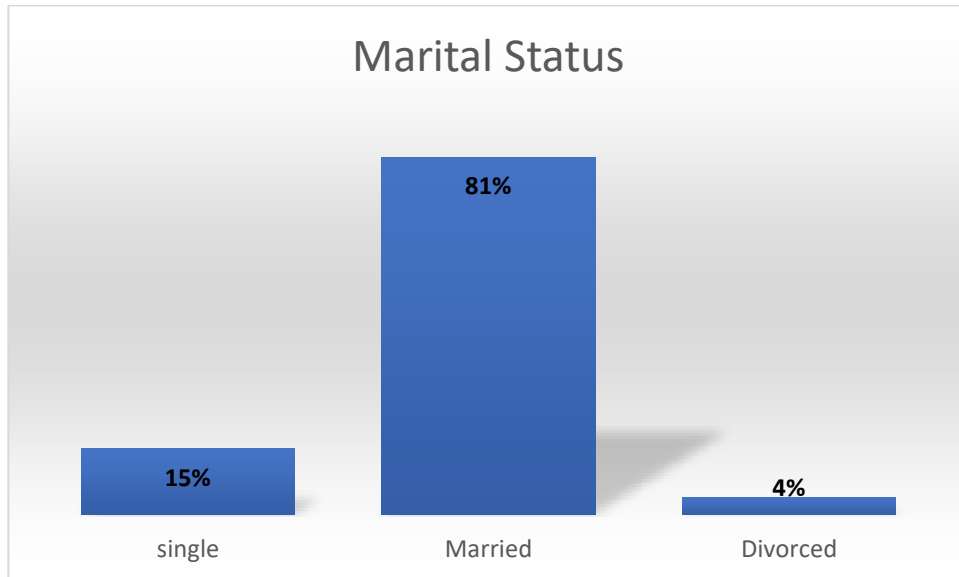
a- Duration of data collection: Data collection went on for 15 days (October 05-20, 2020).

b- Duration of analysis and report preparation: Electronically collected data was entered into the statistical analysis programs approved and used by TRENDS Research & Advisory. Statistical analysis was done to study the data and compile the results. The analysis process and writing of the report were completed on October 28, 2020.

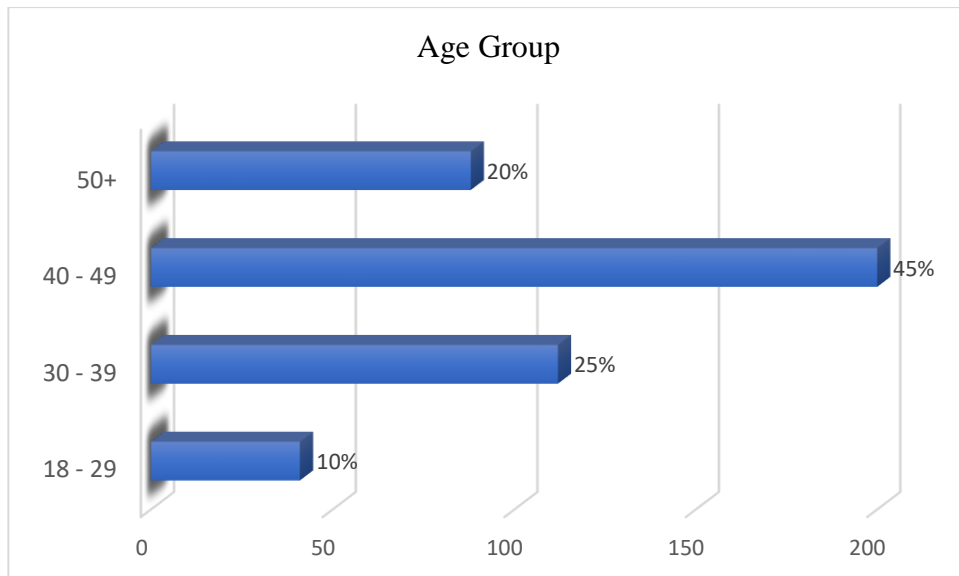
Respondents' nationalities



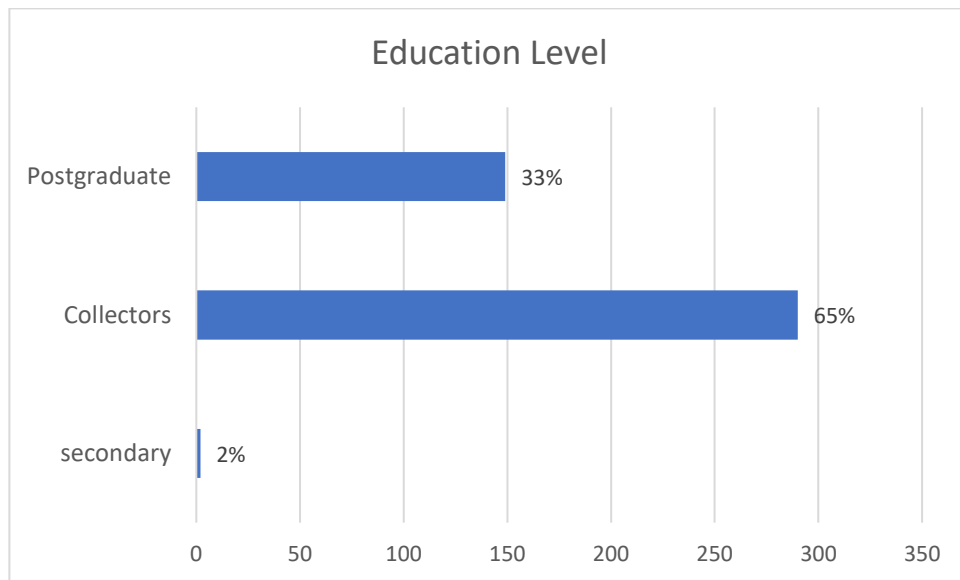
Respondents' marital status



Respondents' age groups



Respondents' level of education

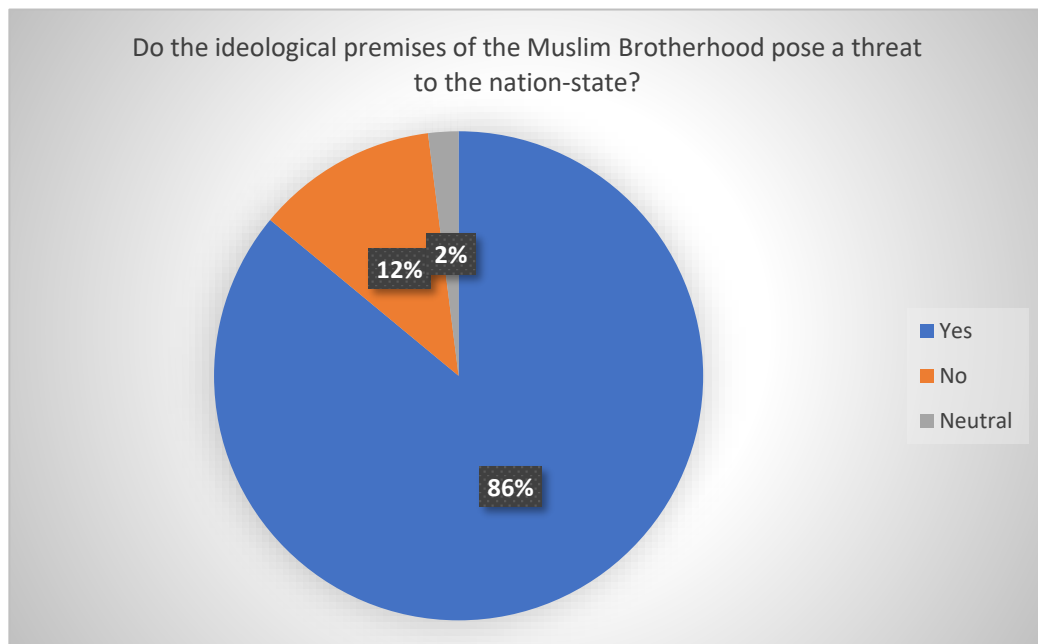


Findings and Analysis

Question 1: Do the ideological premises of the Muslim Brotherhood pose a threat to the nation-state?

While answering this question, about 86 percent of the respondents considered the ideological premises of the Muslim Brotherhood a threat to the nation-state, while only about 12 percent disagreed with that.

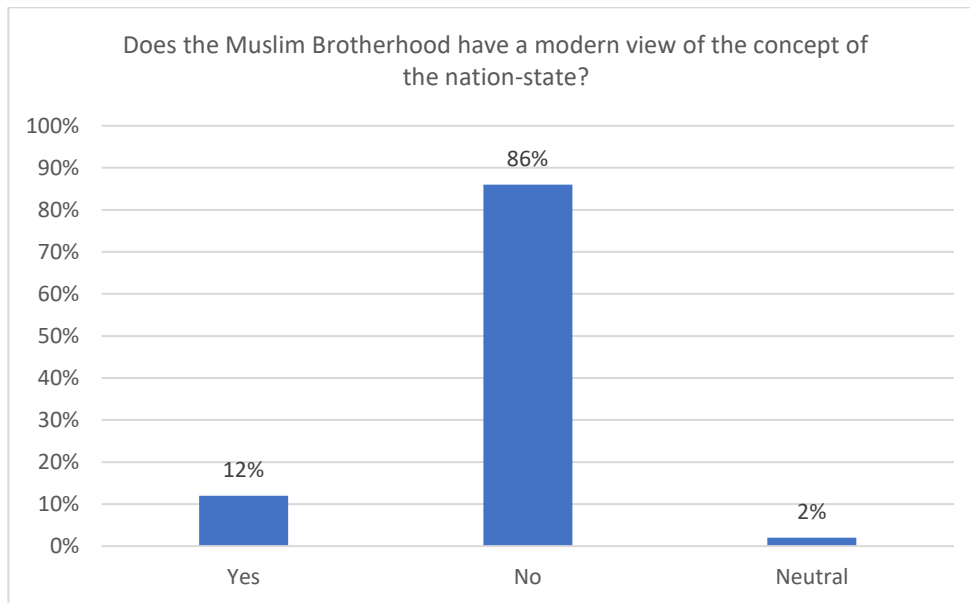
Neutral	No	Yes
2%	12%	86%



Question 2: Does the Muslim Brotherhood have a modern view of the concept of the nation-state?

The Muslim Brotherhood believes that its entity distinguishes it from the nation-state and that it has a different concept of the nation-state and its components. However, 86 percent of the respondents said the Muslim Brotherhood does not have a modern vision about the components of the nation-state, while 12 percent said the group has a modern vision.

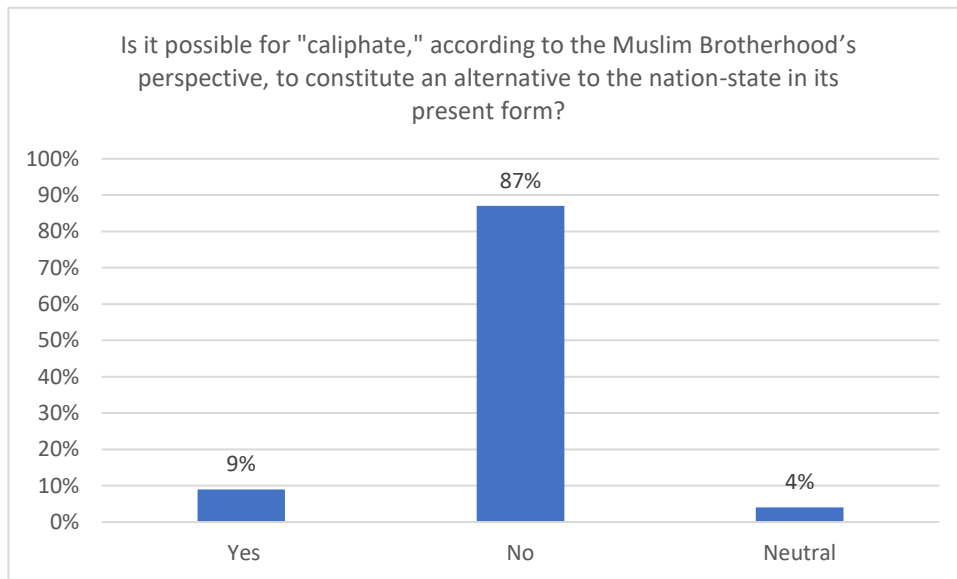
Neutral	No	Yes
2%	86%	12%



Question 3: Is it possible for a “caliphate,” in the Muslim Brotherhood’s perspective, to constitute an alternative to the nation-state in its present form?

In response to this question, 87 percent of respondents said the Muslim Brotherhood’s concept of the “caliphate” does not constitute an alternative to the present form of the nation-state. In comparison, about 9 percent said a “caliphate,” as per the Muslim Brotherhood perspective, can constitute an alternative to the nation-state.

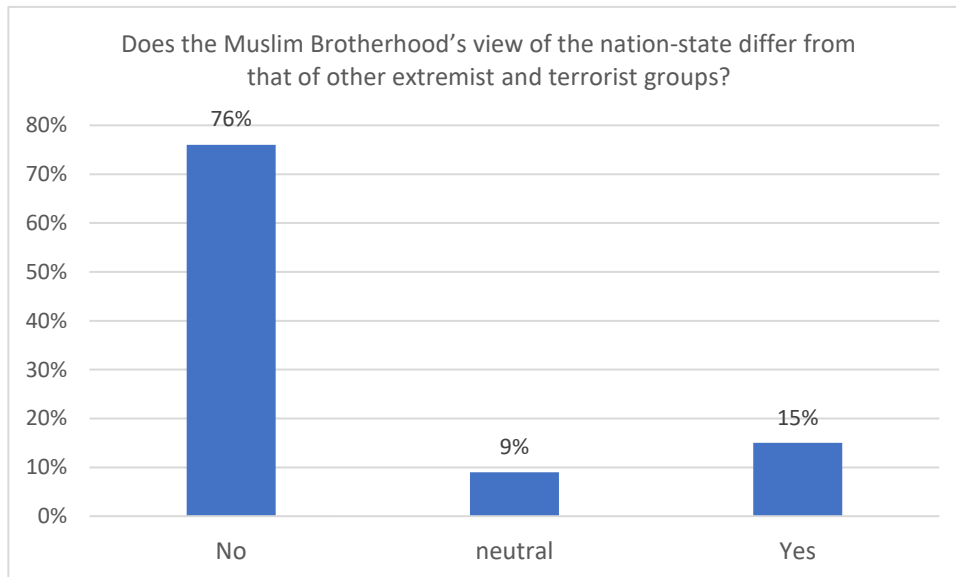
Neutral	No	Yes
4%	87%	9%



Question 4: Does the Muslim Brotherhood’s view about the nation-state differ from that of other extremist and terrorist groups?

This opinion poll showed that the Muslim Brotherhood is not different from other Islamist, terrorist, and extremist groups regarding ideology and principle and the way they view the nation-state. Seventy-six percent of the respondents said the Brotherhood’s view of the nation-state does not differ much from that of other extremist and terrorist groups, while 15 percent said its views are different.

Neutral	No	Yes
9%	76%	15%



Question 5: Has the Muslim Brotherhood exploited the crises to establish a parallel state and undermine the nation-state?

In response to this question, 78 percent said the Muslim Brotherhood had exploited the ongoing crises in the Middle East to build its entity in the form of a parallel state, which has all the components of the nation-state but is not subject to authority. The Brotherhood’s understanding of the law governs this parallel state, its norms define its objectives, and the group’s economic might supports it financially. About 18 percent of the respondents did not agree with this idea.

Neutral	No	Yes
4%	18%	78%

