Perception of Women's Political Leadership in the Middle East and North Africa Public Opinion Survey

October 25 – November 8, 2013

Arab Women's Leadership Institute

Detailed Methodology

- The survey was conducted October 25-November 8, 2013 in Libya, Tunisia and Yemen.

- Sample size in Libya: 1,200

- Sample size in Tunisia: 1,248

- Sample size in Yemen: 1,110

- Quantitative survey was conducted by a total of 84 researchers using face-to-face interviews.

- Research was conducted under harsh political conditions ranging from security threats and strict curfews to severe flooding.

- The sample was based on a multi-stage national random sample. Sampled communities in each district were selected proportional to the geographical region and type of residence (urban/rural). Sampling frameworks used were the latest Libyan census (2006), Tunisian census (2004) and Yemeni census (2004). The national census in each country is used as the foundation to deduce the 2013 population estimates taking population growth into consideration.

- Sample was self-weighting and ensures the proportional representation of age, education, marital status, occupation, income, employment sector, refugee status, in addition to gender and geography.

- A Kish Grid was used to select individual respondents in the same house in order for the sample to be representative.

- The response rate was 98.5 percent in Libya, 70 percent in Tunisia and 89 percent in Yemen. Regardless of non-response rate, the net number of interviews was 1,200 in Libya, 1,248 in Tunisia and 1,100 in Yemen.

- Margin of error: $\pm$ three percent

Detailed Methodology

- Research was sponsored by the [International Republican Institute](#)'s [Arab Women's Leadership Institute](#) through assistance from the [National Endowment for Democracy](#).

- Research was conducted by the [Arab World for Research and Development](#) in cooperation with local partner polling firms including the Center for Strategic and Futuristic Studies in Libya, [Elka Consulting](#) in Tunisia and the Percent Corporation for Polling Research & Transparency Promotion in Yemen.

- The information in this report has been compiled in accordance with international standards for market and social research methodologies.

- Figures in charts and tables may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

Detailed Methodology

Primary Sampling Unit Distribution of Geographical Regions - Libya

Tripoli	24%
Jfara	4%
Western region	10%
Middle region	8%
Nafusa Mountain	10%
Southern region	12%
Eastern region	33%

Demographics
Libya

Gender	
Male	51%
Female	49%

Age	
18-35	55%
36-50	33%
51+	12%

Marital status	
Single	38%
Married	57%
Other	5%

Education	
Illiterate	4%
Read and write	2%
1-6 years	4%
7-9 years	11%
10-12 years	32%
College/University	45%
Post Bachelor Degree (MA, PhD)	3%

Income	
Above average	11%
Average	76%
Below average	12%

Employed	
Yes, full time	36%
Yes, part time	25%
No	39%

If no, are you looking for a job?	
Yes	36%
No	64%

Sector	
Government	81%
Private	17%
NGOs	1%
Other	1%

Do you use the Internet?	
Yes	49%
No	51%

Detailed Methodology

Primary Sampling Unit Distribution of Geographical Regions - Tunisia

Tunis	11%
Ariana	5%
Susa	6%
Sfax	9%
Qabis	3%
Alqasrain	4%
Janduba	4%
Zaghwan	2%
Bin Arous	5%
Mnuba	4%
Nabil	7%
Binzirt	5%
Alminstir	4%
Almahdeya	4%
Alqerawan	6%
Madnin	4%
Tatawen	1%
Qabli	2%
Tuzir	1%
Qafsa	3%
Sidi Buzed	4%
Alkaf	3%
Silyana	2%
Baga	3%

Demographics
Tunisia

Gender	
Male	50%
Female	50%
Age	
18-35	49%
36-50	27%
51+	24%
Marital status	
Single	35%
Married	59%
Other	7%
Education	
Illiterate	10%
Read and write	3%
1-6 years	18%
7-9 years	16%
10-12 years	28%
College/University	19%
Post Bachelor Degree (MA, PhD)	7%

Income	
Above average	12%
Average	67%
Below average	21%
Employed	
Yes, full time	31%
Yes, part time	15%
No	55%
If no, are you looking for a job?	
Yes	36%
No	64%
Sector	
Government	32%
Private	62%
NGOs	4%
Other	2%
Do you use the Internet?	
Yes	51%
No	49%

Detailed Methodology

Primary Sampling Unit Distribution of Geographical Regions - Yemen

Ibb	16%
Sana'a	14%
Ta'az	19%
Haja	12%
Alhadeeda	17%
Hadramawt	8%
Adan	5%
Amran	7%
Aldale'	4%

Detailed Methodology
Yemen

Gender	
Male	50%
Female	50%
Age	
18-35	65%
36-50	27%
51+	9%
Marital status	
Single	18%
Married	78%
Other	5%
Education	
Illiterate	27%
Read and write	10%
1-6 years	11%
7-9 years	12%
10-12 years	26%
College/University	14%
Post Bachelor Degree (MA, PhD)	1%

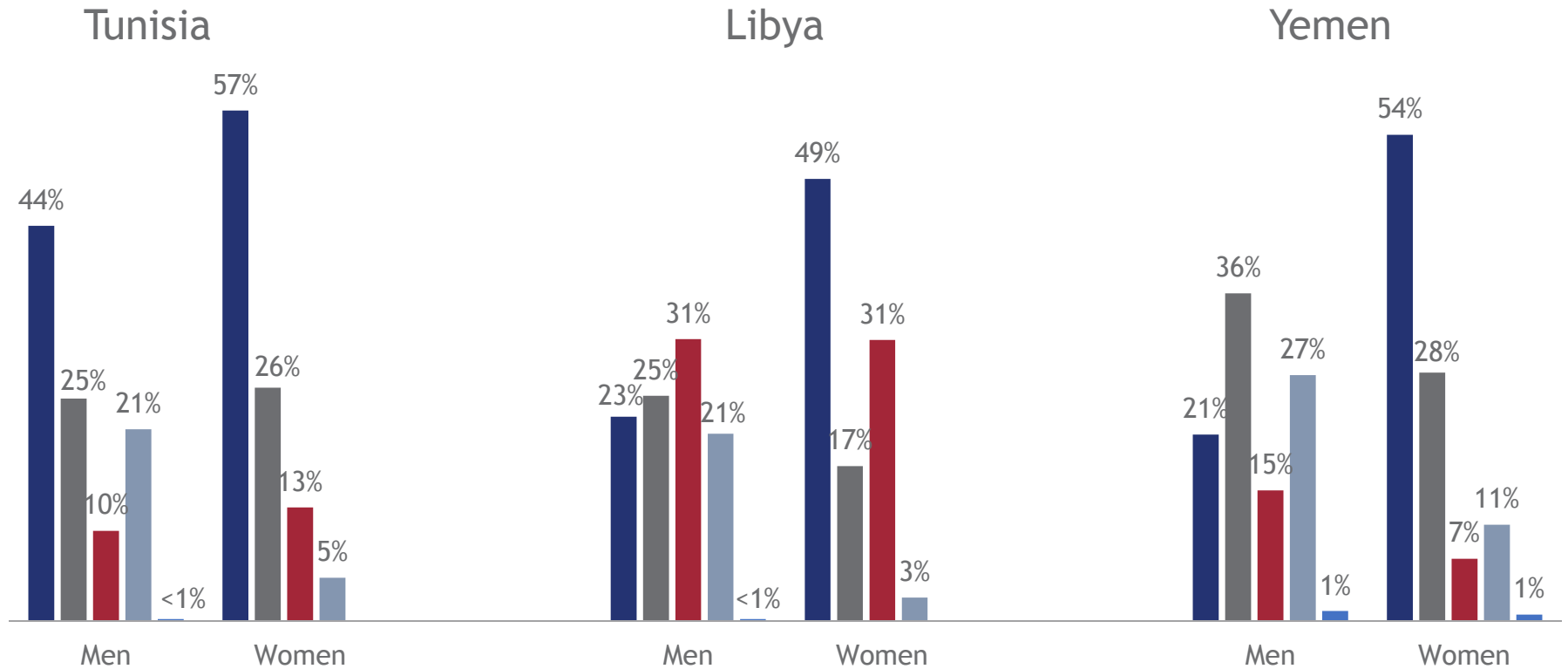| Income	
Above average	7%
Average	52%
Below average	42%
Employed	
Yes, full time	18%
Yes, part time	21%
No	61%
If no, are you looking for a job?	
Yes	27%
No	73%
Sector	
Government	37%
Private	28%
NGOs	15%
Other	20%
Do you use the Internet?	
Yes	14%
No	86%

Social/Cultural Context

In relation to the division of roles regarding household work and childcare, who is responsible for these duties in your family?

(by gender)

Tunisia

- Women: 42% (Women), 32% (Men)
- Mainly women, men occasionally help: 44% (Women), 47% (Men)
- Equal division between men and women: 13% (Women), 19% (Men)
- Mainly men, women occasionally help: 1% (Women), 2% (Men)
- Men: <1% (Women), <1% (Men)

Libya

- Women: 42% (Women), 28% (Men)
- Mainly women, men occasionally help: 48% (Women), 60% (Men)
- Equal division between men and women: 8% (Women), 9% (Men)
- Mainly men, women occasionally help: 1% (Women), 2% (Men)
- Men: <1% (Women), <1% (Men)

Yemen

- Women: 54% (Women), 38% (Men)
- Mainly women, men occasionally help: 38% (Women), 53% (Men)
- Equal division between men and women: 8% (Women), 8% (Men)
- Mainly men, women occasionally help: 1% (Women), <1% (Men)
- Men: 0% (Women), <1% (Men)

Legend:
- Women
- Equal division between men and women
- Men
- Mainly women, men occasionally help
- Mainly men, women occasionally help

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Do you support women working outside the home?
(by gender)

Tunisia

Men: 44%, 25%, 10%, <1%
Women: 57%, 26%, 13%, 5%

Libya

Men: 23%, 25%, 31%, 21%, <1%
Women: 49%, 17%, 31%, 3%

Yemen

Men: 21%, 36%, 15%, 27%, 1%
Women: 54%, 28%, 7%, 11%, 1%

- ■ Yes, it's their right
- ■ Yes, in certain circumstances (economic need, no male breadwinner, etc.)
- ■ Yes, as long as it does not affect their familial role
- ■ No, women should stay at home

Qualitative Insights on Social/Cultural Context

"Women's oppression has been here since we were children, we learned 'mom cooks, and dad works.' The traditions we were raised on are oppressive to women." (Woman in Tunisia)

"I think that women in rural areas suffer much more than women in urban cities. A specific example is through early marriage, women are technically being raised in their husband's houses, and not with their parents." (Woman in Yemen)

"We live in a tribal society that does not give political, social or economic rights to women." (Man in Yemen)

"Females have the same rights as men; however, the problem is in the mentality of our society that opposes the presence of women in several fields." (Man in Tunisia)
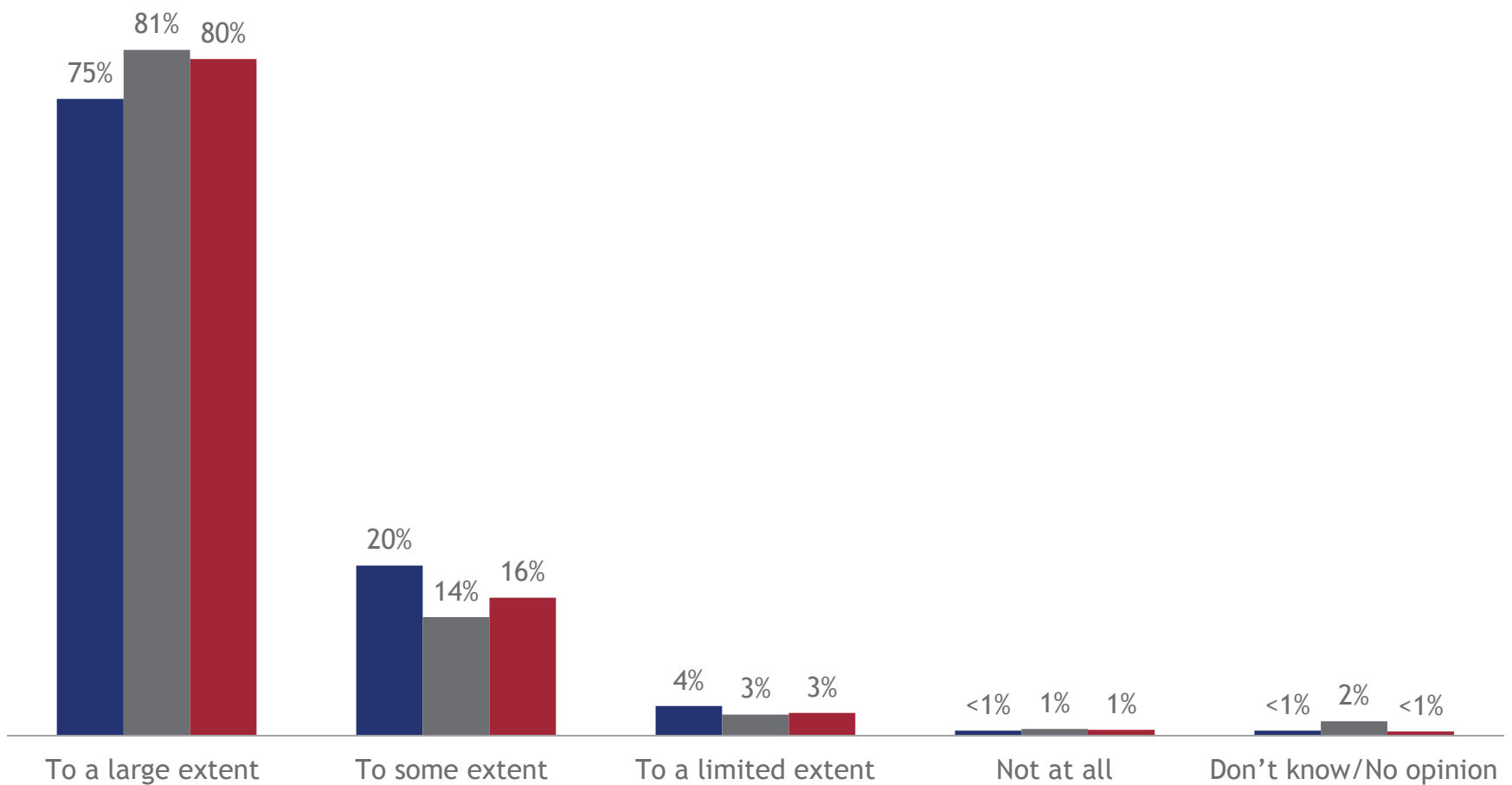
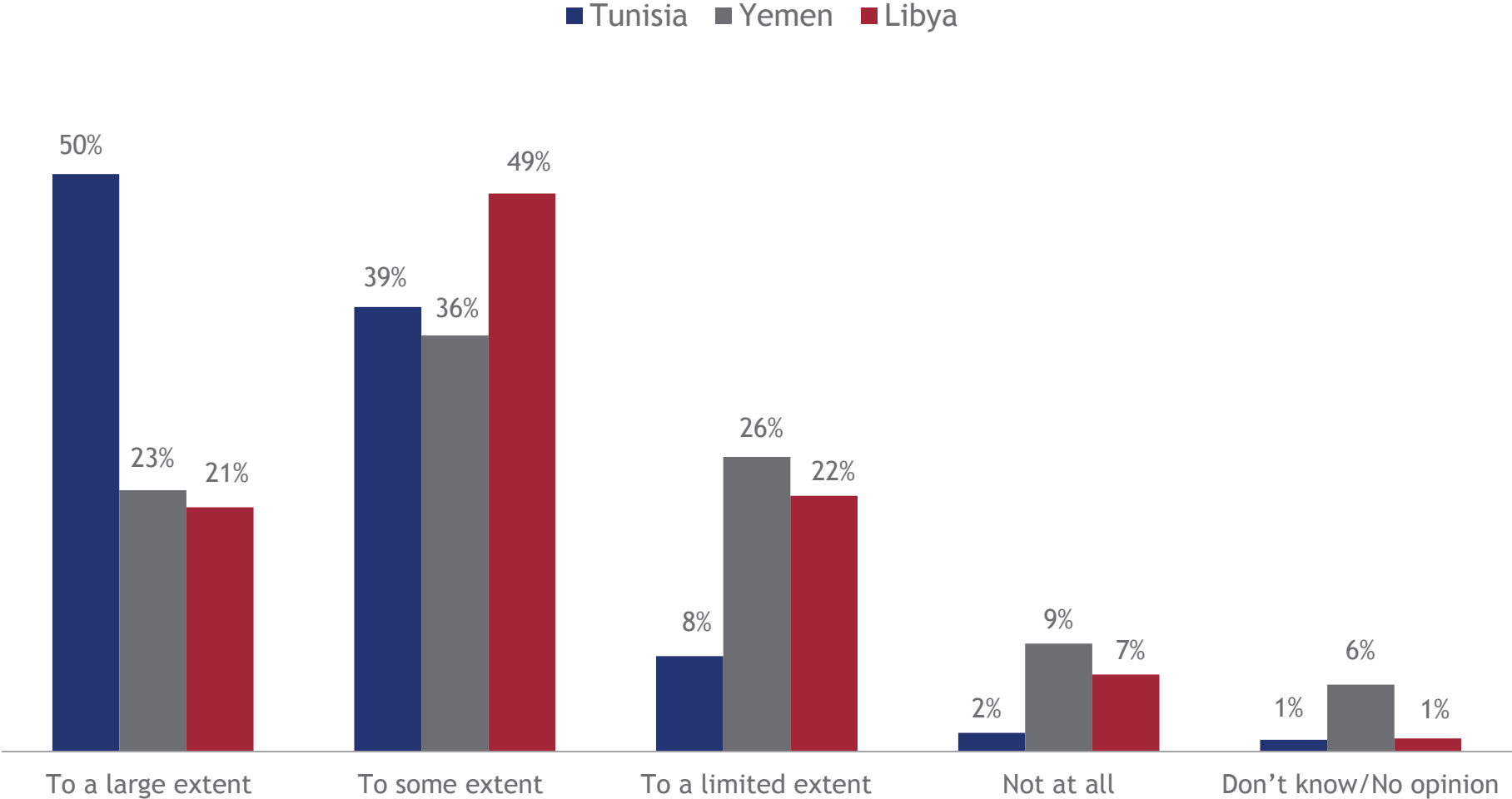# Political Participation and Elections

Arab Women's Leadership Institute

To what extent do you feel that men are allowed to freely participate fully in society?

■ Tunisia ■ Yemen ■ Libya
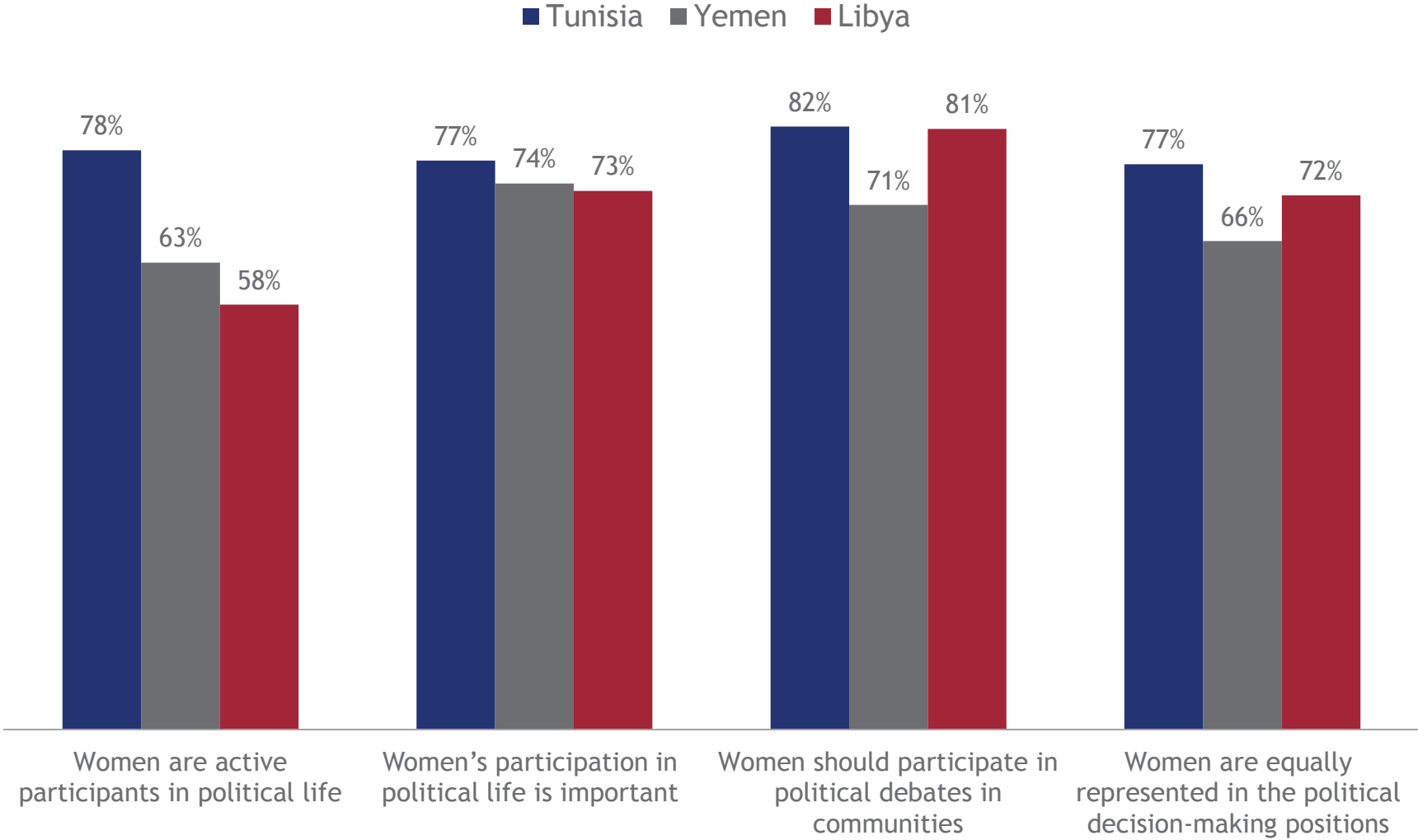
	To a large extent	To some extent	To a limited extent	Not at all	Don't know/No opinion
Tunisia	75%	20%	4%	<1%	<1%
Yemen	81%	14%	3%	1%	2%
Libya	80%	16%	3%	1%	<1%

To what extent do you feel that women are allowed to freely participate in society?

Legend: Tunisia, Yemen, Libya

|	To a large extent	To some extent	To a limited extent	Not at all	Don't know/No opinion
Tunisia	50%	39%	8%	2%	1%
Yemen	23%	36%	26%	9%	6%
Libya	21%	49%	22%	7%	1%

As they relate to the situation in your country, do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

(respondents who said they agree or strongly agree)

■ Tunisia ■ Yemen ■ Libya

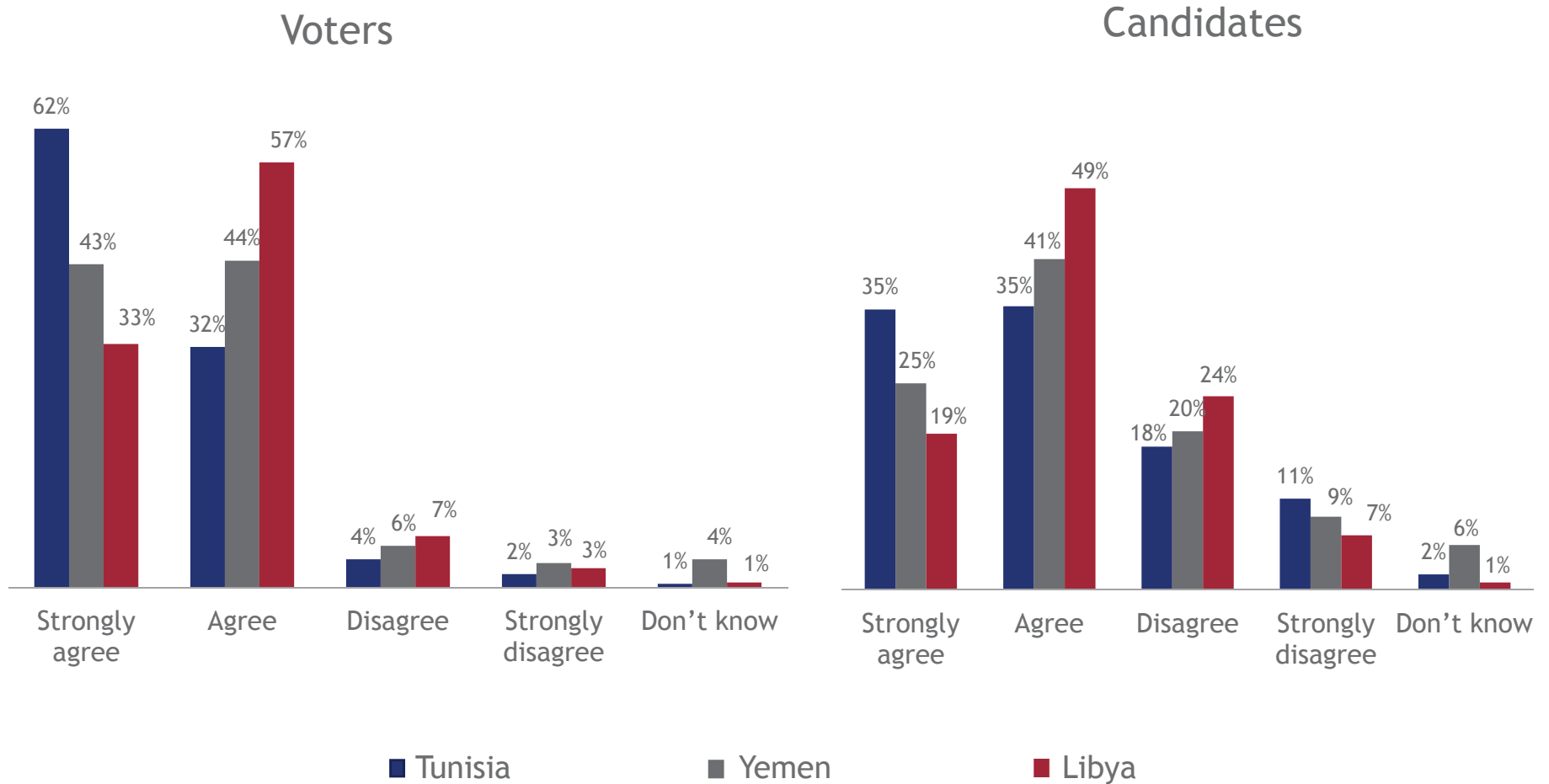|	Women are active participants in political life	Women's participation in political life is important	Women should participate in political debates in communities	Women are equally represented in the political decision-making positions
Tunisia	78%	77%	82%	77%
Yemen	63%	74%	71%	66%
Libya	58%	73%	81%	72%

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: Women are equally represented in political decision-making positions?
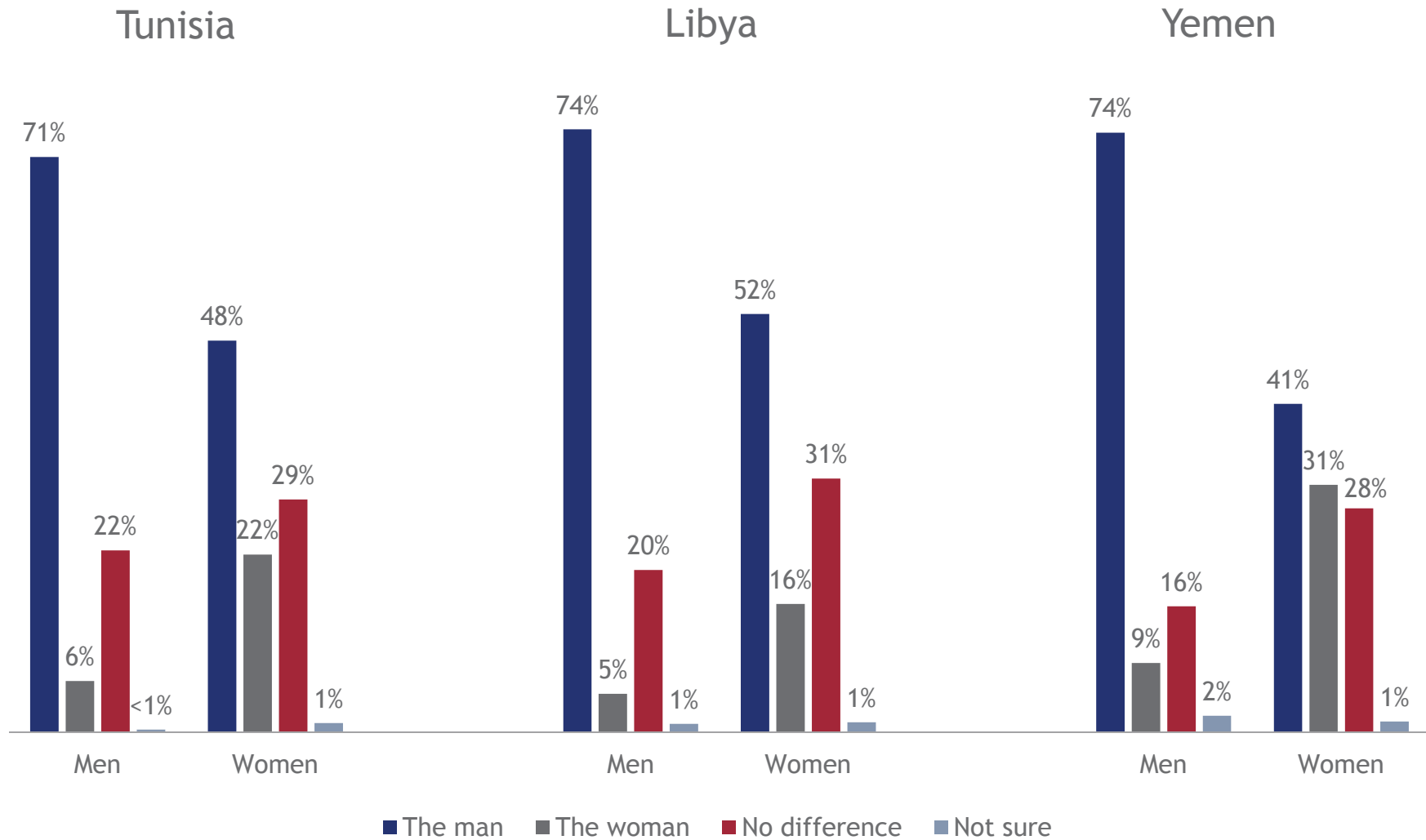(by gender)
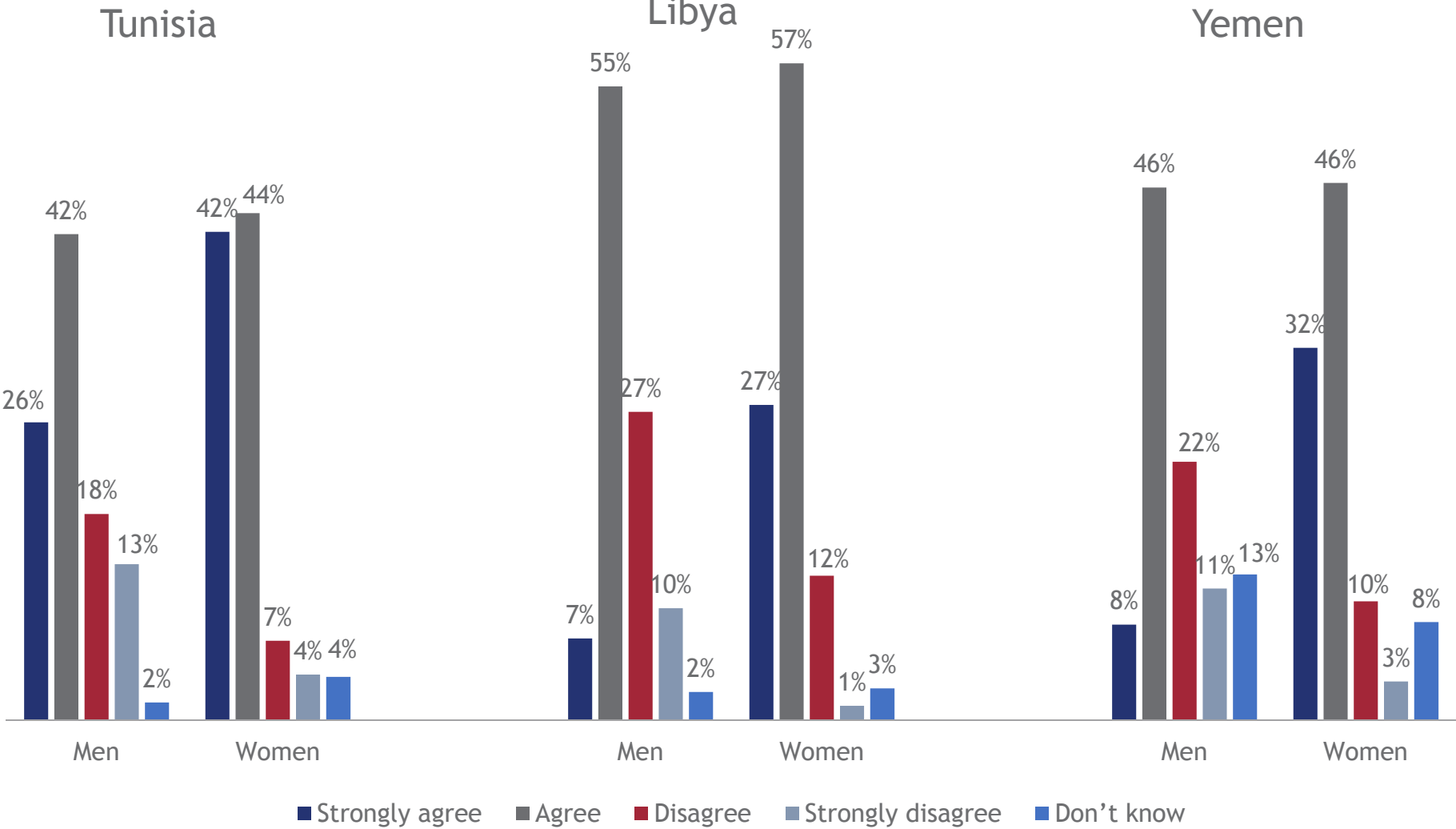
As they relate to the situation in your country, do you agree or disagree with the following statement: Women should participate in elections as...

Voters

Response	Tunisia	Yemen	Libya
Strongly agree	62%	43%	33%
Agree	32%	44%	57%
Disagree	4%	6%	7%
Strongly disagree	2%	3%	3%
Don't know	1%	4%	1%

Candidates

Response	Tunisia	Yemen	Libya
Strongly agree	35%	25%	19%
Agree	35%	41%	49%
Disagree	18%	20%	24%
Strongly disagree	11%	9%	7%
Don't know	2%	6%	1%

■ Tunisia   ■ Yemen   ■ Libya

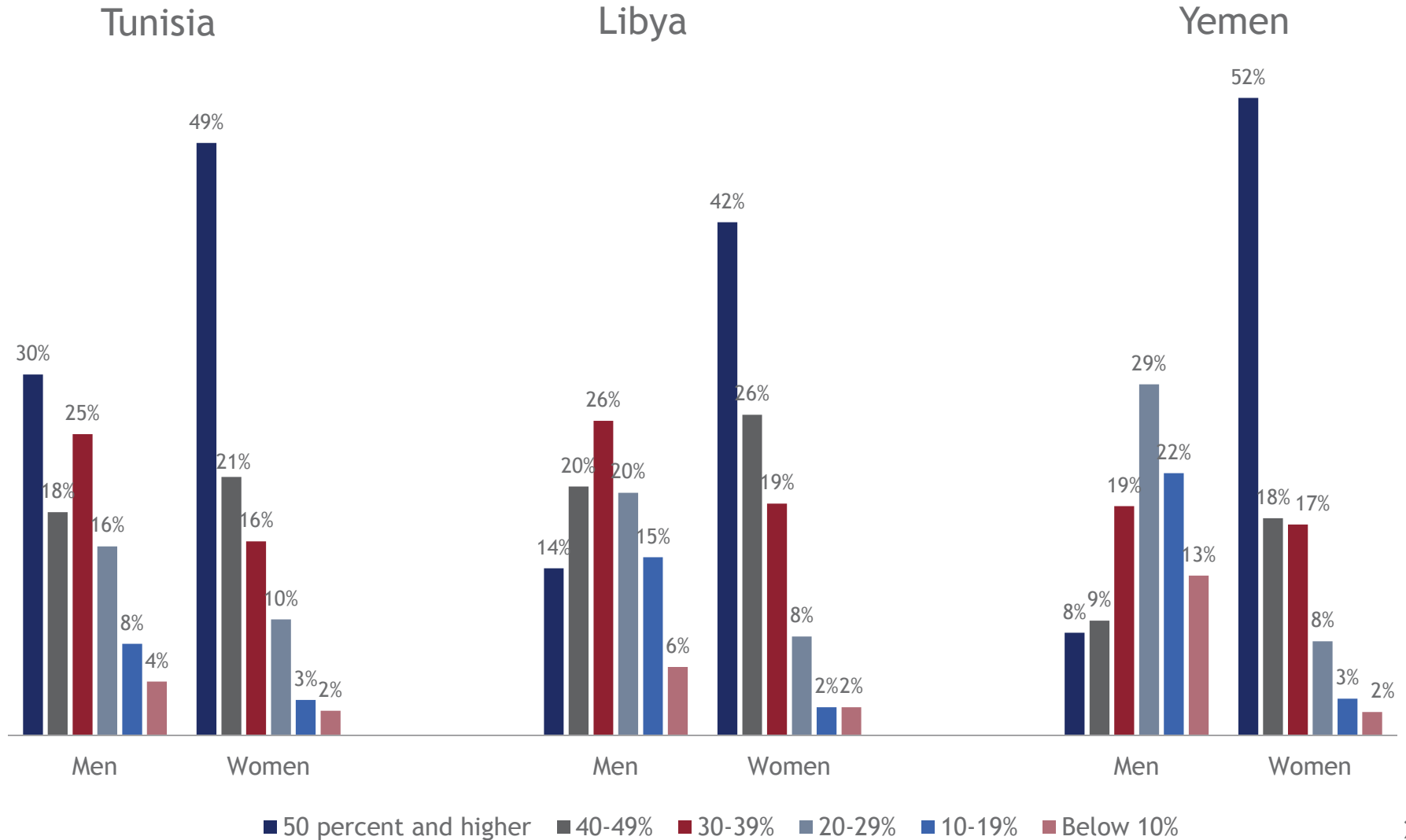# If two equally qualified candidates, one man and one woman, are running for parliamentary elections, who would you vote for?
(by gender)

Tunisia

- Men: The man 71%, The woman 6%, No difference 22%, Not sure <1%
- Women: The man 48%, The woman 22%, No difference 29%, Not sure 1%

Libya

- Men: The man 74%, The woman 5%, No difference 20%, Not sure 1%
- Women: The man 52%, The woman 16%, No difference 31%, Not sure 1%

Yemen

- Men: The man 74%, The woman 9%, No difference 16%, Not sure 2%
- Women: The man 41%, The woman 31%, No difference 28%, Not sure 1%

Legend: The man | The woman | No difference | Not sure

In some countries there are legislative quotas reserving seats for women. Do you agree or disagree with such a system?
(by gender)
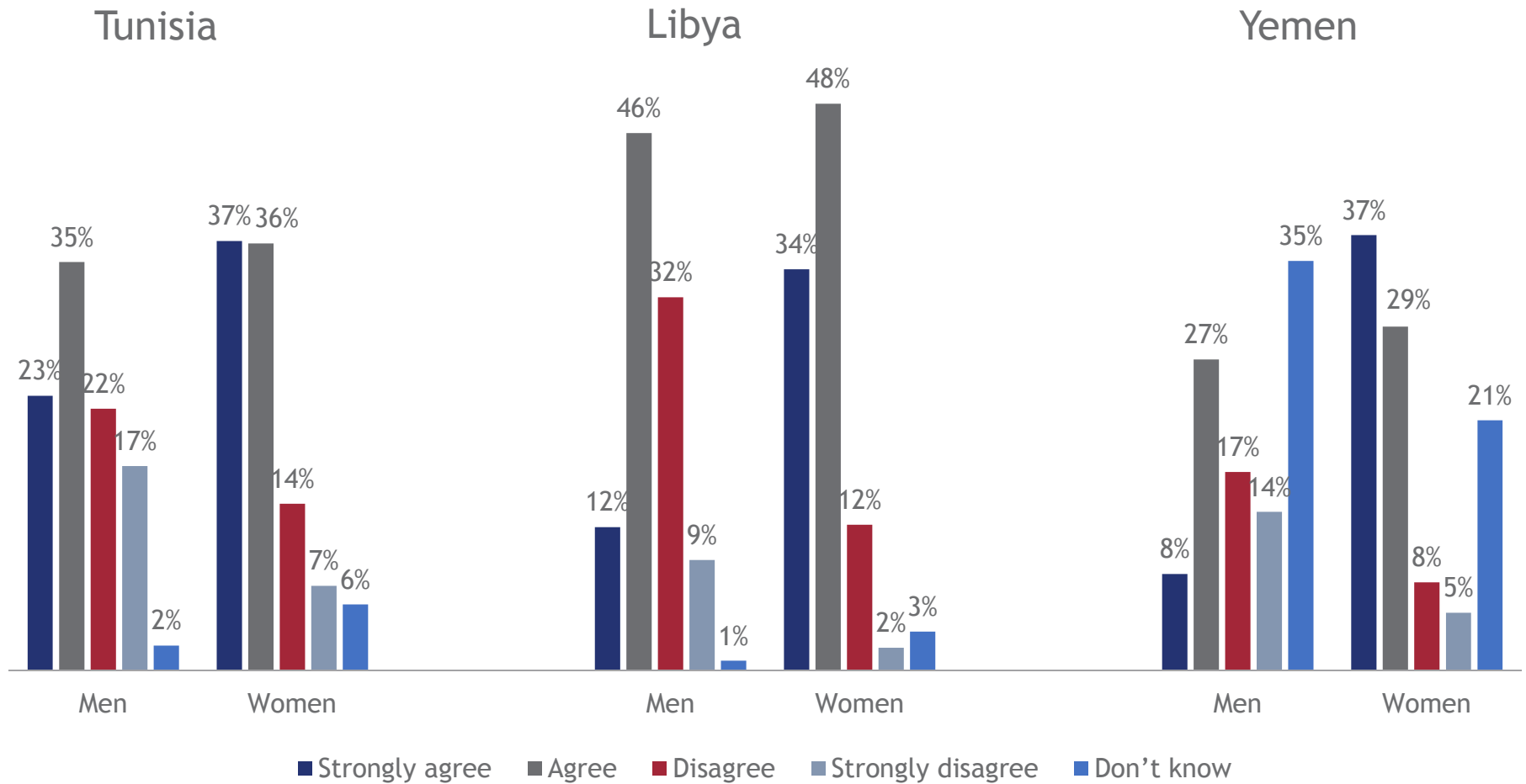
# If you agree to a quota system, what should be the percentage allotted to women?
(by gender)

Tunisia

Men
- 50 percent and higher: 30%
- 40-49%: 18%
- 30-39%: 25%
- 20-29%: 16%
- 10-19%: 8%
- Below 10%: 4%

Women
- 50 percent and higher: 49%
- 40-49%: 21%
- 30-39%: 16%
- 20-29%: 10%
- 10-19%: 3%
- Below 10%: 2%

Libya

Men
- 50 percent and higher: 14%
- 40-49%: 20%
- 30-39%: 26%
- 20-29%: 20%
- 10-19%: 15%
- Below 10%: 6%

Women
- 50 percent and higher: 42%
- 40-49%: 26%
- 30-39%: 19%
- 20-29%: 8%
- 10-19%: 2%
- Below 10%: 2%

Yemen

Men
- 50 percent and higher: 8%
- 40-49%: 9%
- 30-39%: 19%
- 20-29%: 29%
- 10-19%: 22%
- Below 10%: 13%

Women
- 50 percent and higher: 52%
- 40-49%: 18%
- 30-39%: 17%
- 20-29%: 8%
- 10-19%: 3%
- Below 10%: 2%

Legend: 50 percent and higher | 40-49% | 30-39% | 20-29% | 10-19% | Below 10%

In your opinion, what is the single largest challenge that hinders women's participation in political life?

(respondents that said the following categories were very important or important)
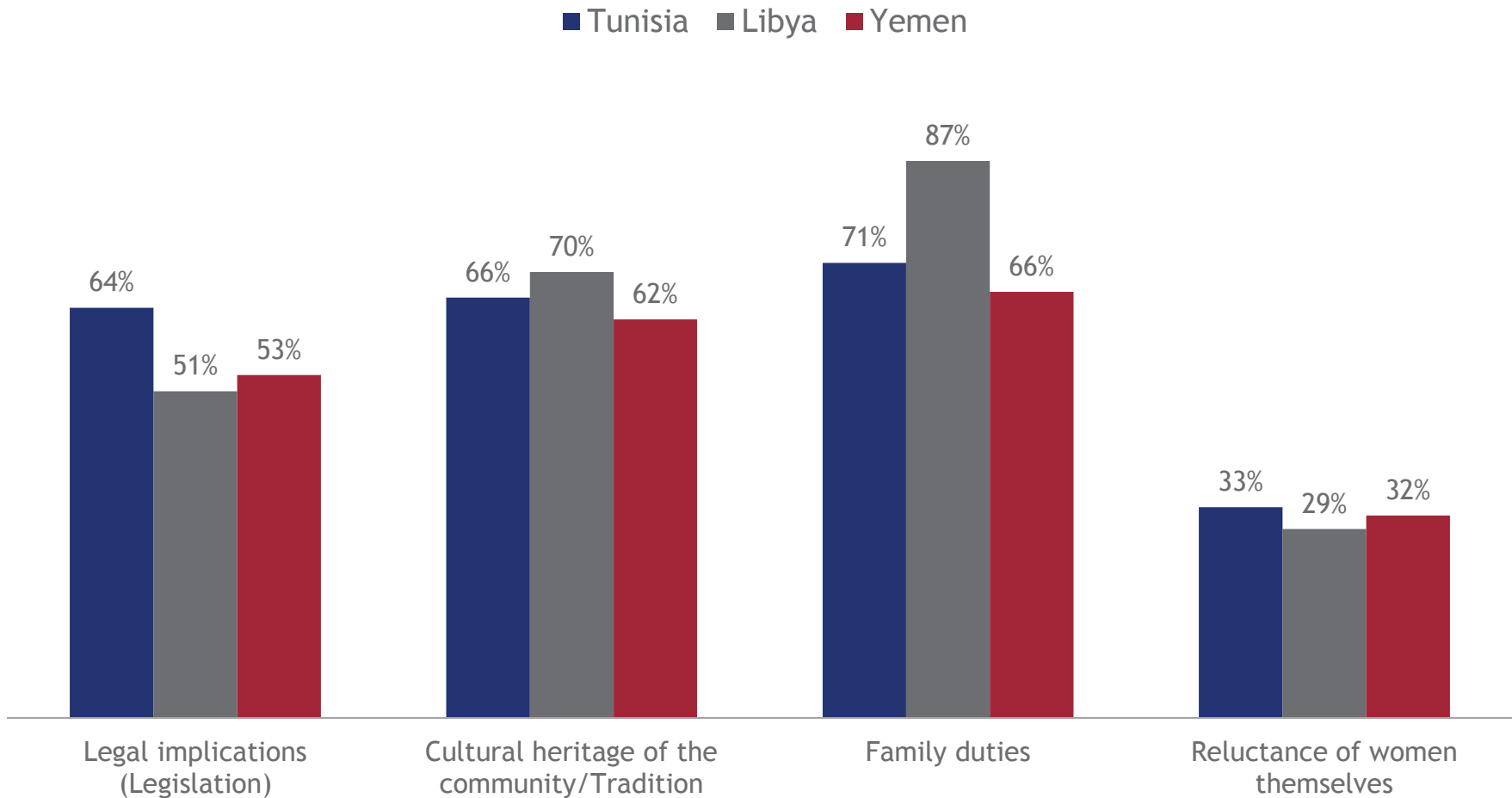
Qualitative Insights on Political Participation and Elections

"I support a quota system, as there are many qualified Yemeni women who do not get the chance. A quota system would guarantee that some women get the chance to represent the rest of us." (Woman in Yemen)

"If Libyan women could be trained as leaders, they would be able to do it successfully. The problem is they need support and trust from men in society to achieve their goals." (Woman in Libya)

"The competency of women is not debatable, the problem is in the mentality of women themselves." (Woman in Tunisia)

"I support the quota system as it will guarantee equality, not necessary in representation, but in power relations between males and females. A quota system ensures that female members sit with male members of parliament as equals. They both sit as decision makers with equal powers, which could be the start of a cultural and social change." (Man in Yemen)

Women and Decision Making

Do you support or oppose having a woman in the following positions?

(ranking reflects percentage of respondents who said they strongly support or support)

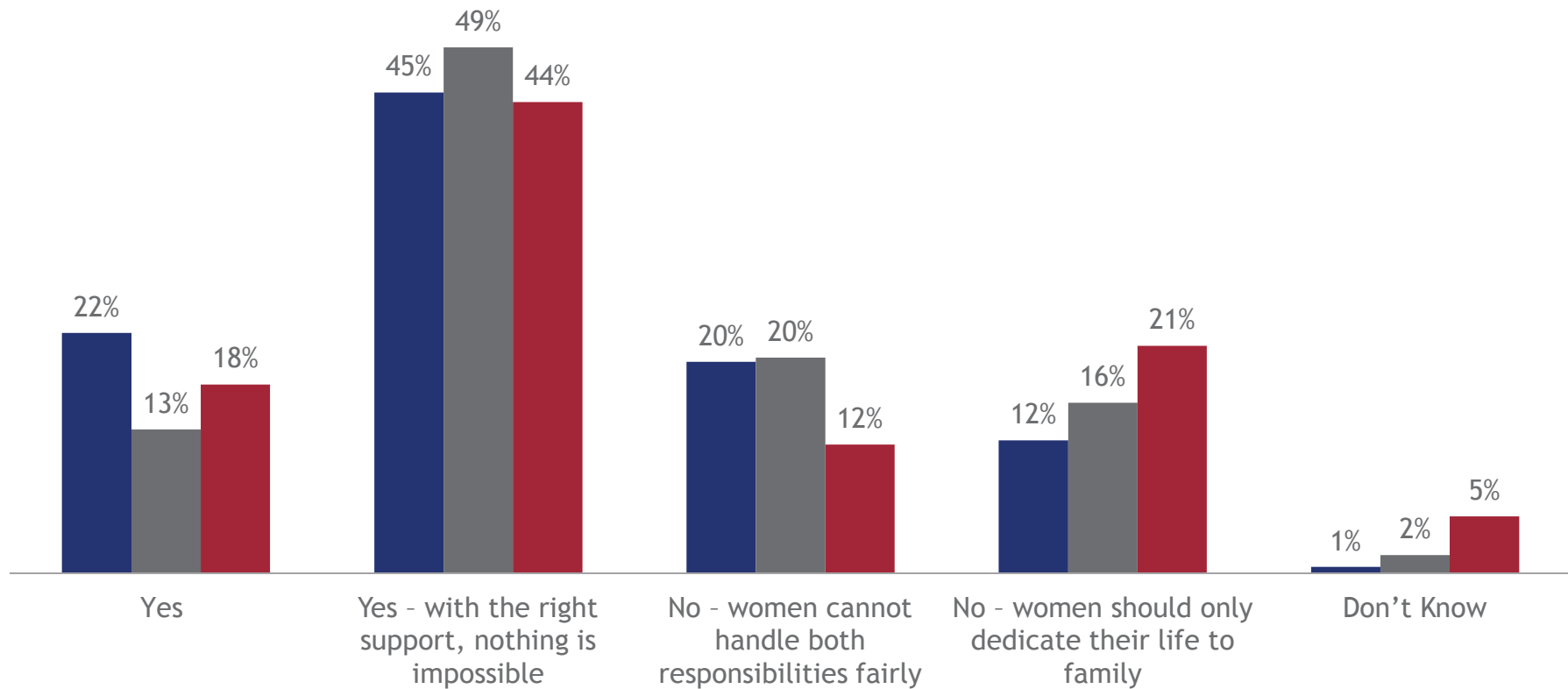|	Tunisia	Libya	Yemen
Civil society leader	89%	77%	70%
Local council member	85%	74%	65%
Member of parliament	82%	71%	67%
Ambassador	75%	67%	54%
Minister	74%	65%	60%
Union leader	74%	65%	63%
Judge	84%	57%	46%
Mayor	55%	42%	44%
Political party leader	60%	37%	51%
Prime minister	54%	37%	48%
President	37%	22%	38%
High ranking military personnel	46%	13%	26%
High ranking police force personnel	41%	10%	32%

Which of these sectors should be given top priority by elected officials?

(ranking reflects percentage of respondents who said they strongly support or support)

	Tunisia	Libya	Yemen
National defense	44%	49%	33%
Education	29%	34%	42%
Country's administration	31%	33%	32%
Health care system	38%	33%	36%
Foreign policy	11%	22%	31%
Judiciary	11%	14%	14%
Job creation	36%	13%	27%
Energy sector	20%	12%	34%
Social care	24%	12%	30%
Economics	26%	11%	29%
Protection of the environment	14%	6%	19%

Is it possible for women to hold elected office and have a good family life?

■ Tunisia ■ Libya ■ Yemen

	Yes	Yes – with the right support, nothing is impossible	No – women cannot handle both responsibilities fairly	No – women should only dedicate their life to family	Don't Know
Tunisia	22%	45%	20%	12%	1%
Libya	13%	49%	20%	16%	2%
Yemen	18%	44%	12%	21%	5%

Qualitative Insights on Women and Decision Making

"Society still finds it strange for a woman to be a leader given that women traditionally play a greater role than men in familial life. This comes from the way we instruct our children that males are superior to females." (Woman in Libya)

"There are no differences between men and women if they have the same qualifications, because it's qualifications that are most important." (Woman in Tunisia)

"Public policies do not give women the chance to serve as leaders, and if they do, it is only temporary." (Man in Libya)
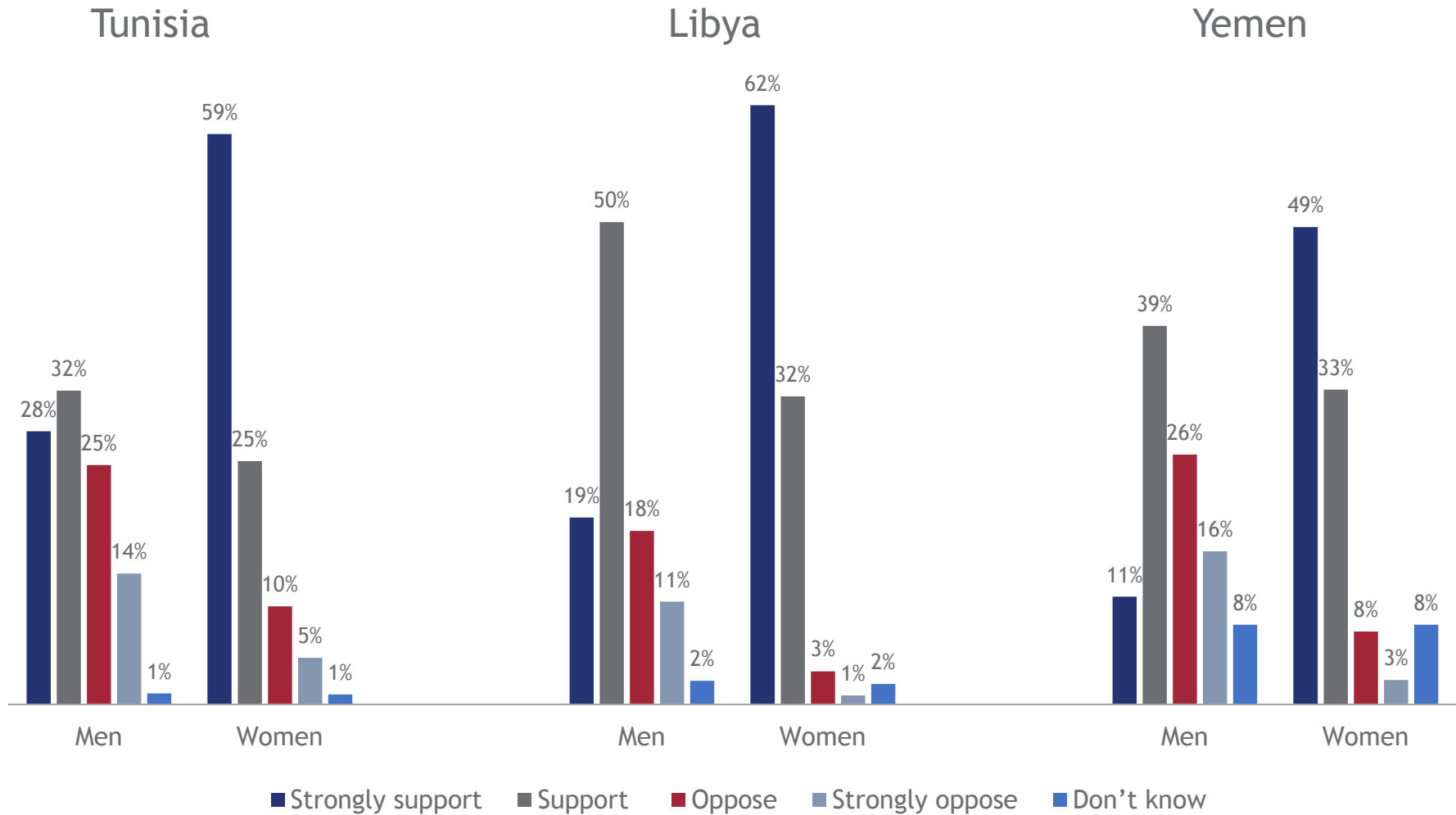
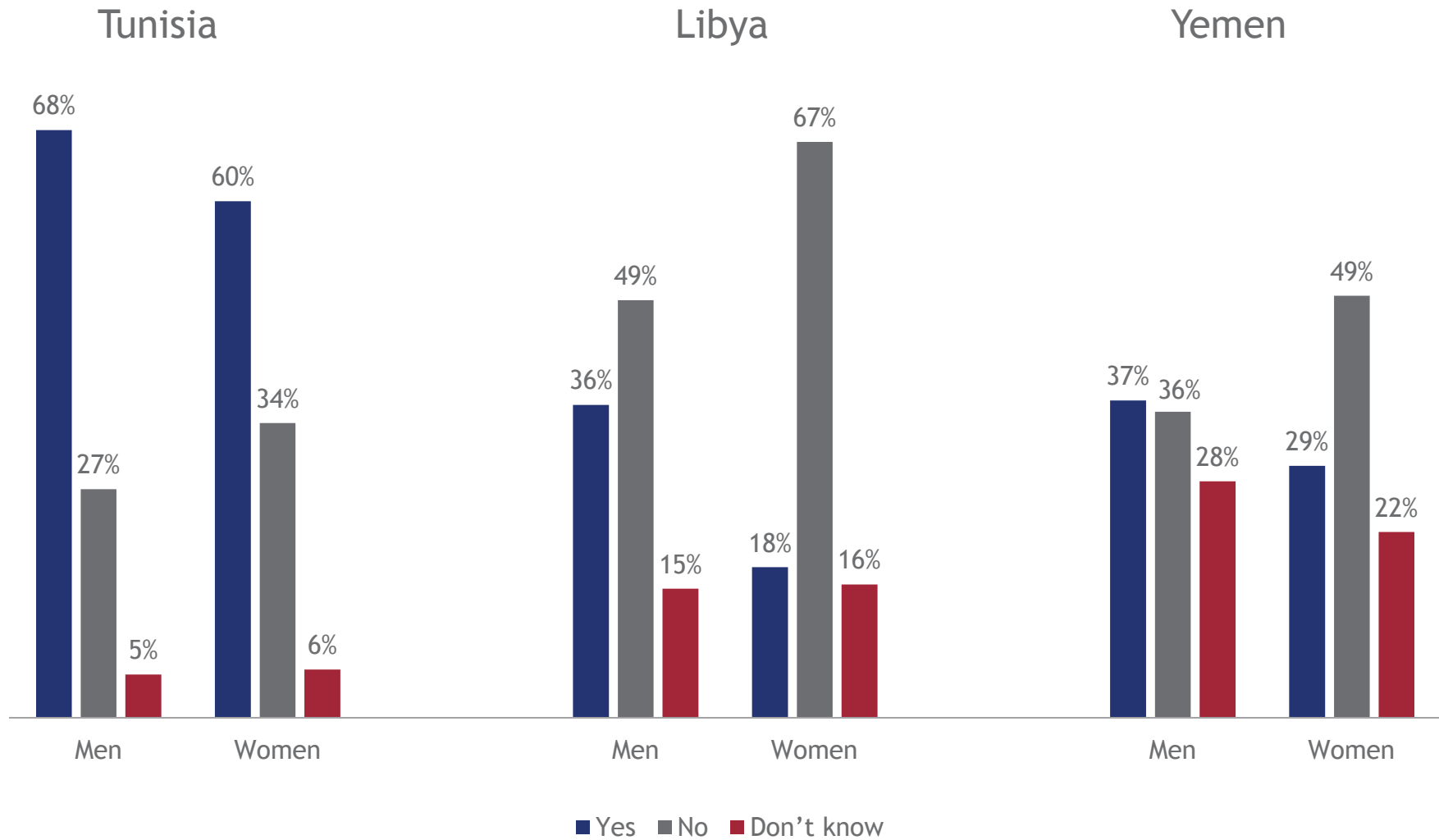*"Women should be more serious about reaching leadership positions." (Man in Tunisia)*

Legislation and Protection of Women

Do you support or oppose a listing of women's rights in the Constitution to ensure equal protection under the law?
(by gender)

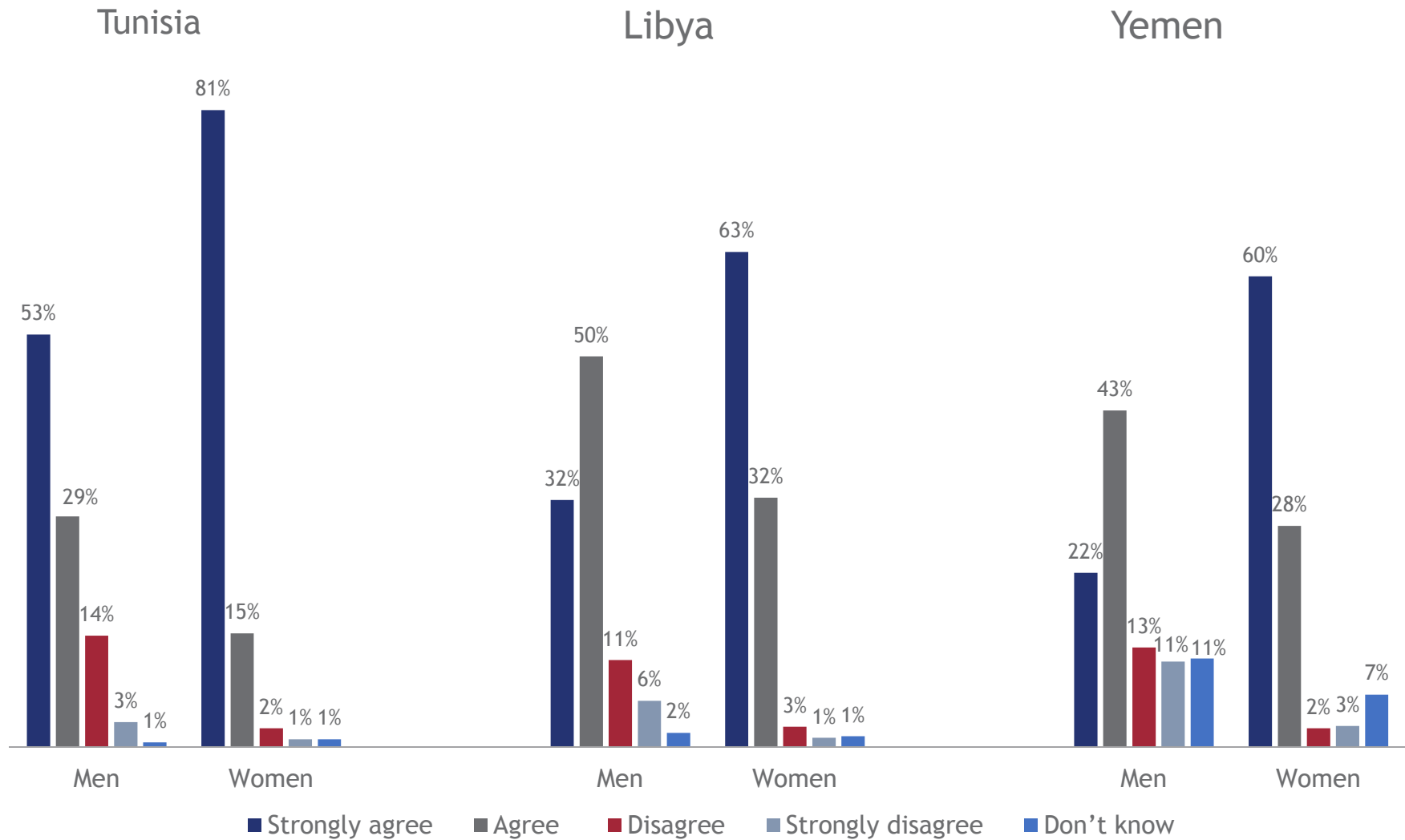Tunisia, Libya, Yemen bar charts by gender

Tunisia
- Men: Strongly support 28%, Support 32%, Oppose 25%, Strongly oppose 14%, Don't know 1%
- Women: Strongly support 59%, Support 25%, Oppose 10%, Strongly oppose 5%, Don't know 1%

Libya
- Men: Strongly support 19%, Support 50%, Oppose 18%, Strongly oppose 11%, Don't know 2%
- Women: Strongly support 62%, Support 32%, Oppose 3%, Strongly oppose 1%, Don't know 2%

Yemen
- Men: Strongly support 11%, Support 39%, Oppose 26%, Strongly oppose 16%, Don't know 8%
- Women: Strongly support 49%, Support 33%, Oppose 8%, Strongly oppose 3%, Don't know 8%

Legend: Strongly support | Support | Oppose | Strongly oppose | Don't know

Do believe that laws provide equal rights to men and women?
(by gender)

Tunisia

- Men: Yes 68%, No 27%, Don't know 5%
- Women: Yes 60%, No 34%, Don't know 6%

Libya

- Men: Yes 36%, No 49%, Don't know 15%
- Women: Yes 18%, No 67%, Don't know 16%

Yemen

- Men: Yes 37%, No 36%, Don't know 28%
- Women: Yes 29%, No 49%, Don't know 22%

■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know

Do you think there is a need to enact laws that protect women from domestic violence?

(by gender)

Tunisia

- Men: Strongly agree 53%, Agree 29%, Disagree 14%, Strongly disagree 3%, Don't know 1%
- Women: Strongly agree 81%, Agree 15%, Disagree 2%, Strongly disagree 1%, Don't know 1%

Libya

- Men: Strongly agree 32%, Agree 50%, Disagree 11%, Strongly disagree 6%, Don't know 2%
- Women: Strongly agree 63%, Agree 32%, Disagree 3%, Strongly disagree 1%, Don't know 1%

Yemen

- Men: Strongly agree 22%, Agree 43%, Disagree 13%, Strongly disagree 11%, Don't know 11%
- Women: Strongly agree 60%, Agree 28%, Disagree 2%, Strongly disagree 3%, Don't know 7%

Legend: ■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Disagree ■ Strongly disagree ■ Don't know

Qualitative Insights on Legislation and Protection of Women

"Women in Tunisia have the same rights as men, but they do not enjoy the same treatment by laws." (Man in Tunisia)
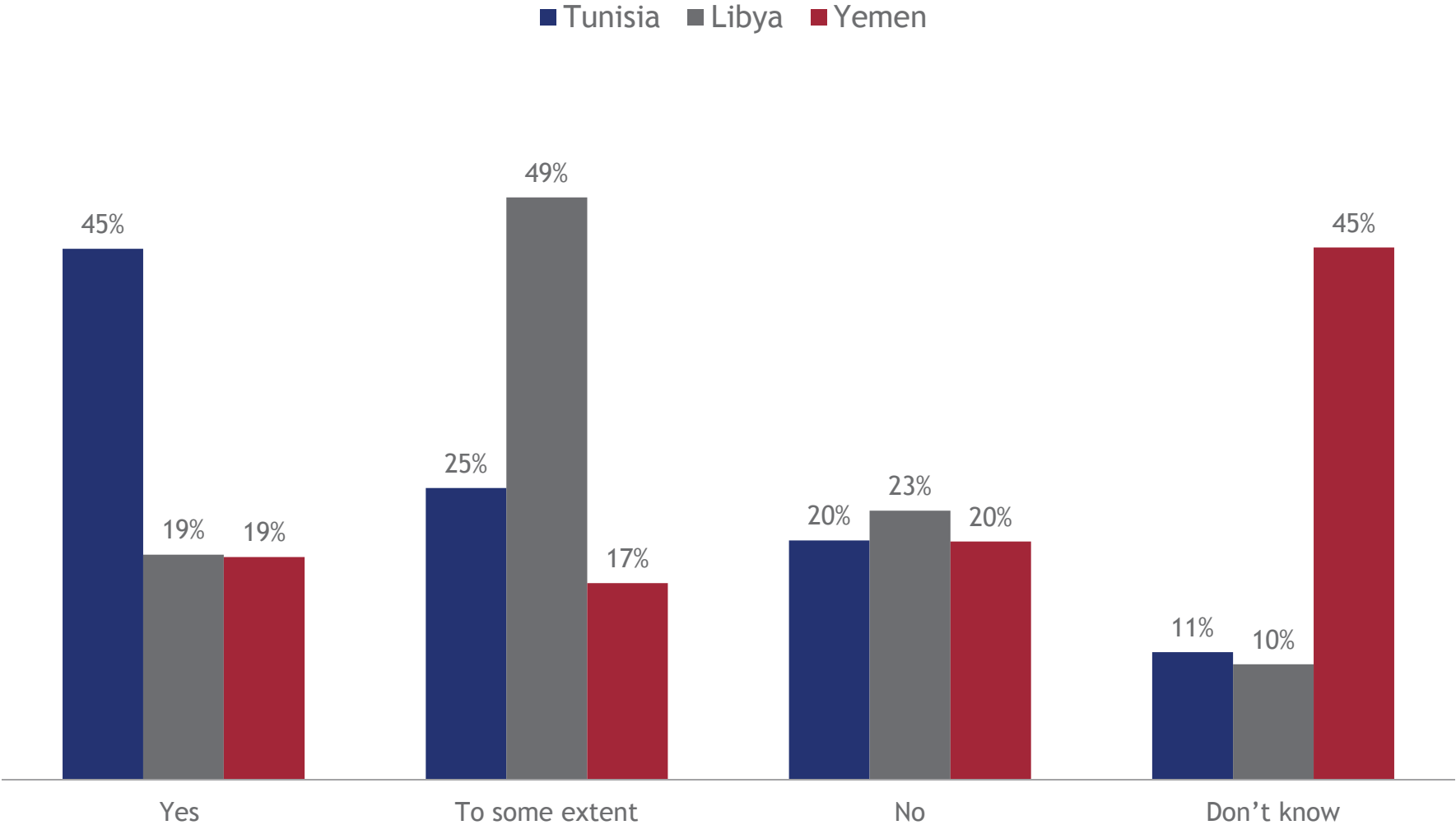
"Laws are faster than changing social mentality, because when women are equal under the law, they can punish men legally when they are treated wrongly." (Woman in Tunisia)
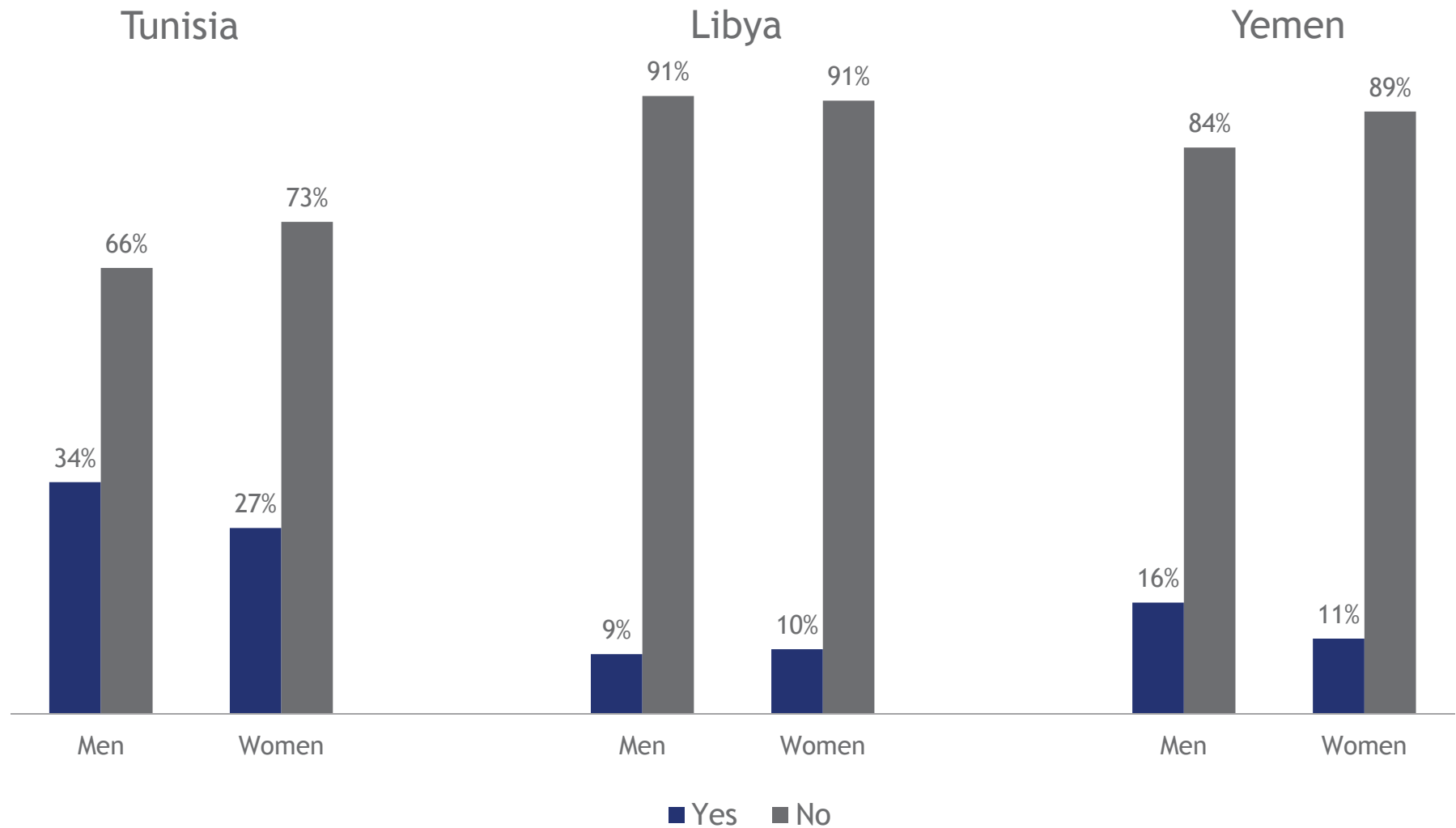
Women's Organizations, Role of Media

In general, do you think women's organizations contribute positively towards improving women's political participation?

■ Tunisia ■ Libya ■ Yemen
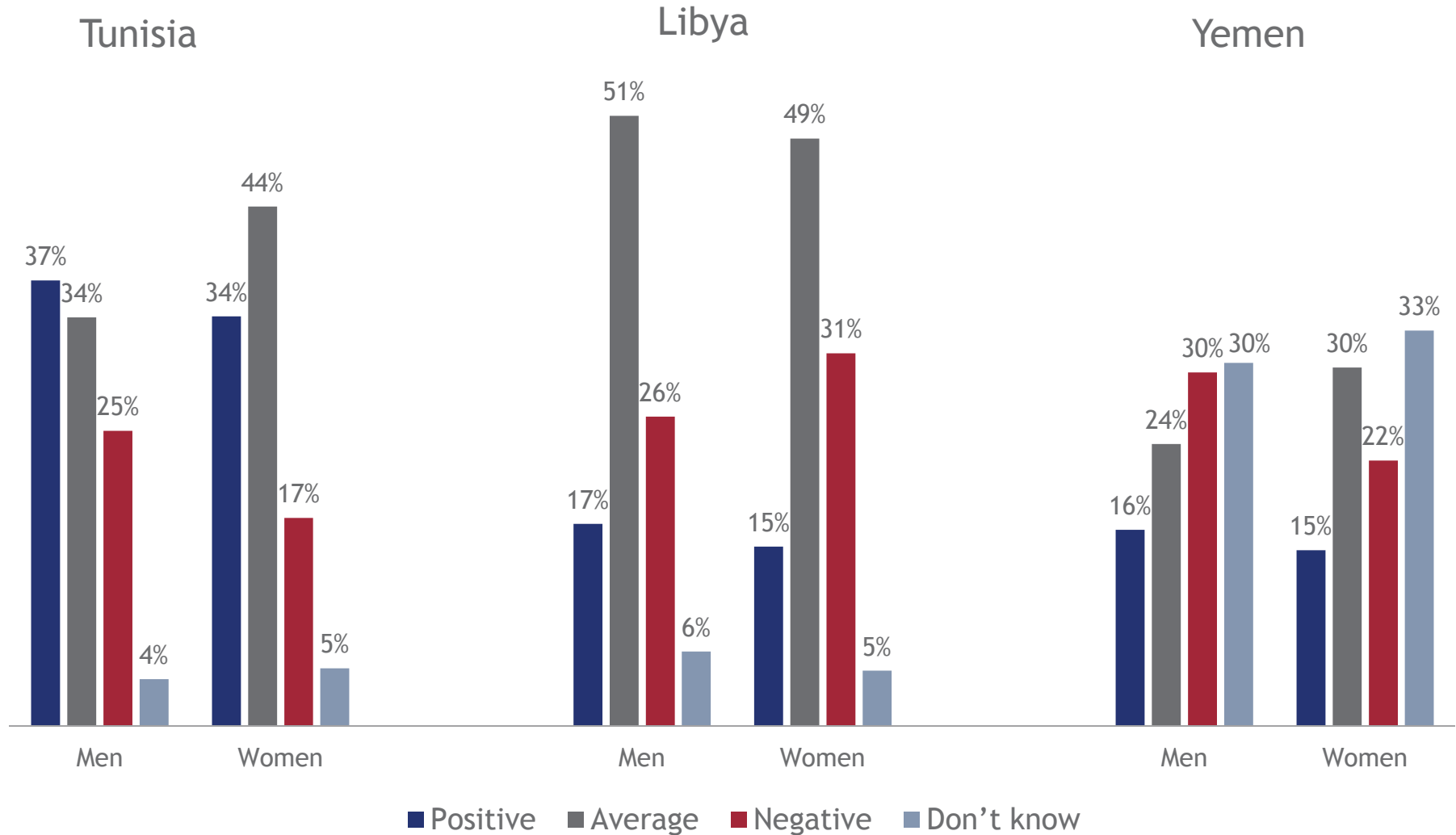
	Yes	To some extent	No	Don't know
Tunisia	45%	25%	20%	11%
Libya	19%	49%	23%	10%
Yemen	19%	17%	20%	45%

Do you know about any organizations that work in the field of women's rights?
(by gender)

Tunisia

	Men	Women
Yes	34%	27%
No	66%	73%

Libya

	Men	Women
Yes	9%	10%
No	91%	91%

Yemen

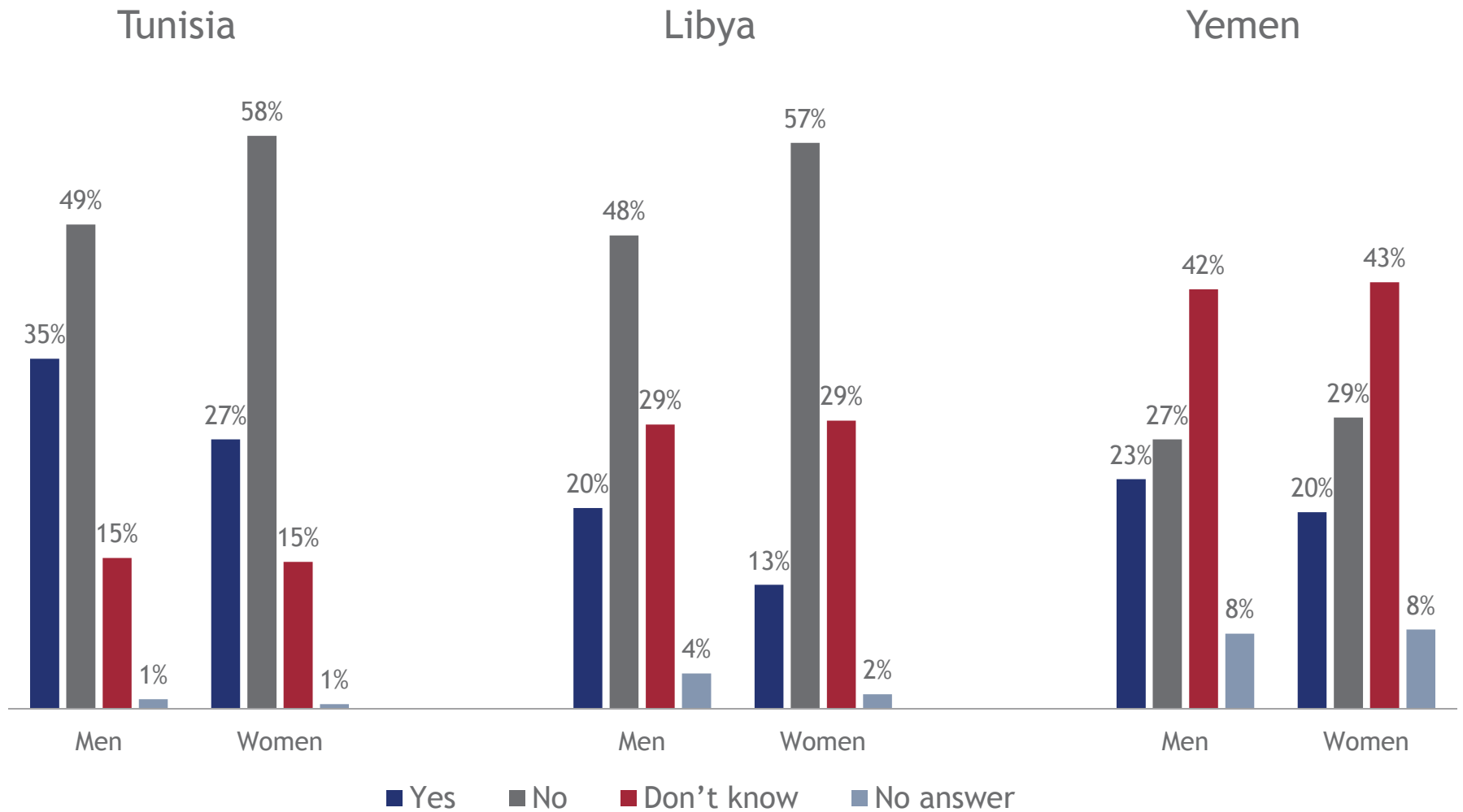|	Men	Women
Yes	16%	11%
No	84%	89%

■ Yes ■ No

How do you evaluate the role of media in promoting a positive image of women's rights?

(by gender)

Do you believe that the government is promoting policies and programs to support the rights of women?
(by gender)

Tunisia

Libya

Yemen

Men — Women — Men — Women — Men — Women

■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know ■ No answer

Qualitative Insights on Women's Organizations, Role of Media

"Women's organizations do not have a specific role in supporting women's rights in Libya, and regardless, civil society organizations as a whole are just weak. Libyan women need a lot of training to learn how to build better performing women's organizations." (Woman in Libya)

"Women organizations are very important because they will solve problems for women, and protect their rights. Work should be focused on changing mentalities. There is a great improvement in the work of women organizations compared to before the revolution." (Woman in Tunisia)

"It's not the media outlet's priority to present women's rights or to improve women's image." (Man in Tunisia)

"Organizations could play a positive role as they attempt to empower women and encourage her to go out, be creative, take initiative and suggest ideas, and be part of an active society." (Woman in Yemen)

"We keep on hearing of them [women's organizations] existing, but we do now see anything else change." (Man in Yemen)

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International Republican Institute
IRI
advancing democracy worldwide

معهد القيادات النِّسَائِيّة العربيّة
ARAB WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

A W R A D
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Arab World For Research & Development