Tunisia
An Oasis of Peace and Tolerance:
Findings from a Panel Survey

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Panel Survey Characteristics: 2013-2015

- A nationally representative sample of 3,070 adults (age 18+) were interviewed in March-May, 2013.

- Same respondents re-contacted in April-August, 2015, yielding 2,395 completed interviews.

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I. Changes in Values:

Increase in support for social individualism

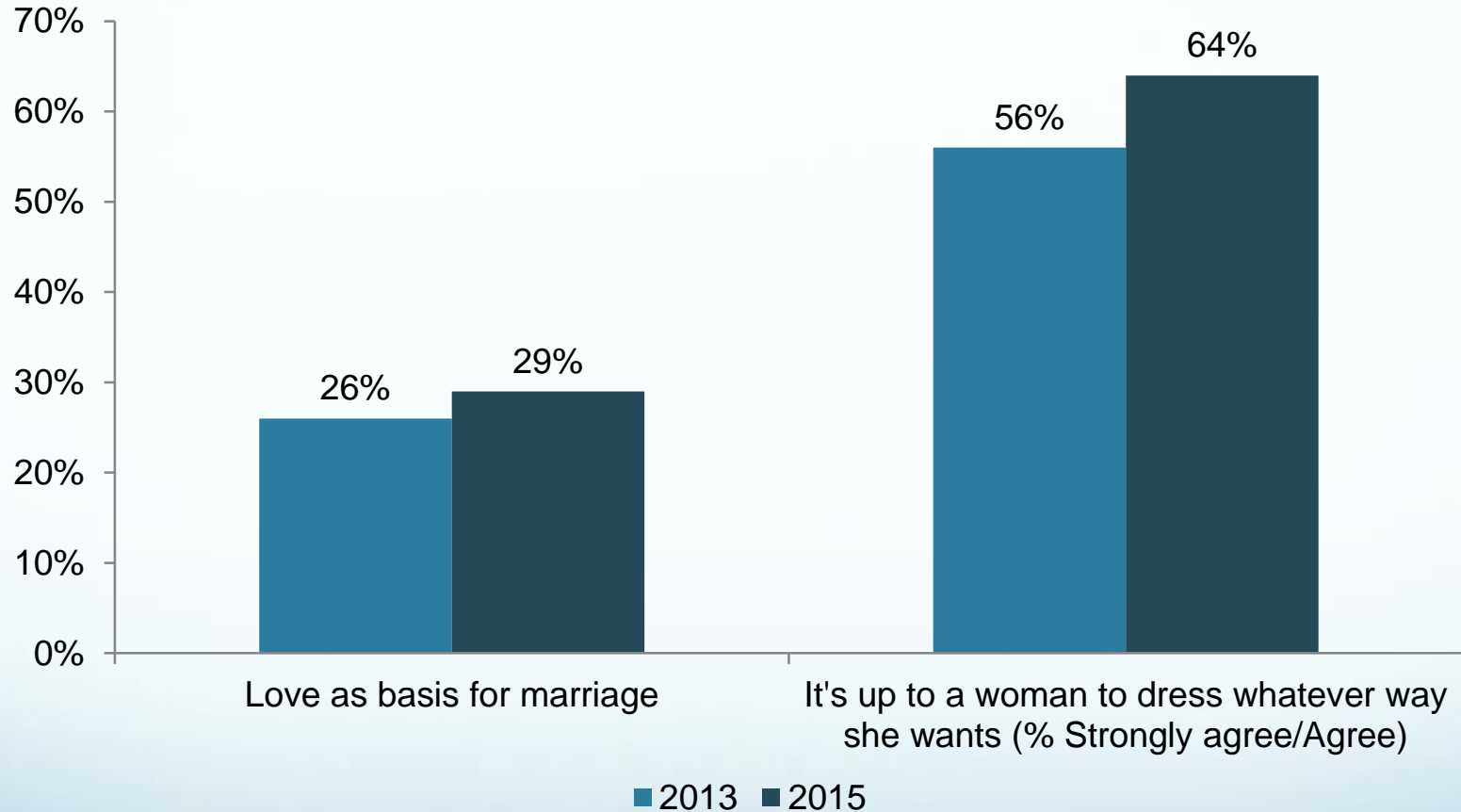No change in attitudes toward gender equality

Decline in support for political Islam or army rule

Increase in preference for Western-type government

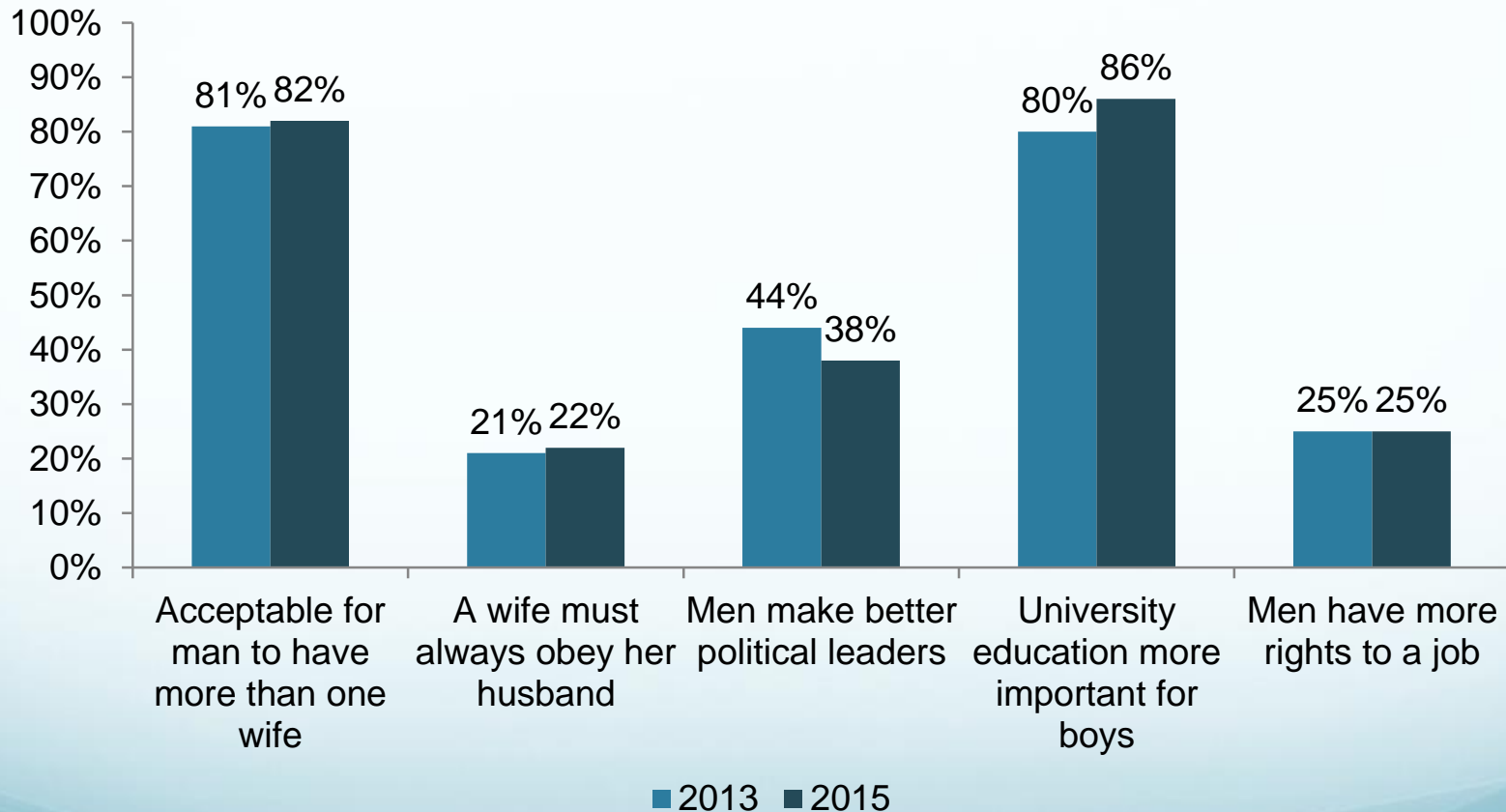The rise of national identity and national pride

Increase in religious tolerance
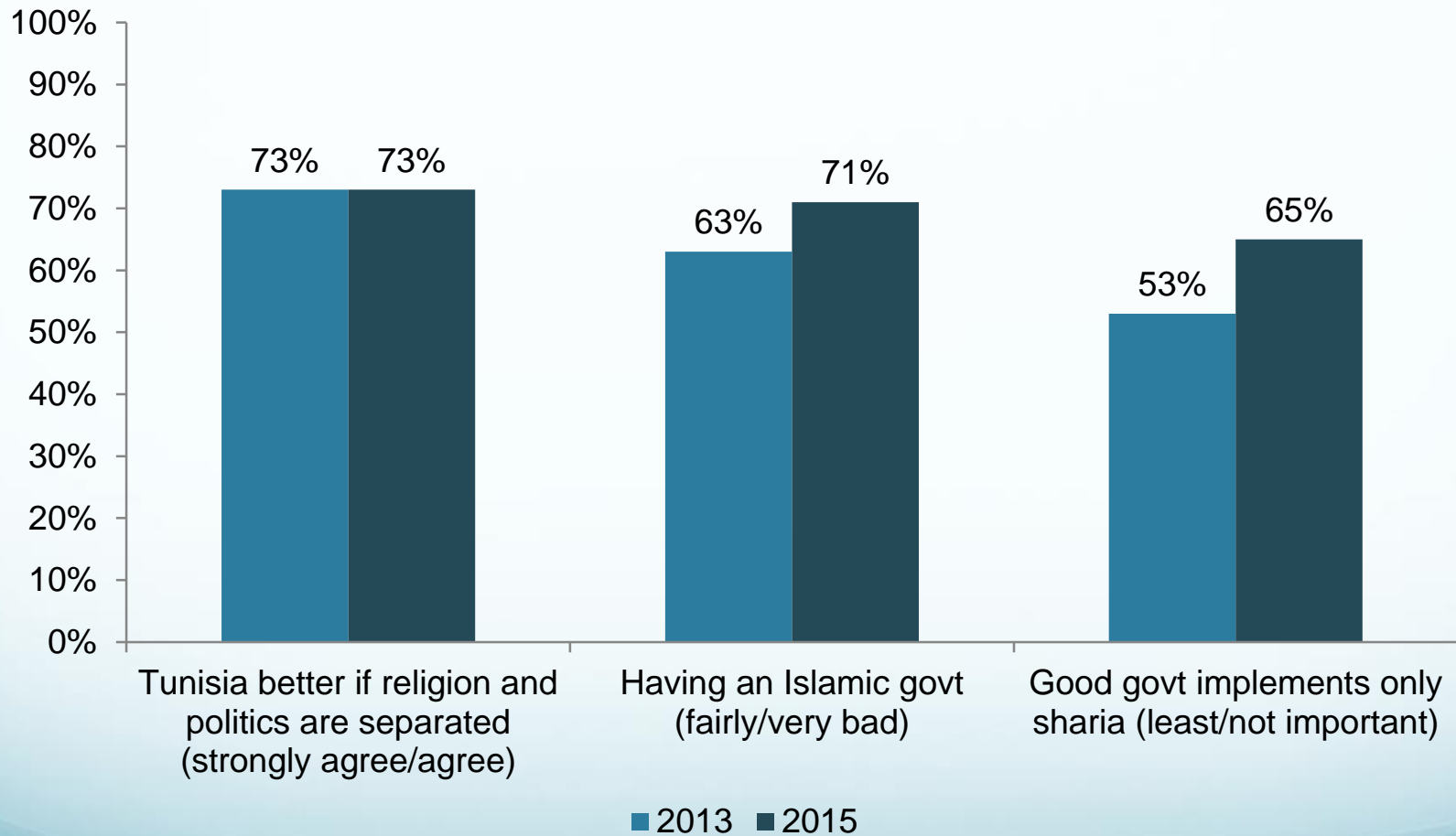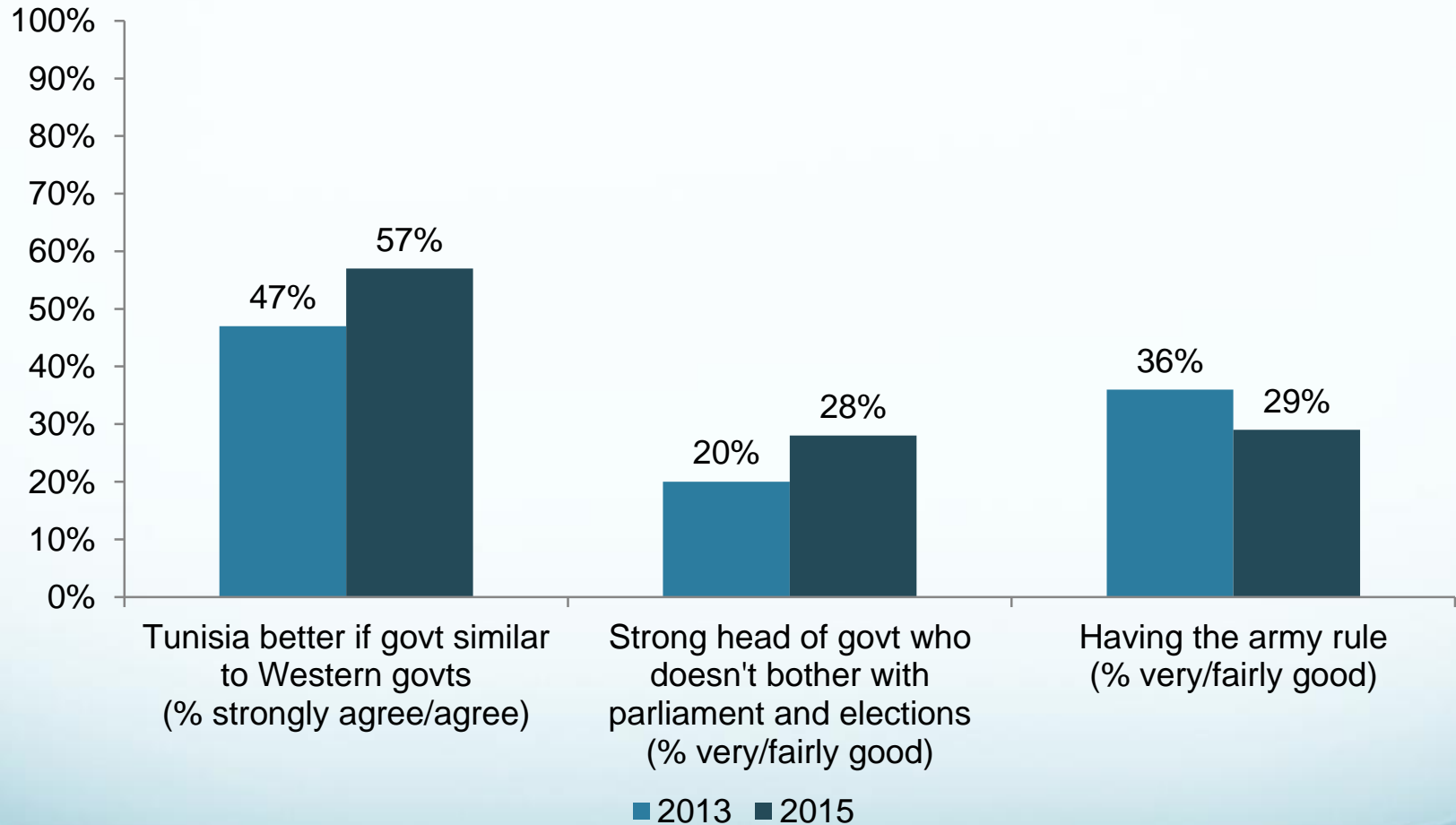
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Social Individualism
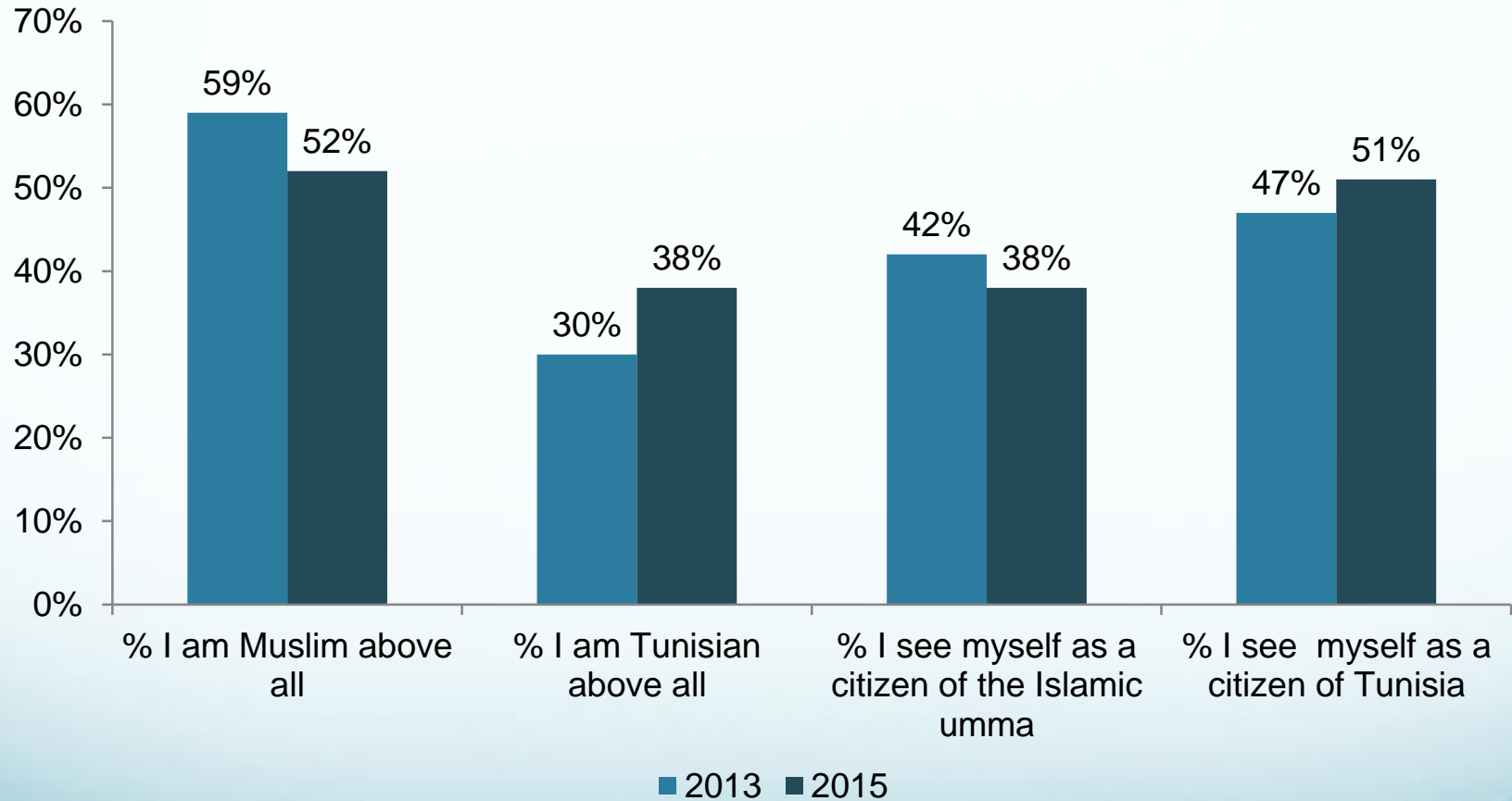
Gender Equality
(% Strongly disagree/Disagree)

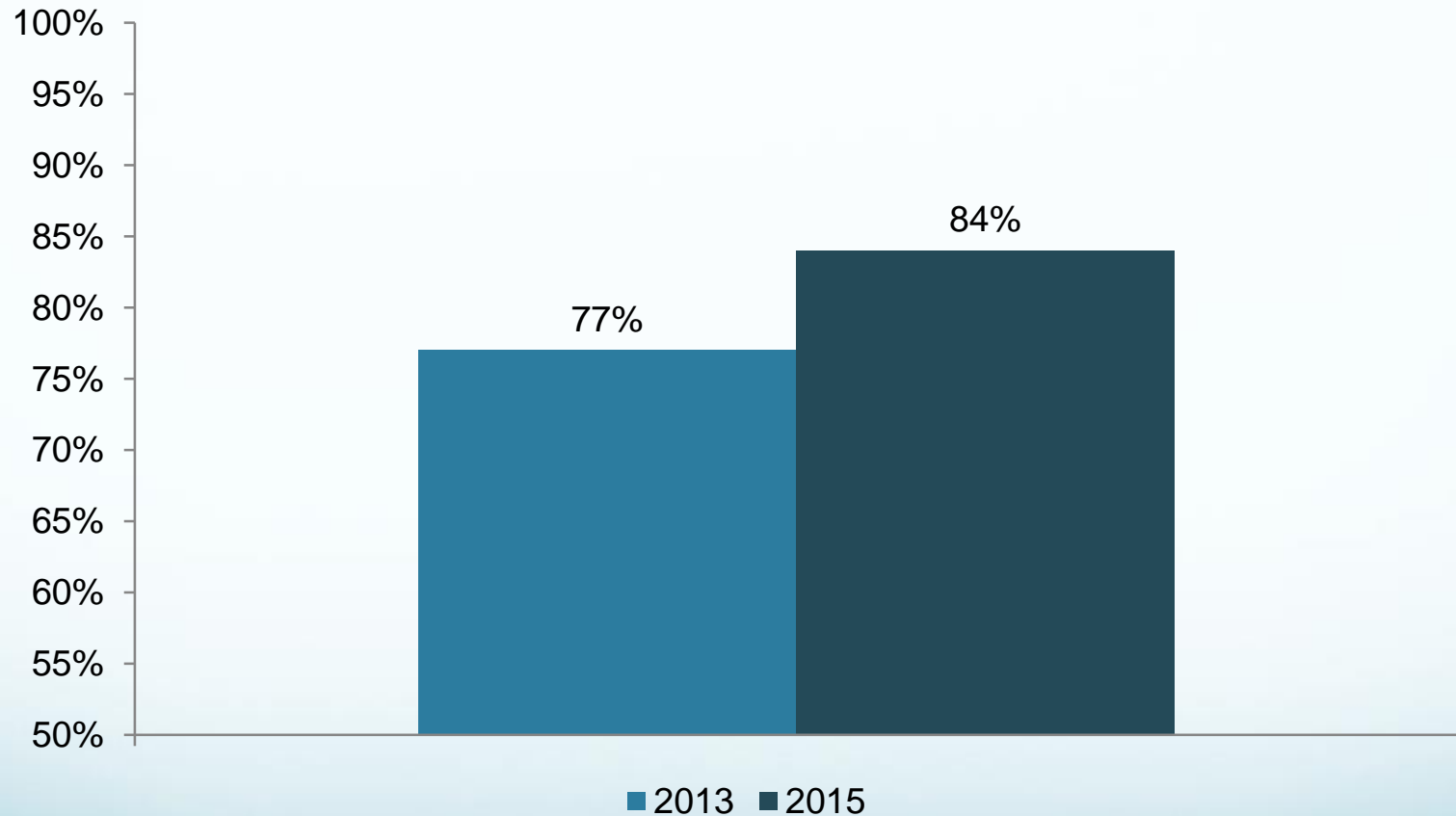# Secular Politics

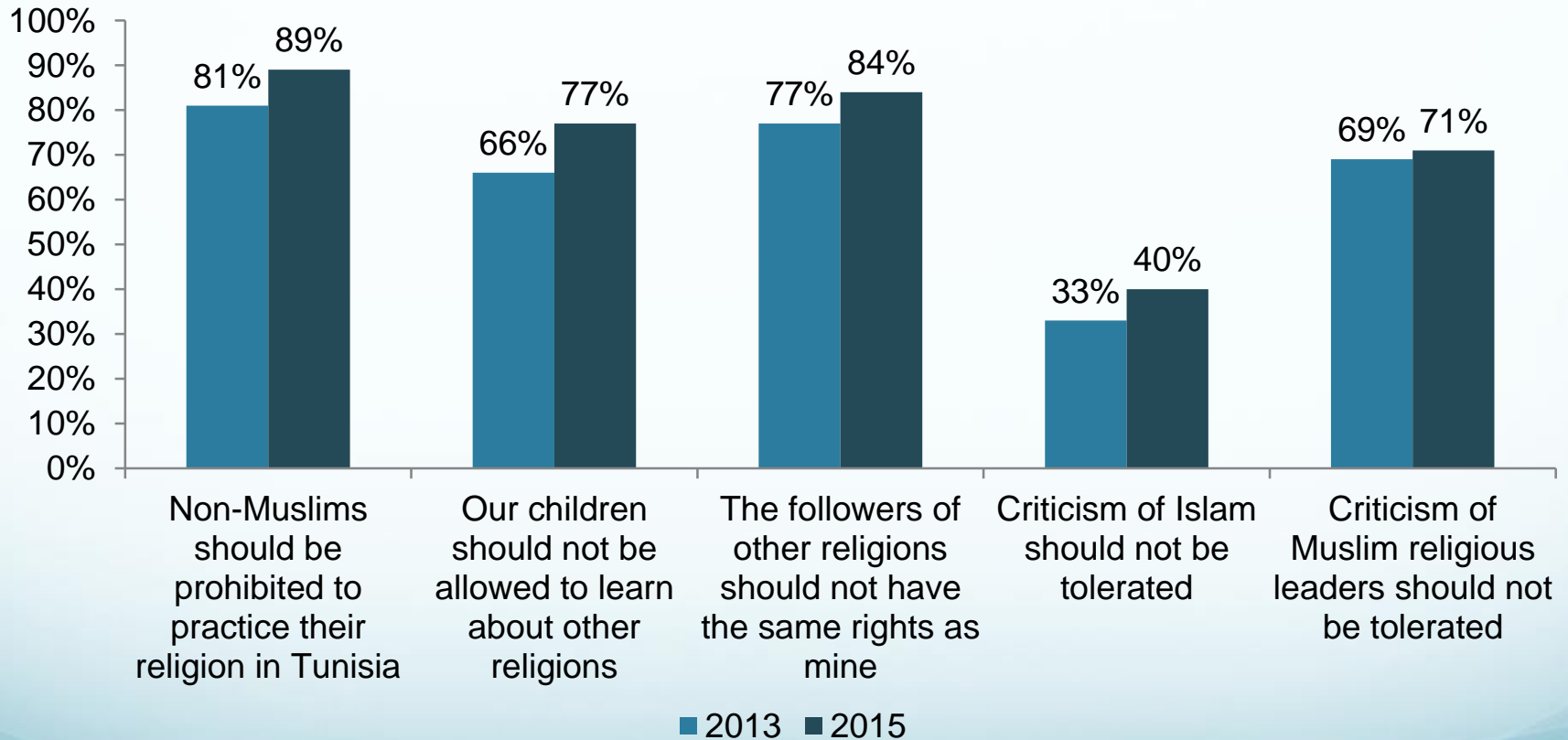# Form of Government

Religious versus National Identity

National Pride
% Very proud to be a Tunisian

Religious Tolerance
(% Strongly disagree/disagree)

II. Government Performance, Elections, Corruption & Information Sources:

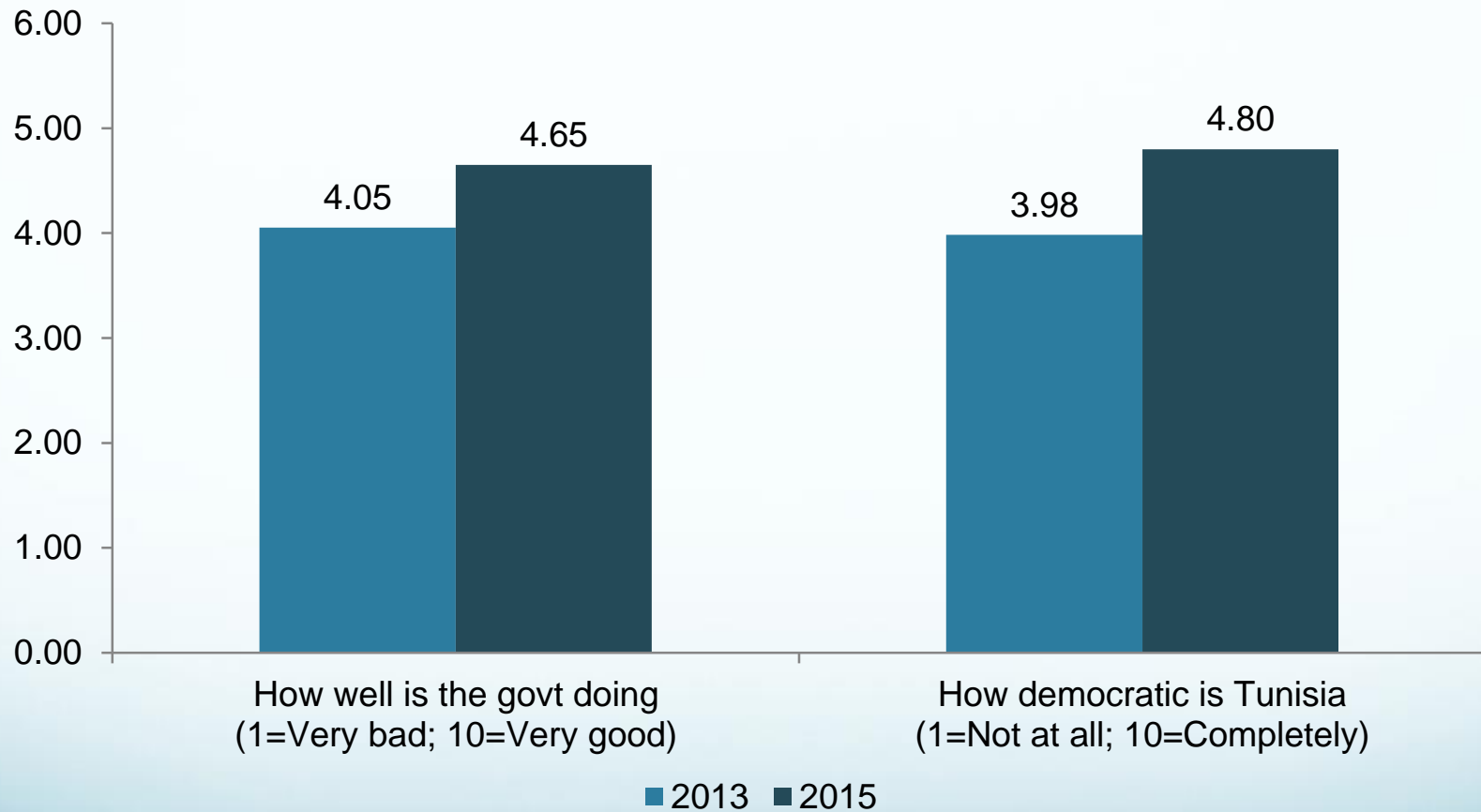Government performing better

Tunisia more democratic

Elections fairer
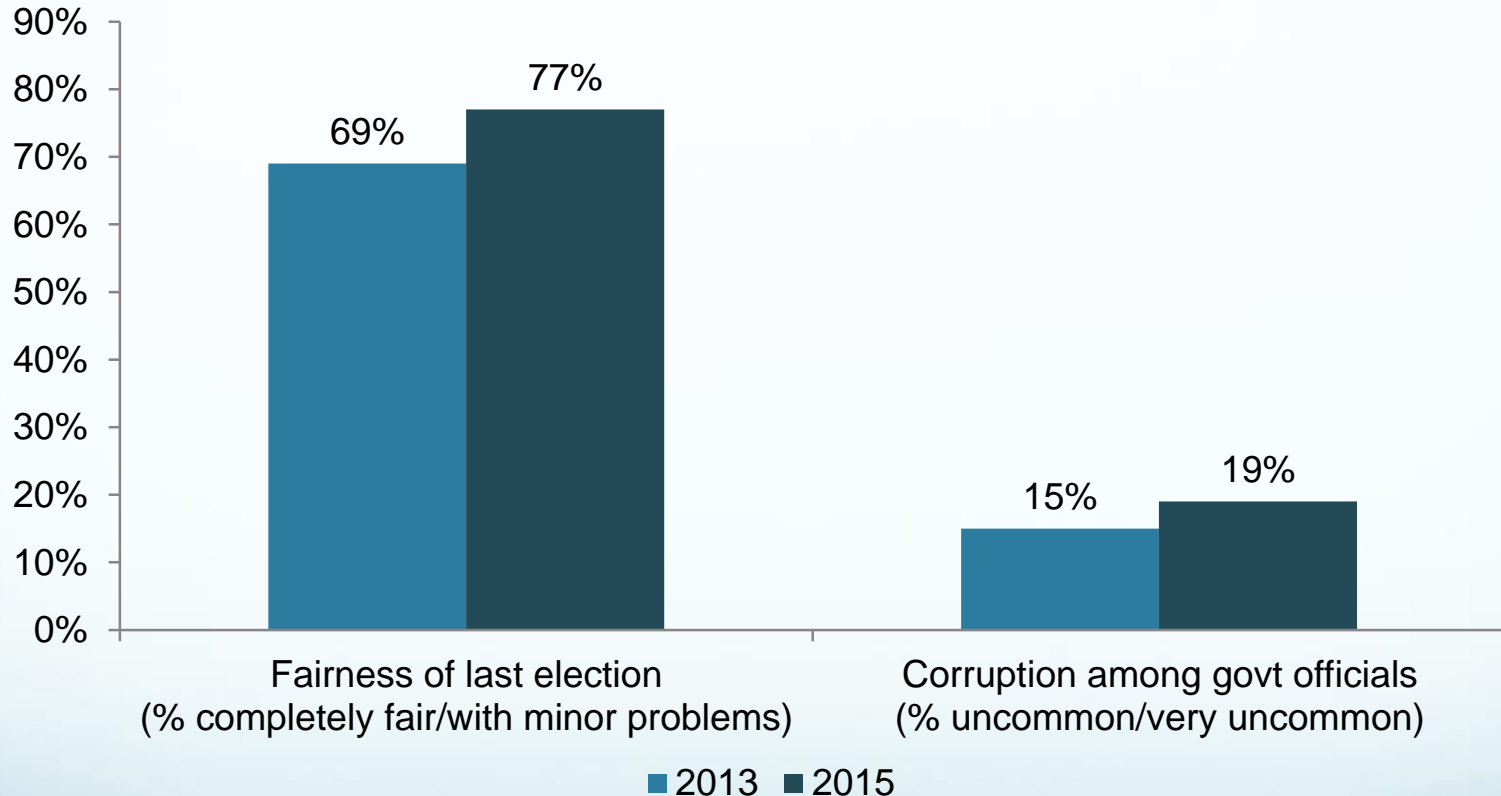
Corruption among public officials less common

Higher trust in prime minister, president & the military

More reliance on the national and less on international sources of information

Government Performance & the Development of Democracy in Tunisia

6.00

5.00

4.00

3.00

2.00

1.00

0.00

4.05   4.65   3.98   4.80

How well is the govt doing
(1=Very bad; 10=Very good)

How democratic is Tunisia
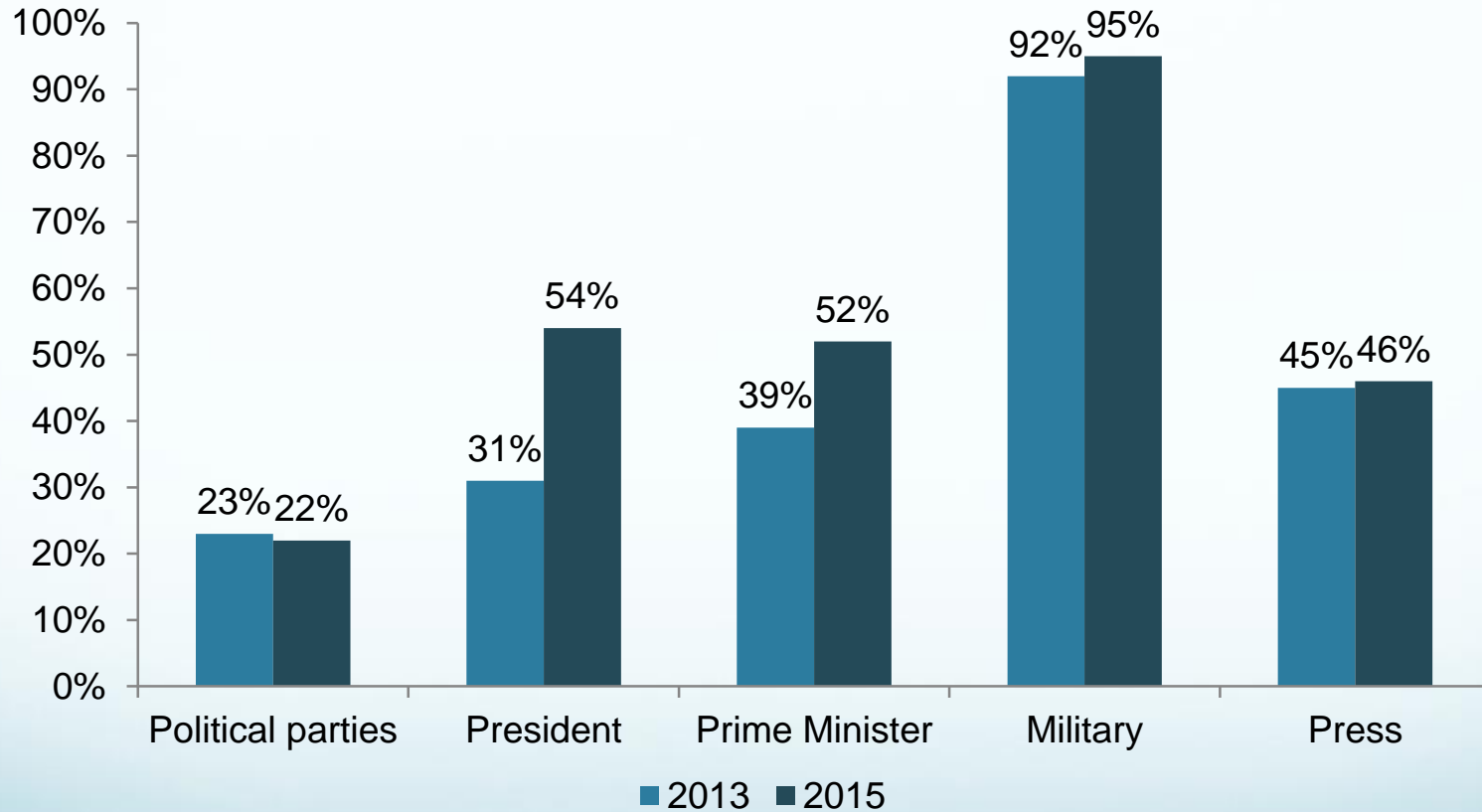(1=Not at all; 10=Completely)

■ 2013 ■ 2015

Fairness of Elections & Prevalence of Corruption among Public Officials
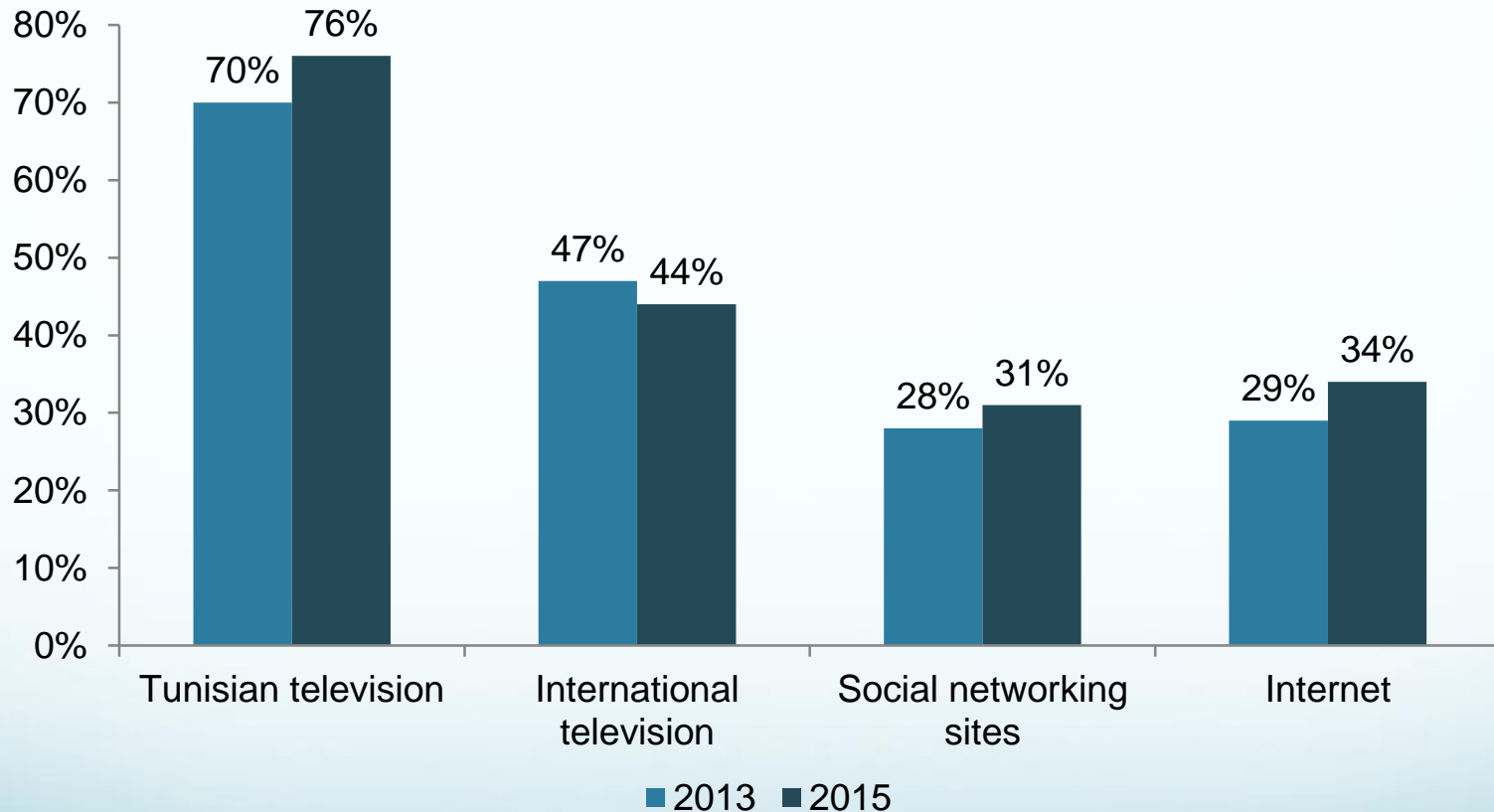
Trust in Political Leaders & Political Institutions
(% A lot/Some)

Reliance on Types of Media as Sources of Information
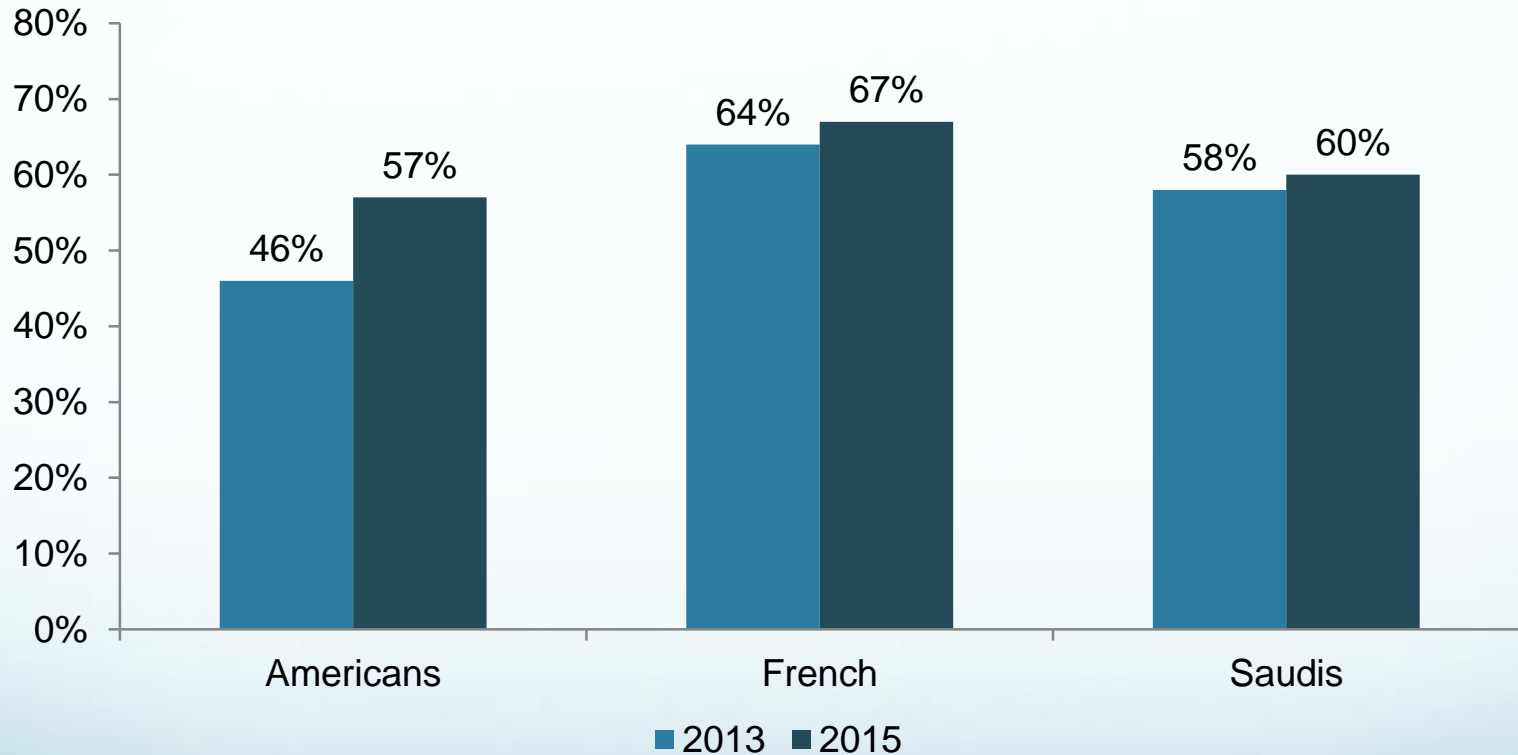## % Rely a great deal/Some

III. Perceptions of Outgroups
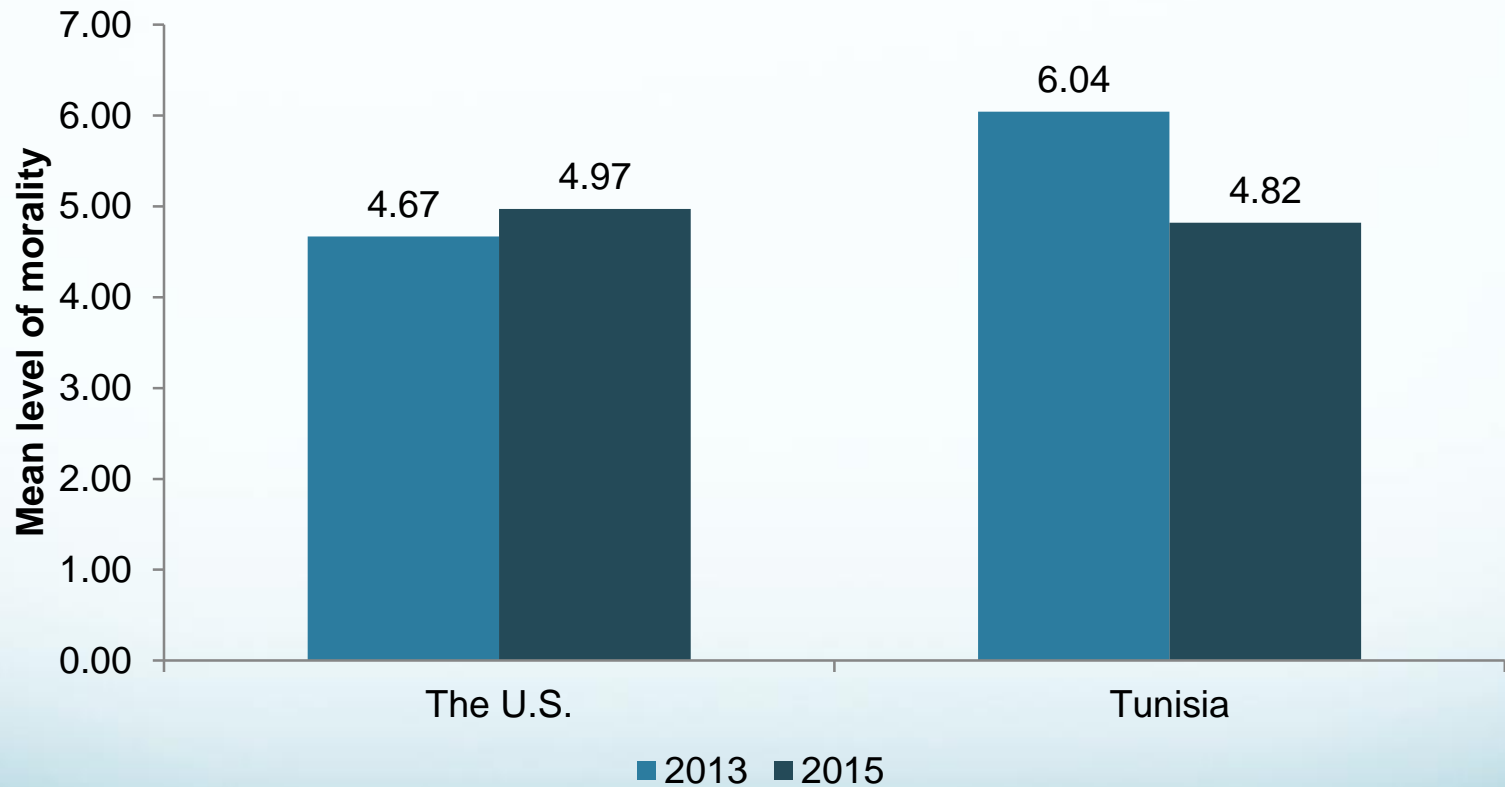
More favorable toward Americans & French

Less moral centric: a higher rating of Americans and lower rating of Tunisians on a morality scale
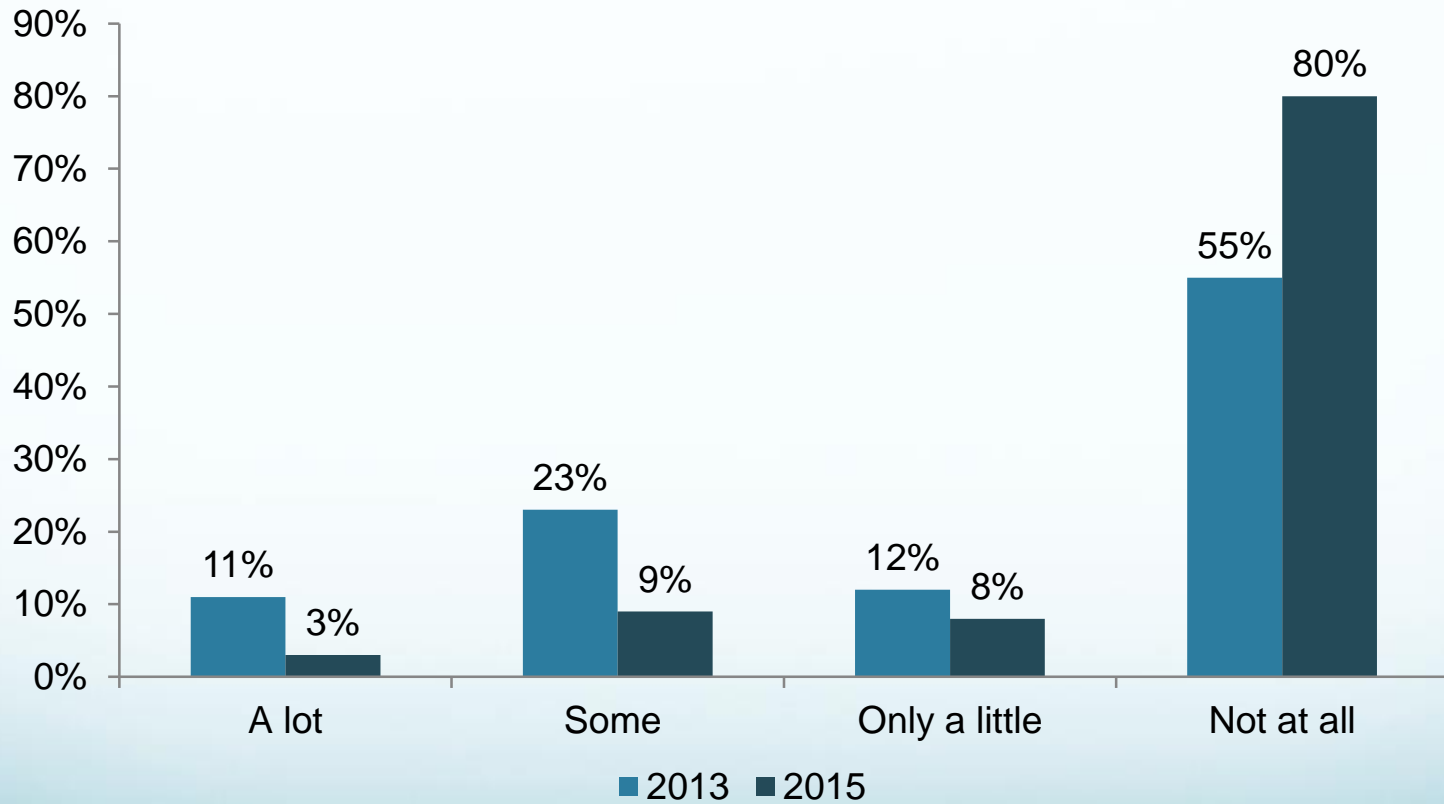
Substantial increase in distrusting the *Salafis*

Like Having Americans, French, & Saudis as Neighbors (%)

Morality of Americans & Tunisians (on a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being "low morality" and 10 "high morality")

Trust in the *Salafis*

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IV. Perception of Personal Efficacy

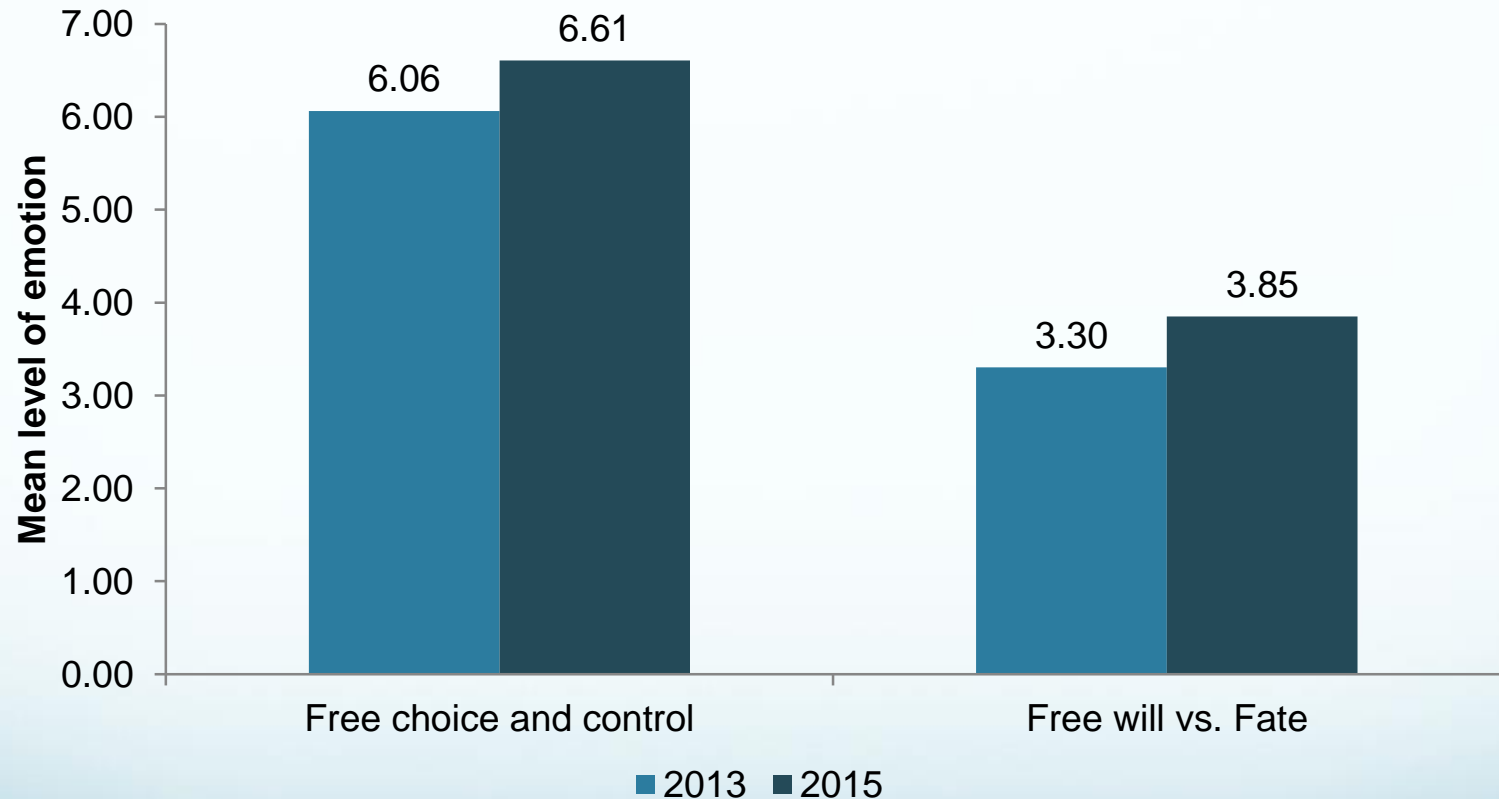Weaker perception of insecurity

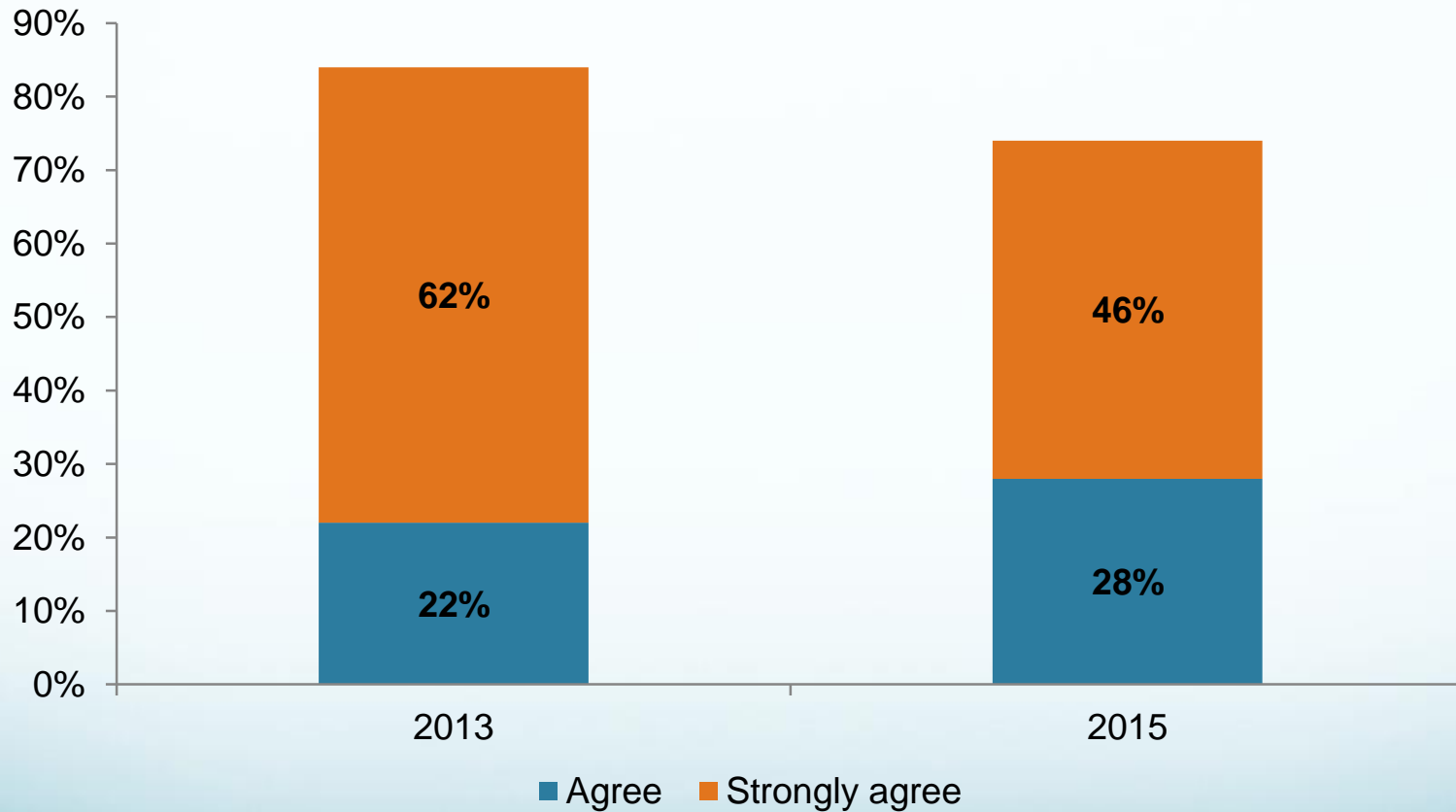A higher level of perceived control over one's life

Less fatalistic

Perceived Control
(1= "lowest control" or "everything decided by fate")

In Tunisia these days, life is unpredictable and dangerous

V. Changes in Attitudes toward Political Violence

Lower approval of attack on the American military in Iraq or Afghanistan

Stronger willingness to fight outgroups

Approval of Political Violence
% Strongly/somewhat approve of attacks on…

	US military in Iraq or Afghanistan	US civilians working for US companies in Europe	US civilians working in Islamic countries	Tunisian security forces
2013	57%	5%	6%	2%
2015	36%	4%	5%	1%

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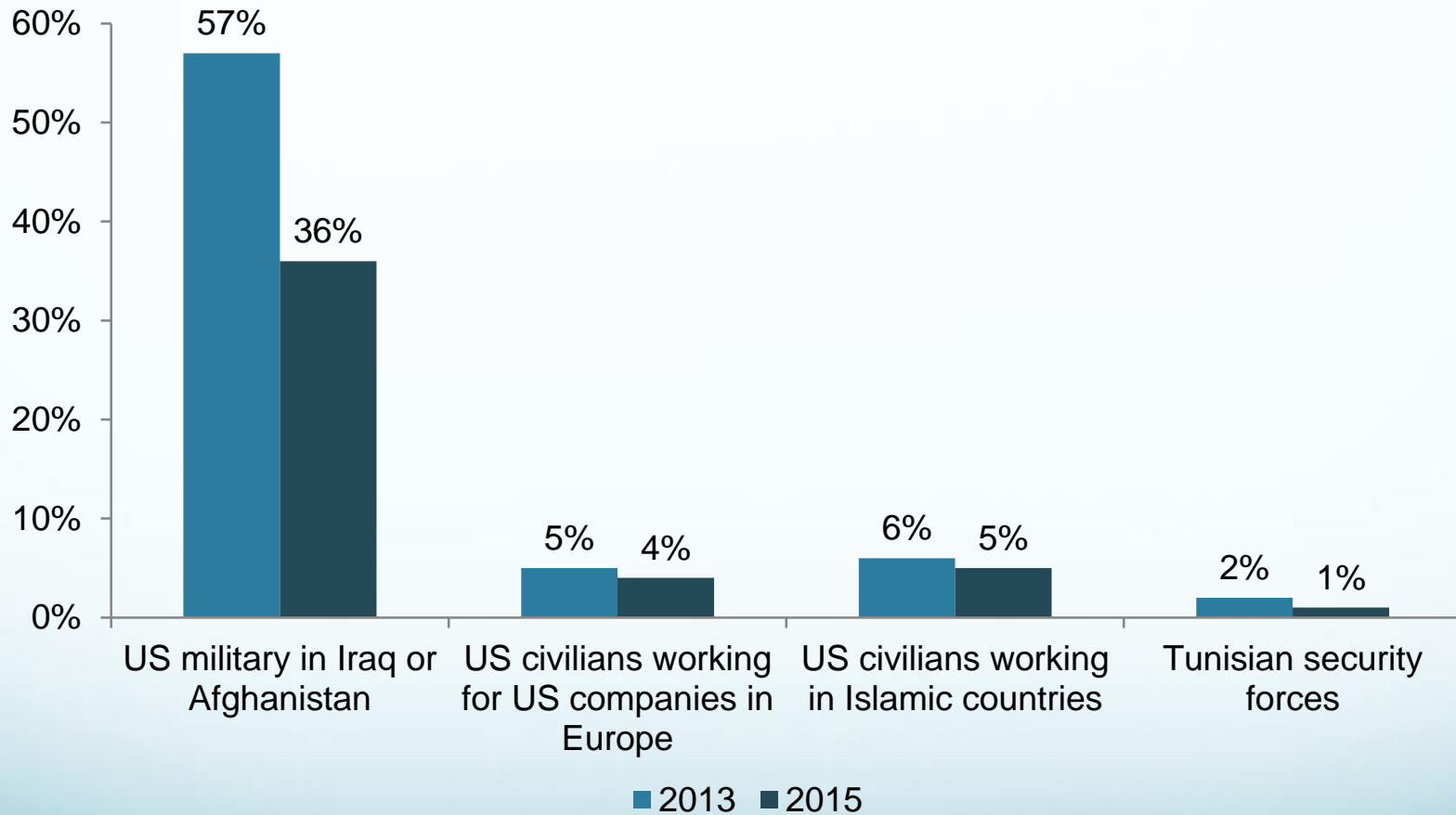
Willingness to Fight Out-groups
(% Strongly agree)
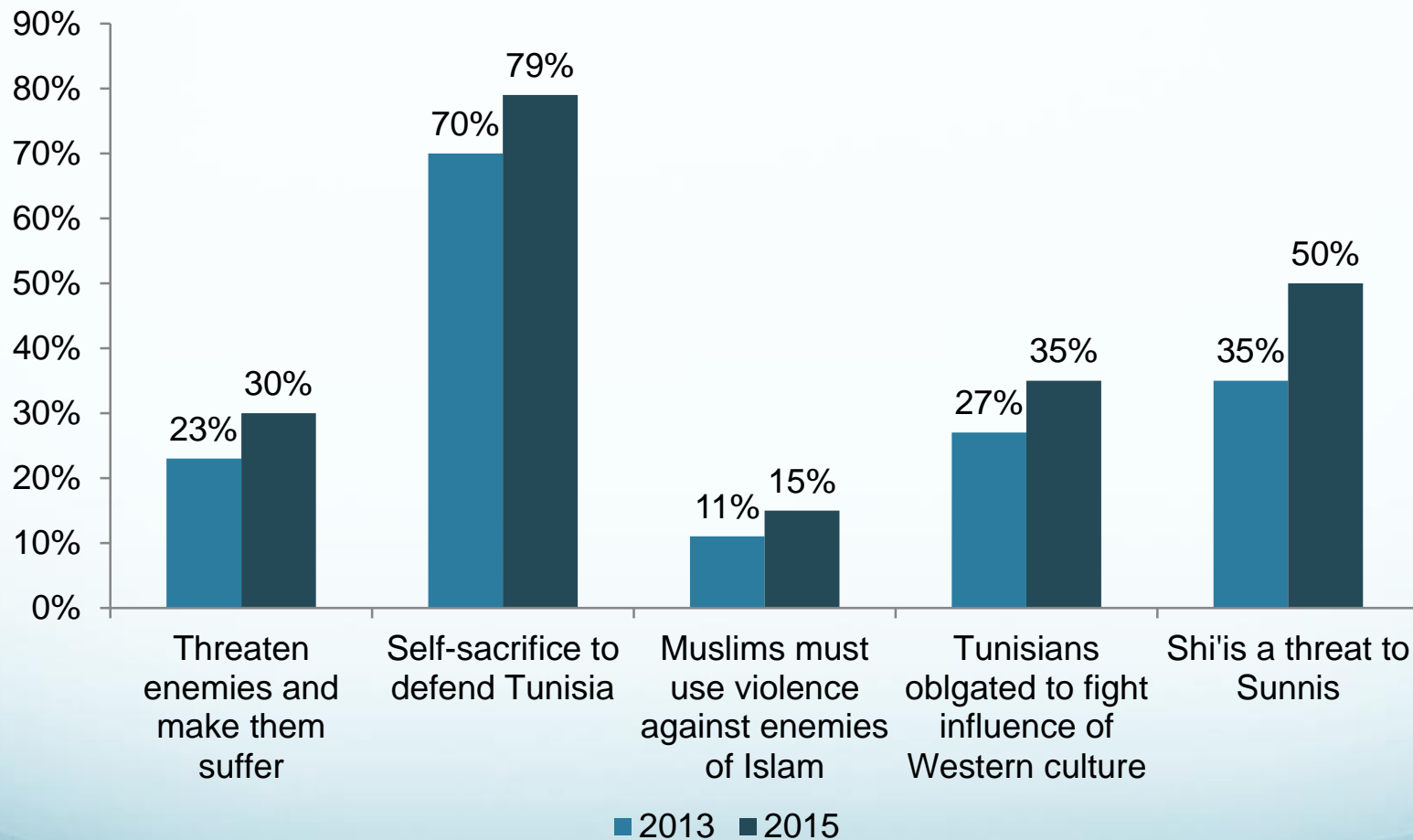
VI. Changes in Attitudes toward the Arab Spring & Obligations of Tunisians

Most importance purpose of political upheavals in Egypt, Libya, Tunisia

Most importance obligation for Tunisians
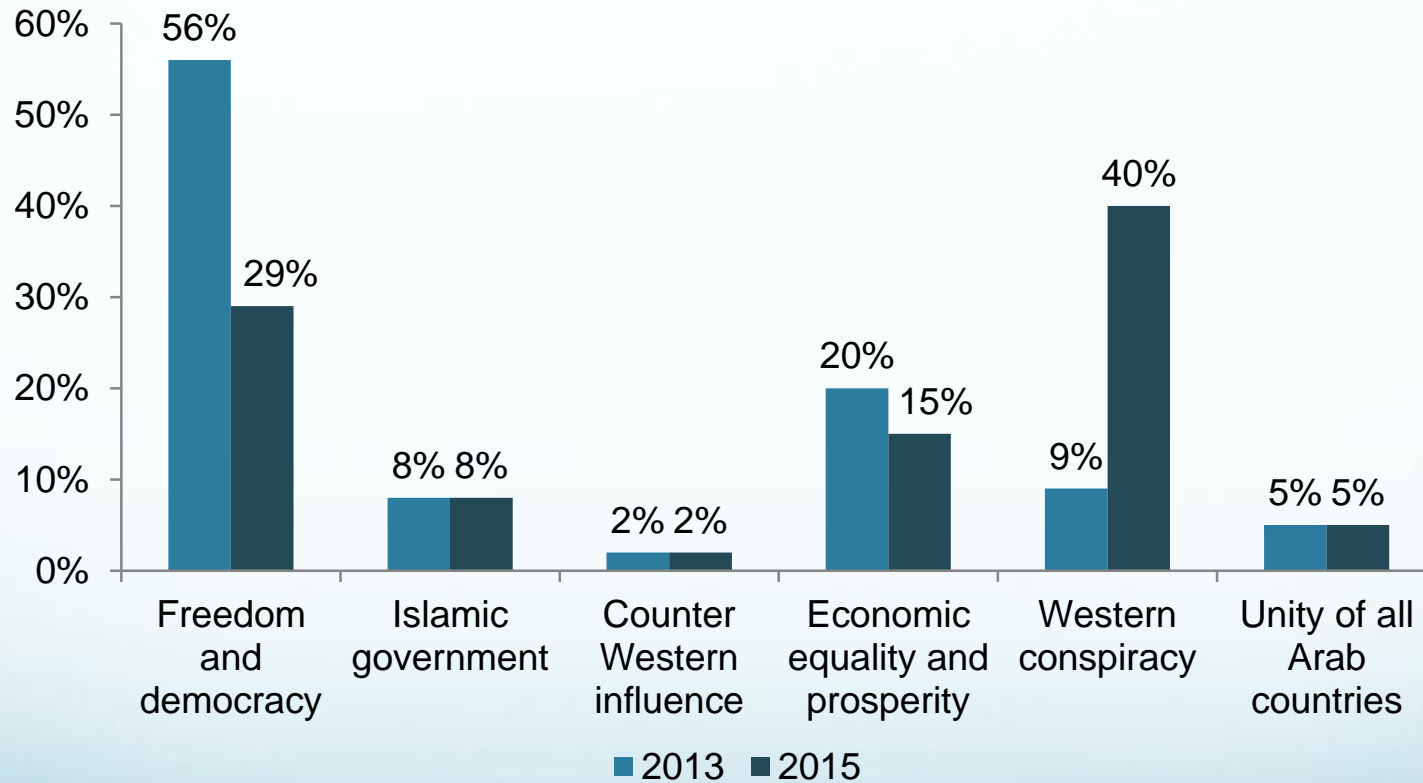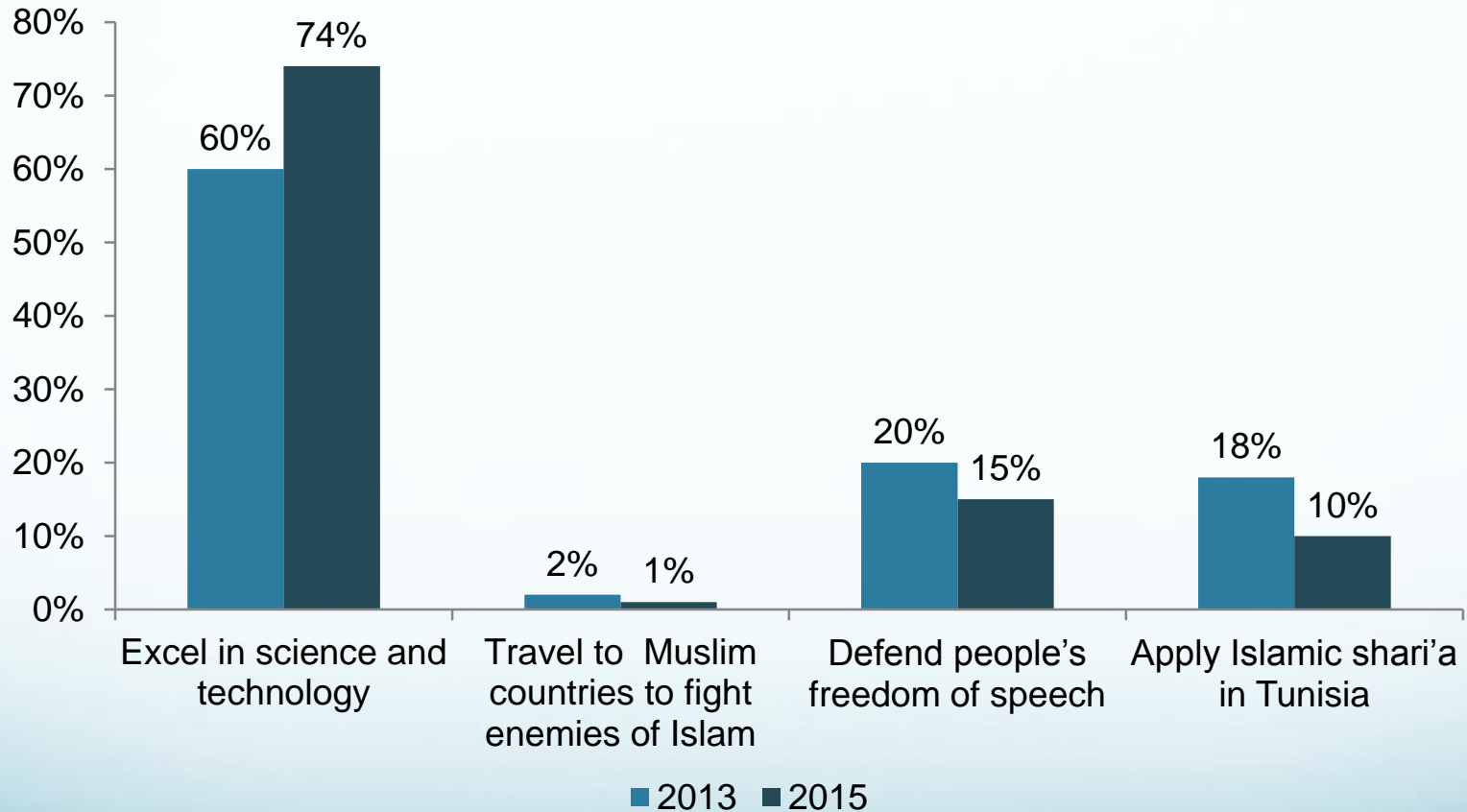
Correlations of Changes in Attitudes

	Increase in religious tolerance	Decline in approval of assault on US military troops	Decline in trust in Salafis	Decreased support for Islamic govt	Decreased support for sharia	Increase in support for Western govt
Decline in approval of assault on US military troops	.121*					
Decline in trust in Salafis	.001	.065*				
Decreased support for Islamic govt	.192*	.065*	.157*			
Decreased support for sharia	.132*	.034	.123*	.309*		
Increase in support for Western govt	.037	.013	.075*	.073*	.058*	
Increase in secular identity	.054*	.066*	.044	.092*	.059*	.040

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Recap: Tunisians Grew More Favorable toward Liberal Democracy

Stronger support for social individualism

Higher religious tolerance

Increase in support for national identity

More favorable perception of government

Stronger perception of personal efficacy

Less support for political Islam

Less trust in religious extremism

Less supportive of political violence

More favorable attitudes toward Americans

Thank you!