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TITLE:

**SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL IMPACT OF
SYRIAN REFUGEES IN JORDAN**

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ABSTRACT

Jordan is located in the Middle-East, one of the most unstable regions of the world. It is a country that has been able to maintain its stability and through its history, has shown to be a Host State for a large number of refugees. The Syrian crisis has originated a new wave of refugees arriving to Jordan's borders, causing an economic and social impact, and arising some tensions on the Northeast part of the country, where the refugee's presence is bigger. Jordan, based on the good relationship with the West and thanks to the Humanitarian Aid received, is able to manage a humanitarian crisis affecting its society and its public policy.

Keywords: *Jordan, Refugees, Syria, Humanitarian Crisis, Social and Economic impact, Humanitarian Aid, Public Policy*

RESUMEN

Jordania, situado en una de las regiones más inestables del mundo como es Oriente Medio, logra mantener su estabilidad y ha demostrado, a lo largo de su historia, ser un Estado que acoge a un gran número de refugiados. La crisis en Siria ha provocado que una nueva oleada de refugiados sacuda al reino hachemí y cause un impacto a nivel económico y especialmente a nivel social, provocando algunas tensiones en las zonas del norte del país, donde la presencia de refugiados es mayor. Jordania está siendo capaz, gracias a la ayuda internacional y a la buena relación que existe con Occidente, de gestionar una crisis humanitaria que afecta a la sociedad y a las políticas públicas del gobierno.

Palabras clave: Jordania, Refugiados, Siria, crisis humanitaria, impacto socio-económico, políticas públicas, ayuda internacional

TABLE OF CONTENTS: ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Sigla	Español	Inglés
ACNUR	Alto Comisionado de las Naciones Unidas para los Refugiados	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
AFP	Encuesta Armas Pequeñas	Small Arms Survey
FMI	Fondo Monetario Internacional	International Monetary Fund
HCSP	Plataforma de Apoyo a las Comunidades de Acogida	Host Community Support Platform
MENA	Región de Oriente Medio y el Norte de África	Middle East & North Africa
MOTA	Ministerio de Turismo y Antigüedades	Ministry of Tourism and Antiquity
NRP	Plan de Resistencia Nacional	National Resilience Plan
OCDE	Agencia Central de Inteligencia	Central Intelligence Agency
OIT	Organización Internacional del Trabajo	International Labour Organization
OLP	Organización para la Liberación de Palestina	The Palestine Liberation Organization
ONU	Organización de las Naciones Unidas	The United Nations
PIB	Producto Interior Bruto	Gross Domestic Product
PNUD	Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo	United Nations Development Program
UE	Unión Europea	European Union
USAID	Agencia de los Estados Unidos para el Desarrollo Internacional	The United State Agency for International Development

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose of the investigation

Jordan, because of its status as a neighboring country, is one of the more affected states by the wave of refugees coming from Syria. In the present work, an analysis of the impact generated by the Syrian refugees in the Hashemite kingdom is planned, as well as to analyze in which way the Jordanian government is acting to face a situation that generates tension within the country. Jordan has already received waves of refugees throughout its recent history, so it is important to take them into account for the analysis. Numerous economic, social and political aspects that are closely linked have been affected. In this context, the Jordanian response and the influence of international aid mark this crisis of Syrian refugees in Jordan.

1.2 Justification

The Arab world in the 21st century is catching the attention of the Western world, denoting many cultural, political and social differences. However, the reality is that in Spain we have a culture that is linked to the Arab culture and this closeness, arouses my curiosity. During my stay in a student residence, I was fortunate to participate in a dinner-discussion with Haizam Amirah, an expert in the Arab world, in which he explained his point of view about the Arab Spring in 2011 and was really inspiring.

The idea of focusing on Jordan came after a trip in October 2015, where I was able to observe the richness of a country with a lot of diversity, with many touristic places loaded with history and beauty, as well as a population that stands out for its kindness and hospitality. After talking with Ahmed Talal Abu Rami, the manager of a Bedouin camp, I was getting to discover the consequences and changes that Jordan is experiencing because of the conflicts and tensions in neighboring countries, as well as the arrival of refugees. I consider that it is a complicated situation that must be studied and made known and this is my way of starting this Project.

1.3 Objective

The objectives to be achieved by carrying out this work are the following:

- Observe the role of refugees in Jordanian history.
- Analyze how the country has been influenced by Syrian refugees, especially in economic and social terms.
- Understand how a country plans to overcome difficulties, avoid instability and maintain the legitimacy of the regime in a complicated regional and internal context.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 Documentary sources

2.1.1 Primary sources

For the preparation of this work, numerous official documents belonging to different organizations and institutions, such as the World Bank, UNHCR, The Freedom House, etc., have been used as primary and secondary sources. It has also been important to have official documents made by the ministries of Jordan to have access to detailed information and to develop the different sections of this work.

2.1.2 Secondary sources

Secondary sources such as reports, books, doctoral theses and press articles have also been used for this work, some of them found in academic journals such as the CIDOB and the Carnegie Center.

2.2 Research techniques

For the in-depth realization of this project, a number of qualitative and quantitative techniques have been used. Information has been used from official documents, analyzes and studies carried out by the government and the agencies involved. Similarly, a set of articles, studies and analyzes have been used by different authors.

The quantitative research techniques used to perform this work refer to the official data obtained from the different reports made by the Government of Jordan as well as by the statistical department. Likewise, surveys carried out by official bodies have been taken into account.

2.3 Type of research: Analytical-descriptive.

A descriptive and analytical research has been carried out to carry out this project. The research is a case study that starts from a historical perspective focused mainly on the domestic factors that have been influenced by an international factor like the refugees. In the latter part of the investigation, the impact of the Syrian refugees in Jordan is analyzed. In addition, in the final part of the paper, a section is included with the response of the regime, as well as the international assistance received, since it plays an important role in solving the problem.

3. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

In order to carry out the research, it is important to develop a theoretical framework to understand the development of the work. To do this, one must take into account some basic concepts associated with migration and the use of the term refugee. Likewise, although there is no direct connection between concepts, it is crucial to understand the characteristics of the States that are part of the MENA region. To this end, the ideas of hybrid states and rentier states that allow a connection with social cleavages are developed. This association delineates how Jordanian society is structured and allows us to understand the presence of the international factor as an influence in the context change that the country is experiencing.

3.1 International migration and the role of the refugee

International migration is defined as the movement of people leaving their country of origin, or the country where they have their habitual residence, to establish themselves both temporarily and permanently in another country (OECD, 2009, p.2).

There are different criteria for classifying what type of migration people carry out. According to the author Tizón García, aspects such as time, way of life, professional needs and demands, age and degree of freedom must be taken into account. To keep pace with the type of migration discussed in the research, a recurring motive for the movement of people to refugees is the degree of freedom. There is a type of migration associated with freedom that is done on a voluntary basis and the main motivation is economic. However, there is also forced migration that is exemplified with slaves in times of colonization, deported or banished because they take their land, and refugees. This latter group is the one that is interesting for the development of the work. A refugee must leave his country because his life is in danger. Like all other forced migrations, refugees find it difficult to settle in the country of destination, since it is a migration that is not planned and is carried out hastily due to the delicate situation in the country. Country of origin (Tizón, 1993).

According to the Geneva Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees, a refugee is a person who "because of well-founded fears of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside Of the country of his or her nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, to refuse to avail himself of the protection of his country, or to lack of nationality and, as a result of such events outside the country of habitual residence, Or because of such fears he does not want to return to it "(United Nations, 1951).

Refugees have the right of asylum to ensure physical security and should also receive basic assistance, as well as having the same rights and freedoms as any foreigner who has legal residence. Economic and social rights that apply to other

people, such as access to work, the right to medical care and the right to schooling of children must also be granted (Inter-Parliamentary Union and UNHCR 2001: 46).

It must be borne in mind that the arrival of refugees on a number of occasions occurs suddenly and in the form of strong waves, making reception difficult in destination countries. Under these circumstances, countries may be forced to restrict the rights and freedoms mentioned above. In these cases, international assistance is necessary and UNHCR's assistance normally provides assistance to refugees in the form of financial assistance, food, shelter and life-saving programs in refugee camps. It is also very important to mention that refugees also have obligations, including respect for the laws of the host country (Inter-Parliamentary Union and UNHCR 2001: 46).

Normally, countries that are signatories to the 1951 Refugee Convention or the 1967 Protocol are those that must determine refugee status. However, when refugee influx is important and does not always occur in countries that are part of the Convention or the Protocol, UNHCR can carry out its own process of determination to establish whether the persons or group are refugees under the mandate Of international protection of the Office (Inter-Parliamentary Union and UNHCR, 2001 p.22).

Recognition as a 'refugee' is important because it allows granting a number of international protection rights. One of the most important is protection not to be returned to the country where they face a risk of persecution. This principle of non-return is known as non-refoulement and is often referred to as "the cornerstone of international refugee protection" and is set out in Article 33 (1) of the 1951 Convention which states that no State may, by expulsion or refoulement, put in any way a refugee on the frontiers of territories where his life or freedom is endangered because of his race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or his political views. "(UNHCR, 2005 p.23). The exceptions to this principle are very extraordinary and it is important to mention that the formal recognition of refugee status is not a requirement for the application of this

principle, so that all countries must respect what is established by international law including the Arab countries Signatories like Jordan.

3.2 Characteristics of States in the MENA region

Arab countries, in their vast majority, are characterized as authoritarian regimes and, on many occasions, there is a belief that religion and culture prevent the area from having a democratic culture. However, this contradiction has been denied by many authors and it is not possible to differentiate support for democracy and democratic values between the West and the MENA region because of the Islamic religion (Melián, 2015, 14). It is important on the other hand to emphasize that there is a possible explanation for the lack of democracy in the region: the tribal structure. In the countries, political dynamics similar to patronage are established, based on patronage (Hinnebusch 2006, p. 376). The tribal organization of society causes tribal loyalty to be more important than national loyalty (Anderson 1995: 81), and this is the case in Jordan.

It is not possible to classify all authoritarian regimes in the same block. There are differences in the level of authoritarianism and the level of openness that countries have. They are usually classified as hybrid regimes, that is, "the set of institutions that have been persistent for more than a decade, stable or not, which have been preceded by authoritarianism, a traditional regime (possibly colonial characteristics) or even a In its system a limited pluralism and autonomous and independent forms of participation but which lacks at least one of the four aspects of minimal democracy "(Morlino, 2009, p. In the same vein, another definition of valid hybrid regimes is that of Szmolka, which shows that they are "incorporating democratic elements (constitutions, multiparty, periodic pluralist elections, representative institutions, legal system of rights and freedoms, etc.) , But in which authoritarian practices continue to exist "(2011, p.20). Therefore, hybrid regimes are ambiguous regimes as they are shaped by certain democratic elements, as well as political and social freedoms that combine, in turn, with a regime with strong authoritarian features.

In the table below, authors such as Schedler, Levitsky and Way and Brumberg classify the hybrid states according to the main characteristics of the regimes according to their level of political openness, level of liberalization, justice, etc.

In the MENA scenario, according to Brumberg, it is observed that the ruling elites start from an advantageous situation to guarantee the imposition of their own ideas. They have greater freedom since they act as the last reference in decision making (Anderson, 1991 p.4). It is observed that Jordan is part of this classification of hybrid regimes. In particular, the kingdom can be considered a liberalized autocracy because there have been certain political, social and cultural transformations in recent years, and yet the regime has given numerous responses to intensify the autocratic system, provoking a stagnation in the The political structure of the regime (Ghanem, 2013, p. 117), so that power remains in the hands of the king and the ruling elite.

3.3 State rentier: social cleavages and the international factor

It is important to mention the MENA region to mention that some countries can be classified as rentier States, that is, states that depend on external income and that come from a sector such as that of oil (Beblawi, 1990, p. 51). This is the recurring situation in the Gulf states. However, the incomes come not only from the hydrocarbons sector, but can be external debt, foreign aid, etc. (Izquiero, 2007, p. 177). These states can be classified as semirrentistas states and are characterized by the accumulation of power of a very small elite, weakening the power of the people and giving more power of decision to the traditional elites (Izquierdo, 2007 p.7). This occurs because the State does not have the capacity to redistribute through a tax system, but rather distributes rents from abroad, preventing the State from having its own decision-making capacity (Melián, 2015 p.18). This situation causes semi-renegade countries to have difficulties in developing democratizing policies since the power that resides in the elites is not distributed, causing that it is not the own rulers who make the own decision to change and to distribute the power in all The society (Melián, 2015 p.19). This situation occurs in Jordan with the division of its population into classic social cleavages such as rural / urban (Lipset and Rokkan, 1967) where political elites

are based on the rural environment and economic elites in the urban environment, as will be explained later In the history of Jordan.

Given that the semi-rentier countries are directly influenced by the international factor, it is important to mention that politics and decision-making are directly affected by the incomes received (Melián, 2015 p.19). Likewise, being highly penetrated countries, the influence of international actors and circumstances has an impact (Hinnebusch, 2002 pp. 1-2). However, this impact is not constant and is linked to the geopolitical and economic space occupied by the country, as well as the time of that process (Tomé, 2015 p.68). In addition, international influence may be more or less direct. According to Tomé, three mechanisms of union between the domestic and the international can be established: The diffusion of ideas, models and international preferences; The demonstration effect; The direct action of international actors ". (...)

The first mechanism shows that the international climate, as well as the historical context, can influence the actors and therefore in the countries through the diffusion of ideas, models and international preferences (Tomé, 2015 p.69). The second mechanism shows that international external effects exert an influence on decision-making and can trigger actions and strategies that would not be taken in current situations. The demonstration effect occurs because the countries make decisions based on the positive results that the actions have had in the desecadent place or, the measures that must be taken to avoid repeating the failure of the actors (Mainwaring and Pérez-Liñán, 2013 p. Four. Five). With this mechanism it is observed that, normally, events occurring in a region are more likely to create a "wave effect". The latter mechanism shows that the policies of international actors in a particular country can have a direct impact on domestic actors. This means that economic assistance, the proportion of incomes, the signing of international agreements, as well as international cooperation exercise a position of power in domestic decision-making (Huntington 1994: 46).

4. DEVELOPMENT OF RESEARCH

4.1 Brief political and social history of Jordan

Jordan, also known as the Hashemite Kingdom, is a state without water resources and oil, with a rather precarious economy, dependent on international aid, located in the Middle East and bordering Syria, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Israel and the West Bank. It is characterized by its political stability and neutral position in the different conflicts that occur in the Middle East region (Melián, 2015, p. 132).

After the country's independence in 1947 from the British mandate, Jordan has demonstrated a great ability to overcome the political difficulties that many other countries suffered in the same situations. It is important to note that when Jordan was constituted, the country was extremely tribal, with no national tradition, where political power was going to be difficult to accept, since the legitimacy of the regime was questioned by the different tribes.

The management by Abdalah Hussain, future King Abdala I, allowed tribes to be included in the state structure, thus creating the pattern of Jordanian patrimonialist distribution, distributing wealth through subsidies to ensure the continuity of alliances with the Tribes (Alon, 2009 p.43). As mentioned above, Jordan was created without a national identity and Bedouin tribes have been presented as "a symbol of Jordanian national identity in contrast to the traditional Palestinian sedentary population" (Layne 1984: 24) .

With the creation of the State of Israel in 1948, Jordan underwent a change in its structure because of the massive influx of Palestinian refugees into its borders, which is the origin of one of the divisions that characterize the country (Melián, 2015, p. 187) . In 1970 a civil war known as the "Black September" took place, leaving more than 10,000 dead facing the Palestinian side and the Jordanian side (Melián, 2015 p.188).

In the late 1980s, Jordan suffered a turning point in political management, first by King Hussein I and then by his son Abdullah II when he came to power in 1999. Jordanian political reform led to positive changes towards political liberalization Of the country: political parties were legal, parliamentary elections occurred

frequently and important economic reforms were carried out (Choucair, 2006 p.3). However, reality shows that real democratic changes have not been achieved. The monarchy has succeeded in maintaining internal political stability which faces all the external challenges of which Jordan has been and is surrounded. The coming to power of King Abdullah II could have allowed the liberation of the country, modernization and openness to political change, but monarchy continues to retain the monopoly of power (Barré and Masciulli 2009: 383).

The Jordanian monarchy is classified in liberalized autocratic regimes since its system of government allows a political opening and there are established democratic mechanisms such as the electoral competition, the possibility of voting to different political parties, as well as a certain freedom of the press (Brumberg, 2002 , Pp. 56-68). However, the king ultimately ensures that power prevails in the power of elites and in the Jordanian case, in tribal power.

Likewise, it is considered an axis or linchpin of the political system since the king not only reigns, but also has an active political role as it happens in Morocco and not in the monarchies of the Gulf (Barany, 2013 p.6). However, this role is not directly exposed to the public political life of the country's daily life thus keeping it away from being identified with possible political problems. Hence, the role of the king is central to the country's politics, and all Jordanians know that the king sets the course of politics and most of the decisions that are made (Luke, 2005: 21).

The popular revolts that occurred in 2011 have greatly marked the direction that many countries in the MENA region have taken. The Arab Spring did not greatly affect Jordan and this is due to the political stability enjoyed by the country as well as the neutral position it maintains in the various regional conflicts that surround it.

Different student movements, as well as unions and opposition groups organized demonstrations, mostly peaceful, to claim more rights and freedoms (Aissaoui and Majed, 2011). It is also important to mention that the king promised changes and reforms to prevent the Arab Spring from affecting the country and, above all,

political stability (Yom and Gause, 2012 p. 79) with the creation of a national dialogue committee to fight Against corruption and improve laws on political parties and the media (Aissaoui and Majed, 2011).

The revolts in Amman in March 2011 marked the beginning of political instability since the Hashem kingdom had 5 different governments until December 2012, showing that the king can modify the executive branch without any democratic control (Melián, 2015)

As a result of these revolts, numerous initiatives and committees have been created, although the reality is that the changes have been quite limited. The structural reforms that should be carried out are not at the top of the agenda and the monarchy continues to enjoy the monopoly of power in power by making all important decisions without regard to the electorate. It is important to ask if there will be real political reform in the country that will make the country more democratic. Due to its fragile demographic situation, Jordan must be able to withstand the numerous pressures exerted by Palestinian regional groups, as well as the country's many challenges (Choucair, 2006 p.3).

According to the Freedom House index, Jordan is considered a "non-free" country, with a "non-free" press and "partially free" internet. Since 2010 Freedom House has awarded him an overall score of 5.5, earning a five in civil liberties and a six in political freedoms. However, from 1998 to 2010 Freedom House classified it as a partially free country, reflecting a process of de-liberalization since the start of the protests and the Syrian crisis (Freedom House, 2015).

The Hashem kingdom presents a very characteristic social structure with numerous social cleavages that makes governance difficult. The most important divisions of Jordan would be the Jordanians of Jordanian origin and the Jordanians of Palestinian origin; The Islamists and the secular, the urban and rural population, and the tribal fracture of society. These fractures overlap and we observe how the urban population is linked to the Jordanian population of Palestinian origin and how the rural population is associated with the population of Jordanian origin. Likewise, the economic sectors are also distributed between Palestinians and Jordanians. The Palestinian population has economic power

with liberal professions, big investors, etc. Against the rural population of Jordanian origin who has been impoverished but who, in turn, possesses political power and works in the public sector. This clear division of society entails a conflict between communities because Jordanians of Palestinian origin, even sustaining the power of the private sector, are completely marginalized in access to the public sector (Melián, 2015 pp. 139-140).

For decades, Jordan has overtaken the arrival of refugees and the different political and economic crises that are generated, diminishing the power of the opposition and increasing the distribution of benefits and privileges to groups of political power to create cohesion in the Bases of the policy. The kingdom has always been able to create a sustainable internal situation by focusing on the good geographical situation that the country enjoys. In addition, Jordan has benefited from external stability, given its stability within the region, mainly dependent on incomes and aid received from abroad, especially from the United States and Saudi Arabia, as well as from remittances from Jordanian workers in Countries of the Gulf (Melián, 2015, p. 139). This aid allows the country to supply the lack of natural resources and maintain a stable domestic policy (Choucair, 2006 p.3).

4.2 Previous refugee crisis in Jordan

Middle East regional instability causes Jordan to be known in the region as a country hosting refugees from numerous countries. Throughout its history, Jordan has received people from Palestine, as well as from Iraq and now Syria. That is why the arrival of Syrian refugees should not be seen as a difficult challenge to cope with, but as a continuation of the country's recent history.

It is important to note that Jordan has not signed the 1951 Geneva Convention, which establishes the international protection of refugees or the 1967 protocol. It is also true that even with Jordan's record of reception along Of its history, the kingdom has not been able to develop an appropriate legal framework to address the issue of refugees. Jordan has always had international assistance in dealing with these waves of people in need of asylum (Francis, 2015 p.5).

4.2.1 The Palestinian case

In the Palestinian case, the creation of the State of Israel led to the massive departure of many Palestinians to the neighboring countries and Jordan hosted numerous refugees by shaping a new map of the identity of the Hashemite kingdom.

The tension between the Palestinian population and the government in 1970 led to what is known as the "Black September" in which the army attacked Palestinian refugee camps causing numerous civilian deaths (Tome, 2009: 206). At this historical point, the future of the Hashem kingdom was very precarious and it became clear that Jordan was not prepared to face an identity crisis. The assault by the army of the kingdom was the result of the alleged creation by the Palestine Liberation Organization of a State within Another State threatening the stability of King Hussein (Milton-Edwards and Hinchcliffe, 2009, 42).

The origin of the Jordanian Palestinian social cleavage stems from the tensions between the two populations after the "Black September." As described above, Jordan has a social structure divided between the population of Jordanian origin and the population of Palestinian origin. Today, Palestinians and their descendants make up 70% of the Jordanian population (Tomé, 2009). The Palestinian population has lived in Jordan for more than 30 years and is still poorly represented in politics and power elites, where the population of Jordanian origin still occupies jobs in the public sector, a feature of the State patronage of a semirrentista state (Melián, 2015 p.188). However, the Palestinian population plays a very important role in the economic sectors thanks to significant investments in the private sector and in urban areas, thus becoming the Jordanian economic elite (Ryan, 2013, 350).

Likewise, the Palestinians have actively participated in the organization of the Muslim Brotherhood, causing the Palestinian cleavage to associate in Jordan with the Islamist cleavage (Melián, 2015, p. 189).

4.2.2 The Iraqi case

In the Iraqi case, Jordan hosts the second largest refugee population after Syria with the arrival of about 450,000 Iraqis (Tome, 2009 p.208). The exit of refugees takes force from the year 2003, when the invasion of Iraq by the United States begins. Prior to that date, Iraq also exported refugees because of totalitarianism and the repressive nature of the regime (The Iraqi Refugee Crisis in Syria, Jordan and Lebanon, 2009).

Iraqis arrive in a complicated environment such as the Jordanian, where the country's demography and geography is already divided between Palestinians and Bedouins and the presence of a new identity can destabilize the country. The original Jordanians enjoy much more power than they are demographically (Thomas, 2009). Iraqi refugees also find it difficult to adapt and have certain freedoms in Jordan because of the Black September described above with the Palestinians (Tomé, 2011 p.326). The presence of Iraqi refugees disturbs the local population because, according to government sources, Iraqi refugees cost \$ 1 billion a year and limit access to water to Jordan, among other consequences (International Crisis Group, 2008 p. 12). However, it is also important to mention that there are other sources who believe that the presence of Iraqi refugees is benefiting the Hashemite Kingdom with the participation of skilled labor from Iraq, as well as increased investment.

With the presence of refugees, there was a fear in Jordan of a possible growth of Shi'ism, even if they represented only 17% of the refugees who came to the kingdom and, consequently, of Iran's greater influence in the country. According to a report by the International Crisis Group, the Hashem kingdom reacted nervously to any expression of Shi'ite identity. The authorities, to stop the rise of a Shiite faction, tried to prevent Iraqis from visiting the shrines of two historic Shiite figures, as well as a ban on opening a huseiniyat (Shi'a houses for prayer); There were teachers who told the children that the Shiites were not true Muslims and there were preachers giving the Friday sermon by supporting the jihadists in Iraq, among many other examples (2008). The refugees were a turning point in security for Jordan, and the king played a key role in showing neutrality to the Iraqi government as the collaboration with the neighboring country is important in

the fight against al-Qaeda. In a speech proclaimed by Abdallah, the king explains that "the most important thing is that whoever lives in Jordan has to respect the laws and rules of the country and preserve their security and stability. That includes Iraqis living in Jordan. I would like to point out once again that as long as we foster our relations with Iraqis both in Iraq and with those who live among us, we will never allow Jordan to become the base of operations to initiate problems with Iraq. "(Ferris, 2007 p.14)

4.2.3 Syrian refugees in Jordan

According to Antonio Guterres, head of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, "the war in Syria is more brutal and destructive than the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, and has become the biggest humanitarian disaster since End of the Cold War "(LaFranchi, 2013). With this letter, Jordan has become one of the most welcoming and attentive countries in responding to and supporting the wave of refugees fleeing the war in Syria. As described above, Jordan is a country that has historically given asylum to refugees who have reached their borders from Palestine and Iraq. Jordan has accepted thousands of displaced people and many of them have moved west or returned to their countries of origin, but a very significant percentage have remained on the borders of the kingdom (Carrion, 2015).

With the Syrian crisis, UNHCR has reported about 630,000 Syrian refugees in Jordan, although the actual number could be much higher since many are not registered for fear of being on official lists, as well as not having enough information on how to register or Not having access to the registration points (Berti, 2015 p.41). With this increase in demographics, the Jordanian population has increased by 8%, causing some fear in the local population due to the growth of competition in obtaining opportunities and access to the country's resources (Carrion, 2015 p . 2).

It is important to emphasize that Jordan is a country accustomed to negotiating its survival and stability in the area thanks to international aid, and the historical situations that the Hashemite Kingdom has had to face with the waves of

refugees have provided an opportunity to sustain and Balance international support for the country (Francis, 2015).

Approximately 80% of Syrian refugees are concentrated in the northern urban areas, in the provinces of Amman, Irbid and Mafrad (Stave and Hillesund, 2015 p. 113). Syrian refugees constitute 52 per cent of the total population of Mafrad province, where half live in communities outside refugee camps and some 80,000 live in Zaatari, the country's largest refugee camp (Berti, 2015 p. 42). The Syrians constitute 46% of the non-Jordanian population living in the kingdom and 13.2% of the general population, according to the preliminary results of the national census carried out at the end of 2015 (Ghazal, 2016) .

The total Jordanian population stands at 9.5 million people, the number of Jordanians is approximately 6.6 million, while the number of non-Jordanians residing in the country is about 2.9 million, representing The 30.6% of the total population (Ghazal, 2016).

With this distribution of the population, it is observed that the problems caused in the country are of different nature and do not affect equally all Jordanian areas.

This is the second refugee crisis that Jordan has to face in a decade. In this situation, it can be seen that the Syrian crisis is in some ways similar to the refugee crisis in Palestine and Iraq as to the reasons why the population flee, and at the same time, there are numerous differences that complicate the situation of The Syrians in Jordan. The recorded number of Syrians in the Hashemite kingdom far outnumbers the number of Iraqi refugees and the new refugees are having more difficulty finding a place to live. On the other hand, the war in Syria does not seem to have a near end of moment, which makes difficult the return of the refugees to their country of origin.

Five years after the start of the crisis in Syria, many families in Jordan are having financial difficulties because they have spent all the savings, sold their assets and lost access to the networks that provided them with certain aid. Increasingly, the debt of the Syrians increases and the aid in food vouchers and cash given to them, are not enough to cover their cost of living. The situation has become really

complicated and according to UNHCR data, two-thirds of Syrian families living in urban Jordan live below the poverty line (Carrion, 2015 p.3).

This precarious situation of the Syrian refugees disturbs the local population and has a direct impact on different aspects of the economic and social life of Jordan, also affecting the political decisions of the government.

4.4 Impact of Syrian refugees

Before the Syrian refugee crisis, Jordan faced different challenges in its economic and social sectors, as well as access to the country's resources. With the Arab Spring, the government had to launch reforms to solve problems with water scarcity, rising unemployment, and in particular youth unemployment, as well as improving public education and access to an adequate health system. Because of the arrival of Syrian refugees, the Jordanian population has the perception that the country has had to curb political and social reforms in order to cope with the demographic increase.

Syrian refugees have had a positive and negative impact on the Hashemite kingdom, although Jordanian society is extremely critical in the presence of refugees. 85% of Jordanian workers believe that Syrians should not be able to enter the country freely and 65% believe that Syrians should only live in refugee camps. With this discontent of the population, the government faces numerous difficulties in making decisions as the perception of the Jordanian population is that the state is offering too many facilities to the refugees. As a result, aid to the Syrians is decreasing at the same time as mistrust in international aid intensifies, water scarcity increases and an environment of insecurity is created which may affect the stability of the regime (Francis, 2015 p 7).

Criticism of the population makes it difficult for the government to take decisions and makes the challenges to which it has to face even greater. Likewise, the consequences that the refugees cause are varied and there is some difficulty in classifying them since, normally, the political, economic and social consequences are strongly linked.

It is important to analyze if the impact of the refugees is as negative as the society exposes and it is necessary also, to observe what impact causes the increase of the population so suddenly.

4.4.1 Impact on Macroeconomics

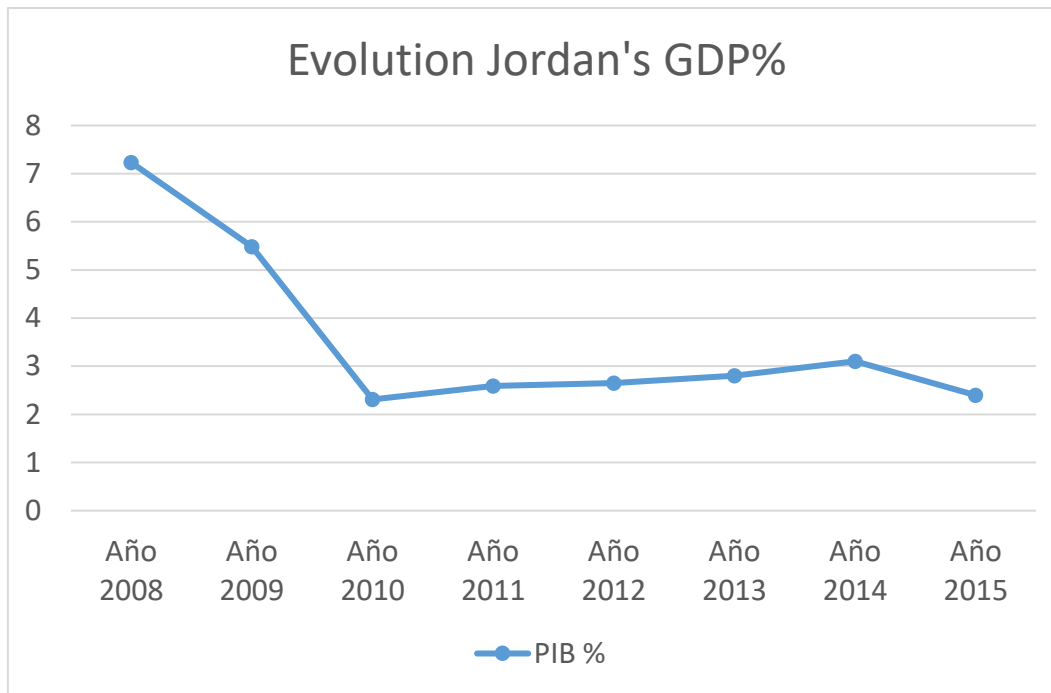
The impact on the country's macroeconomic data intensified in 2011, creating a fiscal crisis and a drastic slowdown in growth and employment. These changes are due in large part to the regional tension that exists in the Middle East causing a major impact on tourism, foreign investment, the interruption of the arrival of gas from Egypt and the reduction of the exchange of goods from Syria to Jordan To reach Europe.

The Syrian crisis and regional instability have had the greatest impact on Jordan's macroeconomic data and the arrival of refugees has not played as important a role as one might assume.

Although specialists, citizenship and government usually tend to focus more on the negative impact of Syrian refugees in the country, it is important to mention that the arrival of people at the Jordanian borders has even been able to provoke a positive situation in the macroeconomic data Of the country (Francis, 2015 p.14).

The flow of Syrian refugees has spurred the increase in public investment, as well as growth in sectors such as construction, transport, telecommunications and the services sector, causing gross domestic product to increase in recent years.

FIGURE 1: Evolution Jordan's GDP (2008-2015)



In the evolution of the Jordanian GDP, it can be observed that the rate of growth fell during the year 2010 to 2.31%, with a significant drop in the rates of 2008 and 2009. This decrease was attributed in part to a fall in foreign investment Direct, which fell to \$ 1.2 million in 2010, the lowest figure since 2005 (Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, 2013 p.12). Economic growth was also reduced by the global financial crisis that hit Jordan in late 2008. The 2008-2010 phase represents the beginning of the global financial crisis and its continuing impact on the Jordanian economy. The real GDP growth rate continued to decline during the 2008-2010 phase. GDP growth rates indicate the continued vulnerability of the Jordanian economy to an external shock and hence its strong dependence on the international factor. The next phase is the years 2010 to 2013, demonstrating a weak economy in the middle of the Arab Spring and the crisis of the Syrian refugees. Private consumption of both Jordanians and Syrians has increased in recent years, as well as foreign investment and the relocation of numerous Syrian businesses in Jordanian territory, thus allowing a rebound in economic growth in 2014 and even if it declines again in Growth remains in many production sectors. According to the Jordanian statistics department, the electricity and water sector has achieved the highest growth rate with 17.1% in the fourth quarter of 2015, compared to the same period in 2014. The agricultural sector, Construction, transportation, as well as the finance, insurance and real

estate sector, which have also experienced greater growth compared to 2014 (The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, 2016).

However, there are also destabilizing factors caused not only by the presence of refugees in Jordan, but also by the conflicts that surround the country, causing a deterioration of trade and a decline in tourism.

Due to the conflict in Syria, Jordan has lost one of its major trade routes, causing a 9% loss in its trade balance in 2012 (Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, 2013 p.23). Although the amount of trade between these two countries is rather small, Jordan depended on Syria as a transit country to trade with Turkey, Lebanon and Europe (World Bank, 2013 p.16). This situation has led to Jordan having to look for more expensive alternative routes such as using the port of Aqaba or Iraq, which leads to a loss of price competitiveness when exporting.

Recent data show that Jordanian exports to Syria during the first 10 months of 2013 decreased by more than \$ 72 million for the same period in 2012. On the other hand, exports to Lebanon decreased by \$ 69 million during the same period (Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, 2013 p.23).

However, the increase in Syrian refugees has also affected Jordan because of increased imports. Since the start of the crisis in Syria, imports from Jordan have increased by 22% in 2011 and 9% in 2012. During the first ten months of 2013, imports from Syria increased by 24% over the same period in 2012, bringing total imports to \$ 206 million. Therefore, the crisis in Syria has had a negative impact on the Jordanian trade balance since there is a decrease in exports while imports increase, aggravating the country's trade imbalance (Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, 2013 p.23).

In terms of tourism, year after year, Jordan is one of its engines of GDP, which contributes 14% and is the country's second largest source of income. It is affected by regional tensions and the Syrian conflict. The number of tourists decreased by 15% in the first four months of 2015 and the data provided by the tourism ministry on its website show that tourists from all over the world have significantly reduced. A clear example of this reduction is Petra, ranked as one of

the 7 wonders of the world, has gone from more than 1 million visitors in 2010 to less than 450,000 in 2015 (MOTA, 2016). According to tourism minister Nayef al-Fayez, Jordan suffers from tensions in the region that do not belong to it "some think that Jordan is part of the problem in the region. Energy is another major problem in Jordan. The Hashemite Kingdom is one of the most energy dependent countries in the world, accounting for about 97% of its energy needs. While Jordan has achieved many development goals, maintaining these results will increasingly depend on the transition to a future based on renewable energy. In addition to structural challenges in the energy sector in terms of supply, demand and management, Jordan is also facing aggravating factors stemming from Arab riots and the crisis in Syria (Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, 2013). .119).

In 2014, the kingdom spent \$ 5.9 billion, or equivalent to 18.5% of its GDP, in energy. Although the service remains subsidized, in 2012, in accordance with commitments made with the IMF, a process was begun to allocate fuel subsidies and rationalize electricity prices. The kingdom has made progress in this regard, but has a way to go, especially in relation to electricity. At the same time, Jordan is trying to diversify its energy sources, move forward with the construction of two nuclear facilities, renewable energy projects, and the search for a natural gas agreement with Israel (Schenker, 2015).

About 75% of Syrians now reside in cities and towns in Jordan, which aggravates energy consumption levels, including demand for electricity, as well as the need for gas for domestic cooking, the only fuel derivative that follows Being subsidized by the government. Access to energy has emerged as a central concern for the future development of Jordan, and therefore the well-being of vulnerable Syrian communities in cities and refugee camps must be taken into account. While the sudden influx of refugees has exacerbated the levels of urban energy demand in Jordan, the role of refugees is not as important in this challenge as it does not entail such a significant change in energy consumption. Most of these challenges predate the crisis in Syria, and refer to the need for long-term structural changes in energy imports and the government's subsidy system. According to statistics from the Jordanian state, the per capita average energy expenditure among

Syrians living in cities and towns is 25% lower than that of the Jordanian population (Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, 2013 p.121).

The greatest economic impact of Syrian refugees is the increase in demand for public services and the constraints infrastructures have to cope with this increase. As a result, Jordan has had to increase public funding and provide more services to society by increasing investments to improve education, health and water services, which will be discussed in more detail below.

In 2013, the Jordanian government invested \$ 81.4 million to enroll 78,531 Syrian children in public schools (Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, 2013). The investment required to maintain infrastructures and continue to enroll Syrian children will reach approximately 130 million dollars by 2016 (Jordan Response Platform for the Syria Crisis, 2015 p.152). The Jordanian government has also spent \$ 168 million on basic health services for refugees. The figures indicate that an additional \$ 62 million is needed to meet the additional demand stemming from population growth. Investment in infrastructure is related to improving the provision of basic services such as access to running water, connections to the electricity grid, maintenance of roads, etc. The figures show that efforts by the Hashemite Kingdom are important and by 2015, 35 per cent of the Jordanian public budget was spent on receiving refugees. This increase in the budget for newcomers highlights the need for international funding to meet the needs of a country that does not have many of its own revenues (Fakih and Marrouch, 2015). We must not pay the price of this problem "(AFP, 2015).

4.4.2 Social impact and challenges

The arrival of the Syrian refugees has changed the political course that the government had been following after the Arab Spring of 2011, provoking a new situation that directly affects to the Jordanian reality and, therefore, to the society. Numerous social and political reforms had been initiated and were paused by the massive influx of population. The Hashemite Kingdom government is facing a difficult situation because its capacity to distribute the country's essential services such as health and education has been reduced because of the population increase, having to restructure the money destined to these services to try to

improve the Situation of the sectors most affected. Access to decent housing, the labor market and a basic resource such as water have also been influenced, causing tensions in the population.

Prior to the presence of refugees, the education sector was making progress to improve the working conditions of teachers and to provide better quality services. Now public schools are even more saturated. This was a problem that already existed before, and in areas like Amman and Irbid, half of the schools are crowded and have limited the ability to incorporate new students. It should be noted that about half of the Syrian refugees are under the age of 18, so that educational demand in Jordan has increased significantly (United Nations Children's Fund, 2015).

On the one hand, the time devoted to being in the class by the students decreases to give more room in the classrooms. On the other hand, teachers must cover double shifts in order to serve all children without receiving fair financial compensation (UNDP, 2014).

Another notable problem is that the infrastructure of the centers is outdated and needs maintenance and expansion since schools can not receive the total number of children who have to attend school, regardless of whether they are refugees or local (UNDP , 2014).

The ability to provide access to all children has increased the tension in communities receiving refugees. Most of the data collected comes from northern areas. With these data, we see that the impact of refugees has been important and improving Jordan's education in access and quality must be a priority for the government.

In the health sector, a situation similar to that described above occurs. Prior to the Syrian crisis, Jordan had established a network of good quality medical care with different medical centers and hospitals for proportional health access to all citizens within a radius of 10 kilometers from their homes. However, with the arrival of refugees, pressure in the health sector has also been noted, as the Jordanian government has allowed free access of refugees to health services free of charge. With this measure, the health system has deteriorated because

demand, needs and costs have increased and at the same time, the country does not have enough health workers or a structure large enough to give attention to both local and Syrian population. Centers are suffering from a shortage of medicines and vaccines (World Bank, 2013).

The government has made efforts to deal with the situation and maintain its development goals, increasing health staff and offering more drugs, but the goal is difficult and the government has been frustrated with its goals and increased population dissatisfaction with the quality of Health services provided (UNDP, 2014).

According to the Ministry of Health, the number of Syrian outpatient visits to primary care centers increased from 68 in January 2012 to 15,975 in March 2013. The number of admissions of Syrian refugees to public hospitals also increased from 300 to 10,330 in the same period (Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, 2013 p.69). As a result of the overburdening of the public health system, Jordanians have increasingly turned to private centers and hospitals for assistance, making health care less accessible and more expensive for Jordanians (Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation , 2013, pp. 69).

Providing vaccines to the Syrian population has been one of the most costly and most important services provided to the government, and yet Jordan has undergone the resurgence of communicable diseases that had been eradicated for years, such as tuberculosis, poliomyelitis and Measles (World Bank, 2013).

Access to health is a controversial issue since the government wants to guarantee quality health care, but the overhead in the service is obvious. Community tensions have increased between the Jordanians and the Syrians. In a study carried out by REACH, 64% of Jordanians and 56% of Syrians had experienced tensions in their communities over health (2014 p.2). To remedy this situation, in November 2014, the government changed its strategy with universal and free access to health care, and Syrian refugees were no longer entitled to free medical services (Francis 2015).

Another of the most important social consequences is the difficulty of finding adequate housing and offering an optimal service to the refugee population, since

80% live outside the camps (Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan: Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, 2014). The challenge of getting decent accommodation is hampered by the fact that the number of available housing units has been significantly reduced. This situation means that rent prices have increased significantly in all areas of northern Jordan where refugee presence is more pronounced, causing a further problem for refugees but also for the local Jordanian community (Berti, 2015 p.44). In the cities of Mafraq and Ramtha in the north of the country, some rents have increased six times the price before the Syrian crisis and on average, house prices have tripled (Francis, 2015 p.10).

With this situation, many Jordanians show their discontent due to the high competition that exists to be able to find a house. This situation is one of the most stressful among refugees and locals, largely because the social impact Jordanians suffer is also very high, contributing to a strong sense of frustration. This is the case, for example, of young couples who have to delay their marriage since they can not afford a house given the high prices (Hamai, et al., 2013).

The situation in access to the labor market is also delicate and there are numerous reports showing the impact of Syrian refugees on the Jordanian labor market. The most tangible effects are seen in existing job opportunities, in wage levels, in working conditions, as well as in the accessibility to work of Jordanians, refugees and immigrants. In northern areas where the presence of refugees is greater, labor market pressures are also more present.

Numerous Jordanian voices consider that the impact of Syrian refugees on the labor market is negative and are the cause of rising unemployment. Although Syrian refugees can not legally work in Jordan, the International Labor Organization has carried out a study to analyze the impact of Syrian refugees in the labor sector. According to the ILO, it is estimated that the Syrians have occupied 160,000 jobs on the black market, especially in the agriculture, construction and service sectors. The labor market has been hit, although it is difficult to quantify the impact because almost half of Jordanian employment comes from the underground economy. In northern areas such as Mafraq, Amman and Irbid, unemployment has increased from 14.5% in 2011 to 22.1% in 2014. According to the ILO's FAFO study, in most sectors, Jordanians have not

Having reduced the chances of finding a job because of the Syrian refugees. While it is true that in the study, some Jordanians consider that, in certain sectors such as construction, jobs have been reduced. According to the ILO survey, 96% of Jordanians considered that the Syrians were taking jobs away from the local population (Stave and Hillesund, 2015 p.43). However, the opinion of many experts focusing on the international aid refugees are obtaining, consider that the Syrians working in the submerged economy compete with jobs with immigrants like Egyptians or Sudanese and not with the Jordanians (Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, 2013, 34). As can be seen, there is a lack of consensus when considering that the presence of Syrian refugees has been a direct cause in the increase of unemployment. In Jordan there was already a delicate situation in the labor market before the arrival of the Syrian refugees. The greatest difficulty is found in youth unemployment which has grown over the years because of numerous factors, including the global financial and economic crisis. Another fact to be taken into account is that unemployment has a different tendency in the legal labor market and in the illegal market. Between 2010 and 2013, unemployment grew in the economy while in the shadow economy it experienced an increase in jobs, and this is where the Syrians choose to work (Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, 2013).

The problem that exists with the growth of the submerged economy is that it has negative consequences because it can not be legally regulated. The most obvious impact is that the number of jobs requiring low qualifications increases and at the same time, local citizens as well as foreigners suffer a decrease in their salaries because competition is increasing. Likewise, working conditions have worsened for both refugees and Jordanians. It should be noted that the Jordanian population itself is also part of the illegal labor market and is the part of the local population most vulnerable to change.

One of the biggest problems and challenges Jordan faces is water management due to its scarcity in Jordanian territory.

Jordan is the third country in the world with the least water resources and is constantly suffering from an imbalance in demand for and supply of potable water (Mercy Corp, 2014 p.12). Jordanian water comes mostly from the Yarmouk River

and the Jordan River. However, these resources only serve to supply half of the demand, causing the other half to come from groundwater. Given that the exploitation of this natural resource is greater than its reserves, water levels are becoming smaller and quality is deteriorating (Francis 2015, p.15).

Jordan already had difficulties in supplying the population and the Syrians further complicate water management. The Jordanian Minister of Water and Irrigation predicted that water demand in the country would increase by 16% by 2013 and that the water deficit would increase by up to 50% due in part to the population increase due to refugees. It should be noted that, in some areas of the kingdom, Syrian water demand has doubled (Ministry Of Water And Irrigation, 2013).

The northern communities receive the largest number of refugees and are the areas where the situation has become more delicate. In these areas, the average daily supply has fallen below 30 liters per person, well below what is recommended to meet a person's basic needs (Francis, 2015 p.17).

On the other hand, the canalization systems in the northern areas suffer numerous damages and losses so that an investment in improving the infrastructure is really urgent. Increased demand on the part of the refugees causes the quantity of water and the frequency to become increasingly reduced for the Jordanians. The Jordanian water network is really inefficient and it is considered that 50% is lost due to water losses in the pipes and it is considered that, in the northern areas, a remodeling of the pipeline network should be carried out. Jordanian water (Ministry of Water and Irrigation, 2013 p.110).

As the presence of Syrian refugees increases the demand for water, the Jordanians' preservation and good use of this good is declining for fear that resources will be directed to refugees. This situation causes competition between Jordanians and Syrians to aggravate the delicate situation of water supply to the population (Francis, 2015 p.18).

Social changes in public services are an important part of the transformations that the country has to face in order to manage, in the most efficient way possible, the arrival of refugees and therefore the increase of the population.

However, it should not be forgotten that Jordan is a country that recently integrated numerous refugees from Iraq. Any population that has settled in Jordan has had an impact on the country and Syrian refugees are no exception. The Jordanian political structure is based on a division of the economic and political elites as explained above. Jordan should not look the other way with the arrival of Syrian refugees nor forget the large number of Iraqis and Palestinians who have been established in the country. The political legitimacy of the regime is based on the strong tribal structure, which has very limited access to power.

The demographic changes introduced by the refugees have not changed the political structure of the country. The legitimacy has been based solely on the Jordanian population and there are numerous national laws that prevent the homogenization of Jordanian society today. Legally, Jordanian women do not have the right to grant their own nationality to their child. Therefore, when the mixture of origins occurs, the child can not be considered Jordanian and therefore will not have the possibility of having the benefits of nationality. In the last decades, this problem was only present between Jordanians and Palestinians but given the great reception of Iraqis and Syrians, the next generations of these refugees will be part of an unrepresented population and therefore a 'second class' Leading most likely to social upheavals in the future (Francis, 2015 p.19). Therefore, the Hashemite kingdom will have to face numerous political challenges in order to somehow represent the new Jordanian citizenship.

4.4.3 International aid and response from the Jordanian government

Jordan's good relationship with Europe and the United States, to a large extent, thanks to its stability in the region, has allowed the international community to wrap up Jordan by offering foreign aid and providing development subsidies in the most affected areas to reduce the impact Of refugees in the kingdom. Between 2012 and 2015, Jordan has received an unprecedented amount of international aid from the United States, Europe and Saudi Arabia, which has contributed to increasing public investment as well as boosting economic growth.

In 2012, foreign grants and loans totaled \$ 3.1 billion, quadrupling the amounts received since 2000 (Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, 2013

p.20). Only US aid has meant \$ 700 million in 2014 and 2015, doubling the amounts it offered in 2011 (Sharp, 2016).

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is responsible for distributing non-military international aid, and has been working for more than 60 years in the development of Jordan. The programs are long-lasting and allow greater development in education, health, energy, water, etc. Given the refugee crisis, USAID has reoriented existing programs to give greater support to the Jordanian government and focus on the tensions provoked by the Syrian crisis.

To mitigate the impact, the economic support provided by the agency to Jordan consists of \$ 552 million in budget support and the backing of \$ 3.75 billion in loan guarantees since 2012. It is important to note that, \$ 419 million has been earmarked to help the Jordanian government cope with the pressures of the crisis (USAID, 2016).

With regard to European aid, the Commission has offered approximately € 686 million to assist refugees and vulnerable communities in Jordan. This aid amounts to more than € 251 million of the total humanitarian aid offered by the EU and its different instruments. By 2016, 53 million euros, 180 million euros of the financial assistance instrument, 170 million of the instrument of European neighbors and more than 30 million euros are being used to contribute to peace and stability. It is noted that since 2011, the EU has contributed around 1,130 million euros since 2011 (European Commission, 2016).

Since the beginning of the crisis, the European Commission has contributed to the provision of services such as health, food and basic needs assistance, water and sanitation, psychological support and program protections for refugees in camps and settlements Urban The provision of basic services in towns and cities across the country also include vulnerable Jordanian families. The programs are focused on supporting children and women, with approximately 53% of refugees being children and 23.5% women. With 83% of refugees in Jordan living in urban settings, the Commission offers assistance with cash as it is considered the most cost-effective and worthy way to help people in need (European Commission, 2016).

In response to this complex humanitarian situation, the UN has spearheaded a new approach to humanitarian assistance, integrating development assistance to communities hosting refugees with traditional humanitarian aid. In December 2014, UNHCR and UNDP launched the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan for integrating humanitarian and development resources and addressing the needs of displaced populations and host communities. As the crisis in Syria intensifies, the plan is also an attempt to expand the traditional sources of funding available in emergency humanitarian assistance and provide a long-term response to development resources. The integration of humanitarian aid and development represents the first time that the UN and humanitarian actors have worked together to give a firm and common response to the refugee crisis. The integration of humanitarian aid and development is an appropriate response to the complexity of the crisis in Syria, which endangers the security of millions of Syrians and the stability of neighboring host countries. As host communities are increasingly under pressure, it is essential that both refugees and Jordanian communities receive support (UNHCR and UNDP, 2015 p.2).

Undoubtedly, the refugee crisis has contributed to increased foreign funding in Jordan. It can be seen that the costs of annual humanitarian aid budgets to respond to the Syrian crisis have increased by 3% in the Jordanian GDP, although it should be noted that not all foreign aid objectives have been met (Francis, 2015 p 14). In fact, by June 2015, the international community had contributed only \$ 272 million out of the required \$ 1.191 billion, representing 23 per cent of the budget agreed to under the Jordanian government's plan (UNHCR and UNDP, 2015 p.3) .

Foreign aid is the greatest support the Hashemite Kingdom has to face the Syrian refugees. The government has also taken certain measures to mitigate the impact of the refugees and thus reduce the social tensions that are present in areas with greater influx of Syrians.

With regard to European aid, the Commission has offered approximately € 686 million to assist refugees and vulnerable communities in Jordan. This aid amounts to more than € 251 million of the total humanitarian aid offered by the EU and its different instruments. The Ministry of Planning and International

Cooperation together with the UN and the HCSP launched in 2014 the National Resilience Plan in order to "mitigate the impact of Syrian crisis in Jordan and in Jordanian host communities "(Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, 2014 p.11). In order to meet the objectives of the NRP, five working groups and three reference groups have been selected, which will carry out a program of priority projects to achieve the goals proposed in each sector. To achieve these goals, a number of objectives have been proposed in each sector:

- In the education sector, the main objective is "to facilitate access to inclusive quality education for all children (Syrian and Jordanian), especially the most vulnerable, through formal, non-formal and informal opportunities."

- In the energy sector, "addressing the growing demand for energy that arises as a result of the arrival of the Syrian refugee population through innovative and sustainable solutions."

- In health, the sector's efforts will be directed towards "improving the health of citizens residing in areas most affected by the Syrian crisis".

- With regard to housing, "Syrian refugees and vulnerable Jordanian households will improve access to affordable and adequate housing in a sector that helps meet the needs of all Jordanians."

- In the middle of life, the main thrust of the program is "The capacity of poor and vulnerable households in the host communities to be strengthened to sustainably recover and recover from the impact of the crisis in Syria and mitigate the future effects On their employment and livelihoods. "

- Regarding municipal services: "The Jordanian local government system is sensitive to welcoming citizens and communities with identified needs in the provinces most affected by the Syrian refugee crisis."

- In the area of social protection, "vulnerable groups affected by the crisis have access to better social protection and improved legal protection frameworks and services in provinces most affected by the crisis in Syria".

- Implementation of the NRP water and sanitation projects will allow "Improving the capacity of the Jordanian government and host communities to meet increasing demand in water and sanitation services."

Through this plan, which has the support of the international community, the Jordanian government aims to increase refugee status, increase aid levels and accelerate the arrival of aid so that the objectives set in the different sectors can be completed.

However, it should be noted that many voices consider that since 2014, Jordan has reduced its hospitality by accepting refugees for security reasons and to reduce the frustration of its own people. The important presence of UNHCR makes it difficult for the government to be more strict with the reception of new refugees, creating tensions between the two bodies. The Hashemite Kingdom wants to close borders and bring together as many refugees as possible in the camps to reduce possible clashes in the northern cities.

In other words, it appears that the Jordanian government has come to the conclusion that the political gains initially observed to accommodate Syrian refugees have declined and that a growing presence of Syrians in the kingdom may threaten national stability, The pressure that the Syrian citizens exert in the public services in the host communities.

5. CONCLUSIONS

5.1 Analysis of results

This section presents the results obtained from the research. The initial question was to know the impact of the Syrian refugee crisis in Jordan.

In the development of the research, it has been observed that Jordan is a country that has hosted a very important refugee population throughout its history, not yet having the resources and economic capacity to do so. It can therefore be considered that Jordan is a country accustomed to receiving refugees. This situation of reception by the regime, facilitates the management of the newcomers from Syria.

Syrian refugees in Jordan have a significant economic and social impact, especially in the communities located in the north of the country, as it is the area that has experienced the greatest population increase. Jordan has fragile equilibria in the social groups, which causes a greater impact in society when there are adversities.

With regard to changes in the economy, it may be early to determine what the actual impact of refugees on macroeconomic data has been since it is a very recent development that continues to bring about changes in Jordan. In addition, the arrival of the refugees coincided with the development of the Arab Spring. However, there are certain consequences linked to the increase in population and the crisis in Syria. Syrian migrants have positively driven economic growth in sectors such as construction, transport, etc., allowing the Jordanian GDP to increase.

It is also observed that in some economic sectors, such as trade or tourism, the data analyzed have been negative and no relation has been found with the presence of Syrian refugees in Jordanian territory, but with the crisis in Syria And with instability in the region.

Public investment has suffered the greatest impact in economic terms and is closely linked to the changes that the country has experienced socially.

Syrian refugees have had a negative impact on Jordanian society as well as on the management carried out by the hachemi government to try to reduce the consequences of an increase in population. Public health and education services have been saturated and Jordan has had to increase public funding, as explained in the previous point. This means that the government's attention at this time is focused on alleviating the effects of the refugees, leaving aside the reforms that had been launched after the Arab spring.

It should not be forgotten that the current refugee crisis is one of the biggest challenges Jordan has faced, especially since the arrival of refugees is intertwined with the delicate situation that existed previously with the spring riots Arab.

The stability of the country is given by the acceptance by the population of the established regime. The riots of the Arab Spring were controlled and stability is present because, thanks to the existing Jordanian social cleavage, refugees are not destabilizing a society that is already divided. However, Jordan must take economic and social measures that include the Jordanian population that is being most affected by the Syrian refugee crisis. In order to do this, it is important to stress that international aid is a key to tackling this humanitarian emergency. This shows the semirrentista nature of a country that, without international aid, could not be able to manage a social crisis of this magnitude. However, it is necessary to emphasize that the agreed aid is not received, and this indicates a lack of clear commitment on the part of the countries that help.

The real situation in the country is that, in recent years, the arrival of Iraqi refugees, now Syrian, is changing Jordanian society. In the long run, the mix of Jordanian population with second generation refugees will be more important. Fearing that refugees continue to arrive in cities and provoke more tense situations, the government is taking steps to try to curb the displacement of refugees to different areas of the country and to keep them in refugee camps, creating barriers so that the Situation of the Jordanian population is not adversely affected.

5.2 Scope and limitations

Referring to the limitations that may arise during the elaboration of this research, the lack of Spanish experts and authors who study in particular Jordan and the implications of the Syrian crisis in the country, make it difficult to have access to a variety of information. There are numerous reports on other Arab countries, as well as experts focusing on the MENA region, but there is little information specifically referring to the Hashem kingdom.

On the other hand, the work focuses mainly on the economic and social impact caused by the arrival of refugees. Issues such as security have not been addressed because it has not been considered that the country has witnessed a before and after with the crisis Syria, although of course the terrorist threat exists just as it is present in many other parts of the world.

5.3 Future suggested lines of research

Since the Syrian crisis is occurring now, it is difficult to analyze its impact on the region. However, in the future and with more perspective, it might be interesting to analyze the impact of the Syrian crisis in the region and not just in a country like Jordan. Likewise, it may be enlightening to investigate whether Jordan has fulfilled the objectives set out in its government plan to deal with the crisis of the Syrian refugees. In this line, another possible research could focus on the transformation of the Jordanian demography and therefore, the establishment of a new society in a country with strong tribal roots.

5.4 Social Impact

The present work can help increase knowledge about a country forgotten by literature and the media.

Jordan is a clear example of a refugee-receiving country that, over its history, has been able to overcome the changes brought about by the massive influx of people. Along these lines, the Hashemite Kingdom, with its experience, could help Europe to manage the refugee crisis it is experiencing today.

Likewise, this research aims to demonstrate that political and social instability is not present throughout the region. Jordan is an open and welcoming country that has a culture that is not very different from ours. I believe that it is important to raise awareness that, even with few resources and knowing that the influx of people will bring changes, refugee reception is necessary for ethical and humane reasons, Jordan is an example that Western countries should take into account.

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