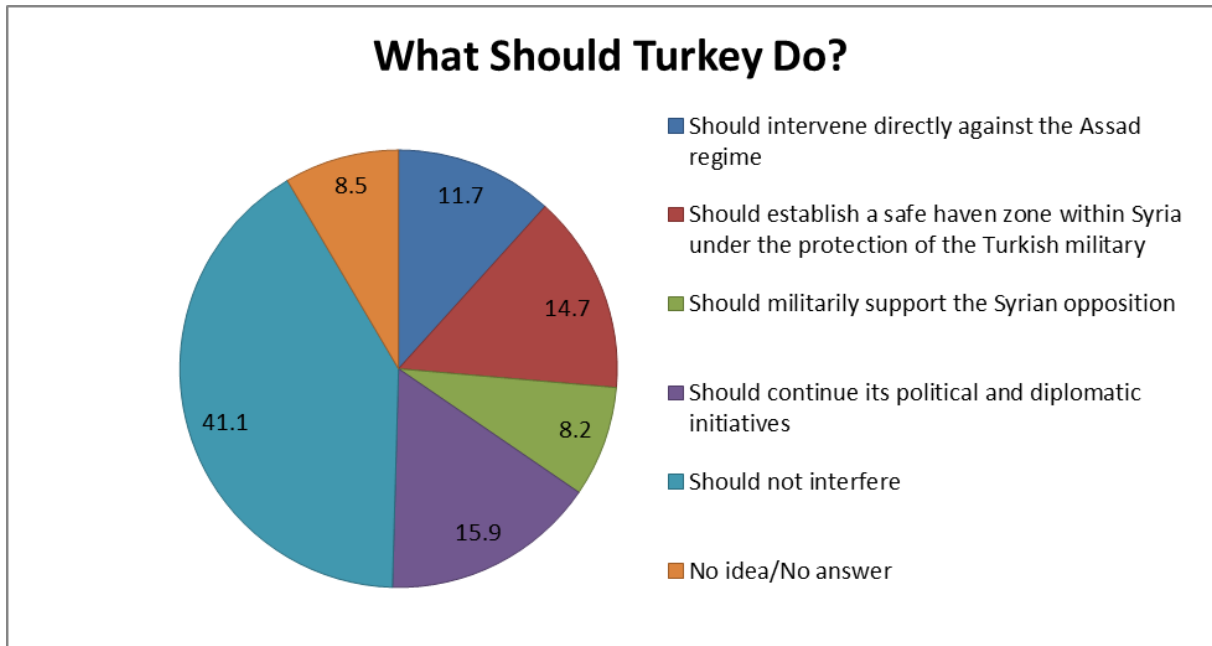


## TURKS GIVE LITTLE SUPPORT TO A DIRECT INTERVENTION AGAINST SYRIA



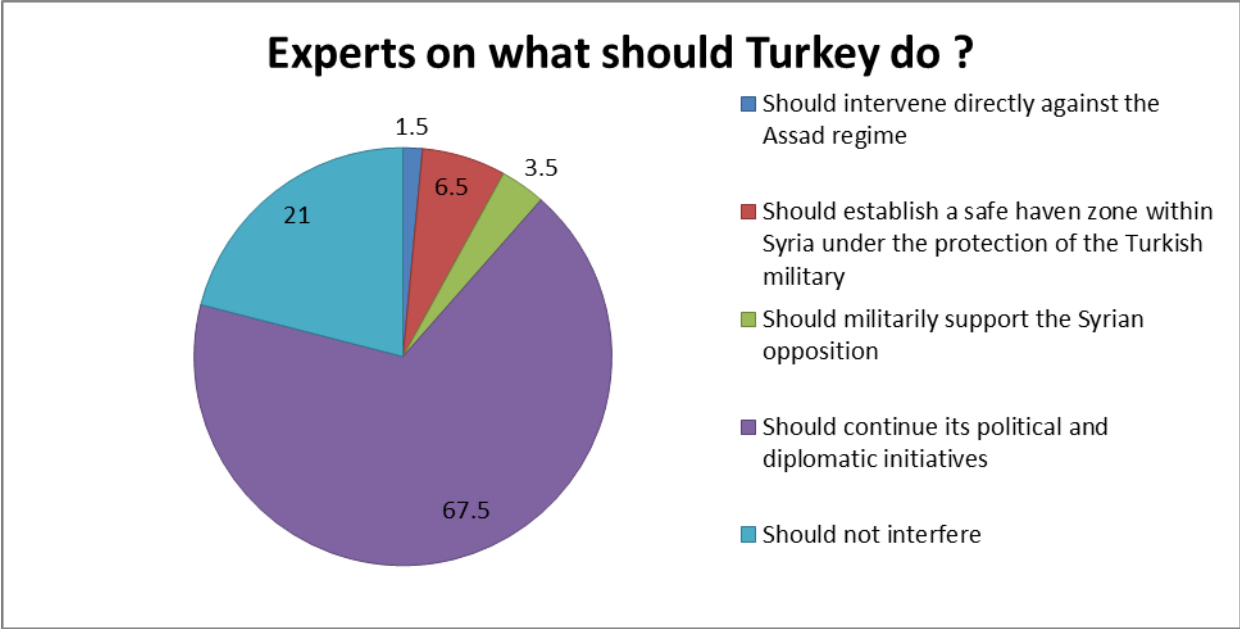
In a public opinion survey carried out by TNS on behalf of EDAM, the Turkish public opinion was polled on the question of “There are different views regarding Turkey’s reaction to the developments in Syria. What do you think Turkey should do?”

According to the survey’s result, 41.1 % of the survey participants believe that Turkey should not interfere in any way. 15.9 % of survey participants supported the option of the continuation of political and diplomatic initiatives. In other words a majority of 57 % are against a direct intervention. The establishment of safe havens within Syria with under the protection of the Turkish military was supported by 14.7 % of participants. 11.7 % of the participants have supported the option of a direct intervention against the Assad regime.

The disaggregation of results according to political party preferences shows that 68.5 % of the Kurdish led BDP supporters have signaled a preference for non-intervention. Such a position is respectively supported by 41.8% of the nationalist opposition party MHP’s electorate, 37.3% of the main opposition party CHP’s electorate and 41.4 % of the ruling party AKP’s electorate. The highest rate of support for the continuation of political and diplomatic initiatives was witnessed among the MHP and AKP electorates with 18.7% for both, whereas among the CHP voters this rate was lower with 11.9 %.

Among those supporting a direct intervention against the Assad regime, CHP voters took the lead with a support of 21.2 % followed by 10.2 % of the AKP electorate and only 8.4 % of the MHP electorate. For the remaining policy options covered by the poll, the response among

the CHP and AKP supporters were quite similar. 12.1% of the AKP and 13.6 % of the CHP electoral base gave support to the option of establishing safe haven zones within Syria under the protection of Turkish troops. 6.2 % of the ruling party’s electorate and 8.6 % of the opposition party’s electorate supported the option of arming the Syrian opposition.



In parallel to this public opinion poll, EDAM carried out a survey among Turkey’s foreign policy expert community with the participation of 200 opinion makers. The objective was to ascertain potential differences regarding policy preferences between the public opinion at large and the expert community. 67.5 % of the panel of experts’ participants stated their preference for the continuation of political and diplomatic initiatives. 21 % of the participants supported the option of no-interference. In total there anti-interventionist preferences were stated by 88.5 % of the participants. 6.5 % of the expert community supported the option of establishing safe haven zones within Syria under the protection of Turkish troops and only 1.5 % supported a direct intervention against the Assad regime.

*This public opinion survey was carried out between 05 May – 05 June 2012 in Turkey with the participation of 1500 people representing a cross section of the urban and rural population above the age of 18. The cities which were included in the survey: Adana, Ankara, Antalya, Bursa, Diyarbakir, Manisa, Erzurum, Gaziantep, Istanbul, Izmir, Kayseri, Kirklareli, Konya, Içel, Samsun, Zonguldak, Denizli, Malatya.*