



The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

The National Centre for Human Rights

Summary of the Achievements of the Centre for the Year 2018

Prepared by: Dr. Faryal Hijazi Al-Assaf
Director of the Studies and Documentation Directorate

Awareness, training and capacity-building in the field of human rights

- Implementation of (10) training courses, each lasting between two and five days, for the members of civil society institutions, the independent institutions, the official agencies, the judicial authority and the professional associations. Emphasis was placed on the international human rights standards, the role of the National Centre for Human Rights in the protection and promotion of human rights in the Kingdom, and monitoring, documentation and report writing.
- Implementation of an integrated training programme for the capacity-building of the new staff of the Centre, which continued for more than 6 months.
- Delivery of (60) varied lectures to the members of the Public Security Directorate on human rights standards and the role of law enforcement agencies.
- Delivery of (22) lectures on human rights to the pupils of the Ministry of Education and of the schools of the Relief Agency (UNRWA); this falls within the framework of the continuing cooperation with the Ministry of Education and the Relief Agency for the purpose of raising the awareness of pupils in the field of human rights.
- Delivery of (25) lectures on human rights at a number of civil society institutions, the Greater Amman Municipality and the local community.
- Implementation of a training course for the members of the Jordanian National Observatory Society for Human Rights in Irbid Governorate on 29–30/1/2018, with the aim of disseminating a human rights culture, in particular in the governorates; the course resulted in the graduation of (25) male and female activists in the field of human rights.
- Implementation of the human rights training course for the members of the Coalition of the Centrist Parties Current, 28–29/3/2018.
- Implementation of the first human rights course for the members of the Jordanian Centre for Political Studies, on 6 and 8/5/2018.
- Implementation of the second human rights course for the members of the Jordanian Centre for Political Studies, on 7 and 9/5/2018, with the aim of disseminating awareness of a human rights culture; 15 male and female activists were graduated from each course.
- Implementation of the first phase, from 7–30/1/2018, and the second phase, from 25/1 to 25/2/2018, of the capacity-building programme for the staff of the National Centre for Human Rights [dates thus in the original].
- Implementation of the activities of the child labour project — second phase.
- Implementation of (3) training courses for the staff of the Higher Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities on monitoring, documentation and report writing (each course of 3 days) during the month of July 2018.
- Implementation of a training course for the members of Al-Sa‘ada [?] Society on 24–25/7/2018.
- Implementation of a workshop for the staff of the Ministry of Water and Irrigation on 26/7/2018.
- Implementation of the human rights training course for the members of the Union of Charitable Societies / Zarqa Governorate on 29–30/8/2018.
- A meeting with the Police Academy to examine and institutionalise cooperation between the Centre and the Academy, on 10/9/2018.
- Implementation of a training course for the staff of the Royal Maritime Authority in Aqaba Governorate on 7–10/9/2018.
- Implementation of a training course for the members of Turab Al-Watan Society on 24–25/10/2018.
- Holding of a seminar at Rayyan Cultural Forum / Jerash on 4/11/2018.
- Holding of a seminar on the tribal “jalwa” (banishment) practice in Karak Governorate on 29/11/2018.
- Implementation of the activities of the Karama project in Mafraq Governorate on 29/11/2018.

- Holding of a seminar entitled “Combating corruption is a human right”, in celebration of International Human Rights Day, 10/12/2018.
- Implementation of the activities of the older persons project, which extended over more than one month as from the middle of September 2018.
- Implementation of the judges’ training programme on 8 and 15/12/2018.
- Implementation of the training course for engineers in Karak Governorate on 22/12/2018.
- Implementation of a group of workshops for the members of the Vocational Training Institute, totalling (5) workshops over two months.
- Implementation of a group of workshops on the rights of older persons over two months.
- Delivery of an intervention entitled “Women’s rights are human rights” at the Social Security Institute [?] on International Human Rights Day.
- Implementation of an awareness workshop on “Building the capacities of the staff of the Greater Amman Municipality in the rights of older persons”, held at the Municipality for 20 of its employees, in the course of which they were made aware of the rights of older persons under the international standards and national legislation and of the role of governmental institutions, the National Centre for Human Rights and civil society institutions in the protection and promotion of the rights of older persons.
- Implementation of an awareness workshop, in cooperation with the Ministry of Social Development, the National Council for Family Affairs and HelpAge International — a seminar on the occasion of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day — on 26/6/2018, with the aim of shedding light on the issue of abuse of older persons, both men and women, and the legislation protecting older persons from violence, and the judicial and administrative procedures to be taken in order to strengthen the protection of older persons from abuse, violence and neglect, and of discussing the difficulties attendant upon protecting older persons from abuse in legislative, service and institutional terms and putting forward certain proposals and recommendations for overcoming those difficulties.
- Implementation of several awareness workshops throughout the year at the Police Academy on the rights of the groups most in need of protection.
- Preparation of the proceedings of the second day of the conference entitled “The international conference on the prolonged Israeli occupation and the reality of human rights in the Occupied Palestinian Territory since 1967”, held in the period from 12 to 13 May 2018, in cooperation between the National Centre for Human Rights and the Arab Network for Human Rights [?].

Monitoring and documentation

- Monitoring of the environmental situation in a number of governorates, preparation of a detailed report on each governorate and addressing of the bodies concerned with the compiled observations.
- Implementation of four monitoring visits to the regular courts (the Court of First Instance of Amman, the Court of First Instance of Jerash, the Court of First Instance of Ma'an and the Court of First Instance of Aqaba); a detailed report on these visits was prepared and their outputs documented.
- Implementation of 16 visits to correction and rehabilitation centres in (11) governorates, and preparation of dedicated reports.
- Monitoring and conduct of an objective and qualitative analysis of the situation of the local community as reported in the media for the years 2015 to 2017.
- Monitoring of the twenty-fifth [?] legislative session convened to discuss the draft Medical and Health Liability Law of 2016, held on Tuesday 20/3/2018 and devoted to the discussion of the draft Medical and Health Liability Law of 2018.
- Monitoring of the situation of women farmers and analysis of the legislation governing their work.
- Preparation of an analytical study entitled "An analysis of the national legislation relating to child labour" and its publication on the Centre's website.
- Monitoring of the joint session convened to discuss the articles in dispute in the draft Medical and Health Liability Law of 2016, on Monday 30/4/2018, devoted to the resolution of the legal dispute between the House of Representatives and the Senate concerning the draft Medical and Health Liability Law of 2018.
- Preparation of monitoring reports on the situation of women in remote villages (Faluha, Al-Nahda, 'Aliya, Al-Mathlutha, Al-Shaqiq, Al-Dhuhaybah East and Al-Dhuhaybah West) in Madaba Governorate, which had been visited at the end of 2017, and their submission to the Prime Ministry and the bodies concerned.
- Continued monitoring and assessment of the situation of women in remote areas and areas deprived of services.
- A field visit was carried out to the Ministry of Labour on 10/12/2018 in order to ascertain the measures taken by the Ministry of Labour to develop the labour system in both its penal and civil aspects, in response to the recent amendments to a range of legislation during 2017.
- Preparation of the reply of the National Centre for Human Rights to the questionnaire relating to the resolution on the independence of the judiciary and lawyers.
- Monitoring of the state of the right of access to information at the Ministry of Agriculture on 21/3/2018; the competent authorities and the Information Council were provided with a detailed report on the findings of the visit, with a view to developing the procedures enabling individuals to exercise the right of access to information.
- Monitoring of the situation of juveniles at the Osama bin Zaid Centre / Rusaifa (the incident of the escape of juveniles), the Irbid Juveniles Centre and the southern region: Karak, Ma'an and Aqaba.
- Monitoring of the state of the right of access to information at the Ministry of Health on 9/4/2018; the competent authorities and the Information Council were provided with a detailed report on the findings of the visit, with a view to developing the procedures enabling individuals to exercise the right of access to information.
- Monitoring of the state of the right of access to information at the Ministry of Education on 1/5/2018; the competent authorities and the Information Council were provided with a detailed report on the findings of the visit, with a view to developing the procedures enabling individuals to exercise the right of access to information.
- Monitoring of the situation of persons with disabilities at the rehabilitation and training centres in: Rusaifa and Irbid, the community rehabilitation centre in Al-Wihdat, and the Saudi Centre for the Blind [?].
- Monitoring of the situation of students with disabilities at the Al-Manar centres for intellectual education in Karak Governorate and in Amman, and at the Cerebral Palsy Centre in Aqaba.
- Monitoring of the protest stands staged at the Fourth Circle.
- Monitoring of the protest stands staged in front of the Professional Associations Complex.
- Monitoring of the protest stands staged by lawyers at the Palace of Justice.

- Monitoring of the sit-in of municipal employees.
- Monitoring of the sit-in of the employees of the Sharia courts.
- Monitoring of the sit-in staged in front of the Ministry of Tourism [?].
- Monitoring of the sit-in staged in front of the House of Representatives calling for the broadening of the general amnesty.
- Monitoring of the sit-in of yellow taxi drivers.
- Monitoring of the sit-in of the retired members of the armed forces at Dabouq.
- Monitoring of the protest stand staged at the [name illegible] traffic light.
- Monitoring of the sit-in of the families of detainees at Muwaqqar 2 Correction and Rehabilitation Centre.
- Monitoring of the strike of the workers of the Mu'jizat al-'Asr ready-made garments factory.
- Monitoring of the strike of the employees of the Ministry of Health.
- Monitoring of the strike of the workers of the Al-Haditha factory transferred to the Al-Saha and Al-Ragheb [?] factory in Fuheis.
- Monitoring of the strike of the workers of the Abwab Al-Khair factory.
- Monitoring of the strike of the workers of the Classic factory in Al-Hassan Industrial City in Ramtha.
- Monitoring of the state of the health services provided to patients suffering from H1N1 influenza and of the precautions followed to prevent infection, at each of the University of Jordan Hospital, Prince Hamzah Hospital, Al-Bashir Hospital and the Islamic Hospital.
- A monitoring visit was carried out to the Al-Faniqa [?] ready-made garments factory in the Sahab industrial estates city.
- Monitoring of the strike of the workers of a company operating in the extraction of oil shale, situated near the hazardous waste dump [the names of the companies and of the location are illegible in the source].
- Monitoring of the state of the curative, therapeutic and preventive health services provided to citizens at Al-Yarmouk Government Hospital in Irbid Governorate.
- A monitoring visit was carried out to the Qaws Quzah ready-made garments factory operating in the Dhuleil area of Zarqa Governorate.
- Monitoring of the sit-in of the pharmacists employed by a private company (Dawa'ukum [?]) together with the Pharmacists Association.
- Monitoring of the difficulties arising between [name illegible] and the Ministry of Education concerning the subject of vocational education.
- Follow-up of the subject of the financial deficit of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA), which threatened the suspension of the educational process in the schools affiliated to the Agency.
- A visit was carried out to Al-Hussein Cancer Hospital, Al-Bashir Hospital and the premises of the National Committee for the Support of Cancer Patients, in order to ascertain the developments relating to the health insurance of cancer patients and the procedures followed for their treatment.

Studies, research and reports

- Preparation of a study on the state of civil society in Jordan during the period 2015 to 2017.
- Preparation of a study on the recommendations issued by the National Centre for Human Rights during the period 2012 to 2017.
- Preparation of an analytical study of the legal and social dimensions of administrative detention in Jordan under the Crime Prevention Law.
- Submission of a peer-reviewed research paper at the international conference on refugees held by Yarmouk University on 14–15/3/2018.

Working papers

- Preparation of a working paper on gender-based violence against women and girls and its presentation at the First National Conference.
- Preparation of a working paper on the state of sustainable development in Jordan.
- Preparation of a working paper on the state of civil society in Jordan.
- Preparation of a monitoring tool on the role of the national human rights institution in monitoring reproductive rights.
- Preparation of a position paper on the point of view of the National Centre for Human Rights concerning the rise in the unemployment rate.
- Preparation of a position paper on the point of view of the National Centre for Human Rights concerning the draft income tax law.
- Preparation of a position paper on the point of view of the National Centre for Human Rights concerning the subject of health and its attendant difficulties.
- Preparation of an analytical paper on early marriage.
- Preparation of a working paper on “The role of the National Centre for Human Rights in achieving the human rights system”, at the ceremony of the Jordanian National Observatory Society for Human Rights marking the seventieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- A working paper entitled “Human rights guarantees in the security centres”, at the workshop implemented by the Public Security Directorate at the Royal Police Academy.
- Preparation of a concept paper on combating corruption, 12/11/2018.

Introductory publications

- Preparation of a brochure on the role of the National Centre for Human Rights in protecting women and girls from gender-based violence in its various forms.
- Preparation and design of a brochure on the Centre and of a media spot on the Centre, for presentation to the Community Media Network at its celebration of International Human Rights Day.

Internal and external participation

- Participation in the global meeting on the role of national human rights institutions in monitoring the health and reproductive rights of women, held in the period 5–6/12/2018 in Istanbul, and preparation of a detailed report.
- Participation in the evaluation of the report monitoring governmental performance prepared by Al-Hayat Centre / Rasid, on 12/11/2018, held at the Geneva Hotel [?].
- Participation in a training of trainers course on advocating equality from an Islamic and gender perspective, organised by the Jordanian National Commission for Women in the period 16–23/9/2018 and held in Aqaba Governorate.
- Participation in a training of trainers course for raising the capacities of national human rights institutions in monitoring reproductive and sexual rights, held in the period 23–27/5/2018 at the Kempinski Hotel, organised by the United Nations Population Fund and ESCWA.
- Participation in the training workshop on policy analysis, held at the Geneva Hotel [?] on 22/3/2018.
- Participation in the Ninth International Forum of Non-Governmental Organisations in official partnership with UNESCO, entitled “Another look at migration”, and in the International Day of Peace under the theme “Drones and robots in the service of peace”, Tunis, 26–29/9/2018; a detailed report on the forum was submitted.
- Attendance at a meeting to discuss the questions of the roadmap for the engagement of the European Union with civil society institutions, on 16/9/2018, held at the building of the European Union, and preparation of a detailed report.
- Participation in the meeting organised by the Economic and Social Council on the assessment of the decentralisation experience in Jordan, on 28/11/2018.
- Participation in the Thirteenth Conference of National Human Rights Institutions entitled “Expanding civic space and promoting and protecting human rights defenders, with a focus on women: the role of national human rights institutions”, held on 10–12 October 2018 in the city of Marrakesh — Morocco, and preparation of a detailed report on the participation.
- Participation in the meeting of the committee concerned with training women factory workers in their rights, formed by the Businesswomen’s Forum, 20/6/2018.
- Participation in the preparation and review of the final draft of the Strategic Plan for Mental Health for the years 2018–2022, in the implementation of which the National Centre will be a partner in respect of its second pillar concerning health care and its fourth pillar concerning oversight, monitoring and research.
- Participation in the proceedings of the workshop held at the Dead Sea on the subject of the Universal Periodic Review report.
- Participation in the discussion session on “The reality of occupational injuries, safety and health in the manufacturing industries sector”, organised by the Social Security Corporation on Monday 12/2/2018, and preparation of a report thereon.
- Participation in the training course on the Sustainable Development Goals, their mechanisms and their implementation at the national level — a one-day participatory workshop for the team concerned with freedoms and human rights, held at the Kempinski Hotel in cooperation with the Ministry of Planning and ESCWA, Amman, in the period 14–15/3/2018.
- Participation in the launching ceremony of the National Plan for Mental Health and Addiction on the occasion of World Patient Day, in the implementation of which the National Centre will have a role.
- The meeting with the Committee on Women and Family Affairs of the House of Representatives and the provision to it of information on the obstacles facing women in the field of work, 21/3/2018.
- Participation in the workshop organised by the Social Security Corporation on the insurance of those working in the tailoring and confectionery sectors under the social security scheme, submission of proposals for the inclusion of the largest possible number of them in the scheme, and preparation of a report thereon.
- Attendance at a session of the parliamentary Labour Committee during its discussion of the Provisional Law amending the Labour Law of 2010, and submission of the Centre’s observations and recommendations on the Provisional Law.

- Attendance at a regional conference entitled “Law in a changing world”, held on the campus of Yarmouk University on 25–26/5/2018.
- Preparation and organisation of the discussion session on the draft law amending the Income Tax Law of 2018, on 11/6/2018.
- Preparation and organisation of the second discussion session on the draft law amending the Income Tax Law of 2018, on 13/8/2018.
- Attendance at a discussion session on the Personal Status Law No. (36) of 2010, on 27/1/2018, organised by the Jordanian Women’s Solidarity Institute Society (Tadamun).
- Attendance at a dialogue session on the role of civil society in legislative reform in Jordan, on 18/3/2018, organised by the West Asia-North Africa Institute (WANA).
- Attendance at a course on outcome harvesting, being the method by which the final reports measuring the impact of a project are to be prepared, compared with the traditional method of measuring the impact of projects.
- Participation in the thematic meeting on the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), held in cooperation between the Danish-Arab Partnership Programme (DAPP), the Danish Institute against Torture (DIGNITY), the Danish Institute for Human Rights and the National Centre for Human Rights, held at the premises of the Centre on Thursday 22/11/2018.
- Participation in the national dialogue on the rights of women, girls and young people for the purposes of the Universal Periodic Review being prepared by the Government.
- Participation in the committee for the inspection of shelters / Ministry of Social Development, and of the alternatives to shelters.
- Formulation of the Centre’s observations on the inclusion of persons with disabilities.
- Formulation of the Centre’s observations on the paper of the Asia Pacific Forum for the conference on the rights of persons with disabilities.
- Formulation of the Centre’s observations on the State of the Country report.
- Participation in the dialogues on the Jordanian Personal Status Law (early marriage).
- Participation in case studies with the Family Protection Department.
- Formulation of the Centre’s observations on a study issued by the National Council for Family Affairs on sexual harassment.
- Participation in the 16-day campaign to confront violence and sexual harassment.
- Completion of a questionnaire on the rights of rural women for the Human Rights Council.
- Participation in the membership of the committee for the preparation of the draft regulation on the protection of the working child, emanating from the Ministry of Social Development.
- Participation with the Higher Population Council in the preparation of the national plan for the reduction of the marriage of persons under 18 years of age for the years 2018–2022.
- Participation in the conference on the best interests of the child organised by the National Council for Family Affairs.
- Continued monitoring of the situation of children in nurseries.
- Participation in the conference on the rights of older persons in the Republic of Korea.
- Participation in the membership of the national coalition of civil society organisations for older persons, established by the Tadamun Women’s Society and HelpAge.
- Participation in the membership of the committee for the development of the national executive plan of the Jordanian National Strategy for Older Persons for the years 2018–2022, emanating from the National Council for Family Affairs. That membership resulted in the issuance of the Strategy, which aims to accord the issues of older persons the importance they deserve within the policies and plans of the Jordanian State, so that they may be placed on the scale of national priorities, in addition to improving the quality of life of older persons and enabling them to lead a dignified life within society.

Legal reviews

The legal reviews comprise the observations and recommendations of the Centre concerning draft laws, provisional laws and the texts of the draft laws placed on the agenda of the House of Representatives, as well as certain regulations. The reviews aim to harmonise national legislation with the Jordanian Constitution and with the international instruments binding upon Jordan, guided by comparative Arab legislation. The principal reviews are the following:

- Preparation of the draft law guaranteeing the right of access to information; the draft was put forward by His Excellency the Commissioner General before the Information Council.
- Legal review of the draft law amending the Civil Retirement Law of 2018.
- Legal review of the draft law amending the Law on the Formation of Municipal Courts of 2018.
- Legal review of the draft Law on the Fund for the Martyrs of the Armed Forces and the Security Agencies of 2018.
- Legal review of the second draft law amending the Income Tax Law of 2018.
- Legal review of the draft law amending the Integrity and Anti-Corruption Commission Law of 2018.
- Legal review of the procedural provisions relating to detention and concerning judicial detention and its alternatives.
- Legal review of the scope of the power to convene extraordinary sessions under the Jordanian Constitution, by comparison with the comparative Arab constitutions.
- Preparation of a legal review and its submission during participation in the technical committee for the preparation of the draft law amending the Juveniles Law of 2018, held at the Ministry of Social Development.
- Legal review of Provisional Law No. (26) of 2010 amending the Labour Law.
- Legal review of the draft Arms and Ammunition Law of 2013.
- Legal review of the Flexible Work Regulation of 2017.
- Legal review of the draft Medical and Health Liability Law of 2016.
- Legal review of the draft law amending the Income Tax Law of 2018.
- Legal review of the content of the sectoral distribution [?] contained in Regulation No. (51) of 2018 — the draft regulation amending the Civil Service Regulation of 2018.
- Legal review of the text of the instructions on family inclusion for persons with disabilities of 2018.
- Legal review of the draft law amending the Law on the Bar Association of 2018.
- Legal review of the draft law amending the Agriculture Law of 2018.
- Legal review of the draft law amending the Juveniles Law of 2018.
- Legal review of the School Discipline Instructions No. (5) of 2018.
- Legal review of the draft Code of Criminal Procedure of 2018.
- Legal review of the draft law amending the Provisional Universities Law No. (16) of 2010.
- Legal review of the draft Legal Aid Law of 2018.
- Legal review of the draft Personal Status Law, Provisional Law No. (36) of 2010.
- Legal review of the Public Health Law No. (11) of 2017.
- Legal review of the draft law guaranteeing the right of access to information of 2012.
- Legal review of the draft law amending the Cybercrime Law of 2017.
- Legal review of the text of the instructions of the Audiovisual Media Complaints Committee.
- Legal review of the text of the draft Law on the Rights of the Child.
- Legal review of the draft General Amnesty Law of 2018.
- Legal review of the draft Law on the Fund for the Martyrs of the Jordanian Armed Forces and the Security Agencies of 2018.
- Legal review of the draft law amending the Integrity and Transparency Commission Law.

Memoranda of understanding

- Signature of a memorandum of understanding between the National Centre for Human Rights and the Jordan Press Association.
- Signature of a memorandum of understanding between the National Centre for Human Rights and the Danish Institute for Human Rights.

Fourth: Projects

- Implementation of the project “Contributing to the inclusion of older persons in livelihood activities”.
- Continued implementation of the Karama project: all the meetings relating to the Karama project were attended, (4) meetings in number, concerning the implementation of the project’s activities during 2018, and (12) training workshops were implemented within the activities of the Karama project for 2018 in all the governorates of the Kingdom under the title “Combating torture”, with emphasis on lawyers, human rights activists and university students.
- Implementation of the project for the economic empowerment of women in the village of Sweimeh / South Shuna, funded by the Asia Pacific Forum, over two months. The project aims to build the capacities of the women of the local community in the economic rights of women under the international standards and national legislation and in how to establish small projects.
- Continued implementation of the project for the support of civil society in Jordan.

Complaints and requests for assistance

Item	Number
Complaints received	369
Requests for assistance received	192
Complaints and requests for assistance closed	380