



**Recommendations of the National Centre for Human Rights
Issued in its Nineteenth Annual Report on the State of Human Rights
in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
for the Year 2022**

Chapter: Civil and Political Rights

The Right to Life, Liberty and Physical Integrity

1. Remedying the legislative shortcomings relating to the criminalization of torture and of cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment and to the compensation of victims, as referred to in the body of the report.
2. Establishing centers specialized in the rehabilitation of torture victims.
3. Taking the necessary measures by all entities to reduce the problem of overcrowding in correction and rehabilitation centers, including expanding the use of alternatives to custodial penalties and alternatives to pre-trial detention.
4. Taking the necessary safety measures to reduce drowning incidents in agricultural ponds and dams, while according the awareness-raising aspect the necessary attention.
5. Taking the necessary measures to reduce road traffic accidents, including carrying out the necessary maintenance of roads and raising road safety awareness among individuals.
6. Conducting the necessary studies to identify the causes of suicide with a view to reducing it, on the basis of social studies and through a participatory approach among State institutions.
7. Repealing the newly introduced amendment criminalizing attempted suicide.

The Right of Access to Justice and Fair Trial Guarantees

1. Reconsidering the Legal Aid Regulation in a manner that ensures comprehensive regulation in accordance with the requirements of Articles (208) and (63 bis) of the Code of Criminal Procedure No. (9) of 1961 and its amendments, by providing a legal framework for mandatory legal aid and for legal aid requests submitted to the Minister by the competent official authorities or by any of the entities concerned.
2. Reconsidering the text of Article (62) of the Bar Association Law No. (11) of 1972 and its amendments, on the ground of its inconsistency with the principle of equality before the courts, and in view of the practical difficulties arising from the retention of this provision, which

constitute an obstacle to the right of access to justice guaranteed to all without discrimination and to the full enjoyment of the guarantees of the right to a fair trial.

3. Introducing amendments to the Code of Criminal Procedure No. (9) of 1961 and its amendments in a manner that guarantees the principle of the individual's right to material and moral compensation for the harm resulting from detention that is inconsistent with the legal safeguards set out in the Code of Criminal Procedure, and where a judgment of acquittal is rendered.
4. Continuing to adopt the approach of expanding the application of community-based penalties and, in particular, alternatives to pre-trial detention.

With regard to administrative justice, the Centre recommends the following:

5. Establishing administrative courts in the northern and southern regions.
6. Amending the Administrative Judiciary Law No. (27) of 2014 in a manner that ensures the removal of the conflict between Articles (28) and (34), so as to contribute to the proper enforcement of judgments rendered by the administrative judiciary.
7. Determining case fees according to clear criteria, rather than leaving the matter to the discretionary power of the President of the Administrative Court or to the circumstances of each case.

The Right to Nationality, Residence, Movement and Asylum

1. The necessity that the international community cooperate with Jordan in shouldering the burdens and requirements of asylum, in light of the large numbers hosted by the Kingdom.
2. The necessity of continuing to apply the tribal “jalwa” document pending the identification of appropriate legal solutions capable of resolving the challenges arising from matters relating to tribal banishment (jalwa).

The Right to Vote and to Stand for Election

1. Amending the Local Administration Law No. (22) of 2021 in a manner that ensures that the power to dissolve councils and to suspend their authority is exercised by judicial decision, thereby giving effect to the substance of Articles (120) and (121) of the Jordanian Constitution and translating the essence of decentralisation.
2. Affirming the recommendations set out in the specialised reports on the monitoring of electoral processes, including the amendment of the Bar Association Law and of the legislation governing those elections.
3. Preparing, training and qualifying the personnel participating in the implementation of all stages of the electoral process, strengthening the role of persons with disabilities, youth and women in those committees, and establishing the criteria for selecting the chairpersons of polling centres and of the committees in each district in a manner that ensures impartiality and integrity.
4. Providing polling venues (polling centres) that enable voters to cast their votes with ease, while emphasising the provision of reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities and older persons.

5. Concerting national efforts to develop collective awareness of the importance of participation in elections, as a right and a duty at one and the same time; and intensifying national efforts aimed at enhancing the participation of women, youth and persons with disabilities in elections of all kinds.
6. Continuing efforts, by the entities concerned, to curb electoral offences, including political money, and to bring their perpetrators before the judiciary in a manner that ensures the proper conduct of the electoral process.

The Right to Freedom of Opinion and Expression, Freedom of the Press and Media, and Access to Information

1. Formulating a national media strategy aimed at advancing the state of media freedoms and providing a legislative environment that guarantees freedom of the press and media.
2. Amending the legislation relating to freedom of expression and to freedom of the press and media as a single legislative matrix, so as to prevent legislative contradiction and duplication.
3. Expediting the adoption of the draft law amending the Law Guaranteeing the Right of Access to Information, currently before the House of Representatives, on the basis of international human rights standards and the Jordanian Constitution.
4. Strengthening the right of access to information through oversight of the process of classifying information and the appointment of an information coordinator in every entity concerned with the implementation of the Law.
5. Expanding awareness-raising on the right of access to information among the relevant entities, and in particular raising awareness of the law governing this right and of the protocol on the classification and archiving of information and the procedures for obtaining information, as approved by the Council of Ministers.

The Right to Peaceful Assembly

1. Redefining the right of assembly so as to encompass the essential elements of any peaceful gathering (the element of organization, timing, the purpose of the gathering, the public and open character of the gathering, and the element of numbers).
2. Including in the Public Gatherings Law organizational and procedural restrictions on the powers of the administrative governor, in a manner consistent with the Jordanian Constitution and international human rights standards.

The Right to Establish and Join Political Parties

1. The necessity of developing extracurricular training programmes for students on sound democratic practices, organised collective action and the development of party life in Jordan, so as to prepare them for engagement in political and party work, and to apply these practices on the ground through student council elections in schools and universities.
2. Intensifying training programmes concerned with training party youth in the skills required for managing electoral campaigns and for advocacy and lobbying.

3. Enhancing the engagement of youth in political parties and ensuring equitable access to their financial resources and leadership positions.
4. Continuing efforts aimed at empowering women, youth and persons with disabilities in political participation, through cultural and media channels that encourage them to participate politically and to join political parties.

The Right to Establish and Join Trade Unions

1. Reconsidering Article (116) of the Labour Law No. (8) of 1996 and its amendments, which granted the Minister of Labour the power to dissolve the administrative board of a union and to appoint a temporary administrative board, and vesting this power in the judiciary.
2. Ratifying International Labour Convention No. (87) concerning Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize.

The Right to Establish and Join Associations

1. Unifying the reference authority for the supervision and follow-up of the work of associations.
2. Strengthening partnerships between governmental institutions and civil society organisations in the fields of preparing plans and strategies.
3. Developing and activating the legal and procedural frameworks governing the work of civil society organisations, in a manner that ensures they are afforded scope to continue discharging their responsibilities efficiently and effectively, by easing the restrictions relating to access to domestic and foreign funding sources and to obtaining national information and data, and by strengthening their oversight role over the implementation of governmental plans and programmes.
4. Establishing an institutional mechanism, operating under an independent body, for sustaining communication, consultation, dialogue and partnerships among governmental institutions, public bodies, civil society organisations and the National Assembly.
5. Applying the principles of good governance within civil society organisations.
6. Conducting a survey study covering all civil society organisations across all fields of specialisation, and likewise surveying the views of the members of these organisations on the legal framework governing their work, as a prelude to developing this legislation in a manner that meets their needs and aspirations, that is consistent with the political reforms and constitutional amendments and with human rights concepts and systems, and that is aligned with the vision of the National Human Rights Plan and built upon genuine national consultation and consensus in matters relating to voluntary work; this should be accompanied by the formulation of a national plan ensuring education and training on voluntary work in universities and secondary schools, and the requalification and training of those engaged in voluntary work in accordance with a comprehensive plan.

Chapter: Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

The Right to Development and to an Adequate Standard of Living

1. In order to address the water problem, the necessity of working towards the desalination of seawater so as to achieve independence in water sources; developing a strategy on the importance of using technology to confront water challenges; determining the quantity of water lost and addressing this important issue; and taking measures to treat and reuse water in agriculture and industry, in order to confront the impact of climate change on the water sector.
2. The necessity of directing local administrations to identify development priorities within their annual executive plans, in support of and in order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

The Right to Work

1. Working to provide the necessary funding for the Fund for Assisting Victims of Human Trafficking, so that it may perform its role in the best manner.
2. Working to provide occupational safety and health conditions in workplaces.
3. Taking effective measures capable of reducing the phenomenon of child labour.

The Right to Education

1. Reconsidering the programmes and plans adopted to address the problem of school dropout, and concerting the efforts of all the entities concerned.
2. Working to improve the quality of education by developing curricula and teaching methods and providing modern and effective educational resources that help attract students and encourage them to continue their studies.
3. Providing additional support to students who face learning difficulties, whether by enrolling them in special programmes for those with learning difficulties, or by holding special review sessions for them at specified times, so as to help them improve their performance and increase their self-confidence.
4. Intensifying efforts to include all children in the (4–5) age group in kindergarten and to make the second kindergarten year compulsory, given the great importance of the pre-school stage of education.

Cultural Rights

1. Continuing to support the efforts aimed at the discovery of further archaeological sites by the competent authorities.
2. Updating the objectives set out in the National Tourism Strategy and reordering priorities so as to align them with the economic modernisation plan.
3. Continuing to develop tourist facilities and their related infrastructure.
4. Unifying national efforts in the field of the work of cultural business incubators and the creative industries.
5. Increasing government expenditure on cultural rights, including cultural activities, events, festivals and initiatives.

The Right to Health

1. The necessity of raising the standard of health care available in public hospitals.
2. Working to cover all citizens by free universal health insurance.
3. The necessity of taking all preventive and curative measures to prevent and halt the increase in the spread of communicable diseases.
4. The necessity of activating the Medical Liability Law of 2018 in cooperation with partners in the medical sector and the health-related professional associations, and identifying solutions that safeguard the rights of the patient, the physician, the hospital and all parties to the equation, within clear and equitable mechanisms; in addition to taking appropriate and stringent measures to regulate the cosmetic procedures carried out by non-specialised clinics.
5. The necessity of intensifying preventive and educational measures by the Ministry of Health, in addition to conducting free and repeated examinations for patients, particularly in remote areas, in order to prevent the transmission of infection and the spread of communicable diseases.
6. Continuing to focus on effective inspection and oversight operations by the Ministry of Health and the Jordan Food and Drug Administration, in order to ensure the compliance of all food institutions, factories and restaurants spread throughout the Kingdom with the conditions of public health and safety.

The Right to a Sound Environment

1. Establishing central treatment plants for industrial and domestic wastewater in all regions of the Kingdom.
2. The necessity of intensifying voluntary and awareness campaigns to reduce the phenomenon of forest and tree fires, particularly in the summer season, by intensifying oversight of summer recreation sites and raising awareness of the dangers of lighting fires inside forests; and likewise the necessity of intensifying efforts to remove weeds from streets and public squares, in order to prevent the outbreak of fires and to protect plant and forest wealth.
3. Continuous coordination among policymakers in the sectors that affect the environment directly and indirectly.

Chapter: Groups Most in Need of Protection

Women's Rights

1. Amending the Instructions on Alternatives to Institutional Nurseries of 2023, so as to confine the cases in which cash payment may be used in lieu of establishing a nursery at the premises of the institution.
2. Enhancing women's engagement in political parties through awareness programmes on the importance of women's participation in political parties.
3. Formulating a national plan to increase the rate of women's participation in the management of public affairs, by raising the women's quota in the House of Representatives and increasing the

rate of their representation in senior leadership positions in the State, and considering the possibility of amending the laws of the labour and professional unions so as to provide expressly for the allocation of seats for women on union boards.

4. Appointing women judges to the Sharia judiciary and a female marriage registrar (ma'dhun), and appointing female staff in the Sharia courts and the Iftaa Department.
5. Supporting the economic and social empowerment of women, providing employment opportunities for them and developing their skills in line with the labour market's need for a workforce, particularly in remote areas.
6. Building the capacities of civil society organisations and activating the role of the media with a view to empowering women in local communities.
7. Providing employment opportunities for women and developing their skills in line with their needs in the labour market, particularly in remote areas.

Children's Rights

1. Issuing the regulations and instructions concerning the organisation and implementation of the provisions of the Child Rights Law.
2. Carrying out cultural activities and awareness programmes on the rights set out in the Child Rights Law, targeting children in schools and those working in the field of providing care to children.
3. Approving the draft Regulation on the Protection of the Working Juvenile, which defines the legal framework for dealing with the working juvenile in a manner that ensures the protection of the child's rights and the achievement of the child's best interests.
4. Activating the Aftercare of Juveniles Regulation No. (67) of 2016 and the instructions issued thereunder, namely the Instructions on the Bases of the Aftercare of Juveniles System of 2021.
5. Increasing the number of staff working in the social care homes affiliated with the Ministry of Social Development.

The Rights of Persons with Disabilities

1. Ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
2. Raising the rate of representation of persons with disabilities in political parties.
3. Disseminating awareness programmes on the right of persons with disabilities to obtain the identification card issued by the Higher Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
4. Preparing all polling centres for the participation of persons with disabilities in elections of all kinds.
5. Preparing a database on the number of persons with disabilities among voters registered for polling purposes, their proportion and geographical distribution, and identifying the types of disability, as well as the number of candidates with disabilities, so as to enable those preparing

studies and reports to compile their studies and reports and to arrive at recommendations and action plans.

6. Strengthening the role of the media in raising awareness of the rights of persons with disabilities, and the necessity of emphasising the right of a client with a disability to lodge a complaint against any bank that refuses to provide him or her with a banking service.
7. Action by the entities concerned to implement and activate all strategies relating to the rights of persons with disabilities.
8. Providing all reasonable accommodations and environmental facilities for persons with disabilities that enable them to lead their ordinary lives on an equal footing and without discrimination.

The Rights of Older Persons

1. Continuing national efforts, through Jordan's representation, to contribute to supporting international efforts aimed at drafting an international convention on the rights of older persons.
2. Enacting a law dedicated to the rights of older persons.
3. Building a database and disaggregated statistics that take into account gender, age, disability, and health, social and economic status, among other factors, so that the forms of intervention required within the framework of protecting the rights of older persons are built upon the outputs of these statistics.
4. Raising the awareness of those working with older persons in residential care homes and day clubs, and reinforcing this sector with qualified training personnel, so that it may serve as a starting point towards providing home-based services in the future on a voluntary basis.
5. Benefiting from the free use of the Bus Rapid Transit for persons who have reached the age of 60, increasing the number of transport buses adapted for older persons, and covering all areas.
6. Establishing day clubs to accommodate the energies of older persons during daytime hours, so as to activate their social role, in all governorates of the Kingdom.
7. Providing a secure retirement future for older persons under the social security umbrella, in a manner that achieves the minimum reward for what they have given, throughout their lives, to their country and their families.
8. The preparation by the entities concerned of development policies supportive of older persons in rural and Badia areas, including the strengthening of the participatory approach aimed at involving older persons in development and in the decisions that concern them, and the involvement of the private sector, the exchange of expertise and purposeful media promotion.