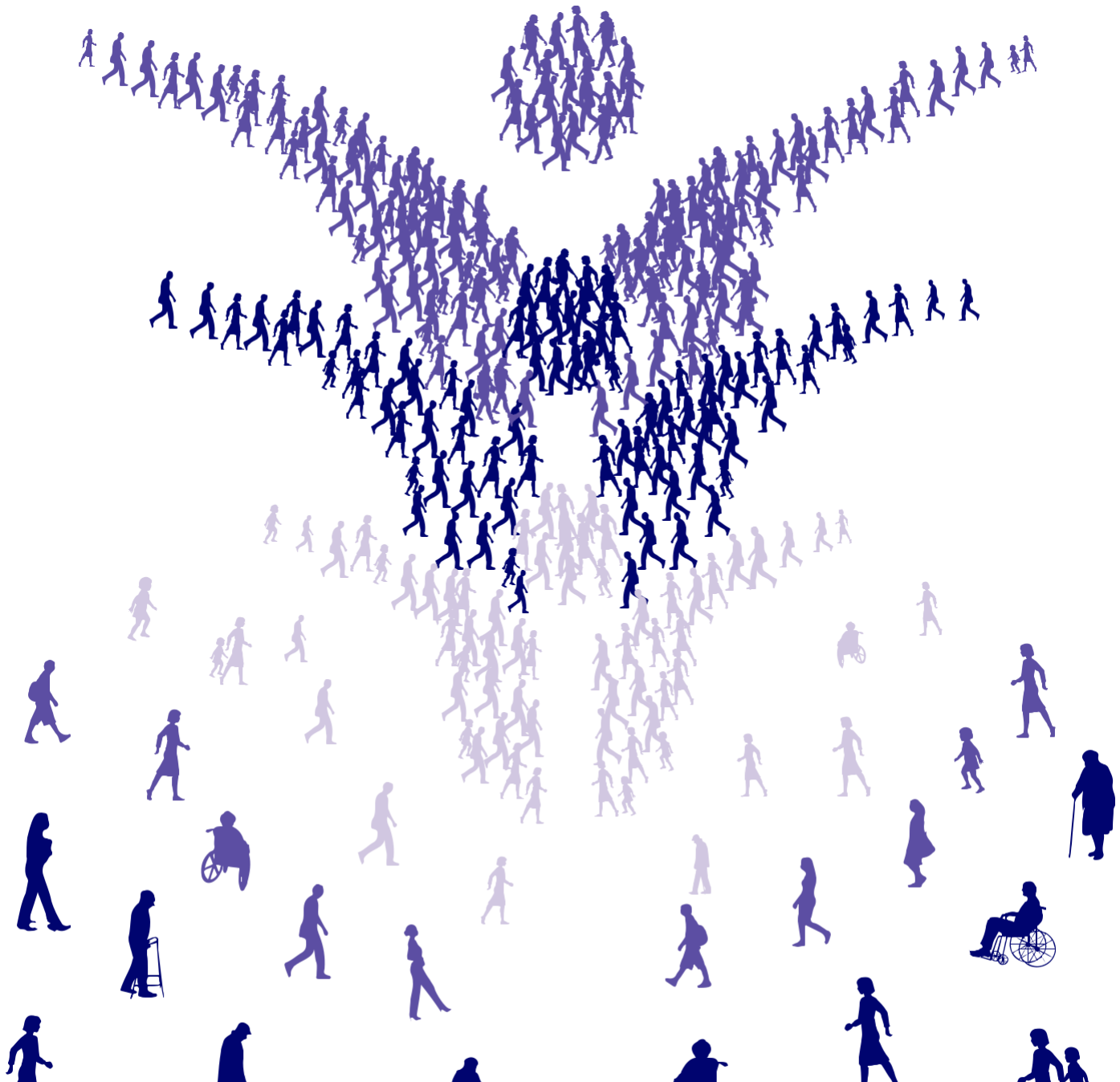




Nineteenth Annual Report on the Human Rights Situation in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan for 2022





المركز الوطني لحقوق الإنسان
The National Centre for Human Rights

**Nineteenth Annual Report
on the Human Rights Situation in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan**

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**His Majesty King Abdullah II bin Al Hussein May God
Preserve and Protect Him**



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Al Hussein bin Abdullah II



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Key Terms List

The following terms and words, where contained in the report, shall have the meanings assigned to them below:

Kingdom: the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

The Center: National Center for Human Rights.

Report: Nineteenth annual report on the situation of human rights in the Kingdom for 2022

Report year: 2022.

Monitoring: Monitoring by the National Center for Human Rights team during 2022

Complaints: Complaints received by the National Center for Human Rights in 2022

Introduction

The report issued by the National Center for Human Rights is a reference national document that diagnoses the human rights situation according to an objective legal monitoring approach based on the principles and criteria consistent with the provisions of the Jordanian Constitution and international standards governing rights contained in this report. The report is a legal entitlement under Article 12 of the National Center for Human Rights Law No. 51 of 2006 and its amendment, which granted the Center the legal capacity to assess, diagnose and analyze the reality of human rights in a manner that is based on the main objectives of the Center's work contained in its law, which are:

- Developments in the national legal system to measure the compatibility of existing and new national legislation with the Jordanian Constitution and international human rights standards to which the Kingdom has committed itself.
- Policy developments to measure the extent to which human rights concepts are integrated into plans, strategies and programs and are built on a rights-based approach based on justice, equality and the rule of law.
- Developments at the operational practice level to measure the capacity-building of law enforcement institutions through the operationalization of oversight mechanisms, formal accountability procedures and the application of the rule of law to their performance and practices.

The 19th Annual Human Rights Report for 2022 diagnosed the situation of human rights by providing an analysis of the normative content of 19 rights addressed by the Center in the division of the report, which included:

Diagnosis, analysis and evaluation of nine civil and political rights, six economic, social and cultural rights, four rights of the most needed for protection and care, through monitoring and review of human rights standards in the national legal system, programs, strategies, policy plans and practices on the ground. The Center is keen on providing an objective diagnosis based on established human rights monitoring and evaluation criteria, with a view to strengthening the participatory and cooperative approach and institutionalizing community responsibility for the protection and promotion of human rights from all parties. The Center has attached two main annexes to this year's report:

- A supplement to complaints received by the Center in 2022, which includes a quantitative and qualitative analysis of complaints received by the Center through various means of communication.
- Annex to the National Center for Human Rights, 2022, which contains a statement that inspired the achievements of the Center based on qualitative and quantitative indicators in the areas of civil and political rights, economic, social and cultural rights, and the rights of the most vulnerable and the Center's achievements in terms of training, elaborating studies and reports and the local, international and regional cooperation. The Annex also refers to the measurement of last year's report's impact.

respect for human rights, and the consolidation of the rule of law and institutions which come in light of the outputs of the political modernization system, especially with regard to the constitutional amendments that were made to amend the title of chapter II to read "The rights and duties of Jordanians".

The outputs of the political modernization system have expanded to reach parliamentary programmatic governments, enhance popular participation, partisan and political life, and empower women and youth, making Jordan a second-largest country. Constitutional amendments were passed and legislation governing political action was passed, ensuring the public participation of women, youth and persons with disabilities in political life.

This year, the Center has monitored the Government's policy of limiting administrative detention through the issuance of a series of instructions to administrative governors by the Ministry of Interior. These include: periodic review of the records and restrictions of administrative detainees, the development of a protocol for cases that could be transferred to administrative governors according to the nature and gravity of the subject. The National Center has also monitored the role of correctional and rehabilitation centers in raising the educational level of inmates of centers by enabling them to benefit from academic education and vocational training opportunities. Thirty literacy courses have been held (729) and residents have moved to secondary schools. In addition, there have been a number of secondary education centers. Rehabilitation, in collaboration with the University of Jordan, showcases the products of inmates through an exhibition called "Made with Determination"; This enhances inmates' confidence in their abilities and provides them with job opportunities after they finish their prison terms, in addition to signing memoranda of understanding with specialized platforms to market these products, in addition to the continuous positive role played by a number of cultural institutions that provide support to

1
3

The Center publishes its nineteenth annual report on the situation of human rights for 2022 in view of the many circumstances and challenges that have overshadowed the protection and promotion of human rights, which can be referred to through a number of relevant influences in the national and international context. Regardless of the nature of those challenges, they have had a transitory impact on rights, which has had an impact on the fulfillment of the obligations of the State in particular with regard to human rights obligations. These challenges can be noted as follows:

1. The continuing economic and social challenges that are growing, related to the persistence of economic growth rates at limited levels, rising indebtedness, the decline and fall in the volume of aid and grants provided to Jordan in light of the rates of poverty and unemployment, the limited job opportunities generated by the economy, the impact of the continuous recourse of land on the Kingdom, on infrastructure and on the national economy, in addition to structural challenges that limit the competitiveness of the Jordanian economy, most notably the high cost of production, energy and transport prices.
2. The challenges resulting from the Ukraine-Russia crisis and its repercussions on the issues of food and water security and the rise in inflation and food prices, which affected all economic and social aspects.

On another front, 2022 witnessed the continuation of national efforts to realize the visions of HM the King of political, economic and administrative reform to reach the Jordanian democratic model and defend the values of freedom, social justice and equality, tolerance and

organizations and individuals in cultural, creative and cognitive fields, which play a partnership role with the Directorate of Correction and Rehabilitation Centers by providing inmates with a set of books the subjects of which were selected based on previous studies carried out by educational authorities.

In the area of the right to fair trial guarantees, the report made detailed references to legislative developments governing the right, starting with the enactment of the constitutional amendments of 2022: many constitutional texts were amended, including 26 articles, the most prominent of which related to the right to access justice and guarantees of a fair trial: a paragraph was added to the text of article 6 of the Constitution, stressing the need to respect the rule of law. The Center appreciates this amendment, which represents an affirmation of the principle of the rule of law. The amendment of article 60 of the Constitution on the methods of recourse before the Constitutional Court, reducing the conditional percentage for direct appeal before the Court for both the Senate and the House of Representatives, by making the amendment subject to the vote of no less than a quarter of the members of both houses in addition to the Cabinet. There was also an amendment in the Constitutional Review mechanism by indirect appeal (subpayment) where payment is considered by the court itself and, in serious cases, it is referred to the Constitutional Court, an amendment that is commended by the Center as it reduced the time of constitutional litigation. This was followed by the enactment of the Constitutional Court Law amending the Constitutional Court Law of 2022, which was in line with the requirements of the constitutional amendments of 2022. In addition, the Center commends the legislative amendments to the Implementation Law No. 5 of 2007 related to the issue of the debtor's incarceration, the approval of the system amending the legal aid system, and the enactment of the Law Amending the Penal Law No. 10 of 2022. The Center commends these amendments, which it has long recommended in its previous reports, as consistent with the application of alternative penalties in line with

with a penal reformist policy toward achieving public and private deterrence, and investing the latter in the service of society away from restricting freedom within penal institutions to mitigate criminal contagion.

With regards to the right to freedom of expression, the report revealed that there were no amendments to legislation directly related to freedom of expression and freedom of the press and the media in 2022. The draft law amending the law to guarantee the right to information is still on the agenda of the House of Representatives without taking the necessary constitutional measures to discuss and approve it.

In 2022, the Personal Data Protection Bill, which included the protection of individual data from unlawful collection and processing, was discussed. The proposed bill linked the collection process to the need for consent from the relevant person and established a special body in this regard.

In order to enable the exercise of the right of access to information, the Center reiterates the observations contained in its previous reports and stresses the need to proceed with the approval of the bill amending the Law on the Right to Access to Information still before the House of Representatives, not to expand the information classified as confidential and to proceed with the enforcement of the Protocol on the Classification and Archiving of Information and the Protocol on Procedures for the Acquisition of Information approved by the Council of Ministers and their application by the relevant bodies.

The year 2022 also saw the amendment of Article 2/67 of the Constitution, relating to the addition of new competences for the independent electoral commission to consider applications for the establishment of political parties and to follow up their affairs in accordance with the provisions of the law. In light of this constitutional amendment, the authority of oversight of political party affairs and following up on them was transferred from the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Political and Parliamentary Affairs to the independent electoral commission. The Political Parties Law No 7 of 2022 clarified the Electoral Independent Commission's competences in terms of:

examining applications for the establishment of political parties and the procedures related thereto, approving applications, and following up on the affairs of the parties, in terms of: holding conferences and elections, ensuring their application to the law and their statutes, issuing decisions on the affairs of the parties, and ensuring that the party spends its funds on the goals and objectives stipulated in the bylaws. It is in this spirit that the Independent Electoral Commission was established, and through the Political Parties Registration Directorate issued a number of directives targeting political parties, indicating the legal procedures to be followed in order to regularize their status, the procedures for the merger of political parties, the information to be included in the founding request of the party, and how to hold the constituent congress.

With regard to the right to establish political parties, 2022 witnessed an unprecedented political situation in the course of real political and partisan modernization, which was reflected on the whole political life, where the electoral and party laws were approved according to real fundamental amendments. The Center notes that the constitutional amendment entrusts the authority to supervise the establishment of political parties and to follow up their affairs with a neutral and independent body that will strengthen the principles of justice, equality and equal opportunities, and to avoid any influences and disputes. In this framework, the Center appreciated the implementation of this amendment, which was one of its recurrent recommendations, that an independent body should supervise, follow up and evaluate the work of parties.

In 2022, for the first time in the history of the Kingdom, a regulation was issued to regulate the practice of student party activities at higher education institutions (N°68) of 2022, pursuant to article 20, paragraph (a), of the Political Parties Act No. 7 of 2022, higher education institutions and their employees are required to adhere to the regulatory mechanism for their activities by issuing the necessary directives in implementation of

His Majesty King Abdullah II and Crown Prince Hussein bin Abdullah by allowing students in higher education institutions to engage in partisan activities on the university campus within specific regulations stipulated by laws regulating political life in the universities. The Center believes that the system came in harmony with the best practices in many higher education institutions in the world, as it has allowed students to practice party education and awareness, familiarize themselves with the electoral process and encourage student participation in public work and elections.

In 2022, the Committee for the Amendment of Associations Law No. 51 of 2008, which led a community dialogue on the current law, continued to function. The Center also followed up on the recommendations of the Royal Committee for the Modernization of the Political System, which included a recommendation under the aegis of women's empowerment to review the Associations Law; In this context, the Center reiterates its recommendations contained in its previous annual reports, which include the amendment of the Law of Associations to bring them into line with the principles guaranteed by the texts of the Jordanian Constitution and international standards.

As for economic and social rights, 2022 witnessed a clear progress in taking a series of measures to face development challenges, most notably the implementation of the vision of economic modernization, which was the result of the deliberations of a group of experts and specialists in a High Royal Initiative. The vision included a transitional government roadmap for the next 10 years, including eight axes, 35 main and branch sectors, and 366 initiatives. The vision aims at the end of its term to create one million jobs, in addition to increasing the gross domestic product by 27.9 billion dinars, to reach 58.1 billion dinars by the end of the period added to a capital funding of 41.4 billion dinars targeting investments and partnership projects to include government investment of the value of 11.1 billion dinars.

The National Center also noted that the vision includes timetables and an executive plan, which require the executive administration to issue an executive program in the short and medium term. Furthermore, the Investment Environment Law No. 21 of 2022 was approved, as the law indicated that the general investment policy in the Kingdom will be based on achieving economic and development visions aimed at providing job opportunities, increasing economic growth, improving the work environment, ensuring the sustainability of the attractive investment climate, and strengthening confidence in the investment environment, and its development and organization.

The vision of economic modernization aims to pursue transparency in the provision of information on national goals and priorities, identify areas of comparative advantage and competitiveness on which the Kingdom can build to stimulate growth and create economic opportunities, unify the efforts of the various ministries and institutions to support the achievement of the objectives of the national strategy within a well-defined road map, and direct national planning towards strategic thinking in order to ensure the achievement of national goals and other objectives. The challenges and problems that have been growing, especially with regard to the issues of blocked employment, unemployment, the expansion of pockets of poverty, the increase in the cost of living, due to the rise in food prices, and the resulting significant impact on the lives of a large segment of the middle class, on low-income individuals and on the poor, the continuing phenomenon of child labor, school dropout, the emergence of organized begging, the rise in divorce rates and rapid family fragmentation.

The report also pointed to the challenges related to the food and water security system and its impact on the national economy, noting that with the gradual exit from the Covid-19 pandemic, Jordan is facing a range of challenges, including the continued influx of refugees and the repercussions of the pandemic on the various sectors, on development and growth levels in Jordan,

as reflected in high unemployment rates, low foreign direct investment and levels of trade, interruption of supply chains, and increased burdens on limited national resources, in addition to increasing costs of energy and food, other basic commodities and increasing oil prices, which have a heavy impact on the Kingdom's economy. Jordan is also facing chronic difficulties related to water shortages, dependence on external energy sources, as well as increased risks associated with climate change. The report noted the most pivotal issues affecting the educational process in terms of the continued rotation of a number of public schools, in addition to the continued movement of students from private schools to public schools, and the continued exploitation of health services. The results of monitoring reports show that some hospitals and health centers still suffer from a number of problems that hinder the achievement of their objectives, such as the disparity in the level of quality of services between hospitals and comprehensive health centers. Most comprehensive health centers lack an electronic mechanism for organizing the role of patients and visitors. Some comprehensive health centers do not have specialized and independent clinics. In addition, there are specialist doctors. The number of visitors in most comprehensive health centers is crowded, with the absence of many medical specialties and other challenges.

The report dealt with legislative developments governing women's rights, such as the Law on Election of the House of Representatives, the Law on Political Parties, the Law amending the Penal Code, etc., and policies to support women's rights and participation in public life and

monitored women's participation in the elections of provincial councils, municipal councils, Amman Municipality, chambers of commerce and industry, trade union elections and cases of violence against women and early marriage was also addressed in the report. The report also referred to the second voluntary national review report of the sustainable development goals. The report highlighted the measures taken by the Kingdom, including the formation of a permanent ministerial committee in the Prime Minister's Office to mainstream gender and integrate it into the work of the Government. The gender mainstreaming policy is the first Government plan to integrate gender into ministries and official institutions. The budget for climate and social diversity has been monitored, capacity-building for gender-responsive budgets has continued, and funding has begun to follow up the national strategy for women in Jordan (2020-2025), Alignment of the Government's Executive Strategy Program (2024-2021) which is the government's action plan.

The Center issued a statement on International Women's Day calling for the amendment of labor and professional union laws to explicitly allocate special seats for women in these councils, strengthen women's participation in parties, and enhance their presence as key partners in the decision-making process. The report also pointed to the social problems of child labor, underage marriage, child victims of domestic violence, and other related societal issues

The report noted the rights of persons with disabilities and the monitoring of progress made in legislative and policy developments. However, the report revealed some shortcomings that still require further protection, such as the need to continue to improve their situation in all areas, to strengthen their political, economic and cultural participation and their right to an adequate standard of living, and to provide environmental facilitation arrangements for persons with disabilities that enable them to live their lives and to engage in public life and access their rights and enjoy them in a way that involved them in the development and implementation of policies concerning them.

There is also a need to intensify monitoring and supervision of nursing homes and address the imbalances, problems and observations relating thereto, in order to ensure the provision of protection and services to persons with disabilities. It is also important that students with disabilities be enrolled in education and have an educational environment that is tailored to their needs. Children with disabilities should receive special care and attention, specialized medical skills should be recruited and public parks in all governorates of the Kingdom should be provided with games designed for children with disabilities so that they can enjoy their right to play. In addition, emphasis should be placed on the role played by the media in promoting and protecting the rights of this group. All provisions of the Special Rights of Persons with Disabilities Law (No. 20 of 2017) should be enacted.

Finally, the National Center for Human Rights commends national efforts to promote and protect human rights, which are a translation of the political will to strengthen the protection of human rights. Constitutional amendments were made in conjunction with the laws in force, the contents of the High Commissioners for Successive Governments, the speeches of HM the King and the Royal Discussion Papers, which are a roadmap for the human rights process and the deepening of the national democratic approach with a view to building active citizenship and a partner in decision-making by opening channels of continuous communication and dialogue between the government and civil society organizations, citizens and women in the various regions of the Kingdom. The pace of reforms has accelerated through constitutional amendments and the enactment of new laws, or through the adaptation of national legislation to international instruments to which Jordan has acceded.

The Center calls for the need to follow up on the recommendations contained in this report, given that the process of assessing the state of response to the recommendations of the State of Human Rights Report in the Kingdom is one of the indicators of the extent to which the standards of human rights guaranteed by the

Constitution and international conventions and treaties ratified by the Jordanian State and published in the Official Gazette have been met as these became part of the national legal system, since the fulfillment of obligations is linked to the reality of the political, economic, social and cultural fields within the community and all groups without exception, and this requires action on legal, administrative and social measures such as working to enact and/or amend comprehensive policy formulation and development according to a human rights curriculum, as well as working to regulate some practices; the end result is to adopt and implement a comprehensive human rights approach dedicated to protecting human dignity and identity by State institutions and its various apparatuses.



المركز الوطني لحقوق الإنسان

Civil and Political Rights

Right to life, liberty and physical safety

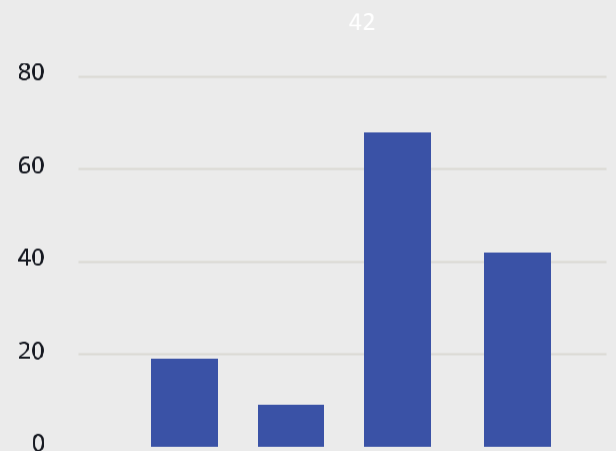
The right to life, liberty and physical safety is one of the fundamental human rights guaranteed by international, regional and national conventions.¹ To this end, it provides for legal and judicial guarantees and non-legislative measures to protect the human right to life, liberty and physical integrity.

The normative content of this legal right is the complementarity of the legal protection of its constituents, also in practice and through the enforcement and strengthening of its safeguards through the tracking and monitoring of a number of cases:

- The imposition and execution of the death penalty.
- Effectiveness of legal and practical measures to prevent torture and ill-treatment and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment.
- Suicides and deaths from traffic accidents and drowning.

In 2022, 19 complaints relating to the right to liberty and security of person, 9 complaints concerning the right to humane treatment, 68 concerning the right to physical integrity, 4 concerning the right to life and 42 concerning the rights of residents of correctional and rehabilitation centers were received by the Center within the framework of its mandate to monitor, receive and follow up on complaints and to put an end to violations.

Number of complaints received by the Center in 2022



- **Death penalty:**

International human rights law has enshrined the human right to life as an inherent right that may not be denied and, as such, national legislation has reduced the death penalty for most dangerous offenses.²

In 2022, the center recorded 49 Homicide crimes compared to 50 crimes in 2021, and an increase in the number of attempted homicides, which reached 364 crimes, compared to 290 crimes in 2021.

¹ Articles 5), 3 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 5), 6 of the Arab Charter on Human Rights, and 8 of the Jordanian Constitution, which guaranteed the right to physical integrity.

² Article 6 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

in addition to the high number of intentional homicides; as in 2022, there were 57 crimes compared to 53 crimes in 2021.³

The number of death sentences issued by the High Penal Court was 23 in 2022⁴ while the State Security Court did not issue any death sentence.⁵ In 2021, there were 25 death sentences issued by the High Penal Court and 6 by the State Security Court.⁶

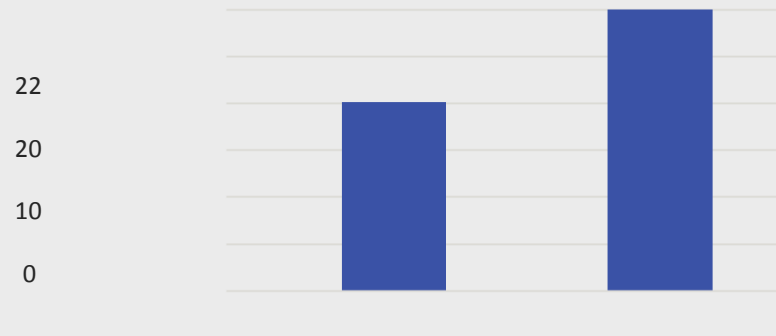
During 2022, the Center did not register the granting of a special pardon to any inmates sentenced to death.⁷

The most prominent events that the Center observed that impinge on the right to life, freedom, and physical safety during 2022 are:

- **Martyrs of Duty - May God have mercy on them.**

The year 2022 witnessed the martyrdom of five security officials, namely the martyrs: "Brigadier Abdul Razzaq al-Dalbaih, Major Gaith Ralhaleh, First Lieutenant Mutaz al-Najda, Deputy Uday al-Kharabsheh, and Corporal Ibrahim al-Shaqhaqeen May God bless their souls" while they were on duty dealing with the riots in the governorate of Ma'an/Husseiniyah, trying to preserve security and public order. This was followed by the raiding of the perpetrators by public security officers, their arrest, and their referral to the competent judiciary in early 2023.⁸

Number of death sentences issued in 2022-2021



The Center issued a statement on 16 December 2022 in which it offered its condolences to the Jordanian people and the families of the martyrs, stressing that the right to peaceful assembly is a right guaranteed by the Jordanian Constitution and international human rights standards, provided that people abide by the use of peaceful means within the framework of legitimacy and the rule of law.⁹

- **Suicides:**

On the legislative level, in 2022, Article 339 of the Penal Code No. 16 of 1960 was amended to criminalize attempted suicide and to impose a prison sentence of no more than six months and a fine of no more than 100 dinars, or one of these penalties, on anyone who attempted suicide in a public place by committing any of the acts that usually lead to death. If this is done by collective agreement, the penalty is doubled.¹⁰

³ Criminal Statistical Report 2022, Directorate of Public Security, p. 12

⁴ Letter of the Judicial Council No. (1256/30/1/2) of 2023/4/4

⁵ State Security Prosecution Letter No. (GC/12/2/State Security) 981/2023/5/31

⁶ Eighteenth Annual Report on the Situation of Human Rights in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, 2021, on the Right to Life, Liberty and Physical Safety.

⁷ Letter of the General Security Directorate (44/1), Cooperation (15363), 2023/4/26

⁸ Letter of the Directorate of General Security (44/1), Cooperation (15363), 26/4/2023.

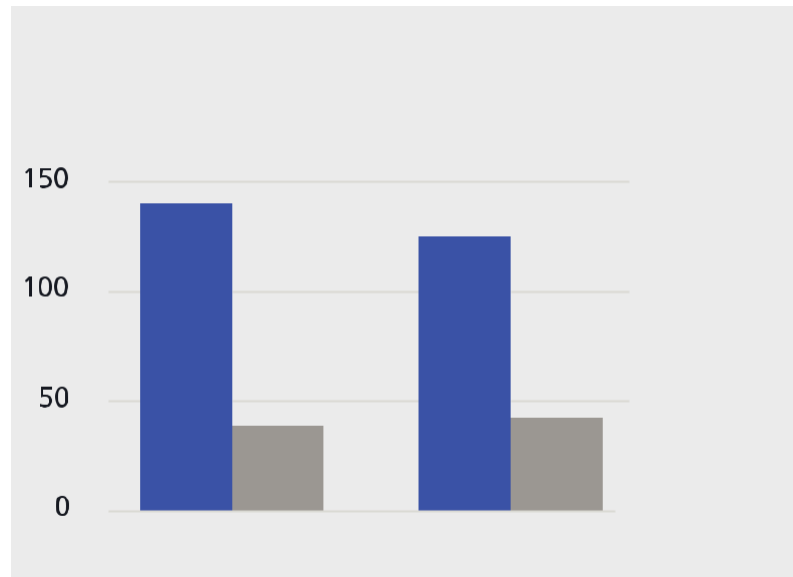
⁹ Statement of the Center published on www.nchr.org.jo, dated 016-12-2022

¹⁰ Article 339 of Law No. 10 of 2022 amending the Penal Code, published in the Official Gazette No. 5796 on page 3591 on 25/5/2022 effective on 24/6/2022 stipulating:

"1.Anyone who attempts to commit suicide in a public place shall be punished by imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months and/or by a fine not exceeding 100 dinars. Anyone who attempts to commit suicide in a public place shall be punished by any act which usually leads to death. The penalty shall be increased to double if it is done by collective agreement. 2 Anyone who induces or assists a human being in a suicide by one of the means mentioned in Article 80 shall be punished by provisional arrest.3. If the attempted suicide is still in its beginning stage it shall be punished by imprisonment from 3 months up to two years and the sanction could reach 3 years if it results in harm or a permanent disability."

The statistics of the National Center for Forensic Medicine shows 145 suicides in 2022, including 109 males and 36 females, compared to 167 cases in 2021, of which 125 were male and 42 were female, and 148 cases in the year 2020 of them 101 males and 47 females, and 132 cases 2019 of which 91 are males, 41 are females.¹¹

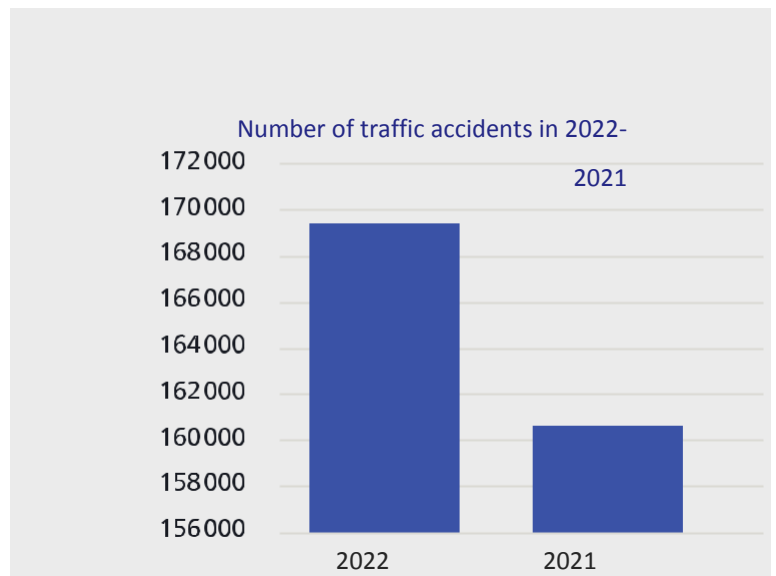
The Center issued a statement on April 29, 2022 noting that attempted suicide is not criminalized by international standards and best practices, the Center stressed the need to ensure social, health and psychological support for the perpetrators; To overcome the reasons that led them to this practice, the Center called for the need to reverse this amendment.¹²



• Traffic accidents:

The year 2022 witnessed 160,408 traffic accidents resulting in 562 deaths and 17,096 injuries¹³ in comparison with 160,600 traffic accidents in 2021, resulting in 589 deaths.¹⁴

The Center also refers to the introduction of a system modifying the traffic points system No. (56) of 2022,¹⁵ which records points against the driver of each vehicle for certain traffic violations to urge drivers to abide by traffic rules and to reduce traffic accidents.¹⁶



¹¹ These statistics are based on official figures from the Ministry of Health, Book No. (5033/2/44) of 2023/6/19.

¹² Statement of the Center, published on www.nchr.org.jo, 29-4-2022

¹³ Letter of the General Security Directorate, No. (44/1), Cooperation, 15363/26/4/2023

¹⁴ Jordan 2021 Annual Report on Traffic Accidents, Public Security Directorate, p.9

¹⁵ Amended Traffic Points System No. (56) of 2022, published in the Official Gazette No. (5817), p. (6769), date 2/10/2022

¹⁶ Statistics of the General Security Director, Book No. (44/1), Cooperation, 15363, 2023/4/26.



• **Drowning accidents:**

According to the statistics of the General Security Directorate, the number of drowning accidents in 2022 reached 162¹⁷ resulting in 76 deaths, of which 64 were male and 12 were female, 111 were injured, of whom 75 were male and 36 were female, compared to 55 deaths (48 male and 7 female), 123 injured (100 male and 23 female) in 2021, compared to 42 deaths (42 female and 36 female), and 54 injured of whom 44 were male and 10 were female in 2020, compared to 51 deaths (42 males and 9 females) and 86 injured of whom 55 were males and 27 were females during the year 2019.¹⁸ The Center stresses the role of the concerned authorities in taking all public safety measures that can preserve the lives of individuals.

• **Shooting Cases:**

The number of firearm shooting crimes in 2022 reached 1998 compared to 1902 in 2021.¹⁹ The Center points out the seriousness of these acts and considers them a direct threat to the right to life and physical safety, and urges the need to raise awareness about the dangers of these practices and to take legislative and procedural measures necessary to protect the human right to life and physical safety in the face of such practices.

20 shots fired ²⁰		
2022	Injuries	52
	Deaths	6
2021	Injuries	29
	Deaths	0

• **Stray dogs in 2022**

The spread of stray dogs populated residential areas has posed a clear threat to the right to life and physical safety of individuals and an obstacle to freedom of movement, especially in light of the lack of measures to deal with these dogs to protect the lives of individuals.

The Center notes that it has received one complaint concerning stray dogs in Tafilah Governorate/Liwa Al-Basira. The Center addressed the Ministry of Local Administration to take the necessary measures to ensure that individuals' lives are not exposed to Risks.²¹

The center recorded 3 deaths in 2022 resulting from dog bites, as compared to one complaint in 2021 about the spread of stray dogs and followed it up with the relevant authorities according to the rules.²²

Number of cases of dog bites ²³		
Year	Number	
2019	5428	
2020	3453	
2021	4333	
2022	5177	

¹⁷ Statistics of the General Security Directorate, Book No. (44/1), Cooperation No. (15363), 2023/4/26

¹⁸ Statistics of the General Security Directorate, Book No. (44/1), Cooperation, 21431, 2023/6/17

¹⁹ Criminal Statistical Report of 2022, Directorate of Public Security, p. 13

²⁰ Statistics of the General Security Directorate, Book No. (44/1), Cooperation, 21431, 2023/6/17

²¹ Letter of the National Center for Human Rights to the Ministry of Local Administration No. (H.A/535/P.H.) dated 2022/10/19; the Center has not received a reply to date.

²² Letter of the National Center for Human Rights addressed to the Mayor of Shayhan in the governorate of Karak, No. (H.A/502/S.H.), 2021/12/15, and Book of the Center Al-Haq (H.A/358/S.H.), 2022/6/28.

²³ These statistics are based on official figures from the Ministry of Health, book No. (5325/2/44) of 2023/6/14.

- **Residential building collapses in Luweibda District / Capital Governorate:**

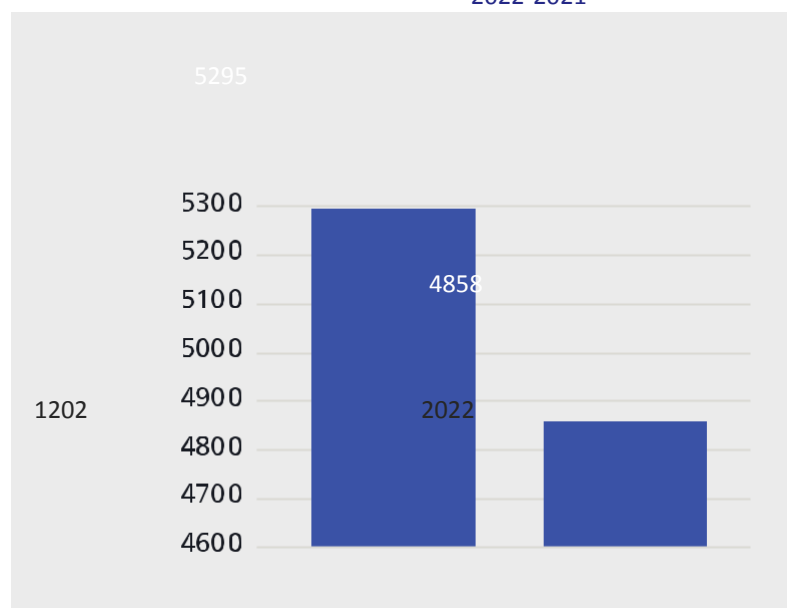
The collapse of an inhabited building in Luweibda, Amman, on 13/9/2022, led to 14 deaths²⁴ as a result of repair and maintenance work. The Center issued a statement requiring a field survey of old buildings in all cities and provinces of the Kingdom to ascertain their suitability for housing and use and to prevent a repeat of this tragic accident by taking measures to protect the lives of individuals, their right to physical safety and their enjoyment of adequate and convenient housing. The Center also urged the concerned parties, in its statement issued after this incident, to impose prior control when building residential buildings to ensure their safety and compliance with engineering standards and the technical and engineering requirements of the construction code. It called for a national survey of all old buildings to avoid any other incidents of the same type. The Center also praised the efforts of security teams in evacuating the deceased and save the lives of others under the rubble.²⁵

- **Drugs:**

The number of drug trafficking crimes in 2022 reached 5295 crime compared to 4858 crimes in 2021. In 2022 there were 13039 crimes of substance possession and use compared to 14264 crimes in 2021.²⁶

In 2022, the number of people arrested on charges of possession and use reached 17,679, while the number of persons seized on charges of trafficking and possession was 9,603²⁷ compared to 19,376 persons arrested on charges of possession and use and 9399 arrested on charges of trafficking and possession in 2021.²⁸

Number of drug trafficking crimes during
2022-2021



The Center commends the role played by our armed forces in protecting the borders of the Kingdom, especially the north, by arresting and bringing to justice the smugglers and promoters of this practice. The role played by the Department of Drug Control, whether the security role represented by the seizure of narcotic substances and their distributors, or that of raising awareness and holding periodic lectures aimed mostly at young people, whether in schools or universities, aiming at publicizing the dangers and effects of these substances and ways to counter them.

²⁴ Statistics of the General Security Directorate, Book No. (44/1), Cooperation No. (15363) of 26/4/2023

²⁵ Statement of the Center, published on www.nchr.org.jo, 15-9-2022

²⁶ Criminal Statistical Report 2022, Directorate of Public Security, p. 52

²⁷ Statistics of the General Security Directorate, Book No. (44/1), Cooperation No. (15363), 2023/4/26

²⁸ Statistics of the General Security Directorate, Book No. (44/1), Cooperation No. (17888), 2022/6/1.

Right to liberty:

- **Administrative Detention:**

In 2022, there were 34,411 administrative detainees (32,000 males and 2,411 females).²⁹ In addition, during 2022, there was no amendment to the Crime Prevention Law No. 7 of 1954. Here, the Center reiterates its firm position on the Crime Prevention Law, which the Center called for its abolition, in order to embody the requirements of the principle of separation of powers. Pending agreement on the need to repeal the Prevention of Crimes Act, the Center notes the need for a series of amendments to the Act, to which it has referred in its previous reports.

- "In late 2022, the Center also monitored the government's policy of limiting administrative detention through the Ministry of Interior's set of instructions to the administrative governors, **most notably** to periodically review the records and registers of administrative detainees, and draft a protocol for cases that can be transferred to the administrative governors depending on the nature and gravity of the subject matter, which contributed to the decrease in the number of administrative detainees.

- **Temporary detention center conditions:**

The National Center for Human Rights, in cooperation with the Office of Transparency and Human Rights in the Public Security Directorate, carried out 15 unannounced visits to temporary detention centers in the Kingdom in 2022.

The aim is to learn about the custodial environment, the extent to which law enforcement is committed to guaranteeing detainees' rights, the quality of services provided, and the extent to which they conform to international standards.

The monitoring process included an examination of these centers and interviews with detainees. The Panel noted the persistence of some practices in preventing detainees from receiving visits by their families and sometimes not allowing them to communicate with the outside world by not facilitating phone contact with their families to inform them of their whereabouts. There is a need for restrooms, especially in centers that are overcrowded for continuous maintenance, and the provision of one meal at the center's expense, while the detainee buys other meals and drinking water at his own expense, in addition to some remarks about infrastructure.

- **Correction and rehabilitation centers:**

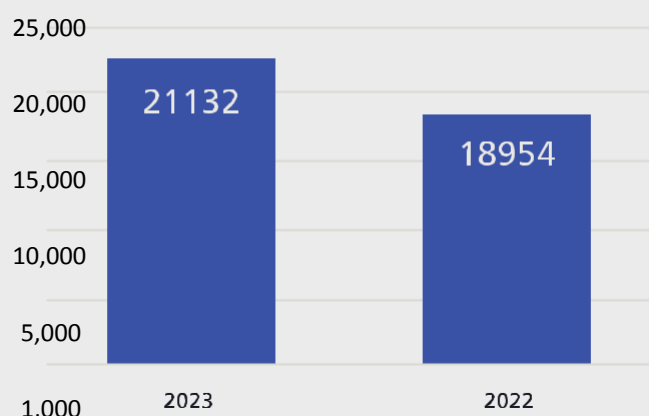
The Center carried out visits to 95 correction and rehabilitation centers in 2022 and 3 visits to the Al-Bashir Hospital's detention center and a visit to the National Center for Mental Health's detention center. The number of inmates in correction and rehabilitation centers in 2022 was 21,132³⁰ compared to 18,954 during 2021.³¹ The Center's observations during these visits were as follows:

The continuing overcrowding problem, which is the main problem facing the management of correctional and rehabilitation centers, constitutes an infringement on the rights of inmates, and limits the possibility of providing adequate services to them, as well as a fundamental challenge for implementing alternatives to detention and developing genuine rehabilitation programs. Therefore, a solution to this problem must be found through working on finding and applying more alternatives to detention as the percentage of occupancy during 2022 reached 158.3%.

²⁹ Ministry of the Interior Letter No. 1PM 53716 / 2023 / 8 / 13
³⁰ Statistics of the General Security Directorate, Book No. 44/1 (Cooperation) 15363 (2023/4/26).

³¹ Statistics of the General Security Directorate, Book No. 44/1 (Cooperation), 17888 (2022/6/1).

2022-2021 Number of Rehabilitation Center Residents



The Center also observed, with regard to the Juweida Correction and Rehabilitation Center for women, that there were no environmental changes related to the appropriate environmental rehabilitation of the center for elderly women and women with disabilities, such as passageways for wheelchairs, no rehabilitation of sanitary facilities, dormitories, and training facilities, etc. The number of suicides was 4 in correction and rehabilitation centers during 2022, compared to 5 in 2021. Within correction and rehabilitation centers, there were 131 attempted suicides in 2022, compared to 149 in 2021.³²

The National Center for Human Rights has monitored the role of correction and rehabilitation centers in raising the educational level of inmates of the centers by enabling them to benefit from academic education and vocational training opportunities.³³ Thirty literacy sessions were held, of which 729 inmates have benefited in addition to 82 Secondary School Examinations that were offered to inmates.

The Correction and Rehabilitation Centers also collaborated with the University of Jordan to showcase the products of the inmates in an audio-visual fair called (made with determination) which reinforced the confidence of inmates in their capacities and provides

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them with job opportunities after they serve their sentence, in addition to signing memoranda of understanding with specialized platforms to market these products.

The center monitored the continuation of the positive role played by a group of concerned voluntary cultural institutions in partnership with the management of correction and rehabilitation centers by providing inmates with a set of books, the topics of which were selected based on inmates' previous studies.

The Right not to be subjected to torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment:

The National Center for Human Rights (NCHR) reiterates its firm position, to which it refers in its annual reports, on the need to eliminate legislative shortcomings of the legal system against torture, namely:

1. To make the necessary legislative amendment to broaden the scope of the criminalization of torture so as not to be limited to the criminalization of torture for extraction of a confession or admission of guilt in accordance with article 208 of the Penal Code No. 16 of 1960 and the amendments thereof.
2. Make the necessary legislative amendment to remove the crime of torture from the provisions of statutes of limitation, amnesty, and the extinction of the crime through amnesty.
3. Make the necessary legislative amendment in the criminal prosecution of torture complaints in a manner that ensures the application of: Assigning qualitative competence in the investigation and prosecution of cases of torture to the Police Prosecutor's Office and to the special courts, and the practical effect of dealing with acts committed primarily as conduct offenses which do

³² Statistics of the General Security Directorate, Book No. (44/1), Cooperation, 15363/26/4/2023.

³³ Article 8 (13/8) of the Law on Correction and Rehabilitation Centers and its Amendment No. 9 of 2004, which provides as follows: "The inmate is entitled to his rights according to

the instructions issued by the Minister which are: "To take advantage of the opportunities available at the Center for Academic Education and Vocational Training."

not require the application of Article 208 of the Penal Code, and/or another criminal characterization of the misleading facts of the crime of torture being of various types.

4. Carry out the necessary legislative amendment and establish mechanisms for redress, compensation, rehabilitation of victims, both psychologically and physically.

Monitoring developments of the Center's work in dealing with allegations of torture and ill-treatment during 2022:

A specialized team conducts a monitoring visit to verify allegations of torture and ill-treatment by:

- Interviewing affected persons privately in their places of detention on unannounced visits.
- Listening to the story of those affected and uncovering and documenting their health conditions.
- Reading the medical reports attached to the files of those affected and their arrest warrants.
- Reading the investigation reports of the Police Public Prosecutor's Office relating to allegations of torture and ill-treatment in connection with complaints received by the Center.

Universal periodic review recommendations:

The National Center for Human Rights (NCHR) received 14 recommendations on the right to life, liberty and physical safety, mainly on the legal and practical problems associated with the criminalization and sanctioning of torture, the mechanisms of redress and compensation, administrative detention and the need to limit its use and to ensure prompt justice, as well as continuing efforts to improve the detention environment and amending criminal procedures to ensure that a detained person is medically supervised before entering a detention center.

Recommendations:

In the light of the foregoing, the National Center for Human Rights reiterates the recommendations contained in its previous annual reports, most notably:

- 1 Remove legislative shortcomings relating to the criminalization of torture, cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment and compensation of victims, referred to in the body of the report.
- 2 Establish specialized centers for the rehabilitation of victims of torture.
- 3 Take all the necessary measures to reduce overcrowding in correctional and rehabilitation centers; including the expansion of alternatives to custodial penalties and alternatives to arrest.
- 4 Take the necessary safety measures to reduce the incidence of drowning in agricultural ponds and repayment, with due attention paid to the educational aspect.
- 5 Take measures to reduce traffic accidents; This includes conducting necessary road maintenance and increasing the traffic awareness of individuals.
- 6 Conduct studies to identify the causes of suicide in order to reduce them, in accordance with social studies and with a participatory approach among State institutions.
- 7 Repeal the amendment made to criminalize attempted suicide

The right to access to justice and fair trial guarantees

Is one of the fundamental human rights guaranteed by international, regional, and national conventions,³⁴ as the Jordanian Constitution guarantees the right to a fair trial in several articles by adopting several well-established principles, including the separation of powers, the independence of the judiciary, the presumption of innocence, and the principle of open trial.

The normative content of this right is based on the monitoring of progress made in ensuring respect for the principle of the rule of law, and the follow-up and monitoring of issues related to right, represented in: judicial arrest, remote-trials, alternative penalties, debtor incarceration, legal aid, criminal motions, and the tribal *Jilwa*.

As part of the Center's mandate to monitor, receive and follow up on complaints and to put an end to violations, the Center received 75 complaints relating to the right to a fair trial in 2022.

In terms of legislative developments, 2022 saw related amendments in this area, as follows:

First: Jordan's Constitution:

Constitutional Amendments of 2022: Many constitutional texts were amended. These amendments affect many articles, most notably those related to fair trial guarantees:

- To add a paragraph to the text of article 6 of the Constitution, which stresses the need to respect the rule of law, and The Center commends this amendment.
- amending article 60 of the Constitution on the methods of appeal before the Constitutional Court,

to reduce the conditional rate of direct appeal before the Court to both the Senate and the House of Representatives, by a decision of no less than one quarter of the members of the concerned Council, in addition to the Cabinet's power of appeal.

There has also been an amendment to the constitutional review mechanism of indirect appeal (secondary payment), where the appeal is considered by the same court and, if serious, is referred directly to the Constitutional Court, and the Center appreciates this amendment which reduces the duration of constitutional litigation. This was followed by the enactment of the Constitutional Court Law Amendment Act of 2022, which came in line with the requirements of the constitutional amendments of 2022.

Second: Imprisonment of the Debtor

1. The Law amending the Implementation Act No. 9 of 2022: Many articles of the Implementation Act have been amended, including sixteen articles. The most prominent of these amendments are those relating to the right to fair trial guarantees:
 - Article 22 of the Law on Debtor Imprisonment has been amended as follows:
 - .1. The first installment of the amount of the judgment shall be reduced if the settlement is agreed upon to become (%15) instead of (%25). The judge shall also be empowered to verify the debtor's ability to pay the settlement amount in the event that the convicted party rejects such settlement. The judge shall make the appropriate decision in respect of the settlement.
 - .2 The legislator granted the enforcement judge discretion in determining the duration of the debtor's imprisonment for the same debt, in proportion to the amount subject to

³⁴ Articles 11, 8 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 14 of the International Covenant on Civil and

Political Rights, 27 and 101 of the Jordanian Constitution.

implementation under the condition that the period of imprisonment does not exceed 60 days per year for one debt. A maximum period of imprisonment of the debtor per year shall be set at 120 days per year even if there are multiple debts or creditors.³⁵

3. Confinement of the debtor is prohibited if the debtor fails to fulfill a contractual obligation with the exception of real estate leases and labor contracts. The prohibition shall apply three years after the entry into force of the provisions of the amended Law.

- Amendment to article 23 of the Law on Persons Excluded from Debtor Confinement, which is expanded by the addition of other cases in which the imprisonment of the debtor is prohibited if the conditions are met, including: if the debt is secured by in kind, if the total executed debt or the amount awarded is less than 5,000 dinars unless it is a rent allowance for real estate or labor rights, if the debtor is found to have sufficient and retainable debt, the Center appreciates the amendment and confirms its previous recommendations to abolish the debtor's confinement on the terms established in accordance with the Constitution and the international standard contained in article 11 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.
- Amendment of article 24 of the Law on End-of-Detention Cases, where the maximum limit of imprisonment provided for in article 22 of this Law (i.e. 60 days per year per debt) has been set, and the debtor has provided sufficient bank guarantee for the fulfillment of the debt and its attachments or a sufficient amount to be accepted by the President in cases of expiry.

- 2 Communication No. 62 of 2022 of 2022/12/28, extending the 28th defense order to 2023/1/31, the defense order (28) extended the postponement of the execution of the orders to imprison the debtor issued pursuant to article 22 of the Enforcement Law No. 25 of 2007, provided that the total amount awarded does not exceed 100,000 dinars, and the postponement of the execution of the penal provisions prescribing the penalty for offenses relating to the issuance of a check is not subject to a balance in accordance with the provisions of article (421) of the Penal Code, in cases where the total value exceeds 100,000.

Third: Legal aid:

An amended legal aid system (No. 53 of 2022) has been promulgated. The system contains five amended articles, the most prominent of which are:

- Amending article 3 of the Law on the criteria of eligibility for legal aid, taking into account the applicant's salary, and not the applicant's family salary, as previously applied, and take into account the applicant's movable assets, as previously the availability of funds was considered, and the Minister of Justice was granted the validity of the consent to provide legal aid to those with movable or immovable assets.
- Amending article 8 of the Law on the Regulation of the Payment of Wages to the Lawyer Appointed to Provide Legal Assistance, the addition of a paragraph allowing the payment of wages to the Lawyer appointed before the General Public Prosecutor's Offices in the event of a decision preventing the trial of the defendant, dropping the public case or appointing another lawyer to the Court,

³⁵ Article 22, paragraph (c), read as follows: c. The period of imprisonment may not exceed ninety daysⁱⁿ one year for one debt and this shall not preclude the application of detention again after the end of the year. d. After the

expiration of the term of imprisonment for another debt, the term of imprisonment may be continued at the request of the same creditor or another creditor.

The Center appreciates this amendment, which addressed one of the practical problems of the former legal aid system, where, in the above cases, the assigned lawyer was unable to collect his due wages because of the inadequacy of the previous legislative provision requiring payment when a final court judgment was rendered.

- Amendment of article 9 of the Law on the organization of the work of the appointed lawyer, with the addition of a paragraph enabling the appointed lawyer to continue to provide legal assistance until the judicial judgment has attained its degree

There were no texts in the previous system that clarified whether the provision of service included all levels of litigation, including appeal and discrimination. The Center commends this amendment, which enabled the assigned lawyer to perform his duties in a way that preserves the right of the client to uphold his right to defense.

The following table shows the number of requests for legal assistance from the courts and the Public Prosecution for the period from 1/1/2022 to 31/12/2022.³⁶

Description	Public		
	Total nbr	Prosecution	Courts
Number of beneficiaries of compulsory and elective legal aid services in Courts and Public Prosecutors Offices	1580	595	985
Numbers of requests for optional legal assistance in courts and prosecutors' offices	957	708	244
Number of beneficiaries of optional assistance services in courts and prosecutors' offices	251	138	113
Number of beneficiaries of optional legal aid services in the courts	185	-	-
Public prosecution after the entry into force of the Statute			
Number of applications from women who have received legal aid	66	26	40
Number of requests for legal assistance from juveniles	822	357	465
Number of requests from elderly persons receiving legal aid	7	2	Five
Number of Jordanian requests for legal aid	1366	502	864
Number of non-Jordanian requests for legal aid	214	93	121

³⁶ Ministry of Justice Letter No. 12820/7 (12 July 2023)

In the view of the Center, the legal aid system continues to be beset by legislative deficiencies in the regulation of legal aid, with the following observations:

- The system lacked the comprehensiveness of the provisions of articles 208 and 63 bis of the Code of Criminal Procedure No. 9 of 1961, which regulated provisions relating to the provision of optional legal aid without regulating the provisions of the mandatory legal aid required by the above articles.
- The system did not address requests for legal assistance submitted to the Minister by the competent official authorities or any of the concerned entities and limited itself to requests submitted by individuals, contrary to what is stated in Article 208/4 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, which granted the official bodies or the relevant authorities the possibility of submitting requests for legal assistance to the Minister.

Judicial Arrest:

In 2022, the Center monitored the increase in the number of persons in judicial detention in 2022, reaching 37,850 persons (compared to 20,070 in 2021 and to 35,052 persons detained in the course of 2020).³⁷ In this context, the Center reaffirms the need to comply with the legal regulations for detention in article 114 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (9) of 1961 and to activate the application of alternatives to arrest.

Remote Trials:

In its previous report, The Center recommended that the court's remote trial system should be strengthened technically and expanded, and that technical and logistical challenges should be addressed, taking into account fair trial guarantees during the application of remote trials.

The Center commends the measures taken by the Ministry of Justice to technically strengthen and expand the court's remote trial system. The number of remote trial sessions held by the Jordanian courts in 2022 was 72,918. All the courts of first instance and the 18 divisions of the Court of First Instance of Amman were fully connected, in addition to the High Penal Court and the Court of Appeal of Amman, with all the correction and rehabilitation centers. The final total of the courts that were equipped was 20 together with 17 correction and rehabilitation centers.³⁸

The system has been activated with six additional locations for juvenile courts and Day Care homes, including Amman Juvenile Court, Irbid Juvenile Court Al-Zarqa Juvenile Court, and the Agency of Amman Juvenile Day Care home, Irbid Juvenile Day Care Home and the Rashifa Juvenile Day Care Home.

As for the number of halls added in 2022 in courts and correctional and rehabilitation centers, they are as follows:³⁹

³⁷ Public Security Judiciary Directorate letter N° 1/44/Cooperation/15363 dated 26/4/2023.

³⁸ Letter of the Ministry of Justice N°17/5/N/7589 dated 18/4/2023.

³⁹ Letter of the Ministry of Justice N°17/5/N/7589 dated 18/4/2023.

Room Location	Halls equipped with television connectors for Tele-trial equipment	Halls equipped with Mobile computers for remote trials
Courts of First Instance	12	12
Correction and rehabilitation centers	6	16
Juvenile Courts	3	0
Juvenile care homes	3	0
Family Protection Department	11	0
Total	25	28

Alternatives to Custodial Penalties:

In 2022, the Penal Code amended the articles on alternatives to custodial penalties under the Penal Code by amending the Penal Code No. 10 of 2022. Under these amendments, the application of alternative penalties was expanded. The most prominent of these amendments were:

- 1. Alternative penalties shall cover all minor offenses, on the basis of the determination of the social situation, even if the sentence acquires a peremptory character, provided that the offense is not a case of repetition.
- 2. The number of community service hours has been reduced from 40 to 100, instead of 40 to 200 in a period of no more than one year.
- 3. The addition of two types of alternatives to custodial penalties: electronic surveillance and prohibition of access to specific places for a period of no less than one month and no more than one year.
- 4. Alternative sanctions shall cover crimes not committed against persons provided that they are not recurrent and that the grounds are used

to reduce the sentence to one year, based on the social status report.

- 5 - The judge of the execution of the sentence shall grant the validity of the execution of alternative punishments, including the possibility of substitution, reduction or extension of the duration of the sentence, in addition to the possibility of referring the case file to the court that issued the ruling.

The Law on the Means and Mechanisms for the Implementation of Alternatives to Custodial Penalties (No. 46 of 2022) was promulgated under article 25 bis of the Penal Code and its amendment No. 16 of 1960, which contained texts and provisions relating to the mechanism for the implementation of community penalties, as well as stipulating the application of electronic monitoring provisions.

The Center commends these amendments, which it has long recommended in previous reports on the need to expand the application of alternative sanctions, as they are in accordance with the penal reform policy towards achieving public and private deterrence. This deterrence must be invested in the service of society, away from restricting freedom within penal institutions to reduce criminal contagion.

According to the Jordanian Judicial council's annual report for 2022 on the status of regular courts, administrative courts, and public prosecution offices

a total of 4,193 sentences ruled in favor of alternatives to custodial penalties (an increase of 1,288) compared to 2021.

Meanwhile, the number of government institutions involved in implementing alternative punishments in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice reached 15 institutions during 2022, compared to 13 institutions during 2021.⁴⁰

In 2022, a total of 322 judicial decisions were issued by criminal courts and public prosecution offices that included the imposition of alternatives to arrest, according to the annual report of the Jordanian Judicial Council on the status of regular courts, administrative courts, and public prosecution;

Antagonistic ear:

Article 62 of the Law of the Bar Association and its Amendment No. 11 of 1972 obliges lawyers not to accept a lawsuit against a lawyer or the Board of the Bar before being authorized by the President of the Bar Association, stating that: "Lawyers shall not accept the substitution in a lawsuit against a colleague or against the Board of the Bar before being authorized by the President." This restriction constitutes a violation of the principle of equality in litigation and at the same time an illegal restriction incompatible with international human rights standards that prevents individuals from having access to justice and to the guarantees of fair trial, most notably the right to power of legal representation. The legislations organizing the validity of the conflict in front of the law do not refer to this restriction which makes this problematic in case of non-response to the query.

In this context, the Center has received numerous complaints, including problems that have prevented individuals from being able to appoint a lawyer to defend their cases.

The Center calls for the need to reconsider this text, on the basis of its incompatibility with the principle of equality, and the practical problems that it entails, and which constitute an obstacle to the right to litigation guaranteed to all without discrimination under the Constitution and international human rights standards, and to the full enjoyment of fair trial guarantees.

Tribal Jilwa:

The Tribal Jilwa Document was approved in 2021, which addresses the negative effects of common traditions and customs that have had an impact on individuals' enjoyment of the right to residency and movement. The Center stresses the importance of this document in practice, and the legal guarantees it contains, that contribute to the realization of the principle of the rule of law and the right, by limiting the phenomenon of Jilwa until its end, which ensures the enjoyment of a wide range of rights guaranteed by the Jordanian Constitution and regional and international human rights standards.

The main safeguards of this document, which achieve societal peace, is the application of the Jilwa only in tribal cases including murder and imposing the Jilwa only on the father of the murderer and his sons for the duration of a renewable year. The document also stipulates that "the place of the Jilwa is to be from Liwa to Liwa, or from neighborhood to neighborhood within the city, depending on the type and circumstances of the case." It specifies that "the assessment of the value of blood money is up to the judge." The document stipulates that all tribal procedures must be completed once a definitive judicial ruling has been issued; Embodying the principle of separation of powers and independence of the judiciary.

In spite of the positive points mentioned above, the Center calls for a gradual move towards eliminating all manifestations of the tribal Jilwa, especially in light of the complaints received by the Center from individuals and families about the social, economic and psychological damages that were caused by the application of this system.

Recommendations:

1. Review the legal aid system to ensure 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 legal regulation for necessary legal aid and requests for legal aid submitted to the Minister by the competent official authorities or any of the concerned authorities.
2. Review the text of article 62 of the Law of the Bar Association and its Amendment No. 11 of 1972, on the basis of its incompatibility with the principle of equality in litigation, and the practical problems resulting from the existence of this provision, which constitute an obstacle to the right to a litigation guaranteed to all without discrimination, and the full enjoyment of the guarantees of the right to a fair trial.
3. Amend the Code of Criminal Procedure (No. 9 of 1961) to ensure the principle of the right to material and moral compensation for damage resulting from arrest that is inconsistent with the legal provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure, and if acquitted.
4. Continue to adopt approaches to broadening the application of community penalties and alternatives to arrest in particular.
5. At the level of administrative judiciary, the Center recommends the following:
 - Establishment of administrative courts in the North and South regions.
 - Amend the Administrative Judiciary Act No. 27 of 2014 to remove the inconsistency between articles 28 and 34; This will help improve the execution of rulings issued by the Administrative Judiciary.
 - The fees for the proceedings shall be determined on clear grounds and the matter shall not be left to the discretion of the President of the Administrative Tribunal or to the case.

Right to nationality, residence, movement and asylum

The normative content of this right is based on the complementarity of the legal protection of its components in law and in practice, and through the enforcement and strengthening of its protection safeguards by tracking and monitoring a number of cases, They are: the right to nationality, the right to residence and to movement, and the right to asylum.

As part of its mandate to monitor, receive and follow up on complaints and to put an end to violations, the Center received, in 2022, 9 complaints relating to the right to nationality and 17 complaints relating to the right to identification papers and 6 complaints relating to the right to asylum and 128 relating to the right to residence and movement.

Right to nationality

The right to nationality is a fundamental human right, guaranteeing every individual the right to acquire, change and retain his or her nationality. Article 6 of the Jordanian Constitution states: "Jordanians shall be equal before the law, whether they are distinguished in rights and duties, even if they differ in race, language or religion."

There has been no amendment to the instructions for the implementation of the Cabinet Decision on granting the children of Jordanian women married to non-Jordanians the facilities for the year 2014, relating to granting the children of Jordanian women many benefits related to school and university education, exemption from the requirement of obtaining work permit, coverage of health insurance, and the right to own property, etc.

The work of the National Committee for the Return of National Numbers, headed by the Minister of Interior, has been stalled since the Committee's last decision of 23/12/2021, when 31 national numbers were returned. In 2022, there was no significant change regarding stateless persons (bidun).

The right to reside and to movement.

The right to residence and movement is a human right guaranteed by the Constitution and international human rights standards, which include the right of everyone to freedom of movement and choice of residence within the borders of their own country, the right of everyone to leave any country, including their own, and the right to return to their country.⁴¹

In 2022, the range of issues and events associated with this right emerged, summarized as follows:

- .1 In 2022, no restrictions were imposed on the right of movement under defense orders that remained in place during 2022, and for the third consecutive year.
- .2 In the framework of strengthening the rule of law, the Jilwa Control Document, which is still operational, was approved in 2021. It is concerned with addressing the negative effects of common traditions and customs that have had an impact on the enjoyment of the right of individuals to residence and mobility. The Center stresses the importance of this document in practice, and its legal safeguards that contribute to the principle of the rule of law by limiting the phenomenon of Jilwa until it is ended, which ensures the enjoyment of a wide range of rights guaranteed by the Jordanian Constitution and regional and international human rights standards.

Among the most prominent guarantees contained in this document, which achieves social peace, is that the Jilwa will be limited to tribal issues related to killing only, and that the Jilwa will be limited to the killer, the killer's father, and the killer's sons." For "a renewable year" the document also specifies that "the place of the Jilwa will be from Liwa to Liwa, or from neighborhood to neighborhood within the city, depending on the type and circumstances of the case."

⁴¹ Article 13 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and article 12 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

The assessment of the value of blood money is to be determined by the Chair Judge. The document stipulates that all tribal procedures must end once a final court ruling is issued in application of the principle of separation of powers. Since the application of the Tribal Jilwa Control Act in mid-2021 until 31/12/2022, approximately 4,244 persons have been returned to their usual areas of residence in the Kingdom, with the largest number in Al-Zarqa governorate reaching approximately 886, the lowest number in Aqaba governorate approximately 38, and in Aqaba governorate 123 families were returned numbering approximately 735 individuals.⁴²

.3 On January 11, 2022, a decision was issued to suspend the application of house arrest (police surveillance) on persons with criminal records for a period of three months. The National Center for Human Rights confirmed that the decision of the Minister of Interior to temporarily suspend the imposition of house arrest for a period of three months is a positive step in the right direction to limit the application of the Crime Prevention Law.⁴³

Third: asylum

Jordan's position on refugees is progressive and maintains international standards for the treatment of refugees. Its 1998 memorandum of understanding with the UNHCR defines the framework of Jordan's refugee policy.

In 2022, additional repercussions emerged because of the burden placed on Jordan by refugees and the increased pressure on basic health, labor, education, and infrastructure facilities in particular, especially under the regional and global challenges and their implications for the national economy have continued.

The number of nationalities in the Kingdom has reached 43. The statistics of the Ministry of Interior show that the most numerous nationalities within the territory of the Kingdom come from Syria numbering 1,372,023, refugees, (60,867) refugees come from Iraq, (12,734) from Yemen, (5,184) refugees from Sudan, (578) refugees from Somalia in addition to (39) various other nationalities.

Palestinian refugees:

The financial crisis of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) continued for the third year in a row in 2022, as a direct result of the previous US administration's decision to suspend aid and financial commitments to UNRWA, which threatened the Agency's work due to the decision, especially its education and health services.⁴⁴

Syrian refugees:

The Syrian refugee issue is one of the most important challenges faced by Jordan for decades as the influx of Syrian refugees into the kingdom has posed significant challenges to critical and pivotal sectors, further burdening official institutions.

Jordan hosts about 1,372,023 Syrian refugees, of whom more than 671,000 are registered with the UN, and only about 10% are in refugee camps, while the rest are scattered in Jordanian cities and villages.⁴⁵

In 2022, a number of developments took place in the Syrian refugee file summarized in the following points:

1. Voluntary return of 3,325 Syrian refugees to their country.⁴⁶

⁴² According to the Ministry of Interior

⁴³ Statement of status published on www.nchr.org.jo, January 13, 2022

⁴⁴ According to the Department of Palestinian Affairs.

⁴⁵ According to the speech of His Majesty King Abdullah II Ibn Al-Hussein dated 09/09/2022

⁴⁶ According to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

2. The Ministry of Labor's renewal of the extension of the exemption of employers from work permit fees for workers with Syrian nationality, after the extension of the previous exemption ended in 2020.⁴⁷
3. The Ministry of Labor issued 16,333 work permits for Syrian refugees until the end of 2022, 960 of which were for women.⁴⁸

The Highlights of the Universal Periodic Review recommendations on the right to nationality, asylum, residence and movement are:

First: Recommendation No. 75 provides for increased efforts to combat trafficking in persons, especially women and children from the migrant and asylum-seeking community, and for the improvement and application of relevant legislation.

It is worth noting that this recommendation was implemented as this community is subject to the same legislations that are applicable to Jordanian citizens since Article 13 of the Jordanian Constitution stipulates that no one shall be subject to compulsory labor. Jordan has also ratified the Basic Human Rights Conventions, which have constituted an integrated system for the prevention of trafficking in persons. The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights guarantees that Member States are under an obligation to prevent and protect individuals from any practice of slavery and forced labor.

Jordan has also acceded to the International Convention against Transnational Organized Crime of 2000 and its two Protocols relating to the Prevention and Suppression of the Trafficking in persons, especially Women and Children, and to the Smuggling of Migrants of 1962.

In addition to introducing some new provisions under the law amending the Human Trafficking Law No. (10) of 2021, which included organized begging under the

Crime of human trafficking and the possibility of halting prosecution of victims and those affected by crimes of human trafficking by the public prosecution. In addition, there is the establishment of the "Human Trafficking Victims Assistance Fund", which is dedicated to providing legal assistance to victims and those affected by crimes of human trafficking, in order to strengthen legal protection against the exploitation of children for the crime of begging.

Second: Recommendation No. 115 provides for increased measures to ensure access to education for all refugee children and to ensure that the latter are not exploited for work.

The content of this recommendation has been implemented, with an increase in the number of schools in refugee camps, in addition to a two-phase division of Jordanian public schools, so that refugee children outside the camps can access education, and all national legislation applicable to Jordanian citizens also applies to them.

Recommendations:

The need for the international community to cooperate with Jordan to address the burden and requirements of asylum in light of the large numbers hosted by the Kingdom.

The implementation of the Tribal Jilwa document should continue until appropriate legal solutions are found that can solve the challenges resulting from the Tribal Jilwa cases.

⁴⁷ According to the Jordanian Ministry of Labor.

⁴⁸ According to the Jordanian Ministry of Labor.

Right to vote and stand for election

The normative framework for the right to vote and stand for election in accordance with the Jordanian Constitution and international standards is based on three criteria (ensuring the integrity of the electoral process, periodic elections and fair representation)⁴⁹ which states that every citizen without any discrimination has the right to take part in the conduct of public affairs, either directly or through freely chosen representatives, and to be elected and elected in fair and periodic elections on an equal footing, based on the free expression of the will of the voters.

Practically speaking, the Jordanian constitutional order ensures regular electoral campaigning, which has a bearing on the stability of the political system, the strengthening of constitutional legitimacy, and the curtailment of the authorities' pursuit of power.

Within the legislative framework, legislation governing political life was enacted in 2022 (Election Law of the House of Representatives No. 4 of 2022, Political Parties Law No. 7 of 2022), in addition to the Local Administration Law No. 22 of 2021.

The Election Law for the House of Representatives No. 4 of 2022 included a number of amendments, as the law adopted a mixed electoral system (closed proportional list, open proportional list) on two levels of representation for which 138 seats have been allocated; The general electoral district, which is formed by party lists according to the closed proportional list system, is allocated 41 seats, with a discount rate (threshold) of two and a half percent (%2.5) of the total voters at the level of the general electoral district, local districts, and the allocation of 97 seats to be selected based on open proportional lists.

The law also ensured the empowerment of women and youth, reducing the age of candidacy to 25 instead of 30, and requiring that party lists to include at least one woman among the first three candidates as well as among the next three candidates, and that a young man or woman under 35 years of age be among the first five candidates and allocating 18 seats to women's quota. The new law also provided for an increase in the number of seats allocated for parties and alliances to reach a minimum of (65%) number of seats in the 21st Assembly's parliamentary elections.

The year 2022 also saw the holding of several elections monitored by the Center, as follows:

- Governorate Council, Municipal Council, and Greater Amman Municipality Council Elections for 2022:

These elections were held under the Local Administration Law No. (22) of 2021. The Center reiterates in this regard that this law did not reflect the contents of articles 120 and 121 of the Jordanian Constitution, nor did it lead to the translation of the essence of administrative centralization, which is a form of administrative democracy, i.e., popular participation at the local level, which requires the recognition of the moral character of local councils, granting them independence and effective competencies, and controlling the control of the central authority over governorate councils within the scope of administrative trusteeship. The Center affirms that the law adopted an administrative centralized system and did not translate it into a system of administrative de-centralization, as the system of decentralized administration is considered a middle ground between administrative centralization and administrative decentralization, and only delegated real powers to the representatives of the central authority in the provinces, which they exercise on behalf of the central authority.

The Cabinet issued its decision, which includes holding elections for provincial councils, municipalities, and the Amman Municipality Council in its session held on Wednesday, November 24th, 2021.

⁴⁹ Article 3/21, 1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and article 25 (a) and (b) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

On this basis, the Board of Commissioners of the Independent Electoral Commission decided to consider Tuesday, March 22, 2022, as the date for the voting and counting of the elections for the provincial councils, municipal councils, and the Amman Secretariat Council. The Center monitored the conduct of the electoral process since the Authority set the date for the election and published preliminary voter lists, the appeals that were filed, and the results of the appeals. Four appeals were filed against candidacy, all of which were rejected. The Center issued successive statements on the conduct of voting and counting, and a specialized report on the conduct of the electoral process, which was published on the Center's website.

The most prominent observations of the Center during the campaign phase⁵⁰ are (candidates not complying with the dates of electoral campaigning set according to the applicable legislation, some regions holding internal elections for clans or regions before announcing the date of registration for candidacy, some candidates inviting voters before the start of the election campaign date, some candidates announcing their candidacy from their tribes before the scheduled date according to the legislation governing the electoral process, direct campaigning of candidates through social media and various media outlets before the period set for campaigning, the continuation of electoral campaigning via telephone messages after the end of the election campaign (electoral silence) and the use of some candidates for campaigning before the end of the election campaign period), and the use of children in campaigning at electoral headquarters or in front of houses of worship and other locations during and after the period specified for campaigning, placing campaign advertisements in areas not designated for them in violation of the provisions of the law, and not placing campaign posters within

specific height, assault or removal of photos and signage of other candidates by some election officials.

The most prominent observations noted by the observation team on polling day,⁵¹ are as follows: (Some committees did not abide by the time limit set for the start of the electoral process, no objection forms were available in some polling stations, there were unauthorized persons who entered the polling booths in some centers, some polling centers were not ready to receive persons with disabilities and elderly, a register of candidates in some polling centers was not available, manifestations of electoral propaganda were available in front of and inside polling centers, clear guidelines for voters were provided for the majority of centers, special booths were provided for voters' privacy, provision of a list of voters in hard and electronic copies, provision of ink in monitored boxes and some polling centers were closed to older persons.)

The Center also monitored some field observations, including: low voter turnout, limited attempts to vote for others, crowding in front of most polling stations, non-compliance of voters with the health protocol related to the Coronavirus, watching some law enforcement personnel inside some polling stations, lack of reasonable facilities in some polling centers for persons with disabilities and elderly, lack of sign language interpreters, deaf-mutes in most polling centers, and use of mobile phones inside polling centers.

It should be noted that the center received 42 complaints on polling day from the operations room set up for this purpose, and numerous observations from citizens. They were dealt with according to the rules, referred directly to the Authority. The Authority also took immediate necessary action to address these observations and

⁵⁰ Monitoring Reports on the Conduct of the Elections for Governorate Councils, Municipal Councils and the Greater Amman Municipality Council 2022, www.nchr.org.jo

⁵¹ Monitoring Report on the Conduct of the Elections for Governorate Councils, Municipal Councils and the Greater Amman Municipality Council, 2022. www.nchr.org.jo

and communicated with the plaintiff on the Authority's response to the complaint or lack thereof.

The Center confirms its recommendations contained in the special report for monitoring the provincial and municipal council elections and the Amman Secretariat Council 2022,⁵² most notably:

1. Amend the Local Administration Law of 2021 to ensure that the members of the governorate councils and the municipal council are fully elected, abolish the appointment, and ensure a representative percentage of persons with disabilities.
2. Raising the awareness of citizens to exercise their right to the electoral process and to choose the person who represents them.
3. Take measures to prohibit the use of places of worship for electoral propaganda, and at the same time abide by the instructions related to electoral propaganda.
4. The committees are committed to timely opening of ballot boxes, the polling centers are accessible to persons with disabilities, sign language interpreters are available, electronic applications for changing the polling place are available, rooms are allocated to verify the identity of female voters wearing the full veil (niqab), and the phenomenon of corrupt money is eliminated.

- Jordan Bar Association elections for the 2022-2025:
- The elections for the Bar Council were held on 27/5/2022. The Center monitored the conduct of the electoral process and prepared a detailed report on the electoral process.

The most prominent observations that the Center made during the electoral process were as follows:⁵³

Accessibility for persons with disabilities to the polling centers, lack of security inside the campus of the professional trade union complex, non-counting of polling papers by some committees before the start of voting, lack of instructions by the accreditation system on the mechanism for verifying voter identity/voter overcrowding in some polling stations, lack of necessary guidelines for the electoral process, use of election campaigning inside the halls, use of children in electoral campaigning, receipt of names of candidates by supporters of voters, proximity of detachments to each other and presence of more voters inside the polling place, non-closure of ballot papers by some voters in some polling stations and centers, and filming of polling stations and polling centers, such as the occurrence of polling stations and polling stations, and candidates visiting the polling centers.

The Center reiterates its recommendations contained in the Jordanian Bar Association election report for the forty-fourth session 2022-2025, most notably:

1. Amend the legislation governing the electoral process and its procedures so that the election system is based on one round to win the president's position as it is in effect for the members; the extent to which the election can be held at the governorate level; allocating quota seats for women; determining the approved document for the purposes of verifying the voter's identity; and determining the voting mechanisms by law.
2. Use of electronic means, **such as** providing electronic voters' records and an electronic screen that show mechanisms of checking voter identity in application of the principle of integrity and transparency in the electoral process which is

⁵² Monitoring Report on the Conduct of the Elections for Governorate Councils, Municipal Councils and shows voters and observers the mechanism for verifying voter information, in compliance with the principle of integrity

⁵³ 53 Election Observation Report of the Jordanian Bar Association for the Forty-fourth Session 2022-2025, Center website www.nchr.org.jo

supposed to be the basis for every electoral process; This enhances the bonds of trust between the syndicate and the General Authority.

3. Choose a more appropriate place to conduct the electoral process to enable the committee to manage and fine-tune the electoral process in all its phases.
4. Taking into account the representation of women in the management of the electoral process (election commissions), training of election committees on the procedures of the electoral process, the prevention of the use of mobile phones during the voting process, overcrowding, the presence of persons not authorized to enter the polling center to maintain confidentiality, the non-conduct of electoral campaigning on election day (electoral silence), and the transfer of member ballot boxes under clear and specific procedures.
5. Using the Independent Electoral Commission to manage the electoral process.

Recommendations on the right to vote and candidacy:

- Amending the Local Administration Law No. 22 of 2021 to ensure that the councils have the power to dissolve by a judicial decision reflects the contents of articles 120 and 121 of the Jordanian Constitution, and translates them into a centralized substance.
- Confirm the recommendations contained in the reports on monitoring the electoral process, including amending the Bar Association Law and the legislation governing that election.
- Prepare, train, and qualify personnel who participate in the implementation of all stages of the electoral process, strengthen the role of persons with disabilities, youth, and women in these committees, and determine the basis for selecting chairpersons of polling centers

and the chairpersons of committees in each constituency in a manner that ensures impartiality and integrity.

- Provision of polling places (polling stations) that ensure that voters cast their votes in a smooth manner, with emphasis on the provision of accommodation for persons with disabilities and the elderly.
- National efforts should be combined to develop collective awareness of the importance of participation in elections; Intensify national efforts to promote the participation of women, youth and persons with disabilities in all forms of elections.
- Continue efforts to control electoral crimes, including political money, and bring the perpetrators to justice in a manner that ensures the proper conduct of the electoral process by the relevant authorities.

Right to freedom of opinion, expression, the press, the media and access to information

Is a human right guaranteed by national and international conventions,⁵⁴ and is organized by a wide range of relevant national laws and regulations.

The normative content of this right is based on the fact that it is one of the conditions necessary for the achievement of the principles of transparency and accountability as the protection of this right is one of the most important pillars for the protection of human rights, the fight against corruption, the contribution to the economic, political, social and cultural advancement of society, a pillar of the democratic State, and an indication of the State's orientation towards further promotion of rights and freedoms. This right is needed for access to and exercise of all human rights.

As part of its mandate to monitor, receive and follow up on complaints and to put an end to violations, the Center received, in 2022, 10 complaints concerning the right to freedom of opinion and expression and 4 complaints concerning the right to privacy.

On the level of legislation:

In 2022, there were no amendments to legislation directly related to freedom of expression and freedom of the press and the media, and the bill amending the law to guarantee the right to information is still on the agenda of the House of Representatives without taking the necessary constitutional procedures to discuss and approve it. It should be noted that the law guaranteeing the right to information was reviewed and referred to the House of Representatives for discussion, which has not yet been discussed. The Center has submitted its legal position on the amendments, and submitted its proposal - which was presented to the committee formed to amend the law and one of its members - to take into consideration

International human rights standards relating to the right to information, in particular with regard to the realization of the principle of maximum disclosure of information, the principle of proactive disclosure and the principle of limited exceptions, the priority in the event of conflict with other legislations of the Law on Guaranteeing the Right to Information, the restructuring of the Information Council to ensure its independence, the balance of its composition and the facilitation of procedures for obtaining information by its applicants.⁵⁵ It should be noted that the sixteenth development goal on the establishment of peaceful societies in which no one is marginalized and the building of effective and accountable institutions has affirmed, within its purposes, the need to ensure public access to information. Access to information is also one of the most important indicators for individuals' enjoyment of the right to freedom of expression between the two rights, which is affirmed by the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the committee in charge of its implementation in its general commentaries.

Discussion of the Personal Data Protection Bill, which included the protection of individuals' data from unlawful collection and processing, began in 2022, with the proposed bill linking the collection process to the need for consent and establishing a special body for the purpose. Throughout 2022, the Defense Law and the orders issued pursuant thereto continued to be in force, including the eighth defense order issued on 15/4/2020,⁵⁶ criminalizing "publication, republication or circulation of any news about the pandemic that would terrorize people, or cause panic among them through media or communications or social media", where the Center had recommended that this item be deleted; Due to the criminalization's inclusion of very broad expressions opening the door to penal prosecution which is not in line with the conditions of the restraints of the international human rights standards

⁵⁴ Article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights provides for the right to freedom of opinion and expression, and article 15 of the Constitution.

⁵⁵ Order No. 8 of 2020, published in the Official Gazette, No. 5633, dated April 15, 2020

⁵⁶ The Center has included detailed observations on the law in its previous reports and has presented its legal position to the concerned parties.

especially article (3/19) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, not to mention the adequacy of the penal system in this respect and the repeal of the Defense Law and its amendments in 2023.

On the level of practices:

A social media app (TikTok) was blocked in 2022 after a group of individuals published fabricated and inciting content “as described by the government at the time” about the protests that took place in the Kingdom following the transportation truck strike at the end of 2022.

The Center also monitored the arrest of some individuals following the same protests in 2022 and visited them and took the necessary measures to release most of them hours after their arrest except one, who is still under arrest by judicial order for causing trouble and incitement to hatred in educational and sports facilities, using any means possible, and for inciting to carry weapons and damage public and private money in contradiction with the provisions of article 2/467 bis of the Penal Code N°16 of 1960, also accused of incitement to sectarianism and racism in contradiction of the provisions of article 150 of the Penal Code N°16 of 1960.

In a related context, the number of cases about insulting an official body and incitement to sectarianism and cases related to article 11 of electronic crimes, and the crime of opposing the system of government or incitement to the opposition thereof, and the crime of subjecting the Kingdom to dangerous and aggressive acts or acts that could disrupt its relations with a foreign country or subjecting Jordanians to vengeful acts affecting them and their assets in contradiction of the provisions of article 3/B of the Law on the Prevention of Terrorism N°55 of 2006 and the crime of promoting the ideas of a terrorist group as follows:⁵⁷

Crime	N° of cases
Insulting an official body based on the provisions of article 191 of the Penal Code N°16 of 1960 and its amendments.	378 and no cases of arrest
Bad mouthing based on the provisions of article 195 of the Penal Code N°16 of 1960 and its amendments.	193 cases and 76 arrests
Incitement to sectarianism based on the provisions of article 150 of the Penal Code N°16 of 1960	84 cases and 41 arrests
Sending or resending, or publishing information or data on the net or on a website or on any information system, including insult or criticism or humiliation of any individual based on the provisions of article 11 of the Electronic Crimes Law	3058 cases and 382 arrests
Opposing the system of government based on the provisions of article 1/149 of the Penal Code N°16 of 1960 and its amendments	9
Performing acts that can subject the Kingdom to aggressive acts and disrupt its relations with foreign countries or expose Jordanians to the risk of vengeful acts affecting them and their assets in contradiction to the provisions of article 3/B of the Law on Prevention of Terrorism N°55 of 2006 and its amendments.	11
Promoting the ideas of a terrorist group in contradiction to the provisions of article 3/H of the Law on Prevention of Terrorism N°55 of 2006 and its amendments.	21

⁵⁷ Letter of the Jordanian Judicial Council N°2/1/2586 dated 13/7/2023 and letter of the Military Judiciary Directorate N°M/A/2/12/state security/6358 dated 15/March/2023.

Freedom of the press, audio-visual media and news websites:

Media Complaints Commission:

The number of complaints handled by the Media Complaints Commission under the Public Audio-Visual Media Act in 2022 was 5⁵⁸ compared to 11 in 2021, which is the same number as in 2020, compared to 6 in 2019.

As to audiovisual media and online news, the Center witnessed the following:⁵⁹

- The number of electronic publications licensed for 2022 was 33 new ones; They varied from 31 electronic publications of licensed political parties, and 2 company publications. The total number was 163 licensed electronic publications currently in existence. 128 electronic publications were blocked pursuant to article 49 (g) of the Press and Publication Law No. 8 of 1998 and amended as it contravenes the provisions of paragraph (a) of the same article; being not licensed by the Commission.
- No entity applied for a satellite station license during 2022, and in this regard the total number of licensed satellite stations reached 22.
- No entity has applied for a radio station license, and there are a total of 38 licensed radio stations.
- No one applied for a rebroadcast license in 2022, and only one station had a rebroadcast license.
- The Media Authority continued, approving a total of 239 films; while 6 films were not licensed; Four of them included homosexual scenes, and two included blasphemy of religion and God in accordance with the provisions of Article IV of the Charter Regulation No. 63 of 2004 on the Licensing, Monitoring and Amendment of Audio-Visual Works.
- The number of books that entered the Kingdom was 1,576,000; the Information Service followed up with 489 titles; 390 titles were authorized and 99 titles were reserved; Violations of the provisions of the current Press and Publications Law included offenses against the Islamic and Christian religions, in addition to containing immoral materials and violations of child rights in contradiction with the provisions of article (5,38) of the law on Publications and Publishing, according to the Authority.



⁵⁸ Report of the Media Complaints Commission.

⁵⁹ Media Commission Report No. (KN) 710/, 13/3/2023

- No radio, satellite or electronic stations received warnings.
- No programs broadcast on radio or satellite stations were stopped during 2022.
- No books printed in the kingdom were brought to justice in 2022.
- The Authority did not file any complaints against any licensed media organization. The Authority received complaints from official entities that were referred to the judiciary for judgment. Eight of the complaints were referred to the Public Prosecutor by way of report.
- The Media Authority has not issued any decision of prohibition since the end of 2016.

With regard to the development of the media sector, the Media Authority has worked on the rehabilitation and training of media professionals through the comprehensive information program. The number of participants in the program during 2022 reached 234. The Authority has prepared and published four studies related to the media and its issues.

The center emphasizes that international standards and best practices ensure that electronic publications are not registered and that they provide only notice in the event of establishment. In the event they violate the provisions of national legislation, they are referred to the courts.

As for the number of print and publication cases, out of 116 cases, 59 were convicted and absence of responsibility was ruled in 48.⁶⁰

Right to information:

The number of complaints received by the Information Board during 2022 was one from a journalist, and the Board's decided to accept the request and address it to the relevant authority to respond to it,⁶¹ while the number of complaints in 2021 was three, of which one was from a journalist, compared to 14 in 2020.

As for the number of requests for information, there were 39 bodies asking for information from the Information Board circulation in 2022. In total, in 2023 the number of requests for information submitted to the Information Board were 3,930, of which 3,795 were answered, and 135 were rejected. The number of requests from journalists out of this total was (79),⁶² while in 2021, there were 3,834 requests of which 3,550 were answered and 284 were declined, as compared to 2,300 requests in the year (2020) of which (2,135) were answered and (165) were declined⁶³ compared to (8,534) requests in 2019, of which 99 were rejected: as shown in the figure below:

In order to enable the exercise of the right of access to information, the Center reiterates the observations contained in its previous reports and stresses the need to proceed with the approval of the amended draft law on the right to information still in the hands of the House of Representatives and not to expand the scope of classified information in addition to the unclear and imprecise criteria of classification by relevant authorities.

⁶⁰ Letter of the Jordanian National Assembly Judicial Tribunal number 2586/01/02/dated 13/7/2023. As for the remaining cases, they ended for various reasons, including referral in one case, dropping by pardon (2), dropping by pardon and recourse to personal right (2), declaration of innocence (1) and suspending prosecution(39)

⁶¹ Letter of the Information Board No. (GC/T)13, 2023/3/20

⁶² Information Board Letter No. (M/C)13, 2023/3/20

⁶³ Information Board Letter No. (M/C)13, 2023/3/20

Besides, there is a need for the implementation of the Information Classification and Archiving Protocol and the Protocol on Procedures for Access to Information approved by the Cabinet and applied by the relevant bodies, which were prepared under the umbrella of the National Library through a committee chaired by the Information Commissioner.

In this context, a national training group on the right to information was formed at the National Library Administration, which started to train law enforcement authorities on these protocols. A training program entitled "Institutionalization of the procedures for the enforcement of the law on the right to information/document management and archiving" was prepared. During 2022, 13 training courses were conducted, during which 273 trainees from the public sector and members of the armed forces were trained. The Center emphasizes the importance of these steps and the need to further spread the culture of the right to information.

Developments relating to the recommendations of the universal periodic review:

The Press and Publications Law has not been amended to ensure that only those who authorize publications are notified when they are licensed, and that articles that define crimes are amended to ensure that criminal acts are regulated. A number of pieces of legislation continue to apply to journalists, most notably the Cybercrime Law and some articles of the Penal Code, due to the nature of their work. The Center had recommended that the Press and Publications Law explicitly stipulate that journalists cannot be prosecuted for work related to their profession except within the framework of the Press and Publications Law. With regard to the recommendations on amending the Terrorism Prevention Law, no amendments have been made to date to the Terrorism Prevention Law. As for the recommendation

to revise and define the definition of incitement to hate speech, the House of Representatives pushed back a cybercrime bill in 2018 that criminalized rumors and defined hate speech in a broad sense.

There have been no amendments to the Cybercrime Law No. 27 of 2015, which includes a legal provision criminalizing the sending, re-sending, or publication of data or information through the Internet, website, or any information system involving vilification, libel or contempt of any person with a minimum of three months' imprisonment and a fine of no less than 100 dinars and no more than 2,000 dinars.

The government has previously submitted amendments to the Cybercrime Law, but the House of Representatives, in its 22nd legislative session held on February 19th, 2019, rejected the amended Cybercrime Law of 2018, which the government reinstated two days after withdrawing a previous draft law.

In this regard, the Center recommends the repeal of article 11 of the Cybercrime Law, the general rules of the Penal Code on the criminalization of insults, libel and contempt and, in general, the revision of the legislative matrix on freedom of expression, freedom of the press and information to ensure their conformity with international human rights standards.

As part of the promotion of freedom of the press and the media, the Center is a member of the Audio-Visual Media Complaints Committee established under article 4 (Y) of the Audio-Visual Media Act No. 26 of 2015, which deals with complaints from the public or other bodies concerning media content or material transmitted or recorded; For the purposes of public display or circulation, or a licensee of another.

With regard to the right to information,

The Government has prepared a draft amendment to the law on guaranteeing the right to information, which has been on the agenda of the House of Representatives for more than two years and has not been discussed. Among the most prominent proposed amendments are: restructuring the Information Council in a way that ensures more of the Council's personal and institutional independence, as well as stipulating the obligation of proactive disclosure, narrowing the exceptions to this right contained in Article 13 of the draft law, and not including any exceptions with regards to information on human rights violations, and to specify priority of application in the event of a conflict with other legislation of the Right to Information Act, which would limit the effects of restrictive laws, including the State Secrets and Documents Protection Act No. 50 of 1971 and its amendments. It has also been proposed to reduce the period for answering a request to 15 days after the period had been 30 days.

In order to promote the right to information, an information classification protocol and an information access procedure protocol have been prepared as part of Jordan's implementation of the Fourth Plan on Open Government Partnerships. They have been circulated by the Prime Minister to the relevant institutions for their implementation, which included best practices, and representatives of the Center have participated in the preparation of these protocols. A national team has also been formed to train relevant actors on the right to information and its enforcement mechanisms, and the Center is contributing to the implementation of many of these training workshops in its partnership with the national team.

In this regard, the Center recommends expediting the discussion and approval of the draft law amending the Right to Information Act. The Center declared its position on the amended draft law of 2019 and addressed the National Assembly in early 2020, pushing it towards the adoption of the amended draft law during its participation in the debate sessions held in the framework of the House of Representatives committees; To include modifications

the application of which would provide a greater flow of information and would translate many of the principles on which the law governing the right to information must be based in accordance with international best practices and international human rights standards.

It should be noted that the National Center for Human Rights is represented in the Information Board under the Right to Information Guarantee Act (No. 47 of 2007), which grants broad powers in the framework of law enforcement, including examining and resolving complaints from those seeking information.

With regard to the detention and arrest of journalists, the past four years have witnessed a significant decline in the arrest of journalists, which is a positive development at the level of practice.

Recommendations:

The Center reaffirms its previous recommendations as such:

.1 Preparation of a national strategy for the media

Promoting the reality of media freedoms and providing a legislative environment guaranteeing freedom of the press and the media.

.2 Amending the legislation related to freedom of expression and of the press and the media, creating one legislative matrix to prevent legislative ambivalence and contradiction.

.3 Expedite the passage of the amended draft law guaranteeing the right to information in the House of Representatives based on the International Human Rights Standards and Jordanian Constitution

4. Promotion of the right to information through oversight of the classification process and designate an information coordinator for each entity relevant to law enforcement.

.5 Raising awareness on the right to

information for relevant parties and particularly raising awareness about the law regulating this right and the Information Classification and Archiving Protocol and procedures for obtaining approved information by the Cabinet.

Right to peaceful assembly

The Jordanian Constitution guarantees the right to peaceful assembly⁶⁴ as stipulated in international charters, treaties and conventions ratified by the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan;⁶⁵ Including marches, sit-ins, demonstrations, and any public events. This right is closely linked to a number of civil and political rights.

2022 saw no amendment to the Public Meetings Act No. 6 of 2004 and its amendments, despite repeated recommendations to amend the Act by virtue of the Center's annual reports on the human rights situation.

As part of the Center's mandate to monitor, receive and follow up on complaints and to put an end to violations, the Center received 5 complaints in 2022 related to the right to peaceful assembly.

The number of sit-ins and marches during 2022 was as follows:⁶⁶

Number of sit-ins	Number of marches
3261	275

The year 2022 saw many sit-ins, marches, and protests as follows:⁶⁷

Labor protests:

- The Center observed a sit-in by the employees of the Jordanian-Syrian company in front of the building of the Ministry of Local Administration; claiming for financial receivables incurred by the company for months, protesters have reported holding sit-ins in front of the Ministry of Transport several times only to receive promises to finalize the employee salaries file.
- The Center observed an open sit-in in front of the Libyan embassy by the owners of furnished hotel

apartments, hotels, restaurants, and others to demand financial dues incurred by Libyan citizens since 2011; Because of the crisis in the Libyan Republic, the protestors reported that they had staged a sit-in in front of the embassy several times, but only received promises to end the debt file that has been going on since 2011. The protestors confirmed that the amounts of money owed by the Libyan government to more than 140 Jordanian establishments (hotels, travel offices, hotel apartments, restaurants, etc.) are estimated at \$2,000,180, and that the Libyan government promised to pay all the dues owed by its citizens, but that the problem remained until the date of the sit-in on 24/8/2022. The protestors that all the bills were vetted as instructed by the Libyan Embassy and that Jordan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs is following up on the case.

- On 2 February 2022, the Center observed a sit-in by employees who were dismissed from Al-Rai newspaper, they were about 20 out of 358 affected persons (journalists, technicians and administrators). The sit-in was carried out inside the building of the newspaper to demand their right to return to work, as well as demanding certain labor rights; 8 months of unpaid salaries, health insurance, allowances, incentives and vacations. The sit-in began on 06/02/2022
- The Center's team monitored several sit-ins by retirees from the Jordanian Phosphate Mines Company

⁶⁴ Article (1/16) of the Constitution.

⁶⁵ Article (1/20) of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and article (21) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

⁶⁶ Letter of the Ministry of Interior number 30/670/47596 dated 23/7/2023.

⁶⁷ According to the monitoring reports of the Center.

In front of the company's headquarters in the capital Amman, the chairman of the company's board of directors was addressed about the reasons for the sit-in; This is in protest against the failure of the Phosphate Mines Company to comply with the terms of its agreement with the retirees of 24/10/2021, which includes the non-infringement of health insurance, and in protest against the withdrawal of health insurance from the current insurance company and its reinstatement under the phosphate company.

Protests for job opportunities:

- On 17 May 2022, the Center observed a sit-in in Karak province, Liwa Fauqu'a, by unemployed individuals who numbered 36, all of whom had top university degrees. The Center has contacted the concerned authorities to consider the possibility of considering their applications. The Center has also requested that the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs grant them jobs based on Article 23 of the Jordanian Constitution.
- The year 2022 also witnessed many sit-ins by the unemployed. The center observed the execution of protest rallies in Liwa Dhiban and the Mleih district in Madaba province.
- A number of unemployed individuals in the governorate of Tafilah, numbering about 30, also held an open sit-in in front of the governorate building that lasted for more than 165 days.
- 50 unemployed individuals also held a sit-in near the Royal Office of the Al Amer/Ragdan region for more than 24 days, demanding employment opportunities that provide them with a suitable standard of living. Of these, some 20 were holders of top university degrees and master's degrees, while others were holders of high school diplomas and below.
- Scores of licensed smart transportation apps' drivers organized a sit-in in front of the

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the Land Transport Regulatory Authority, to demand a review of some of the regulatory measures taken by the authority.

Protests for the the right to an adequate standard of living:

- Many residents of Al-Thaghra village, Al-Mereegha district, Ma'an governorate staged an open sit-in that included the school's students, demanding the provision of drinking water. The area of the village does not exceed 4 square kilometers, and there is a water tank that can hold 300 cubic meters. There is a water pipeline from the Deba Hanout water pump, which reached the water reservoir in the village. They demanded the connection of an internal water network to every house in the village, as there are no more than 50 houses.

Public Employees Protest:

- The Center observed a protest in front of the Ministry of Education for Category III employees of the ministry, in protest against the Ministry's failure to implement earlier demands, namely a rise in their salaries like those in other ministries, the inclusion of their children in the Royal Grant as it is the case for children of teachers, for higher education studies, and the payment of "infection" allowance to some employees of Category III as they are dealing with hazardous materials while cleaning schools, payment of transportation fees, providing a replacement for the guard, paying extra work for Friday and Saturday shifts, enjoyment of public holidays and national and religious events in accordance with the civil service system, facilitating the procedure to obtain a leave, and increasing the number of Category III employees in schools; To reduce stress on this category, and include bus escorts carrying persons with disabilities, as it is the case for teachers and administrators.

Finally, an agreement was reached between the Committee and the Ministry of Education.

- A number of Ministry of Health doctors from the Foreign Board Campaign staged a sit-in in front of the House of Representatives building; protesting a proposal contained in the law amending the Medical Council Law of 2022.
- A number of teachers in the Ministry of Education attempted to protest against the retirement of a number of teachers, the issuance of decisions requiring the transfer of a number of teachers, and also to demand the opening of the doors of the Union in implementation of the court's decision.

Protests over the rise of oil derivatives' prices:

In early December of 2022, many public transport drivers and trucks throughout the Kingdom held an open sit-in in their respective governorates; In this context, the Center formed a specialized team to monitor the popular reactions to the decision⁶⁸ and how the law enforcement agencies dealt with these popular protests. The Center followed developments in all the provinces of the Kingdom, and the sit-ins included the closure of some vital roads in the Kingdom; This caused the total closure of the port of Aqaba for a number of days, and some shop owners went on strike by shutting down shops, resulting in acts of violence and vandalism in some areas that led to the martyrdom of a number of public security agents.⁶⁹

In the light of the acceleration of events at the time, and the arrest of a number of citizens, the Center formed a specialized team to investigate the facts and visit the detainees. The team was able to meet with all the detainees in the correctional and rehabilitation centers,

and issued many statements about these arrests.

Recommendations:

The Center reaffirms all the recommendations contained in its previous reports, as well as the following:

- Redefine the right to a meeting so as to include the essential elements of a peaceful assembly (organization, timing, purpose of the meeting, universality and socialism, and number).
- The Public Meetings Law includes organizational and procedural restrictions on the powers of the governor in accordance with the Jordanian Constitution and international human rights standards.

⁶⁸ Statement issued by the National Center for Human Rights on 15/12/2023, website of the Center www.nchr.org.jo

⁶⁹ Statement issued by the National Center for Human Rights on 16/12/2023, its website www.nchr.org.jo

The right to establish and join political parties

One of the political rights guaranteed by international conventions,⁷⁰ and guaranteed by the Jordanian Constitution in Article 16, provided that its objectives are legitimate, its methods are peaceful and have systems that do not contravene the provisions of the Constitution. The law shall regulate the way in which it is composed and the mechanism for controlling its resources.

The normative content of monitoring the right to political parties for the year 2022 is based on the extent to which legal guarantees are guaranteed for political parties, namely the establishment and harmonization of the status as required by law, the regulations and instructions issued under the new Political Parties Law No. 7 of 2022, the ability of political parties to form coalitions and achieve integration, in addition to measuring indicators to enable women, youth and persons with disabilities to establish and join parties, seek participation in the management of public affairs, put forward programs and participate in elections, including the presentation of independent legislative and impartial supervisory candidates.⁷¹

Within the framework of the Center's mandate to monitor, receive and follow up on complaints and to put an end to violations, the Center received 3 complaints concerning the right to establish and join political parties during 2022.



⁷⁰ Article 20 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, article 22 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and articles 24 and 35 of the Arab Charter on Human Rights.

⁷¹ Definition of the Special Rapporteur on the right to peaceful assembly in his report on the right to peaceful assembly in

Political parties must continue to develop their internal systems into programmatic parties that are competent, influential, and present nationwide, capable of winning the majority of votes. Political parties must also pay attention to the development of competent and capable government capacities and to the progressive application of parliamentary governments,"

Discussion Paper V: Deepening Democratic Transition: Goals, Achievements and Political Norms

His Majesty King Abdullah II Bin Al-Hussein (13 October 2014)

Developments in the legislative system governing rights

The year 2022 saw the amendment of Article 67/2 of the Constitution on the addition of a new mandate for the independent electoral body to consider requests for the establishment of political parties and to follow up their affairs in accordance with the provisions of the law.⁷² In light of this constitutional amendment, the authority to supervise and follow up the affairs of political parties was transferred from the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Political and Parliamentary Affairs to the Independent Electoral Commission. The Political Parties Law No. 7 of 2022 provided for the competencies of the Independent Electoral Commission, in terms of: considering applications for the establishment of parties and special procedures pursuant to them, approving applications and the follow-up of political parties' affairs, in terms of organizing conferences and elections and ensuring their application of the law and by-laws, as well as the promulgation of the electoral law, and ensuring that the party spends its funds on the stated goals and objectives

accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 16/21, date

⁷² Amendment to article 67 of the Jordanian Constitution, published in the Official Gazette No. (5770), 2022/1/31



Access to an inclusive parliamentary system of government depends on three basic requirements based on accumulated experience and effective performance, including: "our need for effective national parties capable of articulating the interests, priorities and concerns of local communities within applicable national programs. This process undoubtedly needs time to mature. With the arrival of political parties competing on a national level, on four-year programs, to the House of Representatives, gaining more seats, and forming strong parliamentary blocs, there will be greater ability to involve deputies as ministers in the government."

Second Discussion Royal Paper

By His Majesty King Abdullah II Bin Al Hussein, January 16, 2013

Mentioned in the by-laws. In this respect, The Independent Electoral Commission, through the Political Parties Registry Directorate, issued a number of guides targeting political parties, indicating the legal procedures to be followed in order to regularize their legal status, the procedures for the merger of political parties, and the information that must be included in the party founding request and ways of holding the constituent assembly.⁷³

The Center points out that by entrusting the Authority with supervising the establishment of political parties and following their affairs through an impartial and independent body, the constitutional amendment will

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strengthen the principles of justice, equality, equal opportunity, and avoid any influences and disputes. In this framework, the Center appreciates the amendment, which was one of its repeated recommendations, to the effect that an independent body should take charge of the supervision, follow-up, and evaluation of the work of parties.

The year 2022 also saw the passage of the Parties Law No. 7 of 2022,⁷⁴ which for the first time included a provision allowing parties to participate in the parliamentary elections through lists limited to party candidates. This contributes to the development of parliamentary work and strengthening the party work system to reach parliamentary governments.

The Political Parties Act No. 7 of 2022 prohibits official or public institutions or companies more than half of which are owned by the Government from financing or granting donations or grants to parties. Article 24/C/3 of the Political Parties Act stipulates that: "The party shall not receive any funding, donations or contributions in cash or in kind from natural or legal persons.

The Center believes that this text emphasizes the neutrality of parties and their protection from being affected by funding or donations, cash or in kind, from official or public institutions or companies half the shares of which are owned by the government, as well as achieving equality between parties, represented by not receiving financial support for any of the parties mentioned in the text, and government support for the parties is limited to what has been cited in Article 27 of Political Parties Law N°7 of 2022.

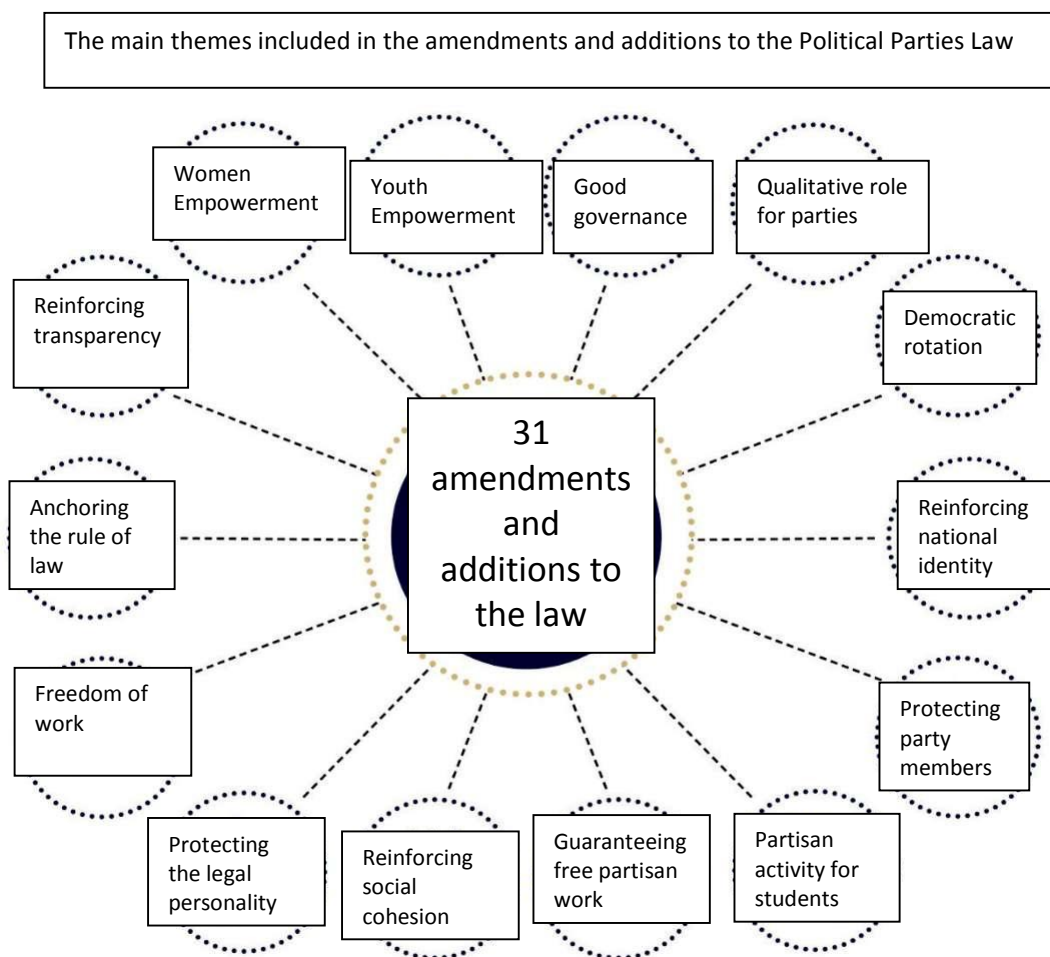
⁷³ Such evidence may be obtained through the Independent Elections Commission or by visiting the website of the Commission.

⁷⁴ Political Parties Act No. 7 of 2022, published in the Official Gazette No. 5784, 2022/4/14

The new political parties law also included a text that aims to empower political parties to participate in political life and public action in sound and democratic ways as the party is defined in Article 3 of the law as: “ a national political organization, composed by Jordanians united by the values of citizenship, shared programs, visions and ideas and aiming at participating in political life and public work in peaceful, democratic, legitimate ways by going through elections of all types, namely parliamentary elections, forming parliamentary governments of participating in them according to Article 35 of the Constitution. The same law included a text aiming at establishing parties that are largely representative of the Jordanian society, and this can be seen through the increase in the number of citizens participating in these parties as the Political Parties Law N°7 of 2022 conditioned the number of founders to be no less than a thousand upon the holding of the party’s constitutional assembly to be no less than a thousand.

Article 11/A/1 of the law stipulates that the number of the party’s founding members in the founding congress which is an advanced step towards reaching largely representative parties across the Kingdom that guarantees an acceptable and reasonable number of party members.

In this framework, the Center affirms its position to the Political Parties Law N°7 of 2022 mentioned in its annual report for last year, and adds that the Parties Law came in line with international criteria organizing the right to form political parties, which added 31 amendments as per the below infograph.



In this regard, the Center appreciates the fact that the legislator has considered a number of recommendations previously made by the Center in its previous reports, the most important of which are: the amendment of laws governing political life; The Political Parties and Elections Law, which aims to enable parties to play a political role based on programmatic foundations in Jordanian public and parliamentary life and to enable the most vulnerable to protection - women, youth and persons with disabilities - to participate in political parties. It seeks to enable political parties to reach parliament with the aim of establishing a multi-party, representative political parliament based on the formation of parliamentary party blocs, in addition to transferring supervision, follow-up and registration to an independent body.⁷⁵

The year 2022 also saw the first time in the kingdom's history that a regulation was issued for the exercise of student partisan activities at higher education institutions, No.68 of 2022,⁷⁶ pursuant to article 20, paragraph (a), of the Political Parties Law No. 7 of 2022, higher education institutions and their personnel are required to adhere to the regulatory mechanism for the activities of the Party issued pursuant thereto by issuing the necessary instructions.⁷⁷

The provisions of the Act No. 68 of 2022 on the exercise of student party activities in higher education institutions affirm that all activities express the viewpoint of students or their party and not the educational institution's viewpoint. The law prohibits the institution of education from holding students accountable or exposing them to danger because of the party activity that is allowed to be carried out in accordance with the provisions of the law

and instructions issued pursuant thereto, or bias in favor of any party, influences the students belonging to parties in any form, or promotes any party by any means. The Center believes that the system was in harmony with international standards of human rights and best practices followed by many higher education institutions around the world as it has provided students with the opportunity to engage in awareness-raising and partisan education, familiarize themselves with the electoral process, and encourage their participation in public work and elections organized by the Higher Education institutions for student councils, unions, associations, or student clubs and hold political debates and participate in them, with an emphasis on preserving the progress of the educational process within these institutions and its impartiality as well as that of its academics and administrators away from any political or partisan controversies. All Higher Education institutions have to amend their regulations in line with the articles of this law, in addition to the need for these institutions to educate students and encourage them to work in parties based on programs that aim to serve the country and the citizens as the system mentioned above has a balance between preserving the educational environment in universities and its role as a beacon for learning on the one hand and preserving students' liberty in engaging in partisan activities on the other. Care must be taken to support extra-curricular activities of students, including partisan activities, in accordance with the directives of His Majesty King Abdullah II and Crown Prince Hussein bin Abdullah, to allow students in Higher Education institutions to engage in partisan activities on campus, within specific regulations stipulated by the laws regulating political life in universities.

⁷⁵ Document of the Royal Commission for the Modernization of the Political System, September 2021, p.136

⁷⁶ Published in the Official Gazette N°5828 dated 12/1/2022.

⁷⁷ Instructions for the Organization of Student Party Activities in Higher Education Institutions, pursuant to the provisions of

Articles (8) and (11) of the Regulation for the Exercise of Student Party Activities, published in the Official Gazette No. 5868 of 2023/6/15

Licensing and Formation of Political Parties in 2022:⁷⁸

There are 3 parties that were regularized under the Political Parties Law No. 7 of 2022 while there were 2 political parties under establishment.

The number of party merger applications has reached 2 and they are still being reviewed by the Authority pending the completion of the requirements for merger in accordance with the law.

The number of political parties that have submitted a request to regularize their status to the Authority pending the completion of the conditions set forth in Article 11 (a) of Law No. 7 of 2022 is 7.

Women, youth and persons with disabilities in the Political Parties Law:

The year 2022 saw the adoption of the constitutional amendments, which included the amendment of the title of chapter II of the Constitution, entitled "Rights and duties of Jordanians", with an amendment to article 6, to provide in paragraph 5 thereof that the law shall protect the rights of persons with disabilities and promote their participation and integration in various aspects of life. It shall also protect motherhood, childhood and old age, care for young people and prevent abuse and exploitation. In paragraph 6, the State shall ensure the empowerment and support of women to play an active role in building society in a manner that ensures equal opportunities on the basis of justice and equity and protects them from all forms of violence and discrimination. In paragraph 7, the State shall ensure the promotion of citizenship values, tolerance and the rule of law within the limits of its economic and cultural possibilities to contribute to the empowerment of young people and their contribution to political, economic and social life and build their capacities and support their creativity and creations.

The Political Parties Law (Act No. 7 of 2022) also ensures that young people, women and persons with disabilities are able to participate in political parties. Article 5 of the law states: "The party shall be founded on the basis of citizenship, equality among Jordanians, and commitment to democracy and respect for political pluralism." Article 11 of the same law states that, at the time of the Constituent Conference, the number of founders of a party is no less than 1,000 persons, and that the percentage of women is not less than 20 per cent of the founders, and that of young people (18-35 years) is no less than 20 per cent.

In order to ensure and activate the role of women and youth, the Law in article 15 (j) of the Parties Law obligates "to ensure the right of its members from the categories of women and youth to assume leadership positions. Article 25 (e) stipulates that the Party shall empower youth, women and persons with disabilities to benefit from the Party's resources, which are available in a fair and equal manner, especially during electoral campaigns."

In this context, on 6/12/2022, the National Center for Human Rights at the Hashemite University organized a panel discussion on "Political participation of young people", based on the Center's role in promoting and disseminating a culture of human rights, and raising awareness among young people on the legal changes governing political life in a way that enhances their participation in political life. Through this panel discussion, the Center reiterated the importance of promoting the role of young people in political life. The workshop included amendments on the role of young people in the laws of political parties and elections, constitutional amendments and the system of organizing the practice of student party activities in Higher Education institutions, all of which are legislative guarantees to strengthen the participation of those in public life who most need protection.

⁷⁸ Independent Electoral Commission Letter No. H.3/4/5/2023/1/2. The Center also affirms that political

parties continue to regularize their positions in accordance with the provisions of the new law.

Recommendations:

The Center reaffirms its previous recommendations and adds the following:

1. The need to organize extra-curricular training programs for students on sound democratic practices and organized teamwork and the evolution of partisanship in Jordan to prepare them to engage in political and partisan action and apply these practices on the ground through elections for student councils in schools and universities
2. Intensifying training programs for youth on learning management skills for election campaigns and advocacy.
3. Promote youth participation in political parties and ensure equitable access to their financial resources and positions of leadership.
4. Continue efforts to empower women, youth and persons with disabilities in political engagement through cultural and media channels that encourages political participation and joining political parties.

The right to form and join trade unions

The Jordanian Constitution guarantees the right of Jordanians to form and join trade unions.⁷⁹ As guaranteed by many international standards, trade and labor unions are one of the pillars of civil society in Jordan.⁸⁰ Trade unions play an important role in serving society and participating in the development of policies related to the profession and the sector. Trade unions are important levers for the promotion and advancement of democratic practice. Trade union funds are considered developmental support if they are invested and managed wisely.

Within the framework of the Center's mandate to monitor, receive and follow up on complaints and to put an end to violations, the Center received 2 complaints in 2022 concerning the right to establish and join trade unions.

"In 2022, there was no legislative action to enforce Constitutional Court Decision No. 6/2013, which gave all public sector workers the right to organize freely into trade unions, even if they were subject to the civil service system."

On another level, the year 2022 witnessed the elections for the councils of the following unions: (engineers, doctors, dentists, pharmacists, agronomists, nurses, lawyers, contractors) whose elections were deserved last year and were postponed due to the repercussions of the Coronavirus pandemic.

The final judicial decision was issued in 2022 by the Court of First Instance of Amman in its appellate capacity in case No. (185/2021) of 2022/6/26, which canceled the decision to dissolve the Teachers' Union and issued the decision to dissolve the Council of the Union. The Center appreciates the judicial decision

Which also came in line with the Supreme Administrative Court, in its decision No. 2017/62 of 2017/3/1, also concurs with the assertion by the Supreme Administrative Court that trade unions established under a special law are common law persons who have been designated by the legislator as public administration and therefore fall outside the provisions of articles 36 and 37 of the Penal Code concerning the suspension or dissolution of the public body. Any public body established under a special law can be abolished only after the law establishing it has been repealed.

Trade unions:

The year 2022 saw the election of new councils of professional syndicates, the selection of the president and the members of the syndicate's council, as follows:

- .1 Elections for the Engineers' Association.⁸¹
- .2 Elections for the Agricultural Engineers Association.⁸²
- .3 Doctors' Association elections.⁸³
- .4 Dental Association elections;⁸⁴
- .5 Elections for the Nurses and Midwives Association⁸⁵

⁷⁹ Articles 2/16, 23 of the Jordanian Constitution.

⁸⁰ Article 4/23 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, article 8 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, article 22 and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

⁸¹ These elections were held in four phases on 2022/5/13. They began with the election of branch councils in the governorates, followed by the elections of the engineering divisions, followed by the elections of the Engineering Offices and Companies Authority, and ended with the elections of the Board of the Engineers' Union. The number of annual contribution payments from the General Authority entitled to vote reached 73,966 engineers. The polling process took place in 8,316 engineers.

⁸² These elections were held on 25/3/2022. The number of engineers/engineers out of 18,000 engineers who participated in the voting process was 3,101. The number of

engineers/engineers who were eligible to vote from the General Authority for Annual Subscriptions (6,953) was reached.

⁸³ These elections were held on 2022/6/17. The number of the General Authority's annual contribution fees that were eligible for election was 14,439 physicians/doctors. A total of 4,247 doctors/doctors participated in the voting process.

⁸⁴ These elections were held on 20/05/20. The number of the General Authority's annual contribution fees that were eligible for election was 3595 physicians/doctors. A total of 1818 doctors/doctors participated in the voting process.

⁸⁵ These elections were held on 01/04/2022, and the number of Those who have paid their annual contribution fees and are eligible to vote (9,309) nurses/nurses. The voting process (1,812)/nurses participated.

.6 Jordanian Bar Association elections.⁸⁶

.7 Elections for the Contractors' Association.⁸⁷

.8 Jordanian Geologists Association.⁸⁸

As for the pension funds in professional unions, the center monitored a stumbling situation in some of them, as is the case in the Union of Physicians, Engineers, and Geologists, which, according to its members, is due to a drop in premiums compared to pensions, and the rise in the number of retirees.

Non-mandatory contribution to funds.

An increasing rate of unemployment among union members, whether engineers or doctors, in addition to poor investment.

The Center appreciates the measures that unions have started to work on by conducting actuarial studies and amending their laws to serve the interests of all members.

Trade unions:

The year 2022 saw an electronic campaign on the organization of trade unions, led by one of the coalitions, to demand a comprehensive national review of the Jordanian Labor Law No. 8 of 1996 and its amendments, and to take into account the fundamental rules of labor rights guaranteed by the Jordanian Constitution, the international labor standards to which Jordan is committed and the International labor conventions through a comprehensive study and within the framework of genuine dialogue and consultation at a tripartite level inclusive of representatives of workers, employers and government.

It is worth mentioning that the National Center for Human Rights has already mentioned in its annual report for 2019 the articles that require review, including a

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review of the definition of the collective labor dispute, a review of the content of Article 98 of the law, and a review of the authority of the Minister of Labor to dissolve the union if certain reasons are available, Article 116.⁸⁹

The year 2022 also witnessed the issuance of a decision by the Minister of Labor to classify industries and activities in which workers may establish trade unions representing them for the year 2022, pursuant to the provisions of article 98, paragraph (d), of the Jordanian Labor Law No. 8 of 1996, to include agricultural workers in the General Union of Workers in Water, Agriculture and Food Industries, to include domestic workers in the Public Service Workers Union, to include cement workers in the Miners' Union, and to replace workers in construction.⁹⁰

The year 2022 also witnessed the elections of the General Syndicate of Electricity Workers on 16/6/2022 in four branches of the Electricity Generation Company, which came after numerous demands that were detailed in the report of the National Center for 2021. Thus, the General Syndicate of Electricity Workers is the only syndicate that held elections among the member unions of the General Federation of Jordanian Trade Unions, which were all formed by acclamation.

In 2022, there was no government initiative to pass a law regulating the work of public employees, and official restrictions at the Ministry of Labor

⁸⁶ These elections were held on 27/5/2022. The number of the General Authority's annual subscriptions who are eligible to vote reached 14,746 lawyers. A total of 9,259 lawyers participated in the voting process.

⁸⁷ These elections were held on 25/3/2022. The number of the General Authority's annual contribution fees payable to elect (1,466) contractors was reached. The number of contractors participating in the voting process (1,224).

⁸⁸ These elections were held on 2022/5/13. The number of the General Authority's annual subscriptions who are eligible to

vote reached 1041 geological and 1041 geological and participated in the voting process.

⁸⁹ Article 116 (b) If the violation continues, the Minister shall, on the recommendation of the Registrar of the Unions, issue a decision to dissolve the administrative body. The decision shall be subject to appeal before the administrative court within thirty days from the date of notification.

⁹⁰ Official Gazette No. (5808) Date 2022/08/1

refer to the approval of registration of the Traders and Producers Association of Domestic Tools for the number of employers' unions to reach (57).⁹¹

Recommendations:

To improve the reality of the right to form trade unions

The National Center for Human Rights reiterates its recommendations mentioned in previous reports and adds the following recommendations:

1. Review of Article (116) of the Labor Code

No. 8 of 1996 and the amendments thereto giving powers to the Minister of Labor to dissolve the administrative board of the union and appoint an interim administrative body, and grant this prerogative to the judiciary.

2. Ratification of International Labor Convention No

87/ on the freedom of association and protection of the right to Trade Union Organization.

⁹¹ Ministry of Labor Letter No. (Labor Relations 1/6255), date 3/23/2023



the Center received only one complaint related to the right to establish and join associations."

The right to establish and join associations

This right is one of the civil and political rights guaranteed by national, regional and international conventions; The Jordanian constitution established the right of Jordanians to form associations and limited the role of the law to regulating the way associations are formed and monitoring their resources; Article 2/16 states that "Jordanians shall have the right to form associations, provided that their purpose is legitimate, their means are peaceful and their systems are not in violation of the provisions of the Constitution. The International Bill of Human Rights guarantees the right to form and join associations for all citizens.⁹² It also states that restrictions on the exercise of this right may be imposed only on those which are essential measures in a democratic society,⁹³ as guaranteed by the Arab Charter on Human Rights.⁹⁴

The normative content of monitoring the right to establish and join political associations for the year 2022 is based on the complementarity of the legal protection of its components in law, at the level of practice, and through the enforcement and strengthening of the guarantees of its protection through the tracking and monitoring of a number of issues: ensuring the right of individuals to form associations with various legitimate objectives, providing guarantees for the establishment of associations, the right of each association to organize events and meetings, the development of its basic system and the freedom of access to financial resources for the implementation of its activities and the formation of alliances and coalitions with other similar associations.

Within the Center's mandate to monitor and receive complaints until violations are ended,

Developments in the legislative system governing the right:

- The year 2022 saw the continuation of the work of the Committee for the Amendment of Associations Law No. 51 of 2008, which continued to hold discussions and consultations on the current law; However, the Commission was unable to resume its work and did not issue a final copy of the outputs of its work until the preparation of this report.⁹⁵ In the same context, the Center followed the recommendations of the Royal Commission for the Modernization of the Political System, which included a recommendation within the area of women's empowerment relating to the revision of the Associations Act; to facilitate the work of civil society institutions and to strengthen their role as part of the national framework for progress and reform.

In this context, the Center reiterates its recommendations contained in its previous annual reports, which include the amendment of the Law on Associations to align it with the principles guaranteed by the provisions of the Jordanian Constitution and international standards. It reaffirms the following:⁹⁶

- (1) Standardization of the supervision and follow-up of the work of associations and their assignment to an independent body (2) Standardization of the provision of foreign and local funding (3) The right of each association to receive internal and external funding provided that it accurately announces the amounts of funding received, the sources of such funding and detailed means of using it provided that of this is supported by supporting documents, and that

⁹² Article 20 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and article 22 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

⁹³ See articles 21 (2/22) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

⁹⁴ Article 24 of the Arab Charter on Human Rights stipulates that: "Freedom of assembly and peaceful assembly of citizens shall not be exercised except in accordance with the requirements of national security or public safety or the protection of the rights and freedoms of others."

⁹⁵ Ministry of Social Development Letter No. (SG) 6976/3, 2023/5/14

⁹⁶ The reports of the National Center for Human Rights on the situation of human rights for the period 2008 to 2021 are the subject of the right to establish and join associations.

it commits itself to publish its annual budget in the daily newspapers, in addition to the fact that its general body (4) has the right of the administration to monitor the work of associations. If it finds a violation of the law, it shall be dealt with by resorting to the competent judicial authority (5). The dissolution of the association may only be possible with the approval of its general body or by a judicial decision. No association may be suspended except by a court decision (6) The sanctions contained in the present Associations Law shall be lifted and any violations committed by associations shall be referred to the relevant legislation (7) A statement of the principles and conditions under which financial support for associations shall be provided. The present law lacks a comprehensive national vision of directly or indirectly supporting associations and providing financial facilities, such as customs and tax exemptions, and facilitating them with self-financing activities that are self-funded.⁹⁷

Financial support for associations:

- .1 The year 2022 saw the approval of the recommendations of the Royal Commission for the Modernization of the Political System, and included within the focus of women's empowerment a recommendation related to strengthening financial support for associations stating the following: "Development and activation of the legal and procedural frameworks governing the work of civil society institutions, to ensure their continuity

Nineteenth annual report **on the situation of human rights in Jordan** in the efficient and effective discharge of their responsibilities through the relaxation of restrictions on access to internal and external sources of funding, access to national information and data and the strengthening of their oversight role over the implementation of government plans and programs."

- .2 During 2022, 391 associations were provided with funding as part of the Royal High Honors Program, with a value of (1.000.000) one million dinars from the Association Support Fund for 2022, as follows:⁹⁸

Governorate	Number Associations	Value Support
Irbid	68	143,900
Balqa	31	74,400
Al-Zarqa	37	100,500
Tafilah	16	44,600
Capital	85	324,300
Aqaba	13	34,800
Karak	32	75,900
Ma'fraq	38	63,800
Jerash	16	44,100
Ajlun	17	31,900
Madaba	17	26,100
Ma'an	21	35,700
Total		100,000,000

- 3. Provide monetary support to 22 associations as part of the central program at a value of 40,000 dinars for the year 2022,⁹⁹ as follows:

⁹⁷ Article 22 of the Law on Associations stipulates that: "A. The Ministry shall establish a fund called the 'Fund for Supporting Associations', which shall be aimed at supporting associations, shall enjoy legal personality, financial and administrative independence, shall have ownership of movable and immovable funds and shall invest them in the manner it deems appropriate, and shall be represented in judicial proceedings by the Civil Advocate General. b.-9 The objects of expenditure and support of associations shall be determined by the Fund on the basis of terms and conditions determined by the Council of Ministers in

accordance with instructions issued to this end and shall be disbursed by the Council in accordance with such instructions."

⁹⁸ Ministry of Social Development Letter No. (SG) 6976/3, 2023/5/14

⁹⁹ Ministry of Social Development Letter No. (SDD)/3/6976, 2023/5/14

Governorate	Number	Value
	Associations	Support
Capital / Al-Moqir	8	10,000
Aqaba	14	30,000

- There are 239 associations that have received foreign funding, valued at (22.995.021) JD.¹⁰⁰
- No support was provided under the Societies Subsidy Program/Cash Support-Directorate of Societies for 2022 because of the transfer of program allocations to other programs-Directorate of Financial Resources.¹⁰¹
- Direct funding was also provided to one association in the amount of 3000 for 2022 in the Balqa governorate.¹⁰²
- Provision of funding to centers and associations that care for orphans in the various governorates of the Kingdom (from H.E. King Abdullah II, May God Protect Him and Preserve Him), 319 associations and centers benefitted from this, and the contribution of the Society Support Fund was 500,000 dinars.¹⁰³

Policies and practices:

.1 The year 2022 saw the adoption of the "Road Map for the Modernization of the Public Sector",¹⁰⁴ which recommended the adoption of corporate control as a unified reference for the registration of all economic activities, including for-profit and non-profit companies and associations; including cooperatives to promote integrity and inclusiveness in registries, standardization of references, entities that perform the registration functions of enterprises of different types and domains, and optimal utilization of resources.

.2 Continuing calls for civil society organizations to amend the Law on Associations by creating a single independent authority concerned with registration, follow-up, monitoring and supervision of the work of civil society organizations, establishing their governance policies, enabling and organizing initiatives, addressing the mechanisms for accepting foreign funding and subsequent monitoring under the law, standardizing the terms of reference for government support, and using information and communications technology as a means of dealing with civil society organizations instead of the bureaucracy witnessed at the relevant ministries.

3. In the same context, civil society institutions continued their activities during 2022. Efforts focused on the implementation of projects to monitor the human rights situation in the areas of children, women and persons with disabilities, the situation of refugees and expatriate workers, the implementation of the recommendations of the universal periodic review and support for freedom of the media.

¹⁰⁰ Ministry of Social Development Letter No. (SG) 6976/3, 2023/5/14

¹⁰¹ Ministry of Social Development Letter No. (SG) 6976/3, 2023/5/14

¹⁰² Ministry of Social Development Letter No. (SG) 6976/3, 2023/5/14

¹⁰³ Ministry of Social Development Letter No. (SG) 6976/3, 2023/5/14

¹⁰⁴ The Public Sector Modernization Committee was established under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister and with representatives of the public and private sectors as members on 26 December 2021.

4. The year 2022 saw the establishment of the National Alliance for International Human Rights Mechanisms, a joint initiative of 14 civil society institutions, with the aim of strengthening Jordan's compliance with its international obligations resulting from the ratified conventions.
5. During 2022, the Center monitored the exercise of the right to establish associations. The Center identified a number of internal challenges and obstacles, as follows:
 - i. The absence of the principle of election and rotation of power in some of the associations, and the domination of most of the activities of the association by a number of members.
 - ii. The absence of good governance in the work of some associations is exemplified by the fact that the internal regulations of many associations do not specify a time frame for assuming leadership positions and means of supporting women and youth in them.
 - iii. Foreign grants to some civil society organizations are concentrated and the majority of them are deprived of this support, which has resulted in stalled projects in many institutions.
 - iv. Many associations do not abide by the geographical scope of their work specified in their rules of procedure, and engage in activities and objectives different from those in the specialty for which they were licensed.
 - v. Some associations are not committed to providing the minimum wage for their employees, in addition to being denied registration with Social Security and Health Insurance.
 - vi. The number of staff involved in following up the activities of civil society institutions in the field is low, which requires the formation of a team monitoring, inspection and evaluation) of civil society institutions in each competent ministry concerned.

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Forming Associations:

Legislation in force in the Kingdom continues to show that civil society institutions are pluralized in terms of legal authority, including associations, trade unions, sports clubs, youth associations, employers' unions, chambers of commerce and industry, and non-profit companies among others.

Based on the provisions of the Law on Associations, according to the 2022 Register of Associations statistics;¹⁰⁵ The number of registered associations in the Kingdom is 6,611, constituting 78.46% of all civil society institutions in Jordan. They are concentrated in the following ministries: the Ministry of Social Development, the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Political and Parliamentary Affairs, the Ministry of the Environment, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Tourism, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Islamic Holy Sites, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Digital Economy and Entrepreneurship, and the Ministry of Youth; They comprise more than two-thirds of civil-society institutions; 62% are affiliated with the Ministry of Social Development, with at least one association affiliated with the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, which aims to achieve social, political and cultural goals; It provides social services for various groups of society, including children and persons with disabilities, the elderly and women, distributed throughout the governorates of the Kingdom, as shown in the following table and form:

¹⁰⁵ The number of associations for the period 2022-2018 has been compared, according to the statistics of the Ministry of Social Development.



Table showing the distribution of NGOs by supervising ministry for 2022

Ministry	Number of associations 2022 ¹⁰⁹
Social Development	3853
Interior	1243
Culture	748
Political and parliamentary affairs	212
Environment	176
Health	128
Tourism and Antiquities	89
Agriculture	81
Trade and Industry	28
Religious Affairs	27
Justice	6
Planning and International Cooperation	11
Water and Irrigation	4
Ministry of Digital Economy	10
Total	6611

- The number of associations registered in 2022 was 338; Of these, 195 are under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Social Development.¹⁰⁶
- The number of associations that were dissolved during the year was 326 (2022), 77 (optional), 206 (by court order, 42), and the number of associations under the ministry's jurisdiction that were dissolved by a committee to complete dissolution procedures was 204 in 2022.¹⁰⁷

The Ministry of Social Development explained the reasons for the dissolution of associations, based on the provisions of article 20 of the Associations Law in force for the following reasons:¹⁰⁸

i. The Assembly ceased to function for a period of one year.

ii. It is impossible to elect an administrative body for the Assembly in accordance with the provisions of the Assembly's bylaws, the provisions of the law, and the regulations and instructions issued pursuant thereto, after the competent minister exhausted the procedures set forth in Article (19) of the law.

iii. The preservation or use by the Assembly of a donation or financing from non-Jordanians contrary to the provisions of Article 17 of the Law.

iv. The Assembly committed for the second time the violation for which it had already been warned and did not remove the violation in accordance with article 19 of the Law.

- Meanwhile, 213 associations were warned of violating the provisions of the Law on Associations in force, as well as regulations and directives issued in 2022, most of them for violating the provisions of Article 16 of the Associations Law in force about submitting their annual activity reports.¹¹⁰

¹⁰⁶ Ministry of Social Development Letter No. (SG) 6976/3, 2023/5/14

¹⁰⁷ Ministry of Social Development Letter No. (SG) 6976/3, 2023/5/14

¹⁰⁸ Ministry of Social Development Letter No. Q.6976/3/2023/5/14

¹⁰⁹ Ministry of Social Development Letter No. E (897/1), dated 2022/1/19

¹¹⁰ Ministry of Social Development Letter No. (SG) 6976/3, 2023/5/14

- The number of associations appointed as interim administrative bodies was 183, in accordance with article 19 of the Law on Associations in force, for violation of the provisions of the Law on Associations in force and of the regulations issued pursuant thereto (in particular the provisions of the Statute of the Association relating to the term and mandate of the administrative body).¹¹¹
- The year 2022 saw the continuation of the exercise of the right to establish cultural associations with the number of registered associations (40), while the number of associations dissolved in accordance with the provisions of the law (16), one of which was transferred to the supervision of another ministry.¹¹²
- The number of associations that were notified during the year 2022 was (86) as a result of their violation of the provisions of the law.¹¹³
- In 2022, financial support for cultural associations continued, with 458 associations receiving financial support.¹¹⁴
- The number of associations that have adhered to the provisions of the law and submitted their financial and administrative reports in accordance with the model adopted by the Register of Associations is 632.¹¹⁵
- Number of projects implemented through the Liwa

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of Culture - Jordanian Cultural Cities was (264) projects and (55) festivals have also been implemented.¹¹⁶

In 2022, the Ministry of Culture's cultural organizations continued to register among various cultural associations, forums, and groups, in addition to cultural centers and clubs, amounting to 739 bodies distributed throughout the various governorates of the Kingdom, as shown in the table below:

Statistics on the activities of the Directorate of Cultural Organizations during the period 2021-2022	
	2021
1	Number of registered associations 37
2	Number of dissolved associations 33
3	Number of associations transferred to other ministries 0
4	The total number of assemblies through to the end of the year 707
6	Number of associations with warnings all year long 147
7	Number of associations supported based on annual evaluation 441
8	Number of associations that have submitted the financial and administrative report as per the template adopted by the Register of Associations 589
9	Number of projects implemented through the Jordanian Liwa (Jordan Cultural City) 281 events
10	Number of cultural festivals 8

- There are also 235 registered associations under the supervision of the Ministry of Political and Parliamentary Affairs; 34¹¹⁷ were dissolved and the

¹¹¹ Ministry of Social Development Letter No. (SG) 6976/3, 2023/5/14

¹¹² Statistics of the Ministry of Culture, and its reply to the Center's communication sent via email.

¹¹³ Statistics of the Ministry of Culture, and its reply to the communication sent by email to the Center.

¹¹⁴ Statistics of the Ministry of Culture, and its reply to the Center's communication sent via email.

¹¹⁵ Statistics of the Ministry of Culture, and its reply to the communication sent by email to the Center.

¹¹⁶ Statistics of the Ministry of Culture, and its reply to the communication sent by email to the Center.

¹¹⁷ Statistics of the Ministry of Political and Parliamentary Affairs, Book No. 139/58/1, 2023/1/11

Number of associations violating the Law of Associations reached (28).¹¹⁸ The number of associations receiving foreign funding reached 42.¹¹⁹

In this regard, the Center points out that civil society institutions have an integral role to play in the exercise of certain citizen rights and supporting and assisting state institutions; and specifically a role in the implementation of activities in remote regions

During 2022, the Center continued to monitor the situation of associations in the various governorates, and the results of monitoring are as follows:

1. Many associations have a defined scope of action In one of the villages, it's actually located in Kasbah, The province.
2. Some associations have been established for nearly a quarter of a century, without changing the President and the governing body.
3. Several associations practice activities that differ from the specialty specified upon its establishment, especially some foreign associations and some financially related associations that receive funding to implement human rights programs when they are in fact of a charitable nature according to their license.
4. Most associations do not have the capacity to identify a clear future goal for them and to build on it and have no projects and no clear vision and no clear plan to achieve their goals.
5. There is a real lack of understanding on the part of most of the staff within civil society organizations for the concept of volunteerism, its foundations and principles, and they work according to their efforts and their capabilities.

¹¹⁸ Statistics of the Ministry of Political and Parliamentary Affairs, book No 139/58/1, 2023/1/11

¹¹⁹ Statistics of the Ministry of Political and Parliamentary Affairs, book No 139/58/1, 2023/1/11

Recommendations:

The Center reiterates its repeated recommendations stated in previous reports and adds the following recommendations:

1. Standardization of the supervision and monitoring of the work of associations.
2. Strengthening partnerships between governmental and civil society institutions in the preparation of plans and strategies.
3. Develop and activate the legal and procedural frameworks governing the work of civil society institutions, ensuring that they are allowed to continue to discharge their responsibilities efficiently and effectively by easing restrictions related to access to internal and external sources of funding, access to national information and data, and strengthening their oversight role over the implementation of government plans and programs.
4. The establishment of an institutional mechanism to maintain communication, consultations, dialogues and partnerships between government institutions, public bodies, civil society organizations and the National Assembly, operating under an independent authority.
5. Applying the principles of good governance in civil society institutions.
6. Conduct a survey covering all civil society institutions and all specializations, as well as a survey of the views of those who join these institutions within the legal framework governing their work, in preparation for the development of such legislation in a manner that meets their needs and aspirations, conforms to political reforms, constitutional amendments, human rights concepts and systems, is in line with the vision of the National Human Rights Plan, and is based on genuine national consultation and consensus in relation to volunteerism; This should be accompanied by the development of a national plan to ensure education and training for voluntary work in universities and secondary schools; and rehabilitate and train volunteer workers according to a comprehensive plan.



Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Right to development and adequate standard of living

The right to development¹²⁰ and the right to a decent standard of living¹²¹ are inalienable rights guaranteed by international human rights instruments and are an essential element of human and social stability and development.

This year, the Center merged the right to development and the right to a decent standard of living in one right because of the interdependence and interrelatedness of the two rights in conducting monitoring, assessment and evaluation as the right to a decent standard of living is given substance and context in the eleventh objective of the UN Sustainable Development Goals - Sustainable Cities and Communities - "Making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable", with the 2030 goal of ensuring access to safe housing at affordable prices, this goal has several objectives to implement ensuring universal access to adequate, safe and affordable basic housing and services, to upgrade slums by 2030, and to promote inclusive and sustainable urbanization for all without any discrimination.

The normative content of the monitoring of the right to development and the standard of living for 2022 is based on the complementarity of legal protection of its components in law and in practice, and through the enforcement and strengthening of its protection safeguards by tracking and monitoring a number of issues: unemployment, water security, food security and indicators of sustainable development.

Within the framework of the Center's mandate to monitor, receive and follow up on complaints and to put an end to violations, the Center received complaints in 2022 concerning the right to establish and join associations.

Development Challenges in 2022:

First: Unemployment and the economy

The 2022 data of the Department of Statistics showed that the unemployment rates for 2022 were as follows:¹²²

- During the first quarter of 2022, the unemployment rate was 21.9%, and the unemployment rate for males during the third quarter

¹²⁰ (1)M/22 from the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, from the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Political Rights, Resolution of the Human Rights Committee No. 4-D (33) of 21 February 1977, Resolution No. 5-D of 2 March 1979, Resolution No. 174/35 of 15 December 1980, Declaration on the Right to Development, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in resolution 128/41 of 2 December 1986; Resolution No. 174/35 of December 1986.

¹²¹ (2) 121 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, article 25 thereof, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, which guarantees the right of the individual to an adequate and adequate standard of living for himself and his

family, the continuous improvement of living conditions, as well as the recognition of the right of everyone to be free from hunger and want and to have access to adequate food, the improvement of the production, preservation and distribution of foodstuffs, and articles 27/26 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

¹²² Quarterly reports of the Department of Public Statistics on unemployment rates published on its website.

of 2022 was %19.6 compared to %30.7 for females.

- The unemployment rate during the second quarter of 2022 was 22.6%, and the unemployment rate for males during the third quarter of 2022 was 20.7% as opposed to 29.4% for females.
- The unemployment rate during the third quarter of the year was 23.1% (2022), and the unemployment rate for males during the third quarter of 2022 was 20.5% (%) compared to 33.1% for females.
- During the fourth quarter of 2022, the unemployment rate for males was 22.9%. During the third quarter of 2022, the unemployment rate for males was 20.6%, compared to 31.7% for females. Economic growth in 2022 reached (%2.5).¹²³

The year 2022 saw clear progress with a series of actions to address development challenges, as follows:

1. The vision of economic modernization, which came about as a result of the deliberations of a group of experts and specialists through a High Royal Initiative. The vision included a passing roadmap for governments for 10 years, which included eight axes and 35 major and branch sectors and 366 initiatives. The vision aims at the end of its term to create one million jobs, in addition to increasing the gross domestic product by 27.9 billion dinars to reach the end of the period by 58.1 billion dinars, in addition to capital funding of 41.4 billion dinars targeting investments and partnership projects, including government investment of 11.1 billion dinars. The plan also includes timetables and a plan to include an investment plan

which the executive board to issue a short-term and a mid-term executive program, which the government started to work on. The Investment Environment Law No. 21 of 2022 was passed stipulating that the general investment policy in the Kingdom is based on economic and development visions aimed at providing employment opportunities, increasing economic growth, improving the work environment, ensuring the sustainability of the attractive investment climate, and strengthening confidence in the investment environment, its development and organization.

The Economic Modernization Vision aims to be transparent in providing information on national goals and priorities, identify areas of comparative advantage and competitiveness on which the Kingdom can build to stimulate growth and create economic opportunities, unify the efforts of different ministries and institutions to support the achievement of the objectives of the National Strategy within a well-defined road map and guide national planning towards strategic thinking, ensuring the achievement of national and other goals.

The following table shows the engines of growth to implement the vision of economic modernization:

الأهداف	
تطوير الأردن ليكون مركزاً للصناعة في المنطقة من خلال رفد الصادرات سريعة النمو بالمنتجات المتميزة وذات القيمة العالية.	الصناعات عالية القيمة
تحقيق التميز في القطاعات الخدمية بهدف دعم التنمية الوطنية وزيادة الصادرات الخدمية على الصعيدين الإقليمي والعالمي.	الخدمات المستقبلية
ترسيخ مكانة الأردن كوجهة رئيسة للسياحة والإنتاج السينمائي.	الأردن وجهة عالمية
إعداد المواهب الموائمة لمتطلبات المستقبل والموارد والمؤسسات القادرة على تسريع النمو الاقتصادي الأردني وأهداف نوعية الحياة.	الريادة والإبداع
تحسين استخدام الموارد الطبيعية في الأردن واستدامتها؛ لإطلاق نمو قطاعي شامل وتحسين نوعية الحياة.	الموارد المستدامة
تحفيز الاستثمارات المحلية والدولية من خلال إعداد إطار لبيئة جاذبة للاستثمار.	الاستثمار
تعزيز الممارسات المستدامة بوصفها جزءاً أصيلاً من النمو الاقتصادي المستقبلي للأردن وتحسين نوعية الحياة.	بيئة مستدامة
تحسين نوعية الحياة لجميع الأردنيين من خلال تطوير وتطبيق مفاهيم حياتية شاملة تتمحور حول المواطن والبيئة.	نوعية الحياة

.2 Preparation of the Indicative Operational Program (2021-2024), which includes a comprehensive vision and methodology to deal with the economic, social and political issues of different sectors in accordance with the program's time frame and clear tools for measurement. This program aims to continue structural and economic reforms, develop political life, strengthen the rule of law, combat corruption, transition to a digital and green economy, stimulate investment and productive sectors, upgrade infrastructure services, improve social services, increase employment and employment opportunities, and combat poverty. This program will cover twenty-four developmental sectors in various fields.

3. The National Employment Program (2022-2023), which targets unemployed persons of working age (18-40) graduates of universities, colleges and training institutes and holders of high school diplomas and below is launched through an integrative umbrella that links education and training outputs with labor market needs to empower Jordanians and build their capacity, in order to unify all efforts and programs concerned with training and employment and to move them to decent employment opportunities in the Jordanian market and in the external markets.

4. Follow-up on the objectives of the National Strategy for Social Protection (2019-2025)

Follow-up to the Government's Economic Action Priorities Program (2021-2023), which aims to enable the national economy to recover in the face of the challenges resulting from the coronavirus pandemic and its repercussions, through the adoption of priority policies, reforms and projects that seek to focus efforts on returning the national economy to the required path of recovery and growth through three main objectives of the Government's Economic Action Priorities Program (2021-2023): to enable the private sector to create the jobs required for Jordanians, increase employment, stimulate domestic and foreign investment and increase national

Exports of Goods and Services.

Water Security:

Jordan is one of the world's poorest countries in per capita terms of fresh and renewable water as this quota for 2021 reached 61 cubic meters where climate change led to the overuse of groundwater and surface water resources, while the population growth rate continues to rise noticeably, putting Jordan on the top five list Countries in world population growth rate historically. Sustainable water security is thus considered a prerequisite for Health, Prosperity and Food Security in Jordan.¹²⁴

Jordan is facing a real challenge in bridging the widening gap between water demand and supply within available sources. Demand for water continues to increase in order to support economic growth, irrigate crops, provide drinking water, etc. This is due to the continued rapid population growth, the frequent influx of refugees, economic development needs, and the continued pressure to expand in agricultural areas.¹²⁵

During 2022, the Center monitored the Water stress index¹²⁶ indicators of the sixth Sustainable Development Goal. This indicator ranks Jordan among the most water stressed countries. This strain is set to increase because of the increased demand for water and the increase in the population compared to available water sources, which are also affected by climate change factors."¹²⁷ Efforts are continuing to address the existing challenges faced by Jordan in this regard.

¹²⁴ National Water Strategy 2023-2040

¹²⁵ Previous reference

¹²⁶ The concept of water jihad refers to: The increase in the amount of freshwater consumed and used in all major sectors of the state compared to the total amount of

renewable and non-renewable water resources the state relies on to meet the needs of these sectors.

¹²⁷ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations website: www.indica-/sustainable-development-goals/fao.org/ar/642/tors

The Ministry of Water and Irrigation has spent the past few decades searching for long-term solutions to the water shortage crisis in the governorates at a time when the Kingdom has been classified as the fourth poorest water country.¹²⁸ The Ministry of Water and Irrigation/Jordan Valley Authority/ stated that the total storage of the 14 main dams in all regions of the Kingdom by the end of the 2021/2022 rainy season on 2022/3/27 amounted to 90 million m³ of its total storage capacity of 280.759 million m³, while current storage is 74.3 million m³ compared to the current storage of 3.55 million m³, with a storage percentage reaching 26.5% compared to last year 75.4% with a storage percentage reaching 26.8% knowing that the dams used for drinking water are Al Wihda and Al Mujeb. In its efforts to mitigate the crisis, 50 million cubic meters of water were purchased from Israel, according to the previously signed Agreement for the duration of 3 years, which indicates that Jordan purchased 150 million cubic meters for the three years 2021, 2022 and 2023 from Lake Tiberias, at a rate of 50 million cubic meters per year.¹²⁹

Food security:

The right to adequate food is a fundamental human right enshrined in international and regional human rights treaties and is based on the second objective of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which is to eradicate hunger and promote sustainable agriculture.

Food security is defined as: The state in which physical and economic access to adequate, safe and nutritious food is achieved for all people at all times in a manner that meets their nutritional needs, and also fits their different food tastes while: The term diet refers to the range of activities involved in food production, processing and transportation. It can be seen here that food security is an overarching national objective, while diet is an integrative approach.

Statistics from 2022 indicate that Jordan "ranked 47th globally and 7th among Arab countries on the food security index, after ranking 49th in 2021.

The year 2022 saw the launch of the National Strategy for Food Security 2021-2030 as the first strategy to be prepared for food security in Jordan in implementation of the directives of His Majesty King Abdullah II to call 2021 as the Year for Food Security and to make Jordan a regional center for food security. The outlook of HM King Abdullah II is supported by His Highness Crown Prince Hussein bin Abdulla II, the provision of basic goods and before the global crisis of the coronavirus and investment in infrastructure related to storage places and horizontal prospects.

Jordan's diets are fragile and vulnerable. Jordan is located in a dry or semi-arid region with low and fluctuating rainfall from year to year, in addition to limited renewable ground water and Jordan's heavy dependence on imported food and agricultural inputs.¹³⁰

Jordan is facing three main factors - a protracted refugee crisis, the fallout from the 2019 coronavirus pandemic, and global food price increases caused by the Ukrainian crisis, with rising unemployment, increased poverty, and water scarcity affecting people's economic access to food; As a result of government efforts at the World Food Summit, Jordan was selected from among 5 countries to be part of a global initiative to strengthen the capacity of countries to transition to an effective and sustainable food system by 2030.¹³¹

¹²⁸ Government Indicative Operational Program (2024-2021)

¹²⁹

¹³⁰ For more details, see the National Strategy for Yemen Food Security (2021-2030)

¹³¹ For more details, see the National Strategy for Food Security (2021-2030)

Progress towards sustainable development goals:¹³²

The report on the Voluntary National Review of the SDGs showed the following:

- About 61% of sustainable development goals Indicators that were analyzed showed a positive Direction and a better development.
- 20% of SDGs had a stable or regular trend.
- Only 19% of SDG indicators showed negative directions.
- As to the SDGs that achieved the most significant progress in terms of indicators, they are (1 and 2 and 4 and 6 and 9 and 12 and 14) while the least was in goals 8 and 10.

The Center also monitored the most important achievements of the SDGs that were the focus of the high level political forum held at the United Nations in New York to present the Second National Voluntary Review Report on the 2030 sustainable development agenda as follows:¹³³

The most important achievements	Goal
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The formation of the National Team for Education by 2030. • The annual review of all the objectives of the 4th Goal. • Participation in the evaluation of the regional performance including the identification of standard values for the Goal's objectives. 	FOURTH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The establishment of a permanent ministerial committee in the Prime Ministry to mainstream and integrate gender in the work of the government, gender mainstreaming policy is the first government plan to integrate gender into ministries and official institutions. • The SDG budget tagging has been monitored • Continue capacity-building for gender responsive budgets and start following up on funding within the framework of the National Strategy for Women in Jordan 2020-2025 • Twinning the Women's Strategy in the Government's Executive Advisory Program 2021-2024, which represents the Government's Action Plan. 	FIFTH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of a national list of gender-related indicators for sustainable development goals with 67 indicators • Announcing the establishment of the Aqaba Marine Reserve in 2020 • Developing the legislative and regulatory framework for this Goal 	FOURTEENTH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jordan continues to announce new reserves and strengthen efforts to protect the environment. 	FIFTEENTH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jordan seeks to strengthen domestic revenue base • Integrating technology and digitization into government work 	SEVENTEENTH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In parallel with work to strengthen cooperation frameworks and partnerships with the international community. 	

¹³² Second Voluntary National Review Report 2022 of the SDGs

¹³³ Second Voluntary National Report on SDGs for 2022, p14

Development challenges

The second voluntary national report on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) noted that the development challenges facing Jordan continue to be in the implementation of the SDGs and the SDGs in general ; The recurrent influx of refugees, the strain on infrastructure and services, and the continued disruption of trade, led to a drop in economic growth, from 6.5% in 2000-2009 to about 2.4% in 2010-2019, while public debt has risen to GDP levels significantly and as we gradually emerged from the pandemic, the world is facing the consequences of war in Europe, as the conflict between Russia and Ukraine manifested in the disturbances of peace and the increase in the price of small-scale oil supplies, which has increased over commodities.

In this context, addressing high unemployment, poverty and development gaps throughout the Kingdom is becoming a reality. It is worth noting that many of the SDGs require support from local administrations to achieve them, which requires significant efforts to deal with structural challenges at the local level, including enhanced revenues, provision of financing, data availability and capacity building. This funding challenge is also evident at the national level, as this assessment highlights the limited resources that contribute to transformative and decisive action that can help achieve the targets and indicators.¹³⁴

The recommendations submitted to Jordan by the Human Rights Council are reviewed in the context of the regular comprehensive review as the government accepted the recommendation to continue the practice of consulting with civil society on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Government is striving to implement this through its programs in accordance with the available resources.

Recommendations:

- The National Center, while appreciating the broad vision of economic modernization, stresses the need for the Administration to effectively implement the standards of transparency in order to inform the public about the achieved targets in accordance with the timelines.
2. Find effective and appropriate mechanisms to address Jordan's water problem and move towards the implementation of the water security strategy.
 3. Local administrations should be directed to identify development priorities within their annual implementation plans to support and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.
 4. Further efforts and innovation to sustainably increase agricultural production, improve global supply chains, and reduce food loss and wastage.

Right to work

The right to work is one of the human rights guaranteed by international conventions.¹³⁵ The Jordanian Constitution, in articles 6/3 and 23, guarantees the right to work for all citizens. The State is obliged to provide work by directing and promoting the national economy.

The normative content of the monitoring of the right to work for 2022 is based on the complementarity of legal protection of its components in law and in practice, and through the enforcement and strengthening of safeguards for its protection by tracking and monitoring a number of issues: monitoring developments in the legislative system governing the right, practices and policies, protests and sit-ins, child labor, human trafficking, occupational safety and health, and qualified industrial zones

Within the framework of the Center's mandate to monitor, receive and follow up on complaints and to put an end to violations, the Center received, in 2022, 58 complaints concerning the right to work in 2022.

Legislative developments governing the right:

In 2022, there was no amendment to the Labor Law No. 8 of 1996 and its amendments, despite the inclusion of the draft of the amended law on the agenda of the parliamentary work committees since 2019, and the National Assembly did not discuss the amendment of the Labor Law, which was also on the agenda of the special session of 2022¹³⁶

In 2022, the Center monitored the issuance of a number of laws and related instructions, including:

- The promulgation of the Children's Rights Act No. 17 of 2022, which provided further protection to children and prohibited any form of human trafficking, prostitution, pornography or any other form of sexual abuse to the child, and the prohibition of economic exploitation including forced labor or begging.¹³⁷
- The issuance of the Instructions amending the Instructions on the Conditions and Procedures for the Employment and Recruitment of Non-Jordanian Workers in Qualified Industrial Zones, issued under the provisions of article 12, paragraph (a), of the Labor Code No. 8 of 1996 and its amendments to¹³⁸, aimed at regulating the process of recruitment and use of non-Jordanian workers and amending the Gold List of Standards for enterprises engaged in the textile and sewing sector in industrial zones and the conditions for their accession, work contracts, working hours and contractual procedures, among others.

Practices and policies

The Ministry of Labor conducted a series of inspections in 2022 which resulted in seizing 741 migrant workers in violation of either the Labor Law or the Residency Law and the issuance of a decision on office travel against them. In addition, 556 foreign workers were arrested.¹³⁹ In 2022, the Ministry of Labor, through its inspection directorates, carried out 46,668 inspection visits to industrial, commercial and service institutions and facilities, ranging from inspection of working conditions, safety and occupational health to compliance with the requirements of the labor market

¹³⁵ Article 23 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, article 6), 7 (8) of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

¹³⁶ It should be noted that the House of Representatives approved, on 2023/3/6, the Law amending the Labor Law, which included eight articles of the Original Law. The amendment covered the following areas: employment, articles 11.10, expatriate labor, article 12, violence and sexual harassment, article 29, experience certificate, article 30, entitlement to

additional work, article 46, employment of women, article 69, and the intensification of penalties under article 139;

¹³⁷ Article 21 of the Rights of the Child Act No. 17 of 2022

¹³⁸ Published in Official Gazette No. 5785, p. 3078, of 17/4/2022

¹³⁹ According to the Report on the Achievements of the Labor Inspection, Occupational Safety and Health - Ministry of Labor, 2022

in addition to work visits about sector surveys and visits about countering child labor visits; these visits resulted in a total of 4,714 labor violations based on article 12 of the Labor Code and Defense Orders in addition to 88 warnings to institutions in violation of the Labor Code and 384 violations pursuant to defense orders and announcements issued under them.

As to complaints received by the Ministry of Labor during 2022 affiliated directorates dealt with 13,996 complaints through the Compl Department and the Hotline revolving around obliging workers to fill unpaid leave, to resign, and to work extra time, confiscation of the worker's passport, non-payment of wage, using the worker in a different job than one agreed upon, not providing occupational health and safety standards, the institution, not paying the minimal wage among other complaints which 13,580 were resolved by taking the necessary measures in the interest of the worker.¹⁴⁰

Legal Measures Taken against Industrial, Commercial and Service Institutions and Facilities	
Infractions	Number
Warnings based on legal texts	1616
Warnings based on article 12	88
Infractions and warnings are infractions related to inspection in accordance with the provisions of Article (12) of the Labor Code	3248
Infractions pursuant to defense orders and communications issued	384
Total	4714



¹⁴⁰ Previous reference

Protests and sit-ins

The year 2022 saw the Ministry of Labor deal with 50 labor disputes compared to 40 disputes in 2021. 40 disputes were resolved through direct negotiation between workers and employers in 2021 and 2022 and there was recourse to the Conciliation Board to solve 3 disputes in 2022 and two disputes were referred to it in 2021; 5 labor disputes were resolved through direct intervention by the Minister in 2022 compared to 2 in 2021 while 1 labor dispute in 2021 and 1 in 2022 were referred to the tribunal.

Table showing the number of labor disputes and actions taken during the years 2019-2022 ¹⁴¹				
	2022	2021	2020	2019
- Number of labor disputes	50	45	41	62
- Number of labor disputes resolved by direct negotiation	40	40	38	44
- Number of labor disputes resolved by recourse to the Conciliation Board	3	2	2	6
- Number of labor disputes resolved by intervention by the Minister	5	2	-	2
- Number of labor disputes referred to courts	1	1	-	6

The number of labor strikes resolved in 2022 was 18, compared to 20 in 2021

Table showing the number of labor strikes resolved in the years 2019-2022				
Years	2022	2021	2020	2019
Number of labor strikes	18	20	11	22

In 2022, there were 47 submitted collective work contracts of which 263,123 workers benefited compared to 40 collective contracts signed in 2021, of which 115,231 workers benefited.¹⁴²

Table showing the number of workers' and beneficiaries' contracts during the years 2019-2022				
Years	2022	2021	2020	2019
Number of collective work contracts deposited	47	45	49	56
Number of beneficiaries of collective work contracts	263,123	115,231	160,3791	281,526

¹⁴¹ According to the annual reports of the Ministry of Labor, for 2022,2021,2020,2019

¹⁴² According to the annual report of the Directorate of Labor Relations, Ministry of Labor, 2022

Child labor:

The year 2022 saw the launch of the updated National Strategy to Reduce Child Labor for 2022-2030 and its executive plan. This strategy aims to take into account internal and external changes and developments reflected on the reality of child labor, in addition to amendments to national legislation, specifically the Juveniles Act of 2014, and the updating of surveys and statistics on child labor.

Despite the efforts of various official agencies to curb child labor, the phenomenon continued in 2022. Field visits by the inspection committees and the Child Labor Department of the Ministry of Labor revealed the existence of factories and places that employ children, in contravention of the national legislation in force and international human rights standards. The number of child labor cases detected was 520. There were 142 warnings and 160 violations of employers.¹⁴³

Preventing human trafficking:

The year 2022 saw the approval of the National Referral Mechanism and the Standard Operating Procedures to deal with cases of human trafficking. The Council of Ministers also approved in early 2023 the reasons for the draft system amending the system of shelters and protection for victims and people affected by human trafficking crimes in 2023, which will provide protection and shelter for victims of human trafficking. The system of the Human Trafficking Victims Assistance Fund was also issued in early 2023 to provide the necessary assistance to victims, and will be dealt with in detail in the next report for 2023.

Occupational safety and health

During 2022, accidents at work continued to occur, most notably the Aqaba port incident of 27/6/2022, in which a truck loaded with chlorine gas from a crane that carried it to a ship fell due to a cut in the cord, causing the tanker to fall on the pillars of the ship and puncture it, leading to the rapid release of gas from the tanker, the formation of a yellow-green cloud close to the port surface, and a total of 332 persons who were present in the area, either directly engaged in the tanker handling process, or persons working nearby, were exposed to suffocation, breathing difficulty and hospitalization, resulting in the death of 13 persons.¹⁴⁴

Qualified Industrial Zones

In 2022, the National Center for Human Rights conducted field visits to qualified industrial areas in the industrial city of Al-Hassan in Ramtha and the city of King Abdullah II in Sahab to assess the situation of workers and the extent to which they enjoy their rights, as well as the work environment and their place of residence. These visits revealed the existence of violations previously addressed by the National Center for Human Rights in its previous annual reports, in addition to the following:

- Failure of some factories to employ persons with disabilities, as legally stipulated

¹⁴³ Monthly report of the Central Inspection Directorate - Ministry of Labor 2022.

¹⁴⁴ Press statement by HE Minister of the Interior Mazen Al Farayah and HE Minister of State for Information Affairs Faisal Al Shboul on 03/07/2022 to disclose the

results of the investigation committee in the port incident. For more information see the following link: <https://www.almamlakatv.com/news%97357-/D8%A5%D8%AD%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A9-7>

in proportion to total number of employees.

- Some factories do not provide a dressing room, contrary to the 1998 Regulation on the Protection of Employees and Enterprises against the Dangers of the Working Environment (Article 12a), which requires public and private production companies to provide a dressing room for their employees separate from the rest room and health facilities.
- Some workers are unaware of their basic labor rights as defined by the Labor Law, and do not have a copy of their employment contract.
- Poor occupational health and safety conditions in many workplaces.
- Overcrowding in some of the rooms of the workers' quarters and the high humidity in many of them.
- Many factories and workers have inadequate emergency exits.

Recommendations of the universal periodic review (UPR)

The UPR recommendations on the right to work included 14 recommendations on human trafficking, and 6 other recommendations related to the implementation of amendments to the Labor Code to provide working conditions for workers and others. These recommendations were addressed when addressing each topic, and the National Center prepared a special report on the UPR recommendations.

Recommendations:

The National Center for Human Rights (NCHR) confirms the recommendations contained in its previous reports in addition to the following:

- Work on providing funding for the Fund to Assist Victims of Human Trafficking, so that it can play its role in the best possible way.
- Work on providing occupational safety and health conditions in the workplace.
- Take effective measures to reduce child labor.

Right to education

One of the rights guaranteed by international, national¹⁴⁵ and regional¹⁴⁶ conventions, national legislation, and especially the Jordanian Constitution, guarantees the right to education in article 3/6 thereof. The Education Act No. 3 of 1994 provides for compulsory and free education. The fourth sustainable development goal is to promote equal access to quality education for all.

The normative content of the right to education is based on the complementarity of the legal protection of its components in law and in practice, and through the enforcement and strengthening of its protection safeguards by tracking and monitoring a number of issues: developments in the legal system governing the right to education, policies and practices, the educational process, further education, school dropout, kindergarten, literacy, general secondary school students, higher education and parallel education.

Within the framework of the Center's mandate to monitor, receive and follow up complaints and to put an end to violations, the Center received 13 complaints relating to the right to education in 2022.

2022 saw no amendment to the Education Law but it witnessed the Cabinet's¹⁴⁷ adoption of a system amending that of recognition of non-Jordanian Higher Education institutions and providing the equivalence for the diplomas thereof. And pursuant to the amending system, the Non-Jordanian Diploma Equivalence Committee will be reconstituted to be presided by the Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research with the Ministry's Secretary General as the committee's president's deputy. 2022 also saw the announcement of the government's plan to modernize the public sector and the vision of economic modernization. According to the government's plan to modernize the public sector, it will work

on establishing a Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development through the merger of the Ministries of Higher Education and Scientific Research and that of Education, to be completed between 2022 and 2024

Educational process

As of the end of 2022, there were approximately 7,315 schools in the Kingdom, including 4,053 public schools, 3,093 private schools and 169 schools belonging to Relief International,

Table showing the number of schools in the Kingdom from 2019 to 2022.¹⁴⁸

Education sector	2019	2020	2021	2022
State Schools	3911	3941	4015	4053
Private Schools	3345	3441	2943	3093
Relief International	169	169	169	169

The total number of students in all schools in the Kingdom was 2,244,751, the number of Jordanian students in all authorities (1,956,593) and the number of Syrian students in the various schools in the Kingdom (158,506), 91,797 of whom receive evening education, while 136,901 Jordanian students receive evening education.

On the other hand, there are 113,623 male and female teachers working in the schools of the Ministry of Education (34,770 male teachers and 58,699 female teachers). The total number of school administrators (20,154) of whom 7,585 are male and 12,569 are female.

¹⁴⁵ Article 3/6 of the Jordanian Constitution states: "The State shall guarantee work and education within the limits of its capabilities and shall guarantee tranquility and equal opportunities for all Jordanians.

¹⁴⁶ Article (26) Universal Declaration of Human Rights, articles (13) and)14 International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

¹⁴⁷ Decision of the Cabinet at its session held on 24/4/2022

¹⁴⁸ According to the statistical reports of the Ministry of Education for the years 2022-2019 <https://moe.gov.jo/reports>

Institutionalizing human rights values in school curricula:

The National Center for Curriculum Development operates within the General Framework Document for Jordanian Curricula, which was officially approved by the Center's Executive Board and Supreme Council, and the Education Council in the Ministry of Education.

The General Framework Document for Jordanian Curricula contains a set of general orientations that include educational objectives, core values, general principles and orientations, as well as common issues and cross-concepts of the subjects, including: life skills, thinking, environmental issues, humanitarian, political and national issues, personality-building, work-related issues, ethical issues, time-related issues, human rights issues and health issues.

In the framework of the partnership between the National Center for Human Rights and the National Center for Curriculum Development in promoting and disseminating a culture of human rights, the Center participates in the technical committee responsible for reviewing the curricula.

The incorporation of concepts within the framework of the Curriculum on Islamic Education included a special focus on human rights in Islam, based on the development of awareness of and respect for human rights and duties in all fields. In addition, the Social Studies Curriculum, which was based on the general framework of the research, was to assign a single focus to social studies, which will be translated during the writing process into educational content, whether through integrated lessons, texts or activities, up to the results of science, indicators on the human rights theme in the general framework of research on social studies for grades one to eight and national and civil education for grades nine and ten.

Impact of the Coronavirus Pandemic on Education:

The Coronavirus pandemic is still casting a shadow on the educational process for the third year in a row since its spread, as it has had many effects, most notably:

- The Ministry of Education adopted a decision on 3/11/2021 rescheduling the exams

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- of the first semester¹⁴⁹ 24 days ahead of the scheduled dates in the school calendar for the 2021/22 school year,
- Postponing the start of the second semester in public and private schools from kindergarten to eleventh grade, until February 20, and reducing the summer vacation by 20 days, with the aim of maintaining the health of students and teaching staff and contributing to breaking the severity of the epidemiological curve which witnessed an escalation at that time.¹⁵⁰
- The continuation of the system of rotation in nearly 800 public schools, based on the reverse migration from private to public schools due to epidemiological and exceptional circumstances that contributed to the transfer of nearly a quarter of a million students to public schools during the coronavirus pandemic.¹⁵¹
- The school year 2022/23 saw some 26,000 students move from private to public schools, which led to overcrowding in some directorates, especially in Liwa al-Quwaysimah and Marka, and in Al-Kasaba in Amman, Irbid and Zarqa.¹⁵²
- Continuing to rent schools, 22 were leased in the 2022/2023 school year in the various governorates

¹⁴⁹ A press statement by the General Director of Administrative Affairs, Koubiyat, to Radio Saudi Arabia on 3/11/2021, in which she referred to the decision of the Planning Commission of the Ministry of Education, in its expanded meeting held under the chairmanship of the Minister of Education, Dr. Wajih Owais, to submit the deadline for the final exams for the first semester to begin on 8/2021/12. <https://www.almamlakatv.com/news78336--/>

¹⁵⁰ Press Release by Ministry of Education Spokesperson Ahmed Al-Musa'afa for the program "Voice of the Kingdom", dated 2022/1/26

¹⁵¹ Press release by Ministry of Education spokesman Ahmed Al-Musa'afa for the country news website on 9/10/2022 <https://albaladnews.net/article342061/>

¹⁵² A press statement by the spokesman of the Ministry of Education, Ahmed Al-Musa'afa, to the country's news, dated 09/10/2022. Ibid.

of the Kingdom¹⁵³ with a view to addressing the problem of overcrowding and providing schools in some areas that do not have schools belonging to the Ministry of Education. Rented schools lack the minimum requirements for the educational process, and they lack the public health and safety requirements that students and staff need.

- The school year 2022-2023 saw the creation of 42 schools operating under the evening shift system,¹⁵⁴ 9 of which are in the Qawasima Brigade, which is the largest directorate in the development of evening schools, followed by the second Zarqa Education Directorate, in which five schools were established. In Ain Al-Basha, four schools were established to address overcrowding in schools.

Actions of the Ministry of Education regarding educational loss:

- The Ministry of Education has worked to implement its plan for educational interventions to address the educational losses resulting from the effects of the Coronavirus pandemic for the 2022-2023 school year in cooperation with the Education and Youth Support Project, which aims to carry out specialized educational interventions to address the educational loss by conducting national diagnostic studies and evaluations to determine the final and selective goals of the treatment program, and designing remedial

- The implementation was carried out in two phases: the preparatory phase (start of school year): to teach basic concepts and skills that students must have at an early stage: Arabic, English, and Mathematics which lasted a month for grades two and three, and two weeks for classes four to eleven, as to programs that run over a year, they are implemented each semester for students in grades four to 11. In addition, teachers were able to conduct remedial interventions, follow up with students after they were classified according to their performance and achievement of learning results, focus on formative evaluations to verify students' responsiveness to the program and follow up by educational supervision, and participate in various programs and projects, including the Learning Bridges Program, Recuperation and Graduated Reading, all aimed at addressing the students' learning gaps.

School dropout:

The problem of school dropouts remains a challenge for the Ministry of Education despite the development of many preventive and awareness programs to reduce it,¹⁵⁵

¹⁵³ Press Statement by Ministry of Education Spokesman Ahmed Al-Masafaka to Kingdom Channel, Weekly News Program on 9/10/2022

¹⁵⁴ Press statement by the Secretary-General of Administrative Affairs, addressed by a tribe to the Public Security Radio, the contents of which were published on the Ammoun news website on 09/09/2022. For more information see the following link: <https://www.ammonnews.net/article705775/>

¹⁵⁵ If we take into account the reasons that lead students to drop out, the most prominent of which are: educational reasons: inability to study, low academic achievement and repetitive failure, which leads to abandoning academic education and the desire to go to work life. Economic reasons: They are due to the weakness and low financial condition of the family and its inability

to meet school needs and other matters, which motivates the student to leave school to work and help his family to provide for their daily needs, whether it is out of his own volition or driven by his family. Social reasons: Resulting from the disintegration and lack of interest in the student. There are other reasons related to the weakness or lack of educational guidance in schools due to the lack of instructors in all schools. In addition, some students, especially female students, have difficulty in accessing schools due to the lack of transport in their dormitories and the fact that schools with scientific courses (both literary and scientific) in which they wish to study have moved away from their homes, which leads them to miss out on their schooling, which is one of the reasons concluded from the Center's visits to many villages and towns in some provinces.

The number of school dropouts during the school year 2021/2022 reached (11,689) at the basic education level which equals 0.0064% of the total number of students,¹⁵⁶ which calls on the Ministry of Education to reconsider programs and plans and to make concerted efforts among all stakeholders.

In order to reduce the problem of school dropout, the National Center recommends:

- 1 Work on improving the quality of education by developing curricula and teaching methods and by providing modern and effective teaching resources that help attract students and encourage them to continue their studies.
- 2. Provide additional support to students with learning difficulties, whether by enrolling them in special programs for those with learning difficulties or by making special revisions at specific times, which will help them improve their performance and increase their self-confidence.
- 3 - Work on encouraging and motivating students to continue their studies by holding educational and sports competitions and events, offering prizes and honoring outstanding students.
- 4 - Work on improving the school environment, which makes students feel safe inside the school and unwilling to leave it.
- 5 - Address social problems faced by students and their families, such as providing psychological, social and health support, which helps to improve the social conditions of students and reinforce their desire to continue their studies.

Kindergarten:

Kindergartens still face many challenges and problems that prevent all children of this age group from joining. Among the most prominent of these are:

- .1 Lack of funding:** The lack of funding prevents the expansion of kindergartens in public and private sectors. The Minister of Education expressed the need for the Ministry of Education to 141 million dinars to implement its plan to include all children at a rate of 100% in five years.¹⁵⁷
- .2Poor infrastructure:** There is a serious lack of infrastructure for kindergartens, as many of these facilities do not have good hygiene and sanitation facilities and do not have the necessary furniture and equipment.
- .3Poor teacher training:** There is a lack of training for teachers in kindergartens, as many teachers are not experienced enough in dealing with young children and do not have the skills to provide an ideal learning environment for them.
- 4. Limited seats:** Many kindergartens opened by the Ministry of Education in some schools are suffering from lack of capacity, and their inability to accommodate other children, which prevents many children from enjoying their right to enroll in them and to receive basic education.
- .5 Social and economic conditions:** The difficult social and economic conditions affect the ability of many families to provide quality education for their children at this age in the private sector, as not all schools in the Kingdom are included.

¹⁵⁶ According to information obtained from Queen Rania Al-Abdallah Center for Information Technology on 15/3/2023

¹⁵⁷ According to what was stated in a conversation with His Excellency the Minister of Education, Wajih Oweis

before the Education Committee of the Senate on 3/7/2022, broadcast by Khaberni news website.

.6Limited space: Many public schools have limited space, which prevents the Ministry of Education from creating kindergartens in them.

The number of kindergartens for both levels (KG1.KG2) in the Kingdom reached 7,458 in 2021/2022, 2,750 of which are in public schools, 5 in other government schools and 4,703 in the private sector, while the number of children enrolling in kindergartens in both levels reached 140,928, of whom 67,907 children are in government kindergartens for which demand is higher than supply, in addition to 73,021 children in private sector kindergartens.¹⁵⁸

Below is a table showing the number of kindergartens for both KG1 and KG2 levels in the Kingdom for 2019-2022.¹⁵⁹

Subject	2018/19	2019/20	2020/2021	2021/2022
Number of kindergartens in government sector	1825	2005	2610	2750
Number of kindergartens in other government sector	6	6	6	5
Number of kindergartens in Private sector	5729	6286	3839	4703
Grand total	7560	8297	6455	7458

Table showing the number of students in kindergarten (KG2.KG1) in the Kingdom for the 2019-2022 academic year

Year	2018/19	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022
Number of children enrolled in kindergartens in the public sector	37421	42481	67461	67907
Number of children enrolled in kindergartens in the private sector	97312	102708	52367	73021
Total	134733	145,189	119828	140928

The National Center considers it necessary to intensify efforts to include all children between the ages of 4 and 5 in kindergartens and to make the second kindergarten compulsory, given the great importance of the pre-school education stage, which is a decisive age in which the child's language and personal and social abilities develop and prepare for the basic education stage.

¹⁵⁸ According to the information obtained by the Center of Queen Rania Al-Abdullah for Information Technology.

¹⁵⁹ According to the data of the Educational Information Management System - Ministry of Education

Literacy

The number of adult education and literacy centers opened in the academic year 2021/2022 was 144, of which 121 centers for girls and 23 for boys, to which were enrolled 1,729 students, (1,341 females and 388 for males). It is worth noting that the overall percentage of illiteracy up to the end of 2022 was 4.9% compared to 5.1% for 2020 according to Public Statistics Directorate. The Ministry of Education has worked with partners to implement the program to promote culture for the dropouts launching 194 centers for the promotion of culture for the dropouts, in which about 4,543 students have enrolled.¹⁶⁰ There are also 65 centers for remedial education (861) students.

Table showing the number of literacy centers, cultural promotion for the drop-outs and cognitive education and enrollment for 2021/22

Number of adult education and literacy centers	144
Enrollment in adult education and literacy illiteracy	1729
Number of culture promotion centers for dropouts	194
Number of Cultural Promotion Centers For drop-outs	4543
Number of remedial education centers	65
Number of students enrolled in remedial education centers	861

Higher Education

According to the official statistics issued by the Public Statistics Directorate, the unemployment rate among university graduates with bachelor degrees is higher among young males at 28.3%, while the percentage for females is %79.6,¹⁶¹ and nearly 460, 000 graduates wait for their turn in the civil service bureau to get a government job. Approximately 140, 000 job seekers from high school to higher university studies are entering the labor market every year, while the Jordanian labor market provides between 30,000, and 40,000 jobs a year.

The plan and vision for economic modernization also diagnosed the reality of higher education in Jordan, noting that the programs and school plans are still traditional and old, along with a lack of focus on competence, indoctrination education, poor use of technology, inadequate budget and funding, poor quality management, lack of equality and equal opportunities in university admission, deterioration of facilities, inadequate research and development, and incompatibility of university specialties with the requirements of the labor market.¹⁶²

The plan hopes to provide an accessible, equitable, research-based, technically feasible, prestigious, competitive, flexible and inclusive higher education system capable of providing Jordanian and international communities with qualified graduates capable of critical thinking, problem solving and lifelong learning in a safe and easy environment using modern curricula and innovative learning and teaching methods.

To this end, the plan proposes law and regulations reform

¹⁶⁰ According to information obtained from Queen Rania Al-Abdullah Center for Information Technology on 15/03/2023

¹⁶¹ According to the statistical report issued by the Department of Public Statistics for the fourth quarter of 2022, for more information see the following link:

[un-/archive/main/dos_home_a/dos.gov.jo//:httpEmp_Q42022.pdf/2022/emp](http://archive/main/dos_home_a/dos.gov.jo//:httpEmp_Q42022.pdf/2022/emp)

¹⁶² Vision of Economic Modernization "Unleashing Potential for Building the Future," 2022, p. 78

on the recruitment of faculty and staff, scholarships, continuous professional development, promotion and entrepreneurship, as well as the strategic cooperation framework in the sector, labor market assessment for higher education, miniaturization and multiple pathways, and in the areas of research and development, the plan referred to the development of mechanisms to support scientific research and make teaching a document for research and innovation, the establishment of academic, financial and institutional autonomy for higher education institutions, the initiation of reform of the higher education admissions process, the creation of new resources and revenues to ensure financial sustainability, and until the plan for higher education reform is achieved, the plan deems it necessary to reform the management of higher education and the issue through strengthening legal and institutional structures.¹⁶³

In 2022, more than 25,000 students applying to Jordanian universities were not accepted, and 6,000 students were on the mis-selection list. The total and final number of applications submitted was 74,915. The decline in the number of students admitted to universities was due to the decisions of the Higher Education Council to reduce the acceptance rate in stagnant and saturated specializations by 50% despite the increase in the number of successful students in the Public Secondary School, where admission in 42 specializations in various universities was stopped, and acceptance in general medicine and dentistry specializations by 20% of students was also a decrease in the number of accepted students.¹⁶⁴

Parallel Program

Despite the recommendations of the National Strategy for Human Resources Development for 2016-2025, the program should be abolished in eight years. This program allows some Jordanian students to choose specific disciplines while others are denied this option due to the high financial cost of this program. However, the program is still in effect.

In 2022, nearly 400 Jordanian students at Ukrainian universities returned to Jordan as a result of the Ukrainian-Russian War. The vast majority of them study in the fields of medicine and dentistry.

In order to mitigate the effects of this situation, the Committee for the Equivalence of Non-Jordanian Degrees in the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research granted these students an exemption from the requirement to study 50% of the curriculum materials at the university from which they will graduate. This is required by the instructions for the equivalence of non-Jordanian certificates, in consideration of the circumstances they are going through, and in order to mitigate the academic effects that may result from their transition to other universities, which will make it easier for them to move to any non-Jordanian university recognized by the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.

The Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research has also developed some options for students to complete their education, such as: continuing electronic learning, as long as the relevant Ukrainian universities allow them to do so, and allowing them to enroll in Jordanian universities in accordance with the general policy of admitting students to Jordanian universities, in accordance with the instructions in force at the university concerned and after achieving any other requirements required by the universities.

¹⁶³ Ibid., p. 79

¹⁶⁴ According to the press release of the spokesman of the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Director of the Unified Acceptance Unit, Mohannad Al-

Khatib, for Roya News Channel, dated 2022/10/10 and published on Zad Jordan: [index.php?page=article&id=520497](http://www.jordanzad.com/index.php?page=article&id=520497)

Recommendations of the comprehensive review

The recommendations of the Universal Periodic Review specific to education accepted by the Kingdom included two recommendations which focused on taking the necessary measures to further improve access to education in terms of quality and comprehensiveness and on continuing to implement measures to develop the education system, including the extension of literacy programs, taking into account the principle of equality. The two themes were discussed in detail in the body of this report and a detailed report was prepared by the National Center for Human Rights on the recommendations of the universal periodic review.

Recommendations

The National Center for Human Rights (NCHR) emphasizes its previous recommendations contained in the section on the right to education to ensure the effective enjoyment of this right by individuals and adds the following recommendations:

1. Reconsider the programs and plans adopted to address the problem of school dropout and join efforts among all concerned parties.
2. Work to improve the quality of education by developing curricula and teaching methods and by providing modern and effective educational resources and services that help attract students and encourage them to continue their studies.
3. Provide additional support to students with learning disabilities, whether by enrolling them in special programs for those with learning disabilities or by making special revisions at specific times that help them improve their performance and increase their self-confidence.
4. Intensify efforts to include all children aged 4-5 years in kindergartens and make the second kindergarten compulsory, given the great importance of preschool education.

Cultural rights

A human right guaranteed by international standards.¹⁶⁵ The Jordanian Constitution also guarantees the freedom of cultural creativity and freedom of scientific research in article 15.2 of the Constitution.¹⁶⁶ In addition, numerous texts of national laws, such as the Law on the Protection of Culture, the Law on the Protection of the Right to Author, the Law on Trade Names, the Law on the Protection of Urban and Urban Heritage and other laws, protect cultural rights.

The normative content of the right to health is based on the complementarity of the legal protection of its components in law and in practice, and through the enforcement and strengthening of safeguards for its protection by tracking and monitoring a number of issues: participation in or contribution to cultural life, the right to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications, the right to the protection of the moral and material interests of any scientific, literary or artistic production of which it is made, freedom of scientific research and creative activity, the right to education and the preservation of cultural heritage.

In general, the center monitored a number of issues during 2022. We list them in detail as follows: tangible cultural heritage, tourism sector, and intangible cultural heritage, including festivals, drama, and cultural events.

First : Tangible cultural heritage.

- In 2022, the Jordanian National Commission for Education, Culture and Science organized a campaign in cooperation with the Education Directorate of Irbid Kasbah

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¹⁶⁵ M. 27/ of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, art. 27/... of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, art. 15/... of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and art. 21 of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

¹⁶⁶ Article (2/15) of the Jordanian Constitution: "The State shall guarantee the freedom of scientific research and of literary, artistic, cultural and sports creativity, without prejudice to the provisions of the law or of public order and morals.

¹⁶⁷ Jordanian National Commission for Education, Culture and Science / 769/news/www.natcom.gov.jo

¹⁶⁸ AR-article-38392/www.ahu.edu.jo//:https 168 University of Al-Hussein Bin Talal

¹⁶⁹ The list published by the magazine on its website contained archeological discoveries from various countries of the world. The magazine provided information on this discovery, which was announced at a press conference held by the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities and the General

The campaign included three contests: a poetry contest, a photography competition and a video competition, all aimed at highlighting the unique physical and intangible cultural heritage of the city of Irbid.¹⁶⁷

The Journal of Archeology published by the American Institute of Archeology ranked the discovery of the Southeast Desert Project as one of the 10 most important discoveries in the world during the year 2022.¹⁶⁸

¹⁶⁹Tourism sector:

- The year 2022 saw the launch of the National Tourism Strategy,¹⁷⁰ which differed from its predecessors by linking

Department of Antiquities on 22-2022. The discovery is a ceremonial temple complex for the groups of fishermen who were discovered through the project, and its culture is called Ghassanid culture, which dates back to the Neolithic period more than 900 years ago. The devotional facility was discovered in an exceptional state of preservation in the middle of one of the fishermen's residences. The activity is a miniature architectural fragment of the Saharan embos the oldest stone tablet in the world. It is the world's oldest diagram of an actual facility in the region. Nearby is a cylindrical stone carved onto it the face of a human being close to the natural size.

¹⁷⁰ The National Tourism Strategy aims to raise the number of tourists to 2019 levels (m) by 2024 (m) Return of total revenues to levels (2019) by 2024 Increase direct employment in the tourism sector (2025) Work is currently under way to update the targets and targets above after the tourism sector recovers and is able to

All tourism sector projects and objectives are linked to the Sustainable Development Goals (2030). The objectives of the Strategy are also linked to the objectives of the Green Growth Plan for the tourism sector. The National Tourism Strategy is based on five main axes.¹⁷¹ 1) Development of tourism product, 2) Protection of heritage, 3) Marketing, 4) Human resources, 5) Reforms.

There were also 3,226 tourist activities in various governorates.¹⁷²

- The year 2022 also saw the continuation of a number of projects¹⁷³ implemented to develop tourism facilities, infrastructure and access mechanisms to tourist sites for all segments of society.¹⁷⁴
- The number of overnight tourists in 2022 was 4,276,733, while the number of overnight tourists in 2021 was 2,011,635 tourists.¹⁷⁵

- The number of day visitors in 2022 was 772,371, while the number of day visitors in 2021 was 347,035.¹⁷⁶
- The number of complaints submitted by tourists to the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities¹⁷⁷ was about tourist sites, hotels, tourist transportation and guides (1,326) in 2022, 960 complaints from citizens, individual tourists, various official bodies and tourism associations, and 366 complaints through the "Serve you" platform against licensed and unlicensed tourist establishments, which were dealt with.

The Ministry has taken the following measures with regard to complaints received:

- 1 Penalties issued by the Ministry against licensed and unlicensed tourist establishments.
- 46 tourist offices and travel offices for unauthorized business travel and tourism offices have been closed after an inspection visit by the Inspection Commission.
- 116 warnings to tourist establishments of all categories.
- 49 persons have been made to undertake the practice of travel agents without authorization through social media.
- Transfer 16 persons to the Public Prosecutor's Office for holding tourism offices without authorization from the Ministry.
- Transfer (67) persons for cybercrime for practicing the profession of travel and tourism offices on social media without a license and without responding to the Ministry's review.

¹⁷¹ Ministry of Tourism Letter No. 8743/3/13 (2023/5/9)

¹⁷² Ministry of Tourism Letter No. 8743/3/13 (2023/5/9)

¹⁷³ Projects to improve the roads leading to tourist sites, in cooperation with the relevant authorities such as the Ministry of Public Works and Housing. Projects to rehabilitate visitors' centers and raise the level of services provided at the sites (parking, sanitation facilities, exhibition halls and interpretation halls). Security system project (electronic gates, surveillance cameras, fencing) at tourist and archeological sites. Project to provide solar energy to tourist sites and to rationalize energy consumption. Project to maintain cleanliness at tourist and archeological sites. Project to prepare tourist sites to receive persons with disabilities and older persons. Project to build the capacity of employees and workers in the tourism sector and local communities to

integrate them into the tourism sector and enable them to participate economically in this important sector. Projects to market and promote various tourism products and contribute to increasing the number of tourists and to restore the confidence in the Kingdom and in the legal system and to restore tourist sites. Legal reform project to reform the Tourism Law and the regulations and instructions pursuant thereto.

¹⁷⁴ Ministry of Tourism Letter No. 8743/3/13 (2023/5/9)

¹⁷⁵ Tourism Ministry statistics

¹⁷⁶ Tourism Ministry statistics

¹⁷⁷ Ministry of Tourism Letter No. 8743/3/13 (2023/5/9)

- Linking 27 tourism and travel offices licensed by ministerial undertakings for violating the category of license granted.
- Liquidating 4 bank guarantees for travel and tourism offices as a result of their violation of agreed contracts with citizens.
- Publication of 9 circulars of tourist establishments based on official claims (Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Foreign Affairs).
- Total compensation for complaints against tourist establishments amounts to 400,000 citizens and foreign tourists.
- Suspension of 6 tourist performances as a result of complaints against them by tourism operators, tourists, or tourist police due to their presence in tourist sites.
- Closure of 9 tourist facilities (night clubs, bars, coffee shop)
- 73 Immediate and/or friendly payment between complainants and owners of tourist establishments.
- Dealing with hundreds of complaints and inquiries that are resolved through telephone communications.
- 146 inspections of offices not licensed by the Ministry by a committee formed by the Complaints Department, the Royal Department for Environmental Protection and Tourism and the Jordanian Association of Travel and Tourism Bureaus and Companies.

Second: Intangible cultural heritage.

- The year 2022 saw the establishment of a cultural diversity festival in the ancient city of Umm Qais

On 23/9/2022.¹⁷⁸ More than 40 individuals and associations concerned with intangible cultural heritage from the people of Irbid and its villages participated in the festival.

- The year 2022 also saw the establishment of the Tell a Place program, in cooperation with the cultural directorates in the provinces, which is a cultural heritage organized in the provinces to link the physical and intangible cultural heritage in the archeological and heritage sites, and to learn about the stories associated with these sites.
- The Center followed up on the efforts made by the Ministry of Culture during 2022, the most prominent of which was the launch of the Jerash Festival for Culture and Arts in its 36th session after a break due to the Coronavirus pandemic. This is one of the most important projects of the Ministry of Culture, and it is an important and varied artistic program, with local, Arab and international artistic and cultural participation. Jordan was also able to include local mansaf on the list of intangible (living) cultural heritage of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), ahead of many dishes and Arab and international drinks, where the Mansaf crowns the Jordanian banquet

¹⁷⁸ The Festival aims to preserve the social fabric of Jordan and strengthen the interdependence of all members of Jordanian society, to highlight the fabric of Jordanian civilization and the aesthetics of cultural diversity in Jordan, to introduce Jordan's distinct cultural identity, to support the production capacities of traditional crafts and handicrafts, to promote the economic level of the owners of traditional crafts of the region, to help them market their products, and to contribute to the promotion of Jordanian tourism. The Festival includes a series of cultural and heritage events such as: handicrafts and traditional industries

exhibition, heritage tools exhibition, heritage exhibitions, folklore exhibitions, folklore exhibitions, folklore exhibitions, folklore exhibitions, folklore exhibitions, folklore shows, folklore shows and popular exhibitions for children, and folklore, and folklore groups, and exhibitions, and exhibitions of various food products, and children, and children, and exhibitions. The heritage encompasses all the sects and components of local communities, which highlight the aesthetics of cultural diversity that characterize Jordan.

in social events in the various governorates of the Kingdom, deepening family and social ties among the components of society, as well as being the official banquet of hospitality for guests and visitors.

- The year 2022 saw the declaration of the city of Irbid as the capital For Arab culture, by the Arab Organization for Education, Culture and Science (ALECSO), to carry the flag of Arab culture.¹⁷⁹

- The year 2022 saw the 36th edition of the Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts under the slogan Noret Layalina.¹⁸⁰

Licensing and Configuration:

These bodies have the intellectual, literary, artistic, literary, artistic or scientific purposes in addition to the associations working in the field of reviving cultural heritage and museums,

Table showing the number of cultural organizations registered with the Ministry of Culture in the various governorates of the Kingdom until 13/4/2023

Governorate	Associations	Forums	Bands	Centers + clubs 56+2 host bodies	Total
Capital	166	62	15		301
Irbid	52	60	12	3	127
Al-Zarqa	16	15	2	6	39
Mafraq	23	13	2	3	41
Karak	12	12	2	7	33
Ma'an	7	4	6	4	21
Aqaba	15	3	2	11	21
Balqa	17	21	5	2	45
Jerash	9	13	11	11	24
Madaba	3	18	0	3	24
Ajlun	11	23	2	4	40
Tafilah	6	9	4	2	21
Total	337	253	54	95	739

¹⁷⁹ Ammon News website /www.ammonnews.net/:https

¹⁸⁰ Its program included cooperation with the municipality of Greater Jerash included the Jordanian Artists Association, the Jordanian Writers Association, the Jordanian Fine Artists and the Jordanian Writers Union over a huge amount of activities (about 250 artistic events and cultural crafts) in which 1500 intellectuals and

artists from Jordan and abroad participated with 25 artists performed in theater in the main square at the Antique City. The prize of the annual festival was awarded to the poet Ziad Al ANANI.

or those in charge of spreading the culture of artistic and literary creativity or any similar field.¹⁸¹ Some of these institutions were formed under the Cultural Protection Act of 2006. Following the approval of the Associations Act of 2008, they were transformed into associations registered with the Register of Societies and are subject to the supervision of the Ministry of Culture.

Tourism and sustainable development:

The year 2022 saw the inclusion of several Sustainable Development Goals in the plans, activities, and projects of the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, including:

- The fourth objective (quality education): The Ministry is studying the gap between the educational outputs and the labor market needs in the tourism sector), which has been implemented by the Milan Institute and the Italian Agency for International Development (IDA) in partnership with the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities and the Higher Education Sector, which specializes in tourism.
- Goal V (Gender equality): The Gender Integration Plan of the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities for 2025/2021 has been launched, and the Ministry is currently in the process of developing, updating and implementing its programs. In addition, a number of projects for the empowerment of women have been implemented, including the Al-Nahar (2022) project (with the World Tourism Organization) and a number of women's supporters and stakeholders. The aim of the project was to empower women in the tourism sector, especially after the coronavirus pandemic, to highlight the success stories of women pioneers of tourism work in Jordan in all governorates, and to encourage other women to work in the tourism sector and develop their projects.
- The Ministry is working with all available means to facilitate and encourage investment in the tourism sector, by relaxing procedures and conditions, in accordance with the investor's journey program launched by the Ministry of Industry and Trade and all the relevant parties, through the project (development of the licensing system in the tourism sector) funded by the German Agency for Development and International Cooperation. The project aims to ease procedures and facilitate investment for local and foreign investors in the tourism sector, encourage them to start new tourism projects, and currently in the final stages of the project and automate a number of procedures.
- Ninth Objective (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure): The Ministry of Tourism offers the necessary facilities to tourists and seeks to make all tourist sites suitable and accessible to persons with disabilities, pregnant women and the elderly. In addition, it organizes or participates in various ongoing, seasonal and non-seasonal local and international activities for tourism products at tourist sites in all governorates, focusing on handicrafts, popular crafts and traditional industries, which are distinctive in each region, and its marketing and promotion, in cooperation with the Tourism Promotion Authority, which specializes in marketing, promotion and exhibitions.
- Tenth Objective (Reduction of inequalities): The tourism sector is a sector that sometimes requires a commitment to long working hours, night shifts and field work, especially in the hotel, restaurant and tourism industry, and these conditions are somewhat of an impediment to women entering the labor market in the Tourism sector, which is why the

¹⁸¹ Article 2, paragraph 2, of Instructions No. 147 of 2021, Directives of the Ministry of Associations issued pursuant to article 4 of the Associations Act No. 51 of 2008.

Ministry of Tourism, through the projects previously mentioned and through its representation in the Jordanian Committee for Women's Affairs, is therefore making the necessary recommendations to overcome these difficulties by calling for the establishment of a women's council in the tourism sector and demanding the provision of childcare spaces for mothers working in the public sector, in addition to ensuring their mobility.

- Objective XI (sustainable cities and communities): The Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities is working to install solar panels and cells in most visitors' centers and suitable tourist sites, to exploit solar energy for clean, environmentally friendly and sustainable electricity generation, and to reduce non-renewable energy consumption and pollution. In addition, it is supporting community members and girls, through various projects and initiatives, encouraging them to work in the tourism sector, and encouraging them to maintain the diverse tourism potential in their areas, being a key supplier of the national economy, as well as establishing and sustaining projects in the tourist areas where (women and youth) from local communities are working.

Recommendations:

The Center emphasizes the recommendations contained in its previous reports and adds the following:

- Continue to support efforts to discover more archeological sites by the competent authorities.
- Update the goals contained in the National Tourism Strategy and prioritize them in line with the economic modernization plan.
- Continue the development of tourist facilities and their own infrastructure.
- Consolidate national efforts in the work of incubators for cultural works and creative industries.
- Increase government spending on Cultural Rights, Cultural activities and events and festivals and Cultural initiatives.

Right to health

A human right guaranteed by international conventions¹⁸² and regulated by a number of national laws, the most important of which is the Public Health Law No. 47 of 2008,¹⁸³ as well as the regulations and directives issued pursuant thereto, despite the fact that the Jordanian Constitution does not explicitly refer to the right to health and guarantees it to citizens.

The normative content of the right to health is based on the complementarity of the legal protection of its components, legally and in practice, and through the enforcement and strengthening of its protection guarantees by tracking and monitoring a number of issues: monitoring developments in the legislative system governing the right, and the measures taken by the Ministry of Health to improve the health sector and improve services provided to citizens, especially during the recovery phase from the coronavirus pandemic, health insurance, preventive health, hospital accidents, food and medicine, and the reality of health services in hospitals:

Within the framework of the Center's mandate to monitor, receive and follow up complaints and to put an end to violations, the Center received 12 complaints related to the right to health in 2022, compared to 2021.

Monitoring developments in the legislative system governing rights

The year 2022 saw the continuation of the Public Health Law No. 47 of 2008 and its amendments, as there were no legislative developments.

In 2022, a number of relevant laws, regulations and instructions were issued and amended, such as:

- An amended system for the Private Hospital System No. 63 of 2022,¹⁸⁴ under which the Hospital Committee for Private Hospitals was reconstituted by increasing the number of its members, increasing its powers, entrusting its chairmanship to the Secretary-General of the Ministry of Health, indicating the divisions and facilities of private hospitals and the mechanism for calculating the prices of services therein. The amended system also specified the mechanism for appointing directors and engineers in the private hospital.
- The Rights of the Child Act No. 17 of 2022,¹⁸⁵ which provides for the right of the child to have access to free primary health services, requires the Ministry to develop comprehensive policies and programs to improve and implement child health services and allocate adequate resources to child health care services.¹⁸⁶ The Act also ensures that the Ministry of Health, in coordination with the competent authorities, takes all necessary measures to ensure that the child enjoys the highest level of health, including: developing preventive health care, guidance and health information, providing the child, his parents or his/her caregiver with basic information concerning his/her health and nutrition, including the benefits of breastfeeding, infectious, chronic and chronic diseases, with the consent of the child's parents

¹⁸² Universal Declaration of Human Rights, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, International Convention against Discrimination against Women, International Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, International Convention on the Rights of the Child

¹⁸³ Published in the Official Gazette No. (4924) pp. (3450) of 2008/08/17.

¹⁸⁴ Published in the Official Gazette (5,825 pages) (7,768 pages) of 2022/11/16 AD.

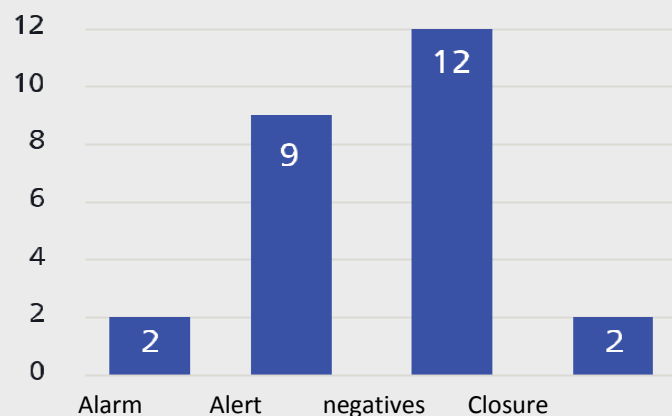
¹⁸⁵ Published in the Official Gazette No. (5,820) pages (7,039) of 2022/10/12 AD.

¹⁸⁶ Article (10) of the Children's Rights Act No. (17) of 2022

and his/her right in a safe, healthy, clean and secure environment, and establishing special centers for the treatment and rehabilitation of children in cases of addictions to narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances or volatile substances, in accordance with available resources.¹⁸⁷

- Amended Instructions for the instructions on Handling and Disbursement of Medical Supplies in Hospitals and Health Centers of the Ministry of Health No. 4 of 2022,¹⁸⁸ the amendments were to add Article 18 to the instructions and their content: The Minister may specify a list of prescription medical supplies for patients outside hospitals and centers of the Ministry of Health for use at home, and the Minister may issue the medical protocols necessary to establish a mechanism for dispensing some medical supplies, provided that the patient pays a minimum of 5% of the value of the offering per medical supply with a minimum amount of 250 pennies and a maximum of ten dinars of the value of the entire prescription regardless of the insuring or exempting body. Persons with disabilities are covered by the medical supplies available and referred in the Ministry of Health's tenders free of charge.¹⁸⁹

Measures against Pharmaceutical Factories Violating Safety and Health Requirements



- Instructions for the establishment of a national registry for newborns with hearing disabilities (No. 2) of 2022,¹⁹⁰ which ensures that a national register for births with hearing disabilities is established in the Directorate by a decision of the Minister of Health. A national steering committee with expertise and competence shall be established in the Ministry to supervise cases of hearing disability of newborns. The information of the National Registry of Newborns with Hearing Disabilities shall be confidential and may not be disclosed or shared with any person, with the exception of the persons concerned designated by the Steering Committee in accordance with the provisions of these instructions.



¹⁸⁷ Article (11) of the Children's Rights Act No. 17 of 2022.

¹⁸⁸ Published in the Official Gazette, number (5797), page (3733), of 2022/06/01.

¹⁸⁹ Article 18 of the amended Instructions on the handling and disbursement of medical supplies in hospitals and health centers of the Ministry of Health No. 4 of 2022.

¹⁹⁰ Published in the Official Gazette No. (5,769), page (977), of 2022/1/16

The importance of establishing such a registry lies in the early detection of hearing impairments and loss at an early stage after injuries have been documented and categorized, which would provide optimal health care for persons with hearing impairments.

- Instructions for the payment of treatment fees and the price of medicines for anyone holding a civil health insurance card No. 1 of 2022,¹⁹¹ which indicate that these instructions apply their provisions to anyone holding a valid civil health insurance card issued on the basis of the provisions of the Civil Health Insurance Regulation No. 83 of 2004 and its amendments or pursuant to Cabinet decisions,.

Ministry of Health procedures:

The year 2022 saw the continuation of the measures taken by the Ministry of Health to promote the health sector and improve services provided to citizens, especially during the recovery phase of the coronavirus pandemic, **through:**

Government hospitals

The year 2022 saw the opening of six government hospitals: the Specialized Surgery Hospital at Al-Bashir State Hospital with 150 expandable beds, the Sameeh Darwazeh Center for Hematology and Oncology at Al-Bashir Hospital with 46 beds, the Judicial Department of Mental Health Hospital, the Tafilah State Hospital with 150 beds that can be extended, the Al-Eiman Hospital in Ajloun Governorate with 250 beds,¹⁹² plus 23 specialty clinics, and the Al-Ruweished Hospital with 20 beds, with a substantial expansion to Prince Hussein Ibn Abdullah Hospital

and Princess Basma Hospital in the north.

Field hospitals

The year 2022 saw the development of a plan to make use of the eight field hospitals and to strengthen the government hospitals in the provinces by receiving patients with thoracic diseases and patients in departments that are maintained and rehabilitated in government hospitals.¹⁹³

Health centers

- The year 2022 saw the preparation and opening of the first specialized section to provide rehabilitation and treatment services to persons with disabilities at the comprehensive Qawasmeh health center.

- Prepare a plan for integrating the primary health centers into comprehensive centers to improve the quality of the health services provided and to become quality centers. The first four centers of the Directorate of Health in the governorate of Zarqa were merged into one health center.

-The rehabilitation of a number of health centers has begun; These include the Princess Basma Health Center and the Ghor Al-Mazraa Health Center.

Preventive health:

As a result of the monitoring visits carried out by the Center, a series of actions were recorded by the Ministry of Health in 2022; To reduce the spread of both types of diseases: communicable and non-communicable, most notably:

Continue to oversee the implementation of infection control policies and procedures at the national level in hospitals and health centers in the public and private sectors.

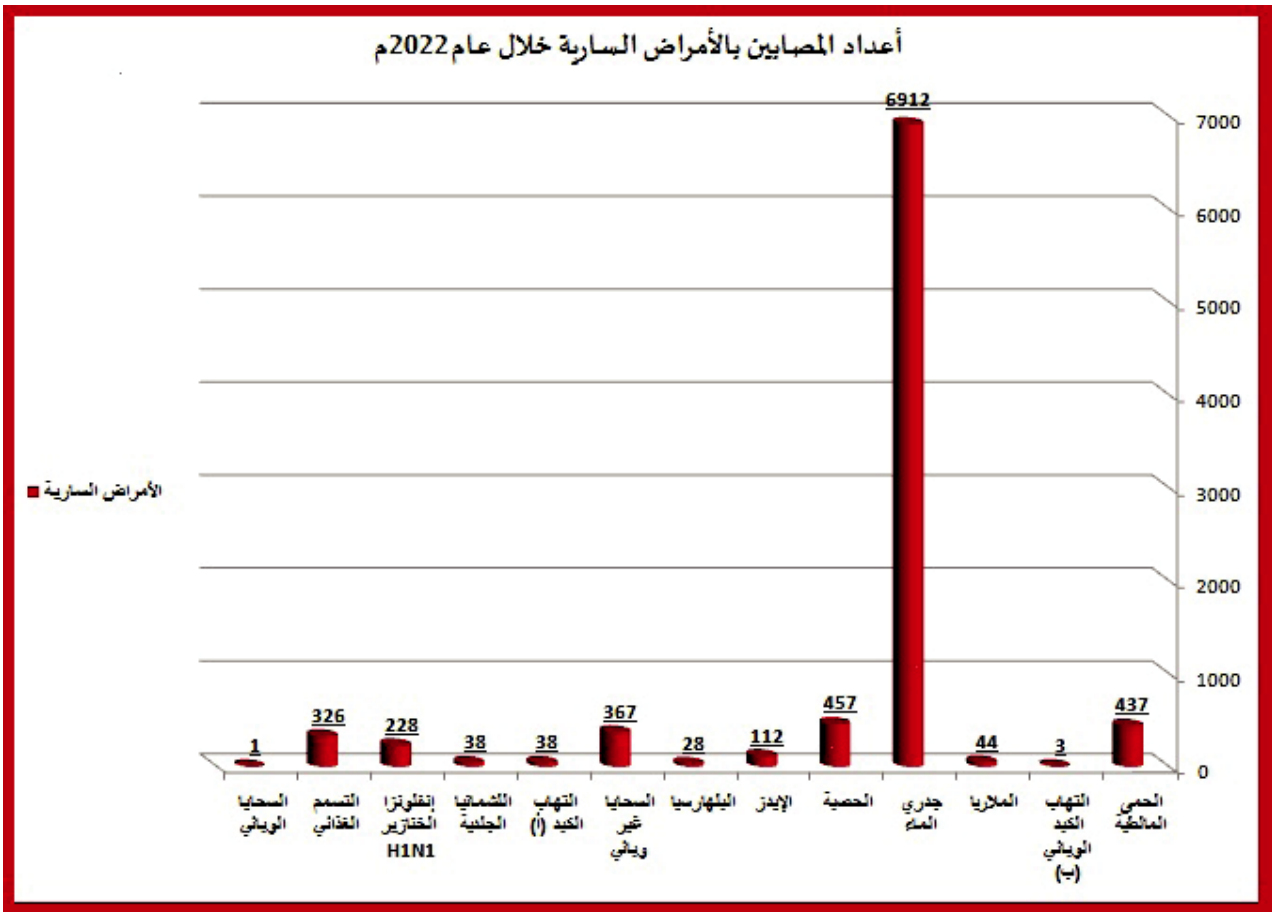
¹⁹¹ Published in the Official Gazette, number (5727), page (83) of 2022/1/2 AD.

¹⁹² It was constructed as part of the High Royal Initiatives.

¹⁹³ For more information, see the website of the Ministry of Health: Ministry of Health Seeks to Establish New Working

- Continue epidemiological monitoring of communicable diseases and take necessary preventive measures; to limit the spread of these diseases.

Hepatitis B rose to 3 cases compared to 2 in 2021 and measles to 457 compared to 50 in 2021, in addition to a rise in the cases of AIDS to 112 compared to 63 cases for Jordanians and 49 for non-Jordanians as opposed to



Despite this, 2022 saw a rise in the number of people affected by some of the communicable diseases;¹⁹⁴ The number of cases of Maltese fever rose to 437 compared to 305 cases in 2021, the number of cases of malaria rose to 44 compared to 38 cases in 2021, the number of cases of chickenpox increased to 6,912 compared to 1,722 cases in 2021 and the number of cases of

70 cases of which are 28 Jordanians, and (42) cases for non-Jordanians in 2021, the number of cases of schistosomiasis (28) compared to 12 cases in 2021, the number of cases of non-epidemic meningitis (367) compared to 333 cases in 2021, the number of cases of hepatitis A dropped from 38 cases to 28 cases compared to 2021, and the number of Cutaneous leishmaniasis dropped to 38 compared with 56 in 2021, in addition to a decrease in swine flu H1N1 (228) compared to 1,247 cases in 2021

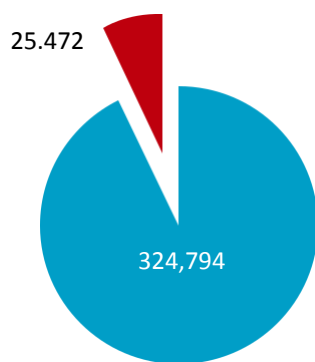
¹⁹⁴ According to the statistics of the Ministry of Health/Directorate of Communicable Diseases for the year

and a drop in the number of cases of food poisoning to (326) cases compared to (428) cases in 2021, while a case of epidemic meningitis was recorded in 2022.

The Ministry of Health attributed the **increase in** the number of infectious and contagious diseases to the state of openness witnessed in the Kingdom and the return of life to normal after the closure following the Coronavirus. In addition, the ministry's ability to monitor communicable diseases has improved.

It should be noted that the number of visitors to the Department of Tuberculosis during 2022 totaled 324,794, and the number of tuberculosis department visitors reached (25,472), including: 116 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis (78) cases of Jordanian citizens compared 38 cases of tuberculosis suffered by non-Jordanians, and 120 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis (84) of Jordanian citizens, and 36 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis for non-Jordanians.¹⁹⁵

The pie-chart below shows the number of visitors to the Department of Pediatrics and the Department of Thoracic Diseases, Expatriate Health and Occupational Health for 2022



Arrivals Department ■
Arrivals at Tuberculosis Department ■

The Center stresses that in all cases it is necessary to take all preventive and treatment measures to prevent and stop the increase in the spread of these communicable diseases. It **recommends** in this regard intensifying preventive and educational measures by the Ministry of Health, in addition to conducting free and repeated tests for patients, especially in remote areas, to avoid the transmission of infection and the spread of communicable diseases.

Food and medicine:

The year 2022 saw the intensification of the health control of food establishments and factories by the General Food and Drug Administration, with approximately 77,882 inspection visits in 2022, as follows: 77,512 inspection visits to food establishments and factories compared to 52,947 inspection visits in 2021, 370 inspection visits to pharmaceutical and non-pharmaceutical facilities compared to 102 inspection visits in 2021; These inspection visits resulted in 29 warnings, including 2 for food establishments and 27 for fishing and non-fishing establishments, compared to 10 in 2021. The Ministry of Health and Public Safety issued 29 warnings for food establishments and 27 warnings for fishing and non-fishing establishments in comparison with 10 in 2021.

In 2022 (784) institutions and food manufacturers were referred to the judiciary: (605) referred food facilities and (179) pharmaceutical and non-pharmaceutical facilities, while in 2022 (3,273) institutions were stopped in addition to 1917 food factories in 2021, and 728 food establishments and factories were closed distributed as follows: Closure of (580) institutions and factories food and closure of (148) pharmaceutical plants compared to 189 establishments and food factories and the closure of (41) medical facilities in 2021, as a result of the seizures of spoiled, expired, and damaged food; in addition to the non-compliance of those institutions and food factories

¹⁹⁵ According to the statistics of the Ministry of Health / Directorate of Chest Diseases and Expatriate Health for the year 2022

To public Health and Safety regulations.¹⁹⁶

In 2022, the General Organization for Food and Drugs (GFDA) lowered the prices of 845 classes of medicine compared with the reduction in the prices of 873 classes of medicines in 2021. The most prominent of these are antibiotics and drugs for chronic diseases, such as gastrointestinal drugs, diabetes, hypertension, heart and arteries, fatty drugs, cancer drugs, and antibiotics, in addition to drugs for psychiatric diseases.¹⁹⁷

The Center also monitored the closure of the General Food and Drug Corporation (GFDA) in 2022 of approximately 4,497 pharmacies operating in the Kingdom after they seized from them counterfeit, expired and smuggled medicines.

In addition, two warnings were given to pharmaceutical factories, 9 drug factories were alerted, 12 drug factories were addressed with their negative points, and 2 pharmaceutical manufacturers were stopped from production until their situation was corrected, out of 27 factories operating in Jordan.¹⁹⁸

In this regard, the National Center recommends the continuation of efforts aimed at effective inspections and monitoring by the Ministry of Health and the Food and Drug Administration; to ensure that all establishments, food factories, and restaurants throughout the kingdom comply with the requirements of public health and safety.

The reality of health services in hospitals:

Despite the efforts made by the Ministry of Health to develop and improve the health and medical services provided to citizens, the Center's team, after carrying out a number of visits to hospitals¹⁹⁹ and health centers in 2022, noted that some hospitals and health centers still suffer from a number of problems that hinder the achievement of their objectives. The Center emphasizes the observations contained in its previous reports, in addition to the following:

- .1 There is a shortage of specialized nephrologists in most government hospitals
- .2 Disparity in the quality of services between hospitals and CCHs.
- .3 Most comprehensive health centers lack an electronic mechanism to regulate the role of patients and visitors.
- .4 The reprogramming of the "Wise" electronic linking system has resulted in an increase in the number of steps taken to run the program, which has had a negative impact on the level of services provided to patients and visitors.
- .5 Some comprehensive health centers lack specialized and independent clinics such as the Women and Obstetrics Clinic, the Children's Clinic, the Otorhinolaryngology Clinic, the Eye Clinic, the Dermatology Clinic, as well as specialist doctors.
- .6 The large number of visitors to the emergency and ambulance departments in hospitals and comprehensive health centers, which causes overcrowding. All the visitors are referred to this department by general medicine clinics and family medicine clinics for follow-up of medical procedures, where vital signs are taken, including pressure and temperature, performing wound replacement, and performing

¹⁹⁶ Statistics issued by the General Organization for Food and Drug for the year 2022 are received by the Center through the Center's liaison officer in the Food and Drug Foundation.

¹⁹⁷ Statistics issued by the General Organization for Food and Drug for the year 2022. These statistics are received by the Center through the liaison officer of the Center in the Food and Drug Foundation.

¹⁹⁸ Statistics issued by the General Organization for Food and Drug for the year 2022. The statistics are received by the Center through the liaison officer of the Center in the Food and Drug Foundation.

¹⁹⁹ Field visits have been carried out to a number of hospitals and comprehensive health centers, and detailed reports have been provided to the Ministry of Health on the progress of these visits.

ECG check... etc., as these clinics have no nursing staff in the comprehensive Al-Joufa health center.

- .7 Many general dental clinics in comprehensive health centers require the following devices: a panorama scanner, x-ray Sensor, and an additional dental monitor (chair) with all the annexes and equipment necessary for the dental services of the specialty clinic.
8. Over-crowdedness in most comprehensive health centers in the absence of many specialties, which constitutes a great burden on doctors, staff, patients and visitors, especially those with disabilities and the elderly.
9. Most hospitals and health centers lack the necessary and environmental facilities for persons with disabilities and the elderly. For example, there is no sign interpreter, no elevator, and no parking for persons with disabilities. There is also a lack of medical aids for persons with disabilities and the elderly, for example, wheelchairs, ground indicators for people with visual disabilities (tactiles), crutches, medical shoes and splints.
10. There are no psychosocial specialists in hospitals and comprehensive health centers to deal with cases of abuse and exploitation, especially in relation to women with disabilities.

Universal periodic review:

The UPR recommendations in which the Kingdom of Jordan accepted recommendation No. 86 centered on continuing efforts to improve health care coverage of the population

The Center has prepared a detailed report on the recommendations of the universal periodic review.

Recommendations

In order to enable citizens to effectively enjoy the right to health and to provide the highest attainable standard of health, the Center reaffirms its recommendations contained in its previous reports.

- 1.The need to increase the level of health care available in public hospitals.
- 2.Ensure that all citizens are covered by free universal health insurance.
- 3.Take all preventive and curative measures to prevent and stop the increase in the spread of communicable diseases.
- 4.The Medical Accountability Act of 2018 should be enacted in cooperation with partners in the medical sector and health unions, and to find solutions that guarantee the rights of the patient, the doctor, the hospital and all parties within clear and fair mechanisms, in addition to taking the appropriate and strict measures to control cosmetic procedures carried out by non-specialized clinics.
- 5.Intensify preventive and educational measures by the Ministry of Health, in addition to the free and frequent testing of patients, particularly in remote areas, to avoid transmission and spread of communicable diseases.
- .6. Continue to focus on effective inspections and monitoring by the Ministry of Health and the Food and Drug Administration; to ensure that all establishments, food factories, and restaurants throughout the kingdom comply with the requirements of public health and safety.

A human right guaranteed by numerous international, regional and national conventions and regulated by the Environmental Protection Act No. 6 of 2017 and a number of regulations and instructions.²⁰⁰

The normative content of the right to a sound environment is based on the complementarity of legal protection of its components in law and in practice, and through the enforcement and strengthening of safeguards for its protection through the tracking and monitoring of a number of issues: legislative developments, desertification, water problem, fires and their impact on the environment, the Sustainable Development Goals, and oversight and inspection and the recommendations of the universal periodic review.

Within the framework of the Center's mandate to monitor, receive and follow up on complaints and to put an end to violations, the Center received in 2022 (3) complaints concerning the right to a healthy environment

In 2022 the Jordanian government passed several environmental legislations, the most important of which were:

- .1 Non-hazardous Solid Waste Management System for 2022.²⁰¹
- .2 Instructions for the Application of the National Mechanism for the Extended Producer Liability Principle to Address the Negative Effects Resulting from Packaging and Packaging Material Wastes for the Year 2022.²⁰²

- .3. Climate-responsive Public and Private Capital Expenditure and Financing Instructions for the Year 2022,²⁰³

The year 2022 also witnessed many important governmental practices, including:²⁰⁴

- The National Waste Management Plan 2022-2026 is approved by the Council of Ministers and officially launched
- Approval of the update of the National Climate Change Policy (2022-2050)
- Review of (59) Environmental impact assessment studies of high and medium risk development projects, and (35) consultative meetings were held.
- Reception and disposal of hazardous wastes in an estimated quantity of 3000 m3 of different hazardous wastes and a number of transactions (421).
- Establishment of several e-waste collection sites in collaboration with the Ministry of Local Administration and the Amman Secretariat, with funding from UNDP.
- Distribution of containers for the collection of electronic and electrical waste.
- Installation of 42 tracking devices for vehicles transporting medical wastes and hazardous wastes.
- Grant a site license for collecting waste oils and a site for processing and refining used mineral oils.
- Granting of transport permits for 14 medical waste vehicles, 7 hazardous waste and 5 consumed mineral oil.

²⁰⁰ The most important of these conventions is the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, 1992; United Nations Convention on Climate Change, 1993; Convention on the Conservation of Biological Diversity, 1994; United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, 1996; Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, 1982; World Charter for Nature, 1982; Nairobi Declaration, 1992; Rio Declaration, 1992

²⁰¹ Published on page 5975 of the Official Gazette No 5810 Date 2022/08/16.

²⁰² Published on page 6003 Official Gazette No 5810 Date 2022/08/16.

²⁰³ Published on page 86 of the Official Gazette No 5765 Date 2022/1/1.

²⁰⁴ Figures and statistics collected from the Ministry of Environment / Mr. Mohamed Agha - Liaison Officer of the National Center in an interview dated 26/2/2023

- Afforestation of a total of 3,000 dunums in Ajloun, Tafilah, and Karak, and the number of total trees (100,000-150,000), implemented in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture.
- Cultivation of a total of 100,000-120,000 forest trees in the Roots Project (High Royal Initiatives) and the sustainability of a total of 700,000 trees, implemented by the Al-Haq Foundation.
- Purchase and distribution of 2,750 suspended waste bins and 1,350 240-liter plastic containers for public spaces, parks, forests and residential neighborhoods in the governorates of the Kingdom.
- Approval of registration of 19 environmental associations.
- Launch of the School Competition (Our Forest and Lungs) for the 2022/2023 school year.

Desertification:

The World Environmental Performance Report (EPI) 2022 showed that Jordan dropped to 81st place in the rankings of countries around the world, falling by 33 places; Jordan ranked 49th globally in health impacts and environmental hazards, 46th in air quality, 62nd in waste water treatment, 76th in climate change and 155th in biodiversity as compared to the 2020 report. Jordan maintained a low ranking of agriculture index at the 139th place.²⁰⁵ The problem in Jordan lies in biodiversity, and Jordan signed the 1969 International Convention to Combat Desertification.

About 81% of the total area and about 16% of the area threatened by desertification is deserted in Jordan, which requires the development of plans suitable for different areas affected by desertification, especially those with rainfall less than 200 mm).²⁰⁶

Fires and their impact on the environment

The year 2022 saw a marked increase in the number of fires affecting dry grass, fruit trees and agricultural crops in most regions of the Kingdom. The number of fires in 2022 was 67. The areas of forests that were subjected to the fires in 2022 amounted to 6,200 dunums, while the number of trees burned in 2022 was 3,380 as shown in table 1.

Table 1 shows the number of fires and their data

	2019	2020	2021	2022
Number of fires	78	198	67	67
Burnt lands area	5012	7716	5954	6,200
Burnt trees	2135	790	2087	3380

This is in addition to overgrazing and assaulting trees for sale and trade, and perhaps the most important reasons that lead to fires are cigarette butts, fires for the purposes of insulation, lack of awareness, and negligence on the part of citizens who set fires inside summer centers.

²⁰⁵ Jordanian Ministry of Environment website, 23/6/2022. Available on the following link www.moenv.gov.jo/:http

²⁰⁶ Jordanian Ministry of Environment website, 8/6/2022. Available on the following link www.moenv.gov.jo/:http

The National Center believes it is necessary to intensify volunteer and awareness campaigns to curb this phenomenon and reduce fires during the summer season by reinforcing control over summer sites and raising awareness about the dangers of setting fires inside forests. It is also necessary to increase efforts to remove weeds from streets and public squares, to prevent fires and protect plant and forest resources.

Waste management and administration

There are currently 22 waste dumps in Jordan, including a hazardous waste dump in the Swaqa region, and although there have been improvements in solid waste collection, waste management still lacks proper environmental procedures. The Kingdom produces about 2.7 million tons of solid waste per year and 85,000 tons of hazardous industrial waste, a large part of which is recycled (mineral oil, used lead acid batteries, etc.), transported to the hazardous waste treatment center/market (4,000 tons per year), generating the equivalent of 3,650 tons of medical waste, and constituting about 62% of total organic waste and 16% of recyclable plastic packaging.²⁰⁷

On the other hand, the Ministry of Local Administration is working in coordination with the Ministry of the Environment to develop an integrated strategy for solid waste management in the Kingdom, which includes a set of plans and programs, including the national plan for waste management, which includes a set of activities in the field of waste management of all types. It is also concerned with establishing programs to reduce the arbitrary dumping of waste, putting in place the necessary legislation to implement them, in addition to proposals for projects for recycling and sorting from the source in accordance with the waste management structure and putting a plan for awareness raising in this field.

Monitoring and inspection:

The regulatory bodies represented by the Ministry of the Environment, the Royal Department for Environmental Protection, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Agriculture, the General Food and Drug Administration, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, the Greater Amman Municipality, the Aqaba Special Regional Authority, the Natural Resources Authority, the Water Authority and the National Environmental Movement monitor the environmental situation in the Kingdom by applying environmental protection laws, regulations and instructions to institutions whose activities may affect the environment. Among the most important means of control is the following:

.1 Licenses

The year 2022 saw the Commission for the Granting of Environmental Approvals approving (1,844) transactions that met the provisions of the Environmental Classification and Licensing System No. 69 of 2020 and amended it. The percentage of approvals was 81%, compared to 1,909 in 2021. In contrast, the Commission rejected 342 applications for licensing industrial, agricultural, artisanal and warehouses projects, compared to 262 applications for licensing industrial, agricultural and artisanal projects in 2021 for violating the environmental requirements for the licensing of investment projects as shown in the table below:²⁰⁸

Table 2 shows environmental licenses and their numbers

Result of licence applications per year	2019	2020	2021	2022
approval	2025	1500	1909	1844
Rejection	471	293	262	342
Total	2496	1793	2171	2186

²⁰⁷ Statistics of the Ministry of Environment of Jordan/Mr. Mohammad Al-Agha/Focal point of the National Center for Human Rights, date 12/6/2023.

²⁰⁸ Jordanian Ministry of Environment Report 2022, available at the following link: www.moenv.gov.jo/:http

b. Environmental violations:

In 2022, 3,800 environmental violations were identified, and fixed checkpoints were set up at the five entrances of the caves to prevent the entry of untreated organic fertilizers (garbage), and about 11,234 tons of fertilizer and 775 vehicles loaded with untreated organic fertilizers were seized, which were referred to the Attorney General, and 5.5 tons of plastic bags were seized in violation of the regulations of plastic shopping bags No. 45 of 2017 and its amendments²⁰⁹ as shown in table 3 below:

Table 3 shows the number of irregularities				
Year	2022	2021	2020	2019
Number of				
Infractions	3800	6800	1050	1400

c. Complaints and closures:

The year 2022 witnessed the uncovering of 807 development facilities in the Kingdom, dealing with 158 environmental complaints, closure and suspension of work (in 54 of them),²¹⁰ as shown in Table No. 4/

Table 4 shows the number of complaints and closures				
Action	2022	2021	2020	2019
Complaints	158	205	428	623
Closing	54	54	59	112

D. Trial cases:

The year 2022 saw the transfer of 447 facilities violating the provisions of the Environmental Protection Law No. 6 of 2017 to the Public Prosecutor for legal action, and the transfer thereof to the competent courts compared to transferring 108 facilities in

2021,²¹¹ as shown in table 5:

Table 5 shows the number of cases				
Procedure	2019	2020	2021	2022
Cases	296	134	182	447

e. Electronic tracking of tanks:

The year 2022 saw the implementation of an electronic tracking system for vehicles transporting waste water, mineral oil and hazardous waste through:

- Installation of tracking devices on waste water transport tanks. In 2022, approximately 643 tankers were installed and tracked on the system.
- Training of Environmental Directorate employees in the governorates and environmental police cadre in the use of the system and how to control irregularities in coordination with the Ministry of Transport²¹² as shown in the table below:

Table 6				
Year	2019	2020	2021	2022
Number	540	593	641	643

Universal periodic review:

Among the recommendations made during the interactive dialogue supported by Jordan, recommendation No. 135-47, was strengthening efforts to adopt policies and programs related to climate change and environmental protection. To this end, the Ministry of Environment of Jordan worked on:

²⁰⁹ Statistics of the Ministry of the Environment of Jordan, Mr. Mohammad Al-Agha, Liaison Officer of the National Center for Human Rights, 2023/6/12

²¹⁰ Report of the Ministry of Environment of Jordan for 2022, available at www.moenv.gov.jo/:http

²¹¹ Report of the Ministry of Environment of Jordan for 2022, available at www.moenv.gov.jo/:http

²¹² Statistics of the Ministry of the Environment of Jordan, Mr. Mohammad Al-Agha, Liaison Officer of the National Center for Human Rights, 2023/6/12

- Approving the update of the National Climate Change Policy (2022-2025)
- Preparing the Climate and Development Report (CCDR.) in collaboration with the World Bank and the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation.
- Reviewing 59 environmental impact assessment studies for high and medium risk development projects.
- Follow-up to the implementation of the National Green Growth Plan (2021-2025)

The National Center for Human Rights (NCHR) appreciates the efforts of the Ministry of the Environment in this area and urges proceeding with them in fear of exacerbating climate change problems and harming the Jordanian environment, while the Government and the Ministry of the Environment must be committed to inspection, awareness raising and/or training in matters related to climate change and environmental protection.

Recommendations:

In light of the foregoing, the National Center confirms the recommendations contained in its previous reports and recommends that a number of measures be taken to protect the right to a healthy environment, including:

1. The establishment of central plants for the treatment of industrial and natural wastewater in all regions of the Kingdom.
2. The need to intensify volunteer and awareness campaigns to curb the phenomenon of forest and tree fires, especially in the summer season, by intensifying control over summer sites and raising awareness about the dangers of setting fires inside forests. It is also necessary to intensify efforts to remove weeds from streets and public squares, in order to prevent fires and protect plant and forest resources.
3. Ongoing coordination among policymakers in sectors that directly and indirectly affect the environment.



Rights of those most in need of protection

(women, children, persons with disabilities, older persons)

Women's rights

A human right guaranteed by general and specific international charters, and guaranteed by the Jordanian Constitution and relevant national legislation, with the aim of achieving gender equality in all aspects of life.

The normative content of the right is based on the provision of legislative and non-legislative safeguards guaranteeing protection and the promotion of women's rights in policy and practice approaches and appropriate measures in various fields of civil, political, economic, social and cultural life.

As part of the Center's mandate to monitor, receive and follow up on complaints and to end violations, the Center did not receive complaints on women's rights in 2022.

In general, in 2022, the Center monitored legislative developments regulating women's rights, such as the Law on Elections to the House of Representatives, the Law on Political Parties, the Law amending the Penal Code and others, and the policies adopted to support women's rights and participation in public life. It also addressed the monitoring of women's participation in the elections of provincial councils, municipal councils, Amman Municipality, chambers of commerce and industry, trade union elections, and issues of violence against women and early marriage. This section will show the Center's position from these issues.

It should be noted that monitoring the contents of the report aimed to follow up on the extent to which the State has fulfilled its obligations in implementing the recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the recommendations of the Committee on the Arab Charter on Human Rights and the recommendations of the Center contained in its annual reports.

As for legislative developments, 2022 saw constitutional amendments, changing the title of Chapter II of the Constitution to "Rights and Duties of Jordanians (male and female)", adding a new paragraph to Article VI to read: "The State shall ensure the empowerment of women and support them to play an active role in building society in order to ensure equal opportunities on the basis of justice and equity and to protect them from all forms of violence and discrimination."²¹³

The year 2022 also saw the passage and implementation of some amendments to national legislation related to women's rights, including:

Election Law of the House of Representatives No. (4) of 2022²¹⁴

The Center appreciates the government's response to its recommendation, contained in its annual reports, to increase the number of seats for women in the House of Representatives.²¹⁵ This law increased the number of seats for women to 18 in Article 8 at the level of

²¹³ Official Gazette No. 5770, page 1139, 2022/1/31

²¹⁴ Official Gazette No. 5782, page 2865, 2022/04/07.

²¹⁵ Annual reports on the human rights situation in Jordan for the years 2016-2021 For more information, please consult the website of www.nchr.org.jo

the 18 local electoral districts as a minimum threshold, because the division has become at the level of the electoral district, not the governorate, in addition to one general electoral district at the level of the Kingdom. The law obligates party lists, when formed, with at least one woman among the first three candidates and one woman among the next three. A young man or woman under the age of 35 years should be among the first five candidates.

Article 57 (b) of the Constitution stipulates that when a seat allocated to women is vacated at the local district level, it is filled by the female candidate who comes next in terms of the number of votes in the same category.

The Center considers that the law enhances women's political participation by increasing the number of seats allocated to women and is in line with Article 4 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. The law also opens the door for women at the level of the open list to choose between the quota and competition. The law obligates party lists, when formed, with at least one woman among the first three candidates and one of the following three candidates, at the level of the general list, which ensures the presence of additional seats for women.

Political Parties Act No. 7 of 2022²¹⁶

The Center appreciates the passing of the Political Parties Law, which contributes to the empowerment and support of women in political parties. The law stipulates that founders hold a constituent party conference with at least 1,000 founding members upon holding the constituent conference

and that the percentage of women should not be less than 20% of the number of founding members. The law requires the party to guarantee the right of its members from both the women and youth categories to assume leadership positions. The party must empower women to benefit from the party's resources, which are available in a fair and equal manner, especially during the electoral campaigns.²¹⁷

.3 Law amending the Penal Code

The law amending the Penal Code was published in the Official Gazette.²¹⁸ The Center evaluates the violations that have taken place and on the other hand records its observations according to the following: The revocation of personal rights in cases against women is not considered a mitigating cause of punishment if the perpetrator and the victim are from the same family. The Center does not have a concept of sexual harassment in the law.

Law amending the Implementation Law No. 9 of 2022.²¹⁹

The Center appreciates the enactment of the law limiting the debtor's imprisonment, prohibiting the imprisonment of both spouses, or if the husband of the debtor is dead or is in a correction and rehabilitation center, if they have a son under the age of 15 or is a disabled person." The aim of this law is to maintain family ties and care.

At the policy level, 2022 witnessed the decision of the Council of Ministers in December 2021 to approve the National Strategy for the Empowerment of Women as part of the Economic Modernization Vision, which was prepared by the Ministerial Committee for the Empowerment of Women in partnership with national institutions and relevant bodies with the aim of promoting the participation of women in the labor market and increasing their participation in economic

²¹⁶ Official Gazette No. 5784 Page 2930 Date 14/4/2022

²¹⁷ The percentage proposed in the National Strategy for Women in Jordan (2020-2025) is (30%)

²¹⁸ Official Gazette 5796 Date 2022/5/25 Page 3591

²¹⁹ Official Gazette No. 5796 Page 3583 Date of 2022 / 5 / 25 PM

decision-making and mainstreaming gender issues in public and private sector work, providing more than 280,000 job opportunities for females in the next decade within the one million job opportunities that the vision of economic modernization seeks to provide, with 28,000 yearly opportunities for young women. The strategy also included the implementation of initiatives such as: the Women's Online Store initiative, including access to the application and store design, linking with electronic payment methods and delivery applications, with the possibility of adding marketing in specific places inside or outside Jordan, and the initiative for transforming public women from the unregulated sector.

The year 2022 also saw the Cabinet's decision of 2022/12/27 approving the Executive Program for the Vision of Economic Modernization 2023 (2023-2025).²²⁰ The Program for the Empowerment of Women included the implementation of the Strategy for the Empowerment of Women in the Vision of Economic Modernization, the review of the legislative environment for the economic empowerment of women, the preparation and implementation of a plan of action to improve Jordan's rank in the Global Gender Gap Index, the implementation of the Action Plan on Improving Jordan's Status in Women's Report, Business Activities and Law, and the development of a national Index to monitor women's economic participation.²²¹ The IRC welcomes the Center's strategic and the Strategy to support the Strategy and the Executive Program for the Rights of Program.

The Center appreciates the establishment of the Al Bayt University Master's program in women's studies, which includes enhancing the role of women in the social, political and economic fields, and the need to

develop an academic field specialized in women's studies and preparing specialized researchers as this contributed to anchoring awareness of women's issues and needs and empowerment and reinforce women's pivotal and developmental role in society. The center emphasizes the need to create a Master's program in Women Studies at Jordanian universities in the South Region.²²²

The year 2022 saw the percentage of women in the Senate rise to 10,²²³ at a percentage of %15.3 from %10.8 in 2020, the percentage of female judges appointed in 2022 rose to 28.1%²²⁴ while the number of female judges reached 266 in 2021 at a rate of 27.8% of the total number of female judges (984) **as shown in the following table:**

Year	Number		Total
	Female judges	Number of judges	
2021	266	688	954
2022	280	716	996

On the other hand, a woman was appointed as the first female chairperson of the board of trustees of the National Center for Human Rights,²²⁵ the first woman as chairperson of the board of trustees of Yarmouk University, the number of women on the board of trustees of government universities was 17 in 2022, and three women were presidents of universities. We would also like to point out that the number of women appointed in civil service departments in 2022 was 869, at a rate of 35.6% the majority of whom work in education and health sectors, while the number of males was 1576²²⁶ (64.4%) while in 2021, the number of women appointed to the civil service in 2021 was 3599 (66.6%) most of whom work in health and education sectors while men numbered 1778 (33.3%).²²⁷

²²⁰ Official website of the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, see NewsDetails/AR/mop.gov

²²¹ Official website of the Prime Ministry, for more information see Ar/Default/www.pm.gov.jo/:https

²²² Book published by the Center No. E9-8/86/2022/24

²²³ Official Gazette No. 5822 (2022/11/1)

²²⁴ The official website of the Jordanian Judicial Council is kda-alslh-almaaynon-/details/blog/ar/www.jc.jo hditha

²²⁵ Published in Official Gazette No. 5821 on 2022/16

²²⁶ The statistics of the competitive examination for the first and second categories for 2022 published on the website of the Civil Service Bureau index.php?lang=a/web/csb.gov.jo/:https

²²⁷ The statistics of the competitive examination for the first and second categories for the year 2021 published on the website of the Civil Service Bureau index.php?lang=a/web/csb.gov.jo/:https

It is also worth noting that the Central Bank is working on increasing the participation rate of women in the boards of directors, both at the Central Bank itself and in Jordanian banks, by circulating to the banking sector the percentage of female representation in the boards of directors of banks to 20%, and in senior management to 25%, by 2024.

- The Center has monitored the extent of the Government's commitment to the implementation of the universal periodic review recommendations addressed to the Kingdom in 2018 on women's rights, and, in this regard, calls on the Center to continue national efforts to implement the recommendations accepted by Jordan.

The year 2022 saw the participation of women in several elections, including:

Governorate council, municipal, and Greater Amman Municipality elections.

The National Center monitored the participation of women in the provincial and municipal council elections held in 22/3/2022. In this regard, it notes the following:

- The voter turnout rate decreased to 14.08% for the elections, while the percentage of male voters reached 15.56% of the polling rate (%29.64), despite the fact that the number of eligible voters is 4,599,602 citizens, including 2,436,343 females and ,2163,259 males.
- The number of women candidates in the 2022 elections to the Independent Electoral Commission decreased, with 867 applications from females and 3,953 from the total number of applications (4,820). Male participation was (82.02%) and female participation was (17.98%). The number of applications for candidacy for the chairmanship of municipal councils (572) was all male, while no female candidate for the chairmanship of a municipality was female. As shown in the table below.²²⁸

Seat	Number of seats		Number of requests for Candidacy		Number of withdrawals and rejected requests		Number of candidates / Final	
	competition	quota	Male	female	Male	female	Male	female
President of Municipal Council	100	0	572	0	51	0	519	0
Membership of municipal councils	718	200	2396	692	54	11	2328	677
Membership of governorate Councils	230	59	890	158	19	6	865	151
Membership of the Amman Board of Trustees	22	6	94	17	4	0	89	17

The number of applications for candidacy to municipal councils was 3,089 (2,396 males, 693 females) and 111 applications for the board of trustees of Amman (94 males and 17 females) compared with the 2017 electoral statistics, the number of candidates for municipal office was 616 with 6 women. This indicates that women have completely withdrawn from competing for the office of president.

34 partisan female candidates participated in the municipal and provincial council elections out of 128 candidates from 25 parties as shown in the table below.²²⁹

- Women's participation in electoral committees in electoral districts is still modest at 17% and that of men at 83%, underscoring the need for women's adequate participation in election committees.
- Party women won 7 seats in the 14 municipal councils, while party women won 6 seats out of 11 in the provincial councils, and party women did not win any seats in the councils of the Amman's board of trustees, as shown in the table below.²³⁰

Seat	Number Parties	Number seats		Total Seats
		Male	Female	
Presidency of Municipal Councils	3	15	0	15
Membership of Municipal Councils Governorate council membership	14	7	7	14
Membership of Amman board of trustees	5	5	6	11

- The number of winners of municipal councils totaled 1,018, of which 48 women won their seats through competition, while 200 women won their seats through the quota. The number of winners of governorate councils at the level of the Kingdom's districts was 296, including 7 women who won through competition at a rate of 3% of the total number of seats allocated for competition, while 59 women won through the quota.
- The number of women who won the quota seats was 265 and 55 women won through competition.
- 359 women won by competition (5.0% of the total number of seats allocated for competition throughout the Kingdom).

In this regard, the Center emphasizes the need for government, national and civil society organizations to work together to raise the participation rate of women in provincial and municipal councils and Greater Amman Municipality.

²²⁹ Official website of the Independent Electoral Commission, see file/default/sites/www.iec.jo/:https

²³⁰ The official website of the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC), see file/default/sites/www.iec.jo/:https

2. Elections for chambers of commerce and industry and representatives of the commercial and industrial sectors

The Center monitored the participation of women in elections to chambers of commerce and industry and representatives of the commercial and industrial sectors and found that:

- Elections for the Chamber of Commerce and representatives of the commercial sectors: Women's non-representation in boards of directors (16 chambers of commerce) as well as the low turnout of women candidates, which took place at the end of 2022.²³¹

Syndicate	Number of women members		participating in Syndicate Council
	Syndicate Council	Total number	
Doctors Syndicate	1	12	%0.08
Engineers Syndicate	-	12	%0.0
Bar Association	-	11	%0.0
Jordan Geologists Association	-	9	%0.0
Union of Agricultural Engineers	1	9	%11.1

- The Chamber of Industry and representatives of the industrial sectors: The victory of two women in the boards of directors of the chambers of industry,²³³ the non-representation of any woman in the industrial sectors which took place at the end of 2022, as well as the weak participation of women in running.²³⁴

The National Center calls on governmental and non-governmental entities to place quotas on the boards of the chambers of commerce and industry, and to create a women-friendly working environment, not only for entering the labor market, but also for entrepreneurship and access to senior administrative positions in various sectors.

3. Professional union elections

The Center monitored the participation of women in trade union elections and found that, during the period 2022-2025,²³² women were less represented in the Board of the Medical Association and the Agronomists' Association, and there was no representation of women on the Boards of Union Membership (engineers, lawyers, geologists)

It is worth noting that the center issued a statement on the occasion of International Women's Day in which it called for amending the laws of labor and professional unions to explicitly provide for the allocation of special seats for women in these councils, enhancing women's participation in parties, raising the rate of women's participation in the Judicial Council and in academic bodies. It also called for the importance of launching media plans in support of women's rights through the adoption of policies aimed at raising the level of community awareness of the importance of women's participation in public life, reaching leadership positions, and strengthening their presence as an essential partner in the decision-making process.

²³¹ Official website of the Independent Electoral Commission [ar/www.iec.jo/](https://www.iec.jo/):https

²³² The representation of women in the previous House is two women (22%)

²³³ Woman Board Member, Oman Chamber of Industry, Woman Member Board of Directors of the Blue Industry Chamber

²³⁴ On the official website of the Independent Electoral Commission, see the link [ar/www.iec.jo/](https://www.iec.jo/):https

On the other hand, the Development NGO Network provided a shadow report on the National Voluntary Report on SDGs in which it highlighted the achievements of Jordan and its challenges in implementing the 2030 SDGs. Concerning the fifth goal, it referred a significant drop in health and survival indicator, a fall in women empowerment, non-lifting of Jordan’s reservations on the Convention to remove all forms of discrimination against women and the existence of discriminatory legislations against women. The report includes a detailed table highlighting Jordan’s classification in the field of gender equality.²³⁵

The National Center participated in the elaboration of the Second voluntary national review of the SDGs provided by Jordan in which it tries to review measures taken to achieve the Sustainable Development Agenda for 2030 and evaluate it. The report addressed the assessment of the Seventeenth Sustainable Development Goals after taking into account the focus of the high level political forum on specific goals including the fifth goal on gender equality. Among the most important measures addressed by the report undertaken by Jordan to achieve the fifth goal is the formation of a permanent ministerial committee at the Prime Minister’s office to standardize gender , which is the first government plan to integrate gender in ministries and official institutions, the Climate and Gender budget was also monitored, Jordan also continued efforts to build capacities for gender-responsive budgets and started monitoring funding within the national strategy for women in Jordan (2020-2025), twinning the women strategy in the Executive Government Advisory Program (2021-2024) which represents the government working plan, in addition to putting a national list of indicators of gender-related SDGs including 67 indicators.²³⁶

Subindex	Result	Rank out of 156
Economic participation and opportunities	0.538, up from 0.408 in 2019	133 up from 145 in 2019
Education	0.991 (same value of 2019)	(84 declines from 81 in 2019)
Health and survival	0.975 dropped from 0.971 in 2019	(145 decrease from 103 in 2019°)
Political empowerment	0.066)down approximately 50% of 0.121 in 2019	144 drops from 113 in 2019

²³⁵ United Nations website in Jordan, see ar/jordan.un.org/:https

²³⁶ Official website of the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, see [Root_Stor-/EBV4.0/www.mop.gov.jo/](https://www.mop.gov.jo/):https Jordan-VNR-Ar-dig.pdf/EB_HomePage/AR/age

The National Center appreciates the addition of a text in the Investment Environment Law No. 21 of 2022 that includes the addition of a woman to the Investment Council. It also appreciates the decision of the Board of Directors of the Amman Chamber of Commerce to form a Businesswomen's Committee, with the aim of focusing on the women sector, contributing to its development, supporting and strengthening the business sector,

enabling them to compete in local and foreign markets and market their products, supporting businesswomen in leadership fields and enhancing their participation in the Chamber elections.²³⁷

²³⁷ The official website of the Amman Chamber of Commerce, see the link <https://www.ammanchamber.org.jo>

Violence against women:

The Center appreciates the Government's response to the recommendation contained in the annual reports regarding the establishment of the Family Reconciliation House in the Aqaba Governorate/Southern Province, a social protection house established under the provisions of Article 3(b) of the Family Protection House Regulation No. 48 of 2004 on 01/03/2022. The House began receiving cases on 11/4/2022. The field monitoring of the House²³⁸ indicated that the services provided at the House for beneficiaries are up to the required levels, but it still needs a special training hall to enable beneficiaries to receive training. The Center also noted that there is no playground for children who have lost their residency in the home, where they live.²³⁹ The Ministry of Development confirmed, in accordance with a letter sent to the Center,²⁴⁰ that female employees in the House will be enrolled in training courses to deal with cases according to the methodology of case management. The possibility of providing funding for the expansion of the House will be explored, allowing female employees to receive training in it, offer economic empowerment programs, and provide safe play areas for children.

On the other hand, the National Center issued a statement on the occasion of the International Day for the Reduction of Violence against Women, calling for a comprehensive review of the legislative system to ensure greater protection, working to raise societal awareness about the nature of violence and its protection mechanisms, strengthening the system for responding to cases of violence by all relevant sectors, in addition to working to economically empower women and providing psychological and social support to women who have been subjected to violence.²⁴¹

²³⁸ Field monitoring took place in the month of 2022/12

²³⁹ The Ministry of Social Development was addressed by the National Center under Book No. E18/129/2023/3/12

²⁴⁰ Incoming Letter Number of the Center No. 03/07/07/2023/05/31

²⁴¹ The website of the National Center for Human Rights, see the link [ar/www.nchr.org.jo//https](http://www.nchr.org.jo/)

²⁴² Mentioned in the annual reports on the human rights situation in Jordan from 2003 to 2020, a partial implementation of the recommendation through raising the quota for women in the House of Representatives, and

Recommendations:

In order to promote and protect the rights of women, the Center recommends that a number of legal and practical measures, as already mentioned in previous reports, be taken in addition to the following recommendations:

1. Amend Article (11/A/4) of the Political Parties Law No. (7) of 2022 to increase the percentage of women's representation at the time of establishment.
2. Amend the Institutional Nursery Alternatives Directive 2023 to list cases that allow cash payment to be used instead of creating a nursery at the institution's site.
3. Promote women's participation in political parties through awareness programs on the importance of women's participation in political parties.
4. Develop a national plan to increase women's participation in the management of public affairs by raising the quota for women in the House of Representatives, increasing their representation in the senior leadership positions in the State, and consider the possibility of amending the labor and professional union laws to explicitly provide for the establishment of special seats for women in trade union councils.²⁴²
5. Appointment of female judges in the Sharia Judiciary and a female official, and appointment of female employees in the Sharia Courts and the General Fatwa Department.²⁴³

the Center hopes that the government raises women seats at the House of Representatives and increases the rate of women participation in leadership roles and amend union laws by adding quotas for women in union councils and as per CEDAW's recommendations to Jordan during its discussion of the Convention's national 7 reports.

²⁴³ The recommendation was contained in the annual reports on the human rights situation in Jordan from 2003 to 2020, as recommended

.6 Support women's economic and social empowerment and job creation and skills development commensurate with the market's manual needs especially in remote areas.

.7 Build the capacity of civil society institutions and activate the role of the media for the empowerment of women in communities

.8 Provide job opportunities for women and develop their skills in proportion to their needs in the labor market in remote areas.²⁴⁴

²⁴⁴ Included in the recommendations of the report for 2014-2020, and also concurs with the recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against All forms of discrimination against women in Jordan

Children's rights

A human right guaranteed by international conventions, such as the Convention on the Rights of the Child, ratified by Jordan²⁴⁵ and published in the Official Gazette in 2006. The Jordanian Constitution guarantees this right in article 6 of the Convention,²⁴⁶ and relevant national laws, the most important of which is the Child Rights Act of 2022.²⁴⁷

The normative content of this right is based on the principle that the best interests of the child and non-discrimination must be the paramount consideration, so that all children have the right to equal opportunities to ensure their access to basic services such as education, health and others, regardless of gender, race, religion or disability.

In general, this topic is a follow-up to the legislative developments regulating this right, such as the promulgation of the Children's Rights Act and monitoring of the instructions governing children's rights, in particular the right to education, such as the instructions on criteria and indicators to ensure the quality and classification of public, private and foreign educational institutions and kindergartens, No. 4 of 2022. It also addresses the most important policies aimed at strengthening the protection of children's rights. This section also includes the statement of the position of the Center, the monitoring visits it has carried out and the most important findings and recommendations it has reached in addition to the situation of children in conflict with the law victims of violence in educational and rehabilitation juvenile centers

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²⁴⁵ Jordan continues to maintain its reservation to article 14 (a) of the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the right of the child to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, and articles 20 and 21 on the adoption system.

²⁴⁶ Article 6, paragraph 5, of the Constitution, provides in accordance with the amendment published in Official Gazette No. 5770 (2022/1/31): "The law protects the rights of persons with disabilities and enhances their participation and integration in various spheres of life. It also protects motherhood, childhood and old age, takes

and in protection homes of the Ministry of Social Development, in addition to following up on complaints,

The Center received information on working children, the situation of children in nurseries, the right of children to play and early marriage.

As part of the Center's mandate to monitor, receive and follow up on complaints and to put an end to violations, the Center received 21 complaints concerning children's rights in 2022.

With regard to legislative developments, 2022 saw the adoption of the Child Rights Act No. 17 of 2022. In this regard, the Center appreciates the Government's response to its recommendations contained in its previous annual reports on the need to speed up the adoption of the Child Rights Act, which is a positive step in the fulfillment of international obligations, particularly since the law contained clear legal texts establishing the principles and international obligations contained in the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The Act also contained many provisions that hold the State's responsibilities towards the care and protection of children, specifically in the fields of health and education, such as the strengthening of health services, including children who do not believe in primary health care services, and free treatment for them in all emergency departments in private and government hospitals,²⁴⁸ and child centers, and the establishment of specialized centers for children rehabilitation in cases of addiction²⁴⁹ and the promotion of the of the Act Social welfare for children,²⁵⁰ in addition to strengthening educational services, increasing the stages of compulsory education, including kindergartens, taking the necessary measures to prevent school dropouts, preserving the dignity of the child, prohibiting all forms of violence in educational institutions, including physical or degrading punishment and bullying,²⁵¹ in addition to protecting children and ensuring their safety on roads and in vehicles by providing a safe traffic environment.²⁵²

care of young people and prevents abuse and exploitation."

²⁴⁷ The Children's Rights Law No. (17) of 2022, published in the Official Gazette No. (5820) of 2022/10/12, was promulgated.

²⁴⁸ Article 10 of the Children's Rights Act provides for this.

²⁴⁹ Article 11 (c) of the Children's Rights Act.

²⁵⁰ Article 12 (a) of the Child Rights Act.

²⁵¹ Article 17 (a) (1) of the Law on the Rights of the Child.

²⁵² Article (19) of the Law on the Rights of the Child.

The Act also prohibits the child from being subjected to violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation, including economic exploitation, forced labor or begging.²⁵³ The Act also provides for the right of the child to obtain legal assistance, including access to legal advice and representation before security centers, prosecution services, courts and enforcement courts.²⁵⁴ The Act did not disregard the rights of children with disabilities, in particular in education, their integration into educational institutions, the provision of facilitation arrangements and the guarantee of accessibility. The Center considers it necessary to expedite the promulgation of regulations and instructions governing the Law on the Rights of the Child, and to work on the dissemination of awareness-raising programs on the law, especially in educational institutions.

The year 2022 also saw the issuance of Instructions on Standards and Indicators to Ensure the Quality and Classification of Public, Private and Foreign Educational Institutions and Kindergartens No. 4 of 2022²⁵⁵ issued under the provisions of Articles 4 (b) and 9 of the Educational Quality and Accountability System of the Ministry of Education No. 7 of 2016, as a national strategy aimed at improving the quality of education and its outputs in Jordan. It also ensured the provision of high-quality education, as well as the protection of the rights of private educational institutions and the achievement of justice and equality in the evaluation of educational institutions in their accreditation and classification.

At the policy level, 2022 saw the adoption of the National Strategy for Reducing Child Labor (2022-2030), which replaced the 2006 National Strategy for Combating Child Labor

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as the new strategy keeps pace with the amendments to national legislation governing children's rights, in particular the Juvenile Law No. 32 of 2014 and the update of national statistics on child labor²⁵⁶. The strategy also represents a national plan of action aimed at reducing child labor through the combined efforts of official and non-official stakeholders and strengthening the role of society, the family and employers in abiding by the provisions of the relevant legislation safeguarding children's rights, especially the right to education and taking the necessary measures to reduce the drop-out of children from school. The strategy also represents the importance of activating social protection programs to end child labor as a means of raising awareness about the negative effects of child labor, and strengthening the role of society, the family and employers in protecting children's rights. The Ministry of Labor issued the Executive Action Plan for 2022 for the National Strategy for Reducing Child Labor, which aims to create a society free from child labor exploitation and to end the worst forms of child labor (2022-2030).²⁵⁷

The National Center for Human Rights issued a statement on World Child Rights Day 2022/11/20 on the need to develop mechanisms to ensure the application of the provisions of the Child Rights Act and the implementation of the protection of children against abuse and exploitation through the implementation of the follow-up frameworks, and to provide children with disabilities with the necessary care and attention with regard to their integration in education and various aspects of social and recreational life on an equal footing.

²⁵³ Article 21 of the Law on the Rights of the Child

²⁵⁴ Article (24) of the Child Rights Act.

²⁵⁵ Published in the Official Gazette No. (5817), Date 2/10/2022

²⁵⁶ No updated statistics are available on the number of working children in Jordan's last national survey is for 2016

²⁵⁷ Published on the website of the Ministry of Labor mol.gov.jo

Children's right to safe play:

The National Center monitored eight public parks and playgrounds in the capital Amman,²⁵⁸ and recorded the following observations:

- .1 Most of the public parks that have been monitored do not serve various age groups, and they lack walking paths, safe spaces, and adequate physical exercise tools.
- .2 Children with disabilities have no dedicated toys and sanitation facilities in all monitored parks.
3. There is a discrepancy in the level of cleanliness of public parks in the Amman Municipality.
- .4 Lack of attention and periodic maintenance in most gardens. Some of the damaged games found in the gardens are dangerous and harm the safety of children. It was also noted that there is broken glass in the sand where children play. In addition, there is a lack of hygiene and a lack of adequate toilets in most of the gardens that were monitored.

Early marriage:

The Center recorded a decrease in marriage contracts for those under the age of 18 in 2022 compared to 2021.²⁵⁹ The total number of marriages registered in the Sharia Courts for couples in the age group was less than 18.143 cases during 2022, as compared to 2021, in which 241 marriages were registered. The cases of marriages for registered wives under 18 reached 5824 in 2022 compared to 2021 where cases of marriage reached 8037.²⁶⁰

The Judge's Department states that it deals with marriages of persons under 18 years of age in the narrowest range. Evidence of this is that the percentage of marriages between persons under 16 years of age and under 18 years of age in the Sharia Courts has decreased, as marriage per the Judge's Department is conducted under special instructions and procedures and in-depth studies of the situation based on the Personal Status Law.²⁶¹

The Center reiterates its recommendations contained in its previous reports²⁶² that article (b) of the Personal Status Law of 2019, on the granting of marriage to persons under 18 years of age, should be abolished on the condition that several conditions are met.

It should be noted that the Personal Status Act No. 15 of 2019 stipulates the importance and obligation of education through specific legal articles, such as article 190, which stipulates that a wealthy father must pay for his father's education at all educational levels, including the pre-school year before the first basic grade, and that the child must obtain the first university degree on the condition that the child is qualified to learn.²⁶³

The Department of the Judge also confirmed that the Sharia Public Prosecution played a major role in following up minors who were absent from school. This follow-up led many children to return to their schools, as it appeared that

²⁵⁸ Gardens (Al-Iskan Bank, Salah Al-Din, Prince Hashim Birds, Zahran, Arabization of the Army, journalists, Al-Manhal School, Shafa Badran)

²⁵⁹ See the Annual Statistical Report 2022 of the Chamber of Magistrates, published on the website www.sjd.gov.jo

²⁶⁰ Marriage transactions for this age group shall be conducted under special instructions, procedures, and in-depth case studies based on the Personal Status Law of 2019

²⁶¹ The Judge Department letter N° 5/8/9802 on 24/7/2023

²⁶² See the eighteenth annual report on the situation of human rights in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan for the year 2021, published on the website of www.nchr.org.jo

²⁶³ Letter No. 9802/08/05 of 2023/07/24 AD

some parents force children to drop out of school to work or because of family conflicts.²⁶⁴

Child labor:

The Center recorded a decrease in the number of working children arrested during 2022, which reached 520 children,²⁶⁵ after the increase in 2021 when the number of working children arrested reached 1,087 children .

In this regard, the Center stresses the need to speed up the adoption of the draft system of protection of working juveniles, which sets out the legal framework for dealing with working juveniles in a manner that guarantees the protection of children's rights and their best interests. It aims to provide a safe working environment for working children, to rehabilitate them socially and psychologically, and to rehabilitate their families economically through productive and income-generating family projects.

Beggar Children:

The Center also reiterates its observations contained in its previous reports on the situation of children in beggar care and rehabilitation centers.²⁶⁶ On the other hand, the Center has observed a decrease in the number of beggar children arrested following the high increase in 2021, when they numbered 7,954 (both sexes), compared to 2022 (3,576).²⁶⁷

In this regard, the Center points out that all necessary measures should be taken to give effect to article 5 (b) of the Child Rights Act No. 17 of 2022, which provides that "children have the right to care and to adequate conditions

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for their proper upbringing, respecting freedom and human dignity, in a family environment where the parents have the primary responsibility for the upbringing, guidance, care, development and care of the child, as well as the provision of article 12 (a) of the Children's Rights Act, which also concerns the right of the child to an adequate standard of living, and the role of the Ministry of Basic Social Development in ensuring basic social care for the child and enabling the family to fulfill its primary role in the upbringing of the child and providing the necessary care to ensure his or her normal development.

Children in nurseries:

The Center follows the situation of day-care centers in the Kingdom and confirms what has been stated in its previous reports.²⁶⁸ The Center considers that article 27 (a) of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act No. 20 of 2017, on the existence of integrated day-care centers for children with disabilities, should be implemented and that such centers should be generalized so that all licensed nurseries in the Kingdom become inclusive of children with disabilities.

In this regard, the Directorate of Family and Protection of the Ministry of Social Development received 152 applications for kindergarten license in 2022, with 56 licensed, 35 closed and 32 warned, while six home nurseries were licensed.²⁶⁹

Child victims of domestic violence:

The Center reiterates the observations and recommendations contained in its previous reports²⁷⁰ on the situation of children

²⁶⁴ Letter No. 9802/08/05 of 2023/07/24 AD

²⁶⁵ The monthly report of the Central Inspection Directorate, 2022, published on the website of the Ministry of Labor, www.mol.gov.jo

²⁶⁶ See the eighteenth annual report on the situation of human rights in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan for the year 2021, published on the website of www.nchr.org.jo

²⁶⁷ According to the reports published on the website of the Ministry of Social Development. www.mosd.gov.jo

²⁶⁸ See the 14th Annual Human Rights Report on the Situation of Human Rights in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan for

2017, the 18th Annual Report on the Situation of Human Rights in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan for 2021, published on the website www.nchr.org.jo.

²⁶⁹ Monthly reports published on the website of the Ministry of Social Development. www.mosd.gov.jo

²⁷⁰ See the 18th Annual Report on the Situation of Human Rights in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan for the year 2021, published on the website of www.nchr.org.jo

in the Protection Homes of the Ministry of Social Development, established under the Family Protection Homes Regulation No. 48 of 2004, the Government responds positively to its repeated recommendations contained in its previous reports on the need to establish a family reconciliation house to serve the Southern Region.²⁷¹

The Center recorded the observations on the presence of children victims of violence under 18 years of age,²⁷² as follows:

Type of crime	2021	2022
Felonies and Misdemeanors Committed against Man	164	187
Crimes Committed against Money	1137	1415
Crimes Committed against the Public Administration	139	132
Crimes against Morals and Public Morals	183	215
Crimes that pose a threat to public safety	63	71
Crimes against public trust	4	3
Other crimes	15	7
Total	1705	2030

Children in conflict with the law:

The number of offenses committed by juveniles in the Kingdom by type for the year 2022 reached 2030 (was 1705 in 2021), as shown in the following table:²⁷³

1. In terms of the physical environment, there is a need to provide a special play area for the children accompanying their mothers.
2. Reconsidering the specific jurisdiction of family cohesion role ensuring that it is allocated to the category of battered women and children who join their mothers, placing young girls in juvenile care homes or appropriate institutions that provide care for children in a manner appropriate to their needs and conditions, in accordance with their age, and ensuring protection of their physical, psychological and mental integrity, since girls are placed in such facilities even if it provides them protection, it does not provide children with care and is not in the juvenile's best interest.

The Center confirms the observations contained in its previous reports²⁷⁴ and monitored the Madaba Care and Rehabilitation Home,²⁷⁵ where it noted the need for greater care for the cleanliness of the Care and Rehabilitation Center and the building's need for general maintenance.

The Center also monitored the Madaba detention center and the failure to prepare the center for the reception of juveniles with disabilities.

²⁷¹ See www.nchr.org.jo

²⁷² Report on the Monitoring Visit to the Family Reconciliation House in Aqaba, 2022/12/21.

²⁷³ Criminal Statistical Report for 2021 and 2022, issued by the Directorate of Public Security.

²⁷⁴ See the 18th Annual Report on the Situation of Human Rights in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, 2021, published on www.nchr.org.jo

²⁷⁵ Report on the monitoring visit to the Madaba Juvenile Care and Rehabilitation Center, 2022/6/18.

Recommendations:

The Center emphasizes its recommendations contained in its previous reports and adds:

- 1. Promulgation of regulations and instructions for the organization of Implementation of the Child Rights Act.
- 2. Implementation of cultural activities and awareness-raising programs included under the Child Rights Act targeting children in schools and child care workers.
- 3. Approval of the draft system for the protection of working juveniles that sets out the legal framework for dealing with working juveniles in a way that ensures protection of child rights and children's best interests.
- 4. Enact the Juvenile Post-Care System No 67 of 2016 and the instructions issued under it, and the instructions that established the system of care, which are the bases of the Post-care juvenile system follow-up in 2021.
- 5. Increase in the number of staff working in Social Care Homes under the Ministry of Social Development.

Rights of persons with disabilities

A human right guaranteed by international conventions, both general and specific, and by the Constitution and relevant national legislation.

The normative content of the right is based on the provision of legislative and non-legislative guarantees that include the protection and promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities and non-discrimination on the basis of, or because of, disability in all areas of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights.

Within the framework of the Center's mandate to monitor, receive and follow up on complaints and to put an end to violations, the Center received 8 complaints in 2022.

In general, this section dealt with the follow-up of legislative developments governing the rights of persons with disabilities, including the constitutional amendments of 2022;²⁷⁶ The principles of participation and integration of persons with disabilities, as stated in Article (6/5)²⁷⁷: "The law protects the rights of persons with disabilities and enhances their participation and integration in various aspects of life, as well as protects motherhood, childhood and old age, takes care of young people and prevents abuse and exploitation." Paragraph (e) of Article 75 (1) has also been amended to replace the words "who was insane or a fool" with the words "who was not fully qualified".

1. Election Law of the House of Representatives No. (4) of 2022

The Center appreciates the publication of the Election Law in the Official Gazette²⁷⁸ and the inclusion of legal terms consistent with the Constitution

as Article 3/C/2 of the Constitution stipulates that: "Anyone who is a candidate for membership of the House of Representatives shall be deemed to be fully qualified", after the term used was: "Insane or a fool"

2. Political Parties Act No. (7) of 2022

The Law on Political Parties was issued in the Official Gazette,²⁷⁹ where Article 11/1/5 stipulates that "founders shall hold a constituent party congress within a period not exceeding one year, provided that at least one of the founders is a person with a disability".

3. Law Amending the Penal Code No. 10 of 2022.

The terminology has also been amended to align it with the Constitution and international human rights standards, such as the amendment contained in article 19 of the Penal Code, which concerns article 297, by repealing the words "physical or mental disability" and replacing them with "physical, psychological or mental disability". Article 279 reads "shall be punished by temporary work for insulting or humiliating a person who is unable to resist due to physical, psychological or intellectual disability, or because of forms of deception used against this person or if induced to commit deception".

4. Law amending the Implementation Law No. 9 of 2022

The Center appreciates the promulgation of the Act in the Official Gazette,²⁸⁰ as article 11 of the amended Act provides for the addition of item 6 to article 23, which provides that

²⁷⁶ Issued in the Official Gazette No. 5770 Page 1139 on 2022/1/31

²⁷⁷ Article 5 (6) of the Constitution states: "The law protects the rights of persons with disabilities and enhances their participation and integration in various aspects of life. It also protects motherhood, childhood and old age, takes care of young people and prevents abuse and exploitation."

²⁷⁸ Published in Official Gazette No. 5782, p. 2865, 2022/4/7

²⁷⁹ Published in Official Gazette No. 5796, p. 3583 5/25/2022

²⁸⁰ Issued in the Official Gazette No. 5784 Page 2930 on 2022/4/14 AD

both spouses may be detained or if the spouse of the debtor is deceased or is in a correction and rehabilitation center if they have a child under the age of 15 or a child with a disability.”

5. Amended Civil Service Regulation No. 6 of 2022

The Center appreciates the promulgation of the amended Regulation in the Official Gazette,²⁸¹ whereby the requirement of freedom from disabilities contained in article 44, paragraph (d), was abolished and replaced by the text "D. Safe from diseases which prevent him from carrying out the functions to which he will be appointed by decision of the competent medical authority".

.6 Instructions on the conditions and procedures for recommending exemption of persons with severe disabilities from payment of fees for issuing work permits to non-Jordanian workers for the year 2022.²⁸²

The Center appreciates the issuing of instructions according to which persons with severe disabilities are exempted from paying the fees for work permits to non-Jordanians, in accordance with such conditions as the type of severe disability to be determined in the approved medical report, and the fact that a person with severe disabilities is in urgent and permanent need of others to fulfill the burdens of his daily life and that the income of a person with disabilities, his parent or guardian does not exceed 3,050 dinars per month, and if there is more than one person with a disability in the family, the income does not exceed 7,000 dinars per month.

- .7. Instructions for the establishment of a National Register of Newborns with Hearing Impairment No. 2 of 2022,²⁸³ established in the

Specialized Section in the Directorate, by a decision of the Minister, National Register of Births with Hearing Disabilities.

8. Instructions for the issuance of the Identification Card by the Supreme Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities No. 3 of 2022.²⁸⁴ The Center appreciates the issuance of these instructions in accordance with the provisions of Article 16(b) of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act No. 20 of 2017. The Identification Card is issued by the Supreme Council in accordance with the provisions of these instructions, indicating the type, degree and nature of disability and is the basis for medical reports required to obtain services and exemptions provided for in the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act or any other legislation.

Policies:

- The release of clinical evidence (protocols) for the diagnosis of mental disability and autism disorder by the Supreme Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Ministry of Health in collaboration with the Board of Accreditation of Health Institutions, in response to challenges in the process of diagnosis of persons with disabilities, and to ensure the quality and sole voice of the diagnostic process.²⁸⁵
- The beginning of the trial period for the issuance of the ID card in accordance with the provisions of Article 16 of the Law on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, as part of the procedures mentioned in the instructions for issuing the ID card, which indicate the type, degree and nature of disability. The Center appreciates this by avoiding the existence of medical reports necessary to obtain services and exemptions indicated in the legislations.

²⁸¹ Published in Official Gazette No. 5767, page 238, 2022/1/5

²⁸² Published in Official Gazette No. 5806, p. 4611, 2022/2/17

²⁸³ Published in Official Gazette No. 5769, p. 977, date 1/1/2022.

²⁸⁴ Published in Official Gazette No. 5814, p. 6454, dated 2022/9/15

²⁸⁵ Official website of the Board of Accreditation of Health Institutions. For more information see [/ar-jo/hcac.jo:https](https://ar-jo/hcac.jo)

It should be noted that the number of ID cards issued by the Board from the date of issuance of the cards on 31/7/2022 until 8/5/2023²⁸⁶ is as shown in the following table:

Region	Males	Female	Total
North	730	390	1120
Center	211	82	293
South	1315	697	2012

The Center hopes to raise awareness about the importance of issuing ID cards in all provinces.

Participation of persons with disabilities in governorate councils, municipal councils and the Amman Municipality Council.

The National Center monitored the participation of persons with disabilities in the provincial and municipal council elections held on 22/3/2022,²⁸⁷ and in this regard it makes the following observations:

- There is a lack of information on the number of persons with disabilities among the registered voters for voting purposes, their percentage, geographical distribution, or the determination of the forms of disabilities, and consequently, the number or percentage of voters who are eligible to vote is not known due to the lack of a database of persons with disabilities to provide all their needs. The National Center issued a statement

in which it shows the lack of prior information on persons with disabilities.

- The lack of facilitative arrangements and access to some polling centers prompted the center to issue its first statement in which it indicated that there are no facilitative arrangements for persons with disabilities in a number of polling centers in the governorate of Balqaa, as the ballot boxes are on the second floor and these people are received on the first floor by the committee and their polling procedures are completed. The committee member then goes to the second floor and places the ballot in the box on behalf of the voter.
- The Center also monitored the lack of sign language interpreters at most polling stations for persons with hearing and visual disabilities.²⁸⁸
- In this regard, the Center refers to its observations on the progress of the electoral process sent to the Independent Electoral Commission for processing.
- In 2022, approximately 4.9% of the 6,579 applicants in humanitarian cases were employed by the Civil Service Bureau and constitute a percentage of appointments of people with disabilities reaching 32.6% of the total cases employed.

²⁸⁶ The statistics are provided by the Higher Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

²⁸⁷ The Center has prepared an operations room equipped with all the necessary requirements to monitor and monitor the elections of the provincial councils, the municipal councils, and the Amman Municipality Council. The Chamber began its work from the first day to announce the Independent Commission for Elections. It continued to work and monitor the elections process throughout the stages.

²⁸⁸ In his statement number two, he indicated the lack of facilitation arrangements for persons with hearing and visual disabilities at one polling center in the governorate of Madaba, where there are no sign language interpreters and the hall is not equipped for

the blind. The center appreciated the provision by the Independent Elections Commission in the governorate of Aqaba of a sign language interpreter for the deaf and mute, with provision of a vehicle for persons with motor disabilities upon request. The statement also included the lack of facilitation arrangements for persons with disabilities at several polling centers in the governorate of the capital, as the ballot boxes are on the second floor and these persons are received on the first floor by the Committee, and their polling procedures are completed. The committee then goes up to the second floor and the Deputy Member of the Electoral Fund posts on the ballot.

The percentage of people concerned with humanitarian cases in 2021 was about 3.7% of the total applicants in the humanitarian cases category numbering 5476, the percentage of appointments of people with disabilities represents around 43% of the total number of concerned applicants as shown in the table below:²⁸⁹

year	Number of humanitarian cases applicants	Percentage of appointees from humanitarian cases	N° of appointees with disabilities	% of appointed persons with disabilities
2021	5476	3.7%	86 (64 females and 22 males)	43%
2022	5679	4.9%	106 (71 females and 35 males)	32.9%

- The National Center monitored the Government's commitment to the implementation of the UPR recommendations on persons with disabilities. Through its monitoring, the Center found that Jordan has committed itself to implementing many recommendations on legislative aspects, preparing national strategies and plans and implementing many projects to raise awareness of the rights of persons with disabilities. However, significant challenges remain in Jordan for persons with disabilities in various economic, educational, health and other fields due to the lack of accessibility, environmental facilitation and accessibility arrangements. There are also a number of challenges to the realization of the rights of persons with disabilities to independent living, the weak implementation of effective early intervention programs, and the need to raise the

awareness of the families of persons with disabilities on their rights and ways to heal with them.

- The Center appreciates the efforts of the Judge Department in dealing with persons with disabilities, as in 2021, it moved to a new building special to the Sharia courts of Irbid that took into consideration facilitation arrangements for persons with disabilities and the elderly in making the building, and an agreement was signed between the Judge and the Supreme Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (16/5/2022). The Convention is being implemented in four places to take into account the needs of persons with disabilities and the elderly in these places: the Department of the Judge of the Judiciary, the Court of Oman/Cases, the Zarqa Sharia Courts Complex and the Court Complex of Southern Amman. In early 2023, a new building was moved to the Aqaba Sharia Court Complex. Work is also under way to relocate a new building to the Karak Sharia Court Complex and consideration is being given to persons with disabilities and the elderly in these buildings.²⁹⁰

The center issued a statement calling for the continued improvement of the situation of persons with disabilities in all areas,

²⁸⁹ The official website of the Civil Service Bureau, see the link: index.php?option=com/web/csb.gov.jo/:httpsM

²⁹⁰ Letter No. 9802/08/05 of the Circuit Judge's Office

In addition to the strengthening of their political, economic and cultural participation and their right to an adequate and adequate standard of living, the provision of facilities and environmental facilities for persons with disabilities that enable them to exercise their lives and engage in public life and enable them to access and enjoy their rights, the need to involve them in the development and implementation of policies relating to them, the intensification of supervision and supervision of shelter homes and the treatment of the inconsistencies, problems and observations relating thereto, ensuring protection for persons with disabilities, the need to enroll students with disabilities in education, the health situation of children with disabilities in special care and care, the attainment of specialized medical skills, the provision of public parks in all governorates of the Kingdom for children with disabilities, to be able to play an additional role, with emphasis on the promotion and protection of the rights of children with disabilities The need to implement all the provisions of the Persons with Disabilities Rights Act No. 20 of 2017.²⁹¹

It should be noted that the Center has monitored the reality of the rights of persons with disabilities to access banking services provided by banks, and it has noted some challenges related to the availability of facilitation arrangements and environmental facilities and the need to provide some of their own services.²⁹²

Recommendations

The Center emphasizes its recommendations contained in its previous reports and adds the following:

1. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
2. Increase the representation of persons with disabilities in political parties.
3. Disseminate awareness-raising programs on the rights of persons with disabilities to obtain an ID card from the Higher Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
4. All polling centers should be arranged with consideration for the participation of persons with disabilities in all forms of elections.
5. The existence of a database on the number of persons with disabilities among voters registered for voting purposes, their percentage, their geographical distribution, or the determination of the type of disabilities, as well as the number of candidates with disabilities, so that the authors of studies and reports can prepare their studies and reports and come up with recommendations and action plans.
6. Promote the role of the media in raising awareness about the rights of persons with disabilities and the need to emphasize the right of a customer with disabilities to complain against any bank that refuses to provide a banking service to him.
7. Work by the concerned authorities to implement and activate all strategies related to the rights of persons with disabilities.
8. Provide all reasonable accommodation and environmental facilities to persons with disabilities that enable them to lead their normal lives equally and without discrimination.

²⁹¹ Published on 04/12/2022

²⁹² The Center continues to follow the reality of the rights of persons with disabilities to access banking services.

Rights of older persons

A human right guaranteed by international conventions, both general and specific, and which includes implicit obligations towards the rights of older persons in the absence of a special international instrument to protect their rights, as guaranteed by the Jordanian Constitution and relevant national legislation.

The normative content of the right is based on the provision of legislative and non-legislative safeguards guaranteeing protection and promotion of the rights of older persons in policy approaches, practices and appropriate measures in various fields of civil, political, economic, social and cultural life.

In general, the report dealt with the most prominent legislative developments related to the rights of the elderly, such as the issuance of the Benefit and Agreement Instructions for the for the elderly from the Elderly Care Account for 2022, and the policies adopted to support the rights of the elderly. It also addressed monitoring the participation of the elderly in the elections of the provincial and municipal councils and the Amman Municipality, monitoring the situation of the elderly in Nursing homes and clubs, and monitoring cases of violence against the elderly and others.

As part of the Center's mandate to monitor, receive and follow up on complaints and to put an end to violations, in 2022 the Center received two complaints concerning older persons.

In terms of legislative developments, 2022 saw the issuance of instructions for the use and expenditure of the elderly from the Elderly Care Account for 2022.²⁹³

The Center appreciates the efforts of the Government in issuing the instructions issued pursuant to the provisions of Regulation No. 97 of 2021 on the care of the elderly, which stipulate that the benefit from the Elderly Care Account for the purpose of housing and domestic services shall be 60 years of age and over, and shall be Jordanian,

as for non-Jordanians, they have to be resident in Jordan and without an income or a care-giver and willing to benefit from the service and in need for social, health, physical or psychological care.

In terms of the income requirement for the elderly person or his family, the instructions distinguish between the housing and the domestic service, stipulating that the income of the elderly person should not exceed 300 dinars for those who use the housing service. The instructions also stipulate that the income of the elderly person should not exceed 750 dinars for domestic service. The instructions also addressed the procedures for applying to benefit from the fund, and the expenditure of the elderly person on medical equipment, aids, medical devices, home nursing services, the provision of monetary support for the family of the elderly who do not have the means to care for the old person but are willing to benefit from domestic services, and any programs or care services that the committee decides to fund for the interest of the elderly (art. 6/c).

Within the Center's scope to monitor legislation governing the rights of older persons, The Center has found that legislation does not include a legal provision on the right of older persons to appropriate care and prohibition of neglect or abuse. The legal provisions of the Personal Status Act are limited to the right of parents to spending and housing, provided that the older persons are poor, while the duty of children to care for their parents is not stipulated.

Policies:

.1 The National Council for Family Affairs has published a procedural manual²⁹⁴ for nursing home staff with the aim of clarifying and regulating the procedures for the provision of services for the elderly in nursing homes. It also contributes to facilitating the process of review, scrutiny and supervisory processes, standardizing models and arriving at a common understanding that supports mechanisms for dealing with the elderly and consolidates their procedures within the framework of the provision of complementary and comprehensive services through the identification of roles and responsibilities of all nursing home staff,

²⁹³ Official Gazette 5821 Page 7125 Date 2022/10/16

²⁹⁴ The website of the National Council for Family Affairs, for more information, see the Internet link:

the improvement of the quality of services provided to them, improving the efficiency and speed of the response to cases in accordance with the actual needs of each case, in addition to the facilitation of the process of providing data, reports and documents on working mechanisms in nursing homes. The manual included techniques and methods that provide workers/residents with the best ways to deal with adult groups.

.2 Projects to improve the green infrastructure were launched by the Amman Municipality, involving the elderly at all stages of the projects, including the rehabilitation of the Mahmoud Al-Qudat Park in the Al-Nasr area and the 7th Staircase within Al-Quds Street in the Badr area, and the allocation of designated places for the elderly at the gardens of King Abdullah II Bin Al-Hussein. In addition, the "Amman City is a City Friendly to the Elderly" committee was formed by the Amman Mayor at the initiative of the board of trustees and with membership from the ministries²⁹⁵ and the National Center for Human Rights, the National Council for Family Affairs and civil society organizations, with the aim of reaching an elderly-friendly city of Amman by 2025.

The Center appreciates the efforts exerted by the Amman Board of Trustees in promoting the rights of older persons. However, it notes its take to raise the age of the beneficiaries of the free fast bus to 65 years,²⁹⁶ after being 60 years old. The Center hopes to restore the situation as it was, and to increase the number of buses prepared for elderly people and to cover all areas.²⁹⁷

4. The National Council for Family Affairs issued the analytical report to evaluate the National Strategy for Older Persons and the Implementation Plan for 2018-2022²⁹⁸

²⁹⁵ The members of the Committee are the Ministry of Social Development, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Endowments, the Department of Family Protection, the Family Health Institute and the International Association of Elderly Persons.

²⁹⁶ Website of the Greater Amman Municipality. For more information, see /exemptions/www.ammanbus.jo//:http ar

aimed at evaluating the activities and procedures of the Executive Plan of the Strategy to assess what has been achieved during the said period to meet the rights of older persons in Jordanian society, the outputs and recommendations of the analytical report, the basis for the formulation of an improved strategy for older persons for 2023-2027 and the development of its Implementation Plan for the next five years. The evaluation process, the activities and procedures of the Executive Plan have resulted in achievements and improvement in the performance of specific indicators for older persons, as well as tangible progress in the enactment of legislation and national strategies responding to issues, which have been timed, although several reasons have fallen and have been achieved for several outputs. The lack of implementation of the Responsive Budget Methodology for Aging within the framework of the Government General Budget has led to inadequate monitoring and follow-up of government spending for the benefit of the elderly, and has weakened the efficiency and effectiveness of the measures implemented, specifically in the health aspects of the elderly. The evaluation process, the activities and procedures of the Executive Plan for the Strategy, resulted in the following relative results:

Cross-cutting evaluation of National Strategy chapters for Seniors 2018 - 2022	
Older Persons and Development	%64.3
Health care for older people	%63.2
Physical environment and social care	%68.2
	%61.5

The analytical report came out with a number of recommendations, including: the need for operational stakeholders to build

²⁹⁷ Older persons are eligible for fast buses provided they are 65 years and older and are Jordanian nationals and reside within the boundaries of the Greater Amman Municipality

²⁹⁸ The National Center obtained a copy of the report in its capacity as a member of the Jordanian National Committee for the Elderly.

aging-responsive budgets within the framework of the results-oriented government budget to monitor and track the issues of the elderly from various aspects; conducting updated field surveys disaggregated by age groups to identify indicators for the elderly, especially in the field of health, education, poverty, etc.; and establishing a national network of home-care providers, institutions and individuals who have passed the requirements of training for the care of the elderly.

- The number of older persons registered for voting purposes over 60 years old is 547,548 (252,623 males and 294,925 females) representing 8.4%.²⁹⁹
- Number of candidates aged 56-56 (65) and above is 1,356 and the number of candidates above 65 is 281.³⁰⁰

Application type	Gender	25-35 Year	36-45	46-55	56-65	older than 65	Total
Application for candidacy to the Presidency of the Municipal Council	Males	23	62	188	199	47	519
Application for candidacy to Membership of Governorate councils	Males	87	129	286	303	60	865
	females	27	38	45	39	2	151
Application for Membership of the Municipal Council	Males	224	412	925	621	146	2328
	females	91	172	226	166	22	677
Application for candidacy For Amman's board of trustees	Males	8	19	36	23	3	89
	females	1	2	8	5	1	17
Total		461	834	1714	1356	281	4646

It is worth noting that the analytical report included the role of the National Center for Human Rights in protecting and promoting the rights of older persons. The annual reports on human rights conditions in Jordan were one of the references for the preparation of the analytical report.

Provincial and municipal council elections and Greater Amman Municipality.

The National Center monitored the participation of older persons in the provincial and municipal council elections held on 22/3/2022. In this regard, the Center states:

We note from the table that the age group from 56 to 65 comes in the second category in terms of the number of candidates in general, and specifically the candidacy for the provincial councils, the municipal council, and the Amman Municipality, on the one hand, and on the other, it comes in the first category in terms of candidacy for the mayoralty. The category of older than 65 is the second category for the candidacy for the mayoralty, and the percentage of women over 65 is still low in candidacy.

²⁹⁹ The website of the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC). For more information, see /default/sites/www.iec.jo/:https files

³⁰⁰ The website of the Independent Electoral Commission, for more information, see /default/sites/www.iec.jo/:https files

Rights of older persons in Nursing homes and day clubs:

The National Center followed up on the situation of the elderly in some nursing homes and daytime³⁰¹ clubs and found that:

.1 Poor intervention of the psychiatrist in all the homes that the center has monitored in treating the beneficiaries to overcome their condition and positively coexist with their reality, especially in light of the neglect of their families and their lack of communication with them.

2. Lack of investment of the expertise and energy of the older persons in some homes and poor transfer of experience to the future generations and poor entertainment programs that fill the time of the elderly. It is worth mentioning that there is no activation of the rights of older persons to communicate with the outside world except through celebrating occasions and holidays.

3.Children refrain from spending on their parents in some homes in the absence of an authorized body to apply to the courts to oblige the children to support the elderly beneficiary from the nursery.

4.Lack of experience in dealing with the elderly, which affects the rights of the elderly to special care in light of the presence of elderly people suffering from diseases of aging, Alzheimer's, and other diseases that require the staff to be knowledgeable and deal with these diseases.

.5 Despite the availability of health clinics, health records and files are available in all homes, these clinics remain unequipped with

adequate emergency health equipment and materials to provide necessary health care and follow-up.

.6. The lack of daytime clubs in most governorates of the Kingdom to spend leisure time and the North and South regions do not have daytime clubs. There is currently only one daytime club in the capital Amman due to the high operational costs of the club.³⁰²

The Center also monitored the number of elderly people in nine homes (397) including 193 males and 204 females. The ministry is responsible for the cost of servicing 154 of them under service purchase agreements in the amount of 280 dinars per month per person.³⁰³

Challenges faced by older persons monitored by the Center:

1. There is a lack of detailed data and statistics on older persons, specifying their classifications, age groups and social, health and economic conditions, in order to assess the situation of older persons and to determine the areas and nature of intervention. There is also a lack of data on the age stages of older persons, taking into account the needs of each age group, according to their health, social and economic situation. They are treated as a single age group.
2. Lack of qualified and trained health personnel and specialists to care for the elderly in hospitals and health centers such as geriatrics and nursing, in addition to a shortage of mental health care services and the provision of medical services for the psychological counseling of the elderly.

³⁰¹ The Center has followed up four nursing homes and one daytime club through communication with the administration of the houses and the Ministry of Social Development

³⁰² The National Center issued a statement on 2/10/2022 published on the Center's website

³⁰³ Website of the Ministry of Social Development, see www.mosd.gov.jo

- .3 Poor material environment for health centers and hospitals to be age-friendly.
- .4. Lack of supporting devices in public facilities such as roads, bridges and transportation networks, in addition to recreational facilities and their geographical distribution, which hinders the movement, integration and participation of older persons in society in a manner befitting their social status as pioneers of future generations.

The Center also issued a statement in which it called for the establishment of government day clubs for older persons to activate their social and cultural role and share their expertise in all governorates of the Kingdom, stimulating the private sector to provide material, moral, psychological, social and legal support for older persons, providing job opportunities for those who are able and willing to continue with flexible conditions of employment in the post-60 age period, investing as much as possible in their expertise at all levels, giving them - in remote and underserved areas - special attention, establishing health centers for them with geriatric specialists, and adopting comprehensive programs at the official or social level to integrate older persons into social and cultural life and to promote a culture of work and to serve the elderly or to benefit from their skills, to participate in such programs, to establish a training center specialized in the care of the elderly and to provide it with qualified teaching staff as a starting point for the provision of home care services in the future on the basis of volunteerism, and to implement practical training programs for medical and nursing students in Jordanian universities through coordination and cooperation with nursing homes with the aim of rehabilitating students and providing them with knowledge and experience in dealing with diseases of aging.³⁰⁴

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- The Higher Council for the Population issued a study that highlighted the needs of older persons in Jordan³⁰⁵ for sexual and reproductive health services and information, diagnosed gaps in data, research and programs on sexual and reproductive health of older persons and proposed studies that could provide scientific evidence on their needs. The study revealed that information and research on the reproductive and sexual health of older persons is scarce because family surveys, health care and sexual and reproductive health programs continue to be targeted primarily at women of childbearing age, and that national life-cycle policies and programs in identifying the components of sexual and reproductive health for older persons are being overlooked. It also noted the challenges faced by the National Age Monitoring Center and the Annual Monitoring Study of Older Persons, and the Center's annual reports. The study concluded that sexual and reproductive health services should be expanded to include older people and facilitate their access to them, and that service providers should provide counseling to older men and women about sexual and reproductive health and address common health problems among them.
- The National Center monitored the total number of alimony lawsuits filed against fathers and mothers, the total amount of alimony and the average verdict recorded by the Sharia Courts during 2021-2022, as stated in the statistical report for 2022 issued by the Department of the Supreme Judge.³⁰⁶

³⁰⁴ Issued on 2/10/2022

³⁰⁵ Published on the website of the Supreme Population Council, www.hpc.org.jo

³⁰⁶ See the Annual Statistical Report for 2022 issued by the Department of the Chief Justice, published on the website www.sjd.gov.jo

Year	Total alimony claims	Total value penny	Average Alimony Sentence		
			Dinar	penny	Dinar
2021	475	535	29105	275	61
2022	521	0	33094	520	63

In this context, the Center emphasizes the need to disseminate programs to raise awareness of parental rights to alimony, to reduce their recourse to the courts and to promote family cohesion between parents and their children.

On the occasion of the International Day for the Protection of Older Persons from Abuse, the National Center issued a statement calling for the need to provide a secure retirement future for older persons through the social security umbrella, in order to achieve the minimum remuneration for what they have given in their lives to their country and family. It called for guaranteeing the right to an adequate standard of living for senior citizens including adequate food and proper housing that preserves their dignity and humanity in addition to the creation of centers and dedicated spaces for older persons' leisure time equipped with sports equipment and other activities that can boost the mental and physical health of this category.

Additionally, there is a need to train staff working in senior homes on mechanisms for dealing with this group, strengthening supervision and inspection of these homes, and including sports and social activities in their programs, in order to promote their integration into society and to help them to emerge from isolation.

Recommendations:

To promote and protect the rights of older persons, the National Center for Human Rights confirms its previous recommendations on the Situation of Human Rights Report in Jordan³⁰⁷ and adds:

1. Continue national efforts to represent Jordan to contribute to international efforts to draft an international convention on the rights of older persons.
2. Passage of a law on the rights of older persons.
3. Build a database and disaggregated statistics that take into account gender, age, disability, health, social, economic and other aspects of life. These statistics will be based on the results of the necessary interventions to protect the rights of older persons.
4. Raise the awareness of those working with older people in nursing homes and daytime clubs, and provide them with qualified teaching staff as a starting point for the provision of future home services on the basis of volunteering.
5. To benefit from the fast bus to those who have reached the age of 60 and to increase the number of buses prepared for the elderly and to cover all areas.
6. Establish daytime clubs to harness the energies of the elderly during daylight hours to activate their social role in all governorates of the Kingdom.
7. Provide a safe retirement future for older persons through the social security umbrella, which will compensate what they have provided during their life to their country and family
8. Prepare development policies supporting older persons in rural and desert areas, including promoting participatory approaches to involving older persons in development and decision-making, involving the private sector, sharing of experiences, and meaningful media promotion.

Annexes

Annex No. (1)

Analysis of complaints received by the National Center for Human Rights for 2022

Complaints received by the Center in 2022:

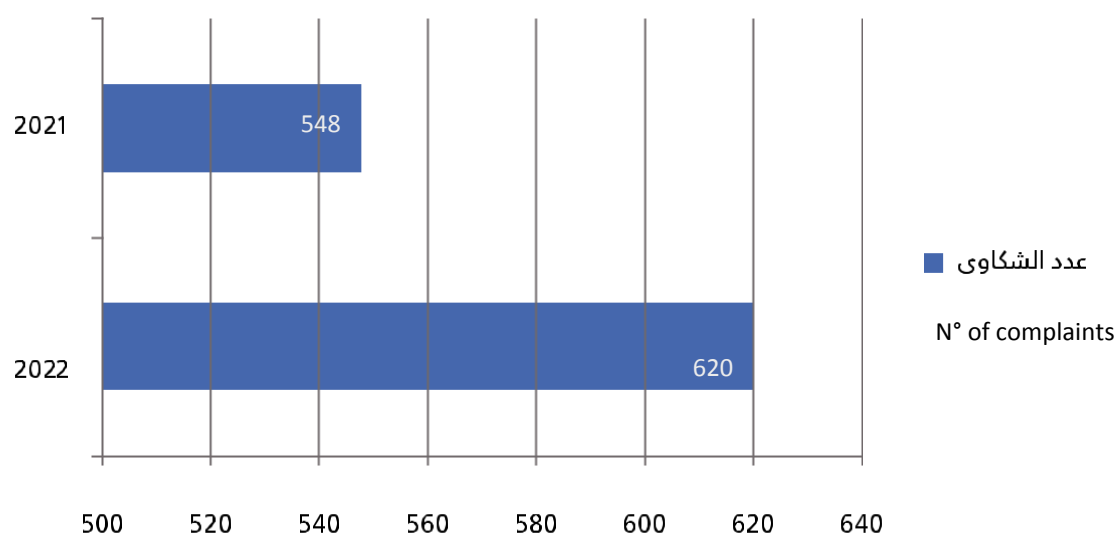
The number of complaints received by the Center in 2022 was 620, compared to 548 in 2021, of which 417 were related to civil and political rights, and 172 were related to economic, social and cultural rights. The number of complaints related to rights of those most in need of protection was 31, as shown in the table below.

Complaints received by the Center in 2022

Total number of complaints received by the National Center for Human Rights according to the rights claimed in 2022								
The right object of the complaint	Nbr of complaints	Satisfactorily closed	Unsatisfactorily closed	Outside of the Center's scope	Unproved violation	Uncooperative plaintiff	Classified complaints	Ongoing complaints
Recognition of legal personality (nationality)	9	0	2	0	1	0	0	6
Right to residence and movement	128	44	17	3	19	3	0	42
Right to obtain ID documents	17	7	0	1	0	0	0	9
Right to a fair trial	71	17	1	7	15	1	0	30
Right to liberty and personal safety	19	6	0	3	1	0	1	8
Right to decent and humanitarian treatment	9	1	1	0	3	0	0	4
Right to asylum	6	2	0	1	3	0	0	0
Right to physical safety	68	6	15	0	13	8	2	24
Right to life	4	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Rights of inmates in correction and rehabilitation centers	42	20	2	2	10	1	0	7
Right to equality and non-discrimination	3	0	1	0	1	0	0	1
Right to freedom of thought and expression	10	1	2	0	0	0	0	7
Right to join parties	3	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
Right to join unions	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1

Right to form associations	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Right to peaceful assembly	5	1	1	0	2	0	0	1
Right to privacy	4	0	0	0	3	0	0	1
Legal demands	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
Rule of law	7	0	3	2	0	0	0	2
Right to address public authorities	6	1	0	0	1	0	0	4
Right to health	12	3	1	0	2	0	0	6
Right to work	58	6	14	7	6	0	0	25
Right to decent livelihood	53	4	0	0	27	0	0	22
Right to housing	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Right to education	13	6	0	0	4	0	0	3
Right to hold public function	4	0	0	2	1	0	0	1
Right to legal aid	4	3	0	1	0	0	0	0
Right to social security	17	6	0	1	0	0	0	10
Right to own property	4	1	0	2	1	0	0	0
Right to development	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	1
Right to a healthy environment	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Rights of the child	21	10	0	1	4	1	0	5
Rights of persons with disabilities	8	0	0	0	3	0	0	5
Rights of older persons	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Total	620	148	65	34	123	15	3	232
Percentages		24%	10.50%	5.25%	19.7%	2.5%	0.05%	38%

Chart showing the number of complaints received by the National Center during 2022



Methodology of the Center's work in monitoring the received complaints:

The Complaints, Monitoring and Redress of Violations Unit is responsible for following up on complaints received by the Center. The mechanism for working in a sequential manner is **as follows:**

- **Phase I: receiving the complaint**

The following elements include: compilation of the essential elements of the subject matter of the complaint, which are sequential and comprehensive in their subject matter, a description of the legal situation before and after the alleged violation has occurred in detail, and any effect of the violation on the legal, social and economic level, in particular on the family of the victim and/or his family members.

- **Phase II: Preliminary verification procedures and include two basic procedures, as follows:**

Action One: Prepare an integrated legal analysis of the subject matter of the complaint based on the national legal system and international human rights standards and incorporate it through the system within 24 hours of receipt of the complaint.

Action Two: The action plan should include realistic solutions to follow up on the complaint and to end the violation, such as: carrying out an urgent field visit to the complainant, sending a statement accompanied by a legal analysis on the subject of the complaint, forming a fact-finding team, and requesting documents on the complaint from the concerned party.

- **Phase III: Handling of the complaint (simultaneous and necessary phases)**

It has two concurrent basic phases, as follows:

- First track: direct contact with the complainant (as appropriate), and/or

in urgent cases, where time is a key element, the procedure is taken within 24 hours. In the case of urgent complaints, the procedure is to be determined and implemented within 48 hours of receiving the complaint.

- Track II: Monitor allegations of recurrent patterns of violations, both in terms of the complainant and the nature of the violation.

- **Phase IV: Assessment of responses and follow-up actions**

A decision to close a complaint shall be taken by the Commissioner-General in the following cases: lack of jurisdiction, termination of a case of violation, failure to cooperate with the complainant.

Results of follow-up of complaints received by the National Center for Human Rights for the year 2022:

Satisfactory result was achieved in 148 complaints, 24% of the total number, 65 complaints were closed without a satisfactory result, (10.50%) of total complaints were closed, 34 complaints were closed for lack of competence (5.25%) of the total number of complaints. 122 complaints were closed for lack of evidence of human rights violations (19.70%), in addition to closing 15 complaints for lack of cooperation by the complainant (2.5%), and 3 complaints were reserved (0.05%)³⁰⁸ while (232) complaints are still under monitoring (%38) out of the total number of complaints. The Complaints, Follow-Up and End-of-Violation Unit has followed up on complaints that have been under follow-up since 2021

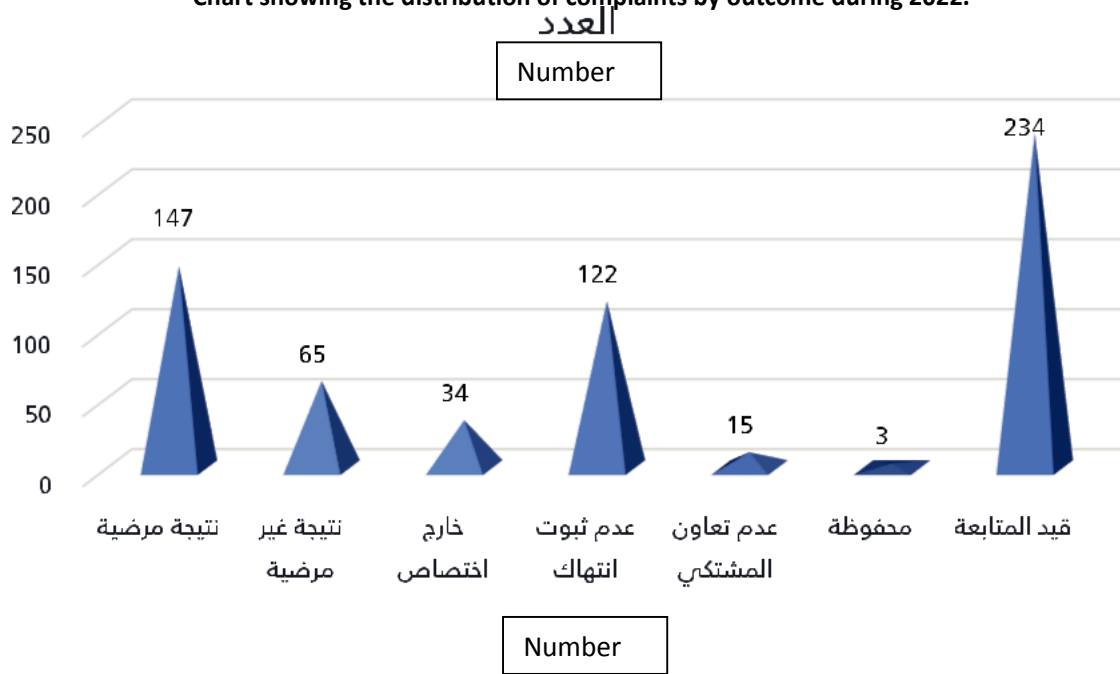
³⁰⁸ The complaints are kept for the purposes of continuing the follow-up because the Department of Civil and Political

Rights is not satisfied with the reply received from the complainant.

It is worth noting that personal attendance is still the highest among means of receiving complaints (52.5% of the total complaints received by the Center). An increase is also noticed in reception of complaints on the Hotline (22.76% of the total complaints), in addition to receiving complaints via the website (16.75%), and Fax or e-mail (8.28%). No complaint was received through the focal point in 2022.

achieving satisfactory results in 53 complaints of these, in addition to achieving satisfactory results in 32 complaints received by the Center in 2020.

Chart showing the distribution of complaints by outcome during 2022.

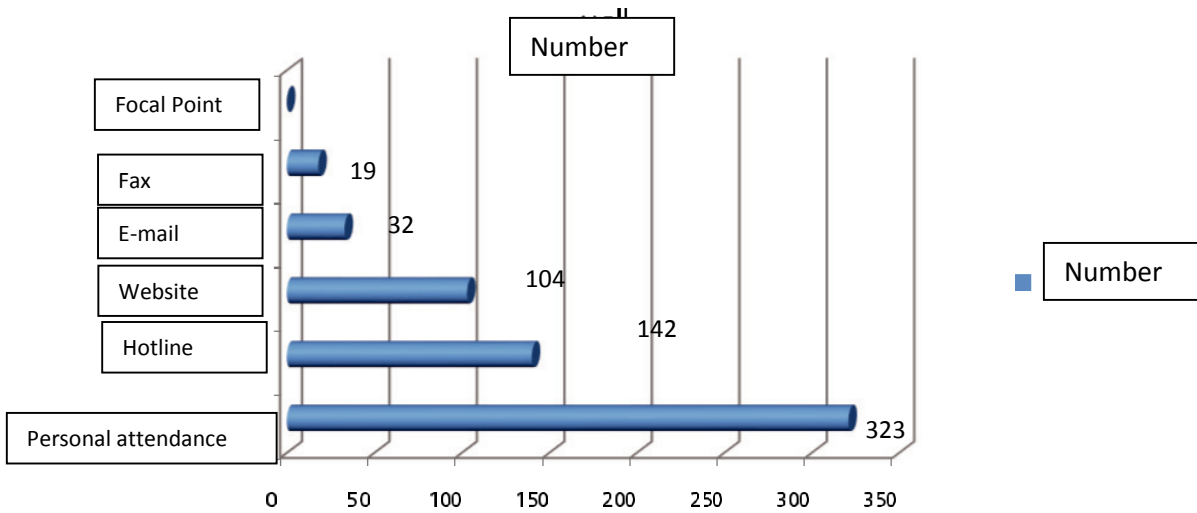


Satisfactory result - Unsatisfactory result - Outside of competence – no proof of violation – non cooperative complainant – reserved - pending

140



Chart showing the number of complaints according to reception means.

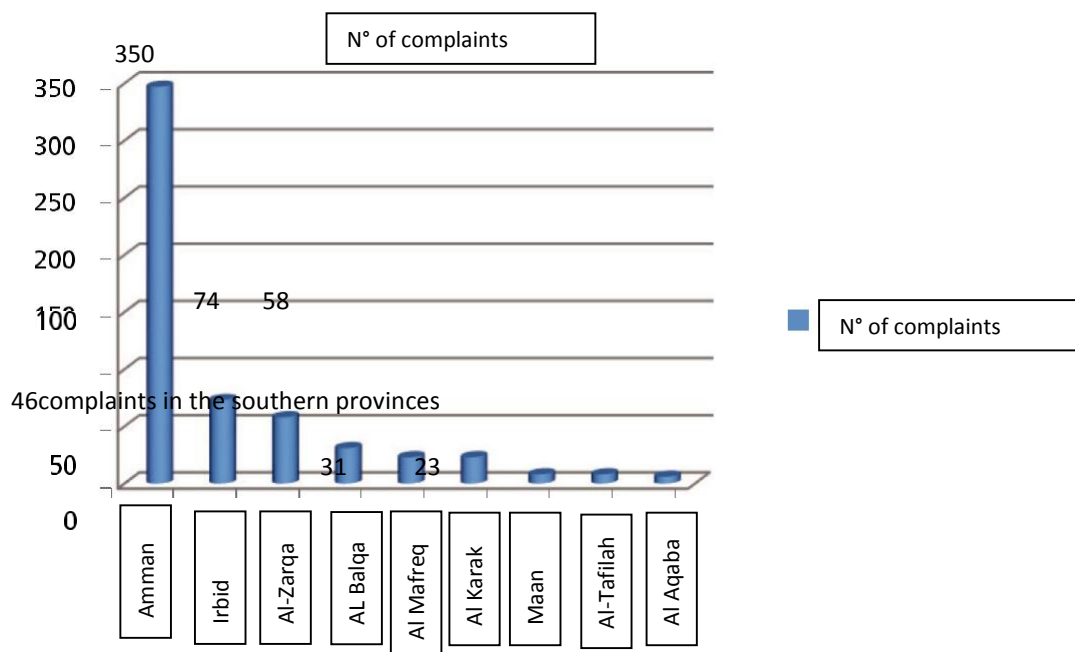


As for the distribution of complaints received by the Center in the governorates of the Kingdom, it is clear from the graph that the governorates of Amman, Zarqa and Irbid continue to have the highest number of years of receiving complaints received by the Center, as it remains the highest in the number of complaints received by the Center at 56.42%

The Governorate of Zarqa came in third place (9.43%) of the total number of complaints, the Governorate of Balqa came fourth (5%), the Governorate of Al-Mafraq came fifth (3.74%), and complaints from the Governorates of the South (Aqaba, Al-Karak, Al-Tafilah, and Ma'an) increased by 7.34% compared to 2021.

The center also confirms that complaints are frequently received in the capital due to the lack of a center branch in the rest of the kingdom and the large population of the capital

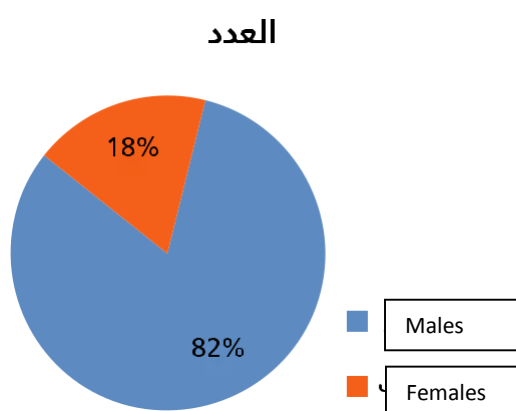
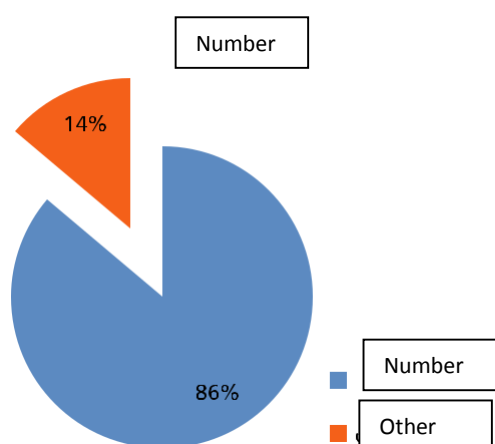
Chart showing complaints received by the center by governorate during 2022



As for the entities that were accused in 2022, the NCHR did not record any complaints filed against a number of ministries, most notably the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Political and Parliamentary Affairs, the Ministry of Public Works and Housing, the Ministry of Industry and Trade, the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, and the Ministry of Youth.

The following figure shows the number of complainants by nationality of the complainant, with the number of complainants holding Jordanian nationality amounting to (86.17%) of the total number of complainants.

The below figure shows that the percentage of complaints filed by males continues to rise, with 81.21% of the total number of complaints received by the Center.



Practical measures to follow up on complaints received by the Center during the year: 2022

1. Issuance of 652 letters addressed to official and unofficial bodies to follow up on complaints received by the Center. The General Bureau at the Center has also received 756 reports of which 404 were responses to communications of complaints, i.e. 53.44% of the Center's general receptions.
2. The Complaints, Follow-Up, and Redress of Violations Unit (180) provided a legal review of the complaints submitted to the Unit from the total complaints received by the General Center in 2022.
3. The Complaints, Follow-Up and Redress of Violations Unit provided 85 legal advice and services to non-Jordanian nationalities.
4. The Complaints and Redress Unit has followed up on cooperation and networking with Arab human rights institutions to follow up on complaints from Jordanians abroad. It has achieved satisfactory results in following up on complaints such as: (Qatari Human Rights Committee, Iraqi Human Rights Commission, Independent Human Rights Commission/Palestine).
5. For the purpose of verifying complaints filed with the National Center, the Criminal Justice Unit carried out 80 visits to correction and rehabilitation centers, and 15 unannounced visits to temporary detention centers during 2022:
6. The Criminal Justice Unit carried out 15 visits to detainees arrested in connection with some of the sit-ins. It followed up on their situation and hunger strikes, followed up on their demands with the relevant authorities, and ascertained the extent to which the detention procedures conform to the best standards. The Center issued press statements on its procedures in a timely manner.

Challenges to monitor complaints in 2022:

The high number of pending complaints monitored by the Center is due to many reasons among which the following:

.1 Lack of response or delayed responses from the concerned parties or providing formal responses to such complaints or failure to provide the Center with the documentation required for completion and verification of certain complaints.³⁰⁹

.2 Complainants' unwillingness to pursue complaints for special reasons and/or lack of cooperation with each other in some cases.

.3 Urgent Need for Training of Liaison Officers/Focal Points of ministries and official institutions and in human rights and technical skills to deal with complaints, comments and inquiries received by the Center.

³⁰⁹ It is noted that there is a circular issued by the State of the Prime Minister, bearing No. 5820/18/11/1 of 22/3/2011, mentioning a response period of 30 days.

Annex No. (2)

National Center for Human Rights Main Achievements for 2022

The 2022 report on the achievements of the National Center for Human Rights shows the tasks carried out by the Center's Commissions on Monitoring, Legislations, Training and Participatory Commissions and Departments to protect and promote human rights under the powers entrusted to it under the National Center for Human Rights Law No. 51 of 2006 and as amended during 2022. These tasks and activities constitute the main source and cornerstone for the content and recommendations of the nineteenth annual report.

Achievements for the Commission of Protection for 2022

The Protection Commission comprises four departments: the Department of Civil and Political Rights, the Department of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Department of Groups Most in Need of Protection, the Department of International Mechanisms and the Preparation of Reports.

Civil and political rights management

The Department comprises three units: the Complaints, Follow-up and Ending of Violations Unit, the Criminal Justice Unit and the Basic Rights and Freedoms Unit.

- **Complaints, Follow-up and Ending of Violations Unit:** During 2022, the Unit received 620 complaints. Direct contact was made with the complainant (as appropriate), and/or a letter was sent on the substance of the complaint based on an integrated legal analysis of the subject of the complaint based on the national legal system and international human rights standards. After the inclusion of the complaint through the Center's electronic system, the Unit's correspondence reached (652) letters to relevant official and unofficial authorities

404 responses were received from the relevant authorities, in addition to a field visit (when necessary) and follow-up, monitoring and verification of complaints on the ground with the competent authorities, analysis of the outcomes, in addition to the formation of fact-finding teams on specialized topics, preparation of monitoring reports and their follow-up, including the documentation of their outputs in the annual human rights report and the preparation of the relevant draft data.

- **Criminal Justice Unit:** The Unit carried out a series of field visits to correction and rehabilitation centers (95) and temporary detention centers (15) as follows:
 - 1 To carry out unannounced field visits to correction and rehabilitation centers and temporary detention centers; to learn about the custodial environment, services provided to inmates, and the extent of compatibility with national legislation and international human rights standards.
 - 2 Field visits to meet with detainees; Investigate complaints submitted by the Center about allegations of torture, ill-treatment or cruel or inhuman treatment from law enforcement agencies, whether during the initial investigation or after their transfer to correctional and rehabilitation centers.
 - 3. Follow up on those arrested after participating in protests and demonstrations or calling for them or because of what they published on social media and other websites, and monitor the reasons for their criminal prosecution, the conditions of their detention and arrest, and the legal procedures taken against them.
 - 4 visits to inmates who apply to meet with the team of the National Center for Human Rights through the Department of Correctional and Rehabilitation Centers.

• **Basic Rights and Freedoms Unit**

- 1. Monitoring the conduct of the electoral process (parliamentary, municipal, governorate and capital councils, professional unions,...) represented in:
 - Monitoring the elections of provincial councils, municipal councils and the Greater Amman Municipality through field monitoring, analysis of outputs, issuing statements during the voting stage, preparing a specialized report on monitoring the electoral process, providing it to the relevant authorities, and publishing it electronically, addressing official bodies with observations and relevant recommendations.
 - Monitoring the 2022-2025 elections of the Bar Council through: field monitoring, analysis of outputs, issuing data during the voting stage, preparing a specialized report on monitoring the electoral process, providing it to stakeholders, publishing it electronically, and communicating with official authorities with monitoring observations and relevant recommendations.
- 2. Monitoring of peaceful assemblies by monitoring sit-ins

The most prominent sit-ins that the Center observed during 2022: Monitoring of the unemployed in Karak/Fuqu'a Governorate, the sit-in of the unemployed in Madaba Governorate, the sit-in of the legal lawyers in Madaba Governorate, the sit-in of the retirees of the Jordanian Phosphate Mining Company, the sit-in of the unemployed in Tafilah Governorate, the sit-in of the employees of category III in the Ministry of Education, the sit-in of the affected owners of the facilities in front of the Libyan Embassy to demand the services provided to Libyans while they were in Jordan, the sit-in of the employees of the Jordanian Syrian company in front of the Ministry of Local Administration to demand their salaries, the sit-in of the unemployed in front of the Royal Amer Diwan, sit-in of teachers in front of the Ministry of Education, sit-in of drivers working on licensed apps, monitoring of a sit-in by the people of Al-Thaghra village/Governorate of Maan, monitoring of the sit-in of truck owners.

- 3 - Monitoring the justice sector through the preparation of a list of specialized monitoring issues for the justice sector, and the implementation of periodic field visits to the courts of the Kingdom in the three provinces.

Management of economic, social and cultural rights

The Department has two units: the Right to Education Unit and the Right to Health, Food and Environment Unit.

Highlights of the Department's 2022 Achievements:

- 1. Monitoring visits to 15 schools of the Ministry of Education to assess the situation of these schools and the extent to which students enjoy the right to education.
- 2 Field monitoring visits to hospitals and primary health centers to assess the state of health, treatment and preventive services provided to citizens
- 3 Ten monitoring visits to areas of environmental pollution and water shortages.
- 4. Conducting the necessary investigation into the explosion of a tanker loaded with chlorine gas at the port of Aqaba, which killed 13 people and injured 250, and to prepare a report on the results of the verification process. To address the Ministers of Health, the Minister of Labor, the Ministry of Transport, the Aqaba Special Economic Zone Authority, the General Organization for Social Security, the Aqaba Port Management and Operation Company, the Director of Civil Defense, and other bodies on the findings and recommendations of the report of the National Center on the incident, and receiving communications from these authorities indicating that they have taken these recommendations.

- 5 Participation in the 2022 regional course on official institutions of human rights and economic, social and cultural rights, organized by the Danish Institute for Human Rights during the period from the 24th to the 29th of October 2022 in Tunisia.

Third, managing those in most need of protection

The Department has two units: the Women's Rights Unit and the Disabled, Elderly, Juvenile and Child Unit.

- 1. Monitoring the situation of juveniles in care homes, monitoring the situation of children in conflict with the law in education and rehabilitation centers, preparing eight monitoring reports on these visits, addressing the relevant authorities, and receiving responses from these bodies, which are included in the annual report under the chapter of those most in need of protection.
- 2. Monitoring the participation of women, persons with disabilities and the elderly in the provincial and municipal council elections and the Greater Amman Municipality, and preparing a specialized monitoring report.
- 3 Engage with stakeholders in the preparation of reports on Goals V and X of the Sustainable Development Goals.
- 4. Carry out visits to monitor the situation of the rights of older persons in shelters, prepare three human rights monitoring reports, address the Ministry of Social Development with the results of visits, receive official responses from the Ministry and include them in the annual report.
- 5. Monitor the benefit of persons with disabilities from the services provided by commercial banks through the implementation of 41 visits and the preparation of a special report.

- 6 Prepare a research paper on monitoring the reality of violence against children.
- 7 Two field visits to child beggars' care and rehabilitation homes.
- 8 Three visits to family shelters to monitor women's rights and prepare special reports.

Committee Participation and Reporting

- High Steering Committee for Juvenile Justice
- National Team for the Protection against Domestic Violence
 - National Training Team on the Right to Information
 - Media Complaints Commission - Media Authority
- Legal Aid Commission of the Ministry of Justice
 - National Survey Commission for Access to Justice and Legal Aid Needs - Ministry of Justice
- Youth and Peace Committee
- Marriage Contracts Stipulation Committee
 - The Equal Opportunities Commission is established under article 14 of the Persons with Disabilities Act.
- Committee to Follow up on the Implementation of the National Plan for the Implementation of Resolution 1325
- Committee to establish a National Observatory for Women's Murders under the umbrella of the National Center for Human Rights.
- Committee of the Candle Network Against Violence Against Women.
- Committee for the Follow-up to the National Strategy for Older Persons.
- The Equity Committee.
- National Strategic Plan for Mental Health Preparation Team.2022-2026

- Human Trafficking Committee
- "The Advisory Committee for a Better Work Project, run by the ILO in collaboration with the Ministry of Labor."
- The National Referral Mechanism and Standard Operating Procedures for Dealing with Human Trafficking Cases Preparation Team.
- Preparation and submission of the shadow report on the Arab Charter on Human Rights

Released Data:

The Office of the High Commissioner for Protection issued 19 press releases, 12 statements on civil and political rights, (5) statements on those most in need of protection, and (2) statements on economic, social and cultural rights.

Achievements of the Commission for Promotion for 2022

The Promotion Commission has three departments: Awareness and Training Department, Studies and Documentation Department, Legislation Department, and Project Unit.

The Department of Education and Training.

The Department conducted 14 training courses and 12 lectures on human rights issues.

Management of studies and documentation,

Rural women's rights between national laws and international standards.

- 1 Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on school dropout.
- 2. Gender-based violence against women

- 3. Preparation of the report on the extent of the implementation of the recommendations of the Center's reports for 2021-2022.
Preparation of a matrix of universal periodic review recommendations.
- 4. Preparation of a position paper on the right to establish political parties
- 5. Preparation of a position paper on the right to establish associations.
- 6. Study of debtor incarceration in accordance with the enforcement law and international standards.
- 7. Expanding the umbrella of the Quartet Dialogue Forum by including the Council of the Nation as a member of the Forum.
- 8 Signing of a memorandum of understanding with the Center for Strategic Studies.
- 9 Memorandum of understanding with the Department of Statistics
- 10 Preparation of a concept paper for the Quadrilateral Dialogue Forum with a view to promoting and sustaining effective communication with the Center
- 11 reports on the right to establish political parties between a national perspective and international standards, based on the findings of monitoring reports
- 12 Eight field visits to a group of parties to monitor the situation of political parties.
- 22 Monitoring of the two components of the right to establish political parties and the right to freedom of association and of their respective developments throughout the year.
- 23 Eight visits to the National Library and the Library of the University of Jordan for the purpose of preparing three studies on awareness of human rights.
- 24 Conduct of 4 visits to the Independent Electoral Commission to follow up on developments regarding the right to form parties.

- 25 Conducting six visits to the Ministry of Social Development to update some information on the annual report.

- 26 Four visits to the Ministry of Political Affairs to update information on the annual report.

Legislative management.

- 1 Preparation of a legislative matrix containing all laws and legislation of a juridical nature during 2022 to remain a pillar of the legislative work of the Center.

- 2. Participation in a legal committee to study the legislation contained in the eighteenth annual report for 2021.

- 3. Prepare a review of a number of relevant legislations during 2022, the most prominent of which are the Election Law, the Local Administration Law, and the Law on Political Parties.

- 4 Preparation of a position paper on the declaration of the Tribal Jilwa document and its implementation by the Ministry of the Interior.

Achievements in international relations management

Prepare the 2022 report on the re-accreditation of the Center and follow up the accreditation procedures with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Participation in the annual meeting of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions, the Asia-Pacific Forum and the Arab Network of National Human Rights Institutions.

.3 Liaise and follow up with international mechanisms (treaty and non-treaty) on the timetable for the preparation and discussion of the Center's shadow reports.

.4. Resume the partnership program with the Danish Institute for Human Rights Education in the field of human rights education in cooperation with the Ministry of Education.

.5. Participation in the 19th General Assembly of the Arab Network of National Human Rights Institutions in the Mauritanian capital Nouakchott.

.6. Participation of the Center in the regional consultations for the Middle East and North Africa region on sustainable development and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights held on 2022 May 19, and contribution to the preparation of a working paper on the impact of sustainable development on equality and non-discrimination - experience of the National Center for Human Rights.

.7. Participation in the regional symposium on the preparation of a national mechanism to prepare and follow up reports with international human rights mechanisms (treaty bodies, universal periodic review, special procedures).

.8. Participation of the Center in the training course on "The role of national human rights institutions in monitoring human rights, receiving complaints and preparing reports" organized by the Arab Network of National Human Rights Institutions, the United Nations Center for Human Rights Training and Documentation - Doha Office and the National Human Rights Commission of the Lebanese Republic during the period 2022/11/10-7

.9. Follow up with the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Russia (a national human rights institution) on cooperation and partnership frameworks, and study the possibility of signing a memorandum of understanding for cooperation and exchange of experiences.

.10. Participation in the meeting of the Executive Office of National Human Rights Institutions held in Marrakech during the period 27-28/10/2022.

.11. The Center's participation in the 20th Ordinary Session of the Independent Permanent Commission for Human Rights of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, held in Jeddah in 18-21/12/2022.

.12. Meeting with the United Nations Envoy for Elections to hear the experience of the National Center in monitoring and observing the parliamentary, provincial and municipal elections.

.13. Participation in a discussion session at the EU Delegation Headquarters for representatives of EU embassies in Jordan on the 17th Annual Human Rights Situation Report 2020

Launch of the eighteenth annual report

The National Center for Human Rights issued its 18th annual report in 2022 providing a legal assessment and description of the human rights situation based on the competencies and responsibilities entrusted to it in Law No. 51 of 2006, as amended by the promotion and protection of human rights at the national level. The annual report on the human rights situation constitutes a national document for the maintenance of communication and coordination with the three authorities based on the text of article 12 of the Center's Law and its amendments, which included the submission of the Center's report to the Senate, the House of Representatives and the Cabinet.

- Delivery of the annual report

The Center presented the eighteenth annual report to HM King Abdullah II Ibn Al Hussein which was received it by the Royal Amer Diwan

The President of the Board of Trustees handed a copy of the eighteenth annual report on the human rights situation to the Prime Minister, the Presidents of the Senate, the Members of Parliament and the President of the Judicial Council. She confirmed the Center's desire to institutionalize the relationship between it and the three authorities in a way that ensures the sustainability of coordination and increases its levels and desired results, specifically within the framework of the harmonization of domestic laws with the Constitution and international conventions.

- Holding of meetings

The National Center for Human Rights held a number of television and radio meetings, as well as sessions and discussion sessions at universities and colleges, with the aim of spreading awareness and educating about the contents of the annual report. The Center also participated by providing a series of lectures and working papers on the eighteenth annual report on the human rights situation through courses and workshops organized by many civil society organizations.





SB 5503 Amman 11183 Jordan Tel. +962 9 5932257 -
5932257 - 5931256 Fax: +962 6 5930072

Website: www.nchr.org.jo
Email: mail@nchr.org.jo