



Human Rights Council
Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review
Thirty-first session
5-16 November 2018

Summary of Stakeholders' submissions on Jordan*

Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

I. Background

1. The present report was prepared pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21, taking into consideration the periodicity of the universal periodic review. It is a summary of 36 stakeholders' submissions¹ to the universal periodic review, presented in a summarized manner owing to word-limit constraints. A separate section is provided for the contribution by the national human rights institution that is accredited in full compliance with the Paris Principles.

II. Information provided by the national human rights institution accredited in full compliance with the Paris Principles

2. The National Center for Human Rights (NCHR) observed that from 2013 until 2018, the Jordanian government had genuinely sought to achieve progress in the human rights situation in the country. The authorities have responded to a number of the recommendations provided by the National Center and have introduced amendments to a number of national legislations that contributed to the promotion of human rights, especially amendments to the Law on Independence of the Judiciary, the Juveniles Act, the Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure, to improve its compliance with international standards.²

3. Despite the official efforts made to advance the human rights situation, the National Center noted that there were still a number of challenges that hinder progress in this area. These include the failure to integrate international human rights conventions into national legislation; continued allegations against law enforcement agencies in dealing with activists; the policies on issues of public freedoms in general, freedom of opinion and expression and freedom of association in particular; and failure to adequately respond to complaints received by the National Center and transferred to the relevant official authorities. The National Center indicated that one of the most serious challenges for the

* The present document was not edited before being sent to United Nations translation services.



government remained the balancing national security and respect for human rights. The issue of combating terrorism and extremism had become a challenge to the freedom of opinion and expression, respect for privacy and the requirements of fair trial.³

4. The NCHR recommended, amongst others, that Jordan continue to study the legislation on the death penalty and restrict its scope to the most serious crimes and legislation that include restricting the application of the death penalty and establishing more stringent controls and conditions on the investigation of criminal cases punishable by death and certainty of the strength of evidence against the accused, ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance for the year 2006; accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, 2006; amend the text of article 208 of the Penal Code concerning the criminalization of torture to ensure that is not subject to general or special amnesties and statute of limitations.⁴

5. The NCHR further called on Jordan to abolition of the Crime Prevention Act of 1954; to expedite the amendment of national legislation to ensure that detainees are in contact with their families and enjoy access to legal and medical support, from the moment of arrest and throughout the period of preliminary investigation.⁵

6. The NCHR urged the Government to amend the Press and Publication Law No. 8 of 1998, especially with regard to revoking the requirement of pre-licensing publications and electronic news websites; amend of the Prevention of Terrorism Law No. 55 of 2006, especially article 2 on the definition of terrorism and the repeal of article 3, paragraph (b), and the amendment of article 3, paragraph (e), concerning the promotion of the ideas of a terrorist group; amend article 11 of the Electronic Crime Prevention Law No. 27 of 2015 by adding a text that includes the non-suspension of journalists in cases of defamation and libel of publications on websites.⁶

III. Information provided by other stakeholders

A. Scope of international obligations⁷ and cooperation with international human rights mechanisms and bodies⁸

7. Al Karama recommended Jordan to ratify the OPCAT, ICCPR-OP1, ICCPR-OP2, and ICPPED and make declarations under articles 21 and 22 UNCAT; JS3 recommended ratifying the ILO Convention No. 87 and ICMW; ICAN recommended Jordan to sign and ratify the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons as a matter of international urgency⁹; and JS4 recommended ratifying ILO Convention No. 87.¹⁰

8. Al Karama noted that, although Jordan issued a standing invitation to all Special Procedures in 2006, its cooperation with the latter has remained limited since its last UPR. Moreover, Al Karama regretted that the opinions of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (WGAD) calling for the release of Messrs Adam Al Natour (Opinion No. 39/2016), Ghassan Mohammed Salim Duar (Opinion No. 17/2017) and Hatem Al Darawsheh (Opinion No. 46/2017) had not been implemented by the authorities.¹¹

9. JS8 recommended, amongst others, that Jordan amend article 208(2) of the Penal Code, so it becomes compatible with the definition of torture in article 1(1), 2(1) and 4(1) of the UN CAT and Article 7 of the ICCPR; amending article 208 of the Penal Code, where it shall clearly and explicitly state that it is prohibited to enable the perpetrator of the torture crime to invoke that he/she was acting according to orders issued by a senior officer or a public authority as an excuse to commit the crime.¹²

10. JS9 observed that provisions of international conventions are seldom, if ever, invoked during national court proceedings, which – according to JS9 – suggests a general lack of awareness of the importance of these conventions. The JS9 recommended that Jordan take steps to ensure that legislative, judicial and administrative measures are taken in order to apply the provisions of international conventions and to recognize them as a legally binding instruments, including by raising awareness of the treaties and conventions that Jordan is a party to.

B. National human rights framework¹³

11. The Jordan National Centre for Human Rights – created in 2002 - was re-accredited with the A status in November 2015 by the Sub-Committee on Accreditation of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions.¹⁴

12. Al Karama provided that, although the NCHR played an active role in the country, it was still not provided with the adequate means to carry out its mandate.¹⁵ Key concerns included the lack of a clear, transparent and participatory selection and appointment process of its members as well as the high level of interference from the executive over the NCHR. Furthermore, the NCHR did not enjoy sufficient investigative powers, nor an effective complaint mechanism.¹⁶

13. ICAN noted with appreciation that Jordan participated in the negotiation of the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear weapons, and voted in favour of its adoption on 7 July 2017. However, Jordan has not yet signed the Treaty. ICAN recommends that Jordan signs and ratifies the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons as a matter of international urgency.¹⁷

C. Implementation of international human rights obligations, taking into account applicable international humanitarian law¹⁸

1. Cross-cutting issues

Development, the environment, and business and human rights

14. Dibeen noted that during the first and second UPR cycles, Jordan received a combined total of two recommendations related to the right to water and sanitation and that, although Jordan supported both recommendations, these were only partially implemented. Dibeen recommends the government of Jordan to enact a comprehensive law for water that ensures the concept of the right to access water in sufficient, safe and clean quantities, as well as sanitation services for all members of society, including the marginalized groups of women, children, refugees, and others.¹⁹

15. The Iradat Shabab Coalition recommended, amongst others, that Jordan enact a Jordanian water law to ensure distributing powers between various governmental and national entities to ensure the right to clean water and sanitation for all (Goals 6, 14.1); and enact a law on land use to protect agricultural and forest land in implementation of Article 57 of Agriculture Law of 2015 and in line with the Paris Agreement (Goals 13 and 15).

Human rights and counter-terrorism

16. Al Karama provided that, Jordan's Anti-Terrorism Law No. 55 of 2006 contained a broad definition of terrorism that allows the authorities to prosecute before the State Security Court (SSC) anyone who exercises his/her fundamental rights to freedom of expression or peaceful assembly. In 2014, amendments were made to the law that further broadened its scope and criminalised nonviolent acts such as “disturbing the public order” or “posing an economic risk”. The amendments added common crimes defined in the Penal Code under the definition of terrorism, such as “disturbing relations with a foreign country”.²⁰

17. Similarly, JS9 urged the Government to amend the Prevention of Terrorism Act and to define terrorism and terrorist acts in a precise manner and in line with international conventions and obligations.²¹

18. Al Karama stated that human rights violations committed under the pretext of counter-terrorism measures have been perpetrated primarily by the GID – whose director is appointed by the king and reports to the prime minister – and by the SSC. Al Karama also reported that, among the methods of torture employed by the GID are beatings on the body including the soles of the feet (“falaqa”), stress positions, sleep and food deprivation, injections that cause states of extreme anxiety, humiliation, threats of rape against the victim and family members, and electric shocks. The GID systematically places detainees

in solitary confinement for prolonged periods of time. Cases of terrorism fall under the SSC's jurisdiction, which functions in close collaboration with the GID.²²

2. Civil and political rights

*Right to life, liberty and security of person*²³

19. Al Karama stated that, under Jordanian law, anyone who was arrested must be brought before a judicial authority within 24 hours. In practice, the time limit for detaining suspects before the involvement of the Public Prosecutor was frequently exceeded, in some cases by several months. There was no legal provision to protect the right to *habeas corpus*. The Code of Criminal Procedure (CCP) did not explicitly mention the right of arrestees to contact their family.²⁴

20. JS5 noted that Jordan continued to impose and carry out death sentences, which was permitted for a variety of crimes that did not involve intentional killing, including rape, drug trafficking, and political crimes "most serious crimes", fully implement the National Plan for Human Rights 2016-2025 to reduce the number of crimes punishable by death and ensure fair trial rights, repeal or amend laws that call for a mandatory death sentence and refrain from using the death penalty as a response to terrorism.²⁵

21. JS6 further stated that, following the Arab Spring and rise of the Islamic State (IS), Jordan continued issuing death sentences and continues to carry out several executions each year. JS also stated that, in 2017, 120 adults were on the death row, twelve of whom were women. According to Amnesty International, Jordanian judges handed down 13 death sentences in 2016.²⁶

22. ACHRS stated that, out of all the amendments to the Penal Code in 2017, the most significant was the repeal of Article 308. This article was called a "reward in cases of rapes", as it gave leeway for a man to avoid punishment if he promised to marry the women he raped and stayed married for at least three years. The article was added to the Penal Code to preserve the honour of raped women, but it had severe consequences for the lives of raped women as they were forced to marry their rapists.²⁷

23. ACHRS stated that, in a similar manner, the amendment to Article 98 of the Penal Code is paradigmatic. Such article provided for extenuating circumstances in cases of killings of an unfaithful wife if under the influence of an extreme anger, such as finding her in the act. Recent reform has changed these extenuating circumstances to allow for a wife to similarly kill a husband in similar situations with mitigated punishments, an accomplishment of dubious worth.²⁸

*Administration of justice, including impunity, and the rule of law*²⁹

24. JS2 recommended that the government repeal article (2) of the State Security Court Law which granted the Prime Minister the authority to form the court and appoint its judges; facilitate access to justice for all groups in society by providing means of accessing free legal assistance to those who need it, and to all people residing in Jordan, including refugees and expatriate labor; and work on reinforcing the role of women in the justice sector in general and inside Sharia courts in particular, where the judiciary in Sharia courts remained restricted to men.³⁰

25. HRW stated that perpetrators of torture or other ill-treatment continued to enjoy impunity, and recommended Jordan to remove jurisdiction over criminal matters involving police and prison abuse from the Police Court and transfer it to regular civilian courts.³¹

26. JS8 provided that, despite the fact that Jordan amended the Penal Code in mid-2017 to raise the minimum limit of the penalty from 6 months to one year, torture is still considered as a minor offence and is classified as misdemeanour. JS8 noted that the penalty still lacks proportionality with the nature and gravity of torture crime and that torture crimes are still subject to the expiration of the statute of limitation and to general and private amnesty. According to JS8, the definition of torture in the Jordanian legislation does not comply with the definition stated in the UN CAT, and that the courts did not issue any conviction based on the commission of torture crime and based on that no one was

compensated for being a victim of such crime. In addition to the previous shortcomings, JS8 held that the related legislations are short of clear text stating victims' rights to any compensation once proven that such crime was committed against them. JS8 claimed that there are no legislations or procedures which provide the victims or the witnesses in such crimes with the needed protection; and that the crime of torture still falls under the jurisdiction of the Police Courts, which are not independent bodies since it represents the perpetrator.³²

27. JS7 recommended that Jordan: provide shelter services and protection to vulnerable women threatened with honor crimes instead of protective imprisonment; amend the text of article 100 of the constitution in order to stipulate clearly that the period of detention starts when the suspect is arrested; amend the Independence of the Judiciary Law to grant judges more protection against permanent leave decisions, arbitrary transfer, and retirement; and abolish and amend articles in the Anti-terrorism Law and Electronic Crimes Law that criminalize expression of opinion and restricts freedom of expression.³³

*Fundamental freedoms and the right to participate in public and political life*³⁴

28. Access Now commended efforts made by the Government, but noted that according to the Freedom House, Jordan's freedom score is 51 of 100 because of the government's restriction on connectivity and the passage of law that chills freedom of expression rights online. It observed that from June 2016 to May 2017, the telecom operators in Jordan continued to block VoIP calling features on various communication applications, including Viber, WhatsApp, and Skype.³⁵

29. ACHRS stated that representatives in the lower chamber of the parliament are elected in a proportional way on the basis of electoral districts. However, the distribution of the representatives coming from each district is not proportionate to its population. Furthermore, the Independent Election Commission was established in order to manage the election, to check results, and to distribute the seats. There was no representation of the political parties, the trade unions and the civil society at large.³⁶

30. JS4 and JS3 stated that although the right to form trade unions is constitutionally protected, in law and in practice this right is subject to debilitating and unwarranted limitations. In practice, no trade union has been approved to register in 42 years and the only functional union in Jordan, the General Federation of Jordanian Trade Unions (GFJTU), is neither independent nor truly representative of workers.³⁷

31. ADF International praised Jordan for upholding relatively high levels of religious freedom among Middle Eastern countries. The constitution mandates that the State guarantees free exercise of all forms of worship and religious rites, but it also declared Islam the official religion. It noted that although expatriate Christians and those born into Jordan's native Christian communities enjoy relative religious freedom, Muslim converts to Christianity suffer heavy persecution.³⁸

32. JS4, Al Karama, JIPJHR and HRW stated that the legal framework that regulated the right to the freedom of expression was heavily restrictive. The Government utilizes legal and legislative tools to prosecute individuals for their peaceful expression of opinion, as legislation criminalises defamation, speech deemed critical of the king and the denigration of government officials.³⁹

33. The ACHRS stated that one of the main problem linked to academic freedom is the fact that professors are not free to establish professional unions, thus their right to association is restricted by the law, in violation of article 22 ICCPR. Following this, a more recent research, conducted in 2017, showed that the situation is still the same and that academics are still restricted in their ability to form and join unions.⁴⁰

34. JS11 noted that several students have been arrested by security agencies and authorities in cases relating to freedom of speech and expression. It recommended Jordan, amongst other things, to allow political parties to enter and set up activities in universities; to prevent the Deanship of Student Affairs and the security agencies from influencing the university elections or student choices; to allow students the opportunity to train in

decision-making institutions; to prevent any authority figures in the university from threatening anyone.⁴¹

35. JS11 observed that, since early 2010, reports have emerged of increased reliance on surveillance, including to repress dissent, as more charges derived from surveillance are being pressed against activists. Despite growing concerns raised by civil society organisations in relation to the right to privacy in Jordan, there is very little independent, publicly scrutiny of policy and legislative processes on privacy, data protection and communications surveillance, and very limited reports on the surveillance powers and practices of Jordanian authorities.⁴²

36. JS11 stated that, although there are some laws regulating communications surveillance as well as regulations which impose obligations on service providers to enable and/or conduct themselves communications surveillance activities, when it comes to digital communications, there are no laws regulating their access by law enforcement and intelligence agencies⁴³. It also claimed that the Anti-Terrorism Law of 2006 lacks many substantive and procedural safeguards needed to ensure any interference with privacy is lawful, necessary and proportionate. The law authorises the general prosecutor to subject someone to surveillance based on "reliable" information that links that person to "terrorist activities" without any clear language prescribing what "reliable" or "activity" means. Its article 4 states: "If the Prosecutor General received reliable information indicating that a person or group of persons is connected to any terrorist activity, the Prosecutor General can impose surveillance over the residence of the suspect, their movements, and their means of communication. JS11 held that the weak threshold ("reliable information") falls short of the standard of "reasonable suspicion" set by human rights law and it provides too broad a discretion to allow for the request of a warrant.⁴⁴

37. In order to be lawful and in respect with international human rights law, communications surveillance must meet the minimum standards of being enshrined in clear and public laws, being necessary in a democratic society to achieve a legitimate aim and proportionate to that aim. Individuals must be protected against arbitrary interference with their right to communicate privately. When a government wishes to conduct communications surveillance, it must only be done in accordance with clear and transparent law. JS11 stated that it is therefore urgent that Jordan address the legal and regulatory void which law enforcement and security agencies in Jordan are currently operating in. Jordan must legislate to regulate surveillance activities conducted by law enforcement and security agencies as soon as possible.⁴⁵

38. JS10 recommended that Jordan initiate a process to legislate on communication surveillance by all state entities, including law enforcement and security agencies, to ensure that all communications activities are conducted in respect for the right to privacy and comply with Jordan's national and international human rights obligations.⁴⁶

39. The Committee to Protect Journalists recommended, amongst other things, that the Jordanian government rescind the 2012 amendments to the Press and Publications Law to promote an open and free press; broad the definition of who is a journalist; decriminalize defamation and allow journalists to do their job freely without interference or fear of reprisal; take appropriate legislative steps to ensure that Jordan's media regulations and laws and state practice are brought in line with international human rights; and conduct impartial investigations into all cases of attacks, harassment and intimidation of journalists, media outlets, and press freedom groups.⁴⁷ CDFJ made similar recommendations.⁴⁸

40. CDFJ stated that from 2013 to 2017, 947 violations that affected the media freedom against 241 journalists and 34 media institutions were documented. These violations included detaining media professionals, assaults on journalists and impunity to the perpetrators. It recommended Jordan to commit to holding independent and fair investigations in all cases involving an assault against journalists; end the policy of impunity for its perpetrators; and ensure fair treatment for the victims of random detention and/or assaults and humiliating and inhuman treatment.⁴⁹

41. CMN stated that Jordanian law did not recognize "community radio" as a special category, nor did it provide any financial incentives to not-for-profit radio stations.⁵⁰ It

recommended Jordan to recognize and create an enabling environment for community media in Jordan.⁵¹

*Right to privacy and family life*⁵²

42. HRW, Mosawa Network, JS7 and JS6 recommended Jordan to allow women to pass on their citizenship to their children and spouses.⁵³

3. Economic, social and cultural rights

*Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work*⁵⁴

43. The Arab Women's Legal Network observed that forced labor was not treated as a crime and recommended Jordan to enlist forced labor as a crime, in line with its constitutional and international obligation.⁵⁵

44. Rasheed urged Jordan to amend the legislation related to public service jobs to ensure equal opportunities for citizens to obtain public positions, by following transparent procedures; to activate the mechanism of complaints in all stages of appointment.⁵⁶

45. JS3 stated that during 2nd UPR Cycle, Jordan accepted the recommendations towards "combatting unemployment". However, Jordan's job-creating capabilities had sharply declined. Whereas 2007/2008 the Jordanian economy was capable of creating 70,000 new jobs yearly, by the end of 2016 this figure had dropped to 48,000. JS3 recommended Jordan to review the economic model and stimulate the national economy by encouraging investment in labour-intensive productive sectors to alleviate unemployment and generate adequate and decent job opportunities; implement the national framework developed by the government with ILO for the transition to the formal economy in 2014; review wage policies to increase them and enforce them in the formal and informal economy; and amend Penal law to introduce Forced Labor as serious crime against persons.⁵⁷

*Right to social security*⁵⁸

46. JS3 stated that although in 2014 the government issued a "national framework for the transition to the formal economy in Jordan" that emphasized a set of principles which included respect for the rights of individuals and respect for basic labor rights for all workers, including those in the informal economy; the framework has not been implemented, with the exception of campaigns to expand the social security base. Nevertheless, only approximately 1.22 million active workers in Jordan were covered by social security.⁵⁹

47. JS3 recommended Jordan to broaden the reach of national social security system, to ensure decent minimum living standards and ensure that the domestic workers are included in the social security system.⁶⁰

*Right to education*⁶¹

48. JS1 stated that, according to official figures, there was a total of 414,358 under-18 married women in Jordan. Among these women, 253,155 were Jordanians, while 113,370 were Syrians and 47,833 were of other different nationalities. In other words, the percentage of women who were married before turning 18 stood at 21 % on the national level. Jordanians accounted for 17.6 % compared to 39.5% of Syrians and 19.2 % of other nationalities. It recommended Jordan to take all necessary measures to improve access to education and its quality and train highly-qualified teachers, with special emphasis on rural areas where males drop out and join the labor force and females go for early marriage.⁶²

49. Al Aman Center for Human Rights observed that although education was mandatory until 10th grade, after reviewing the Education Law No 3 of 1991, it becomes clear that the law is not fully enforced, and does not include serious penalties to limit drop outs.⁶³

4. Rights of specific persons or groups

*Women*⁶⁴

50. The Arab Women Organization of Jordan (AWO JO) noted positive developments over the past year after years-long campaigning, the Jordanian Parliament abolished Article 308 of the Penal Code which allowed a rapist to avoid punishment by marrying his victim for a minimum of 5 years. The reform also included increasing the sentence for perpetrators of honour crimes. In addition to Amman, the public governmental shelter “Dar Al Wifaq Al Osari” has been inaugurated with another branch in Irbid, providing relief services for women of all nationalities subjected to violence or at risk of honour crimes. It stressed, however, that violence against women remain widespread. Every year about 15 to 20 women face a crime by a male family member in the name of contravening social norms of “honour”. The Penal Code still allowed reduced sentences for those who murder their spouses when discovered committing adultery. Studies showed that 1 in 3 women in Jordan had been subjected to an incident of physical violence, yet only 3% of victims seek support from the authorities, largely due the rejection of domestic violence claims by the justice system and the lack of standard operating procedures.⁶⁵

51. AWO JO stated that girl marriage is another form of violence at an increasing rate in the Jordan, especially amongst refugee communities, accounting for 17.6% of all marriages among Jordanian women and 39.5% among Syrian refugee women. Although the legal age of marriage is 18, the pertinent law confers judicial discretion to allow for an exception for the marriage of girls under 18 if “it is in their best interest”. This power can be exercised by a single male judge without any monitoring body or mechanism of reporting and accountability of violations that might occur.⁶⁶

52. The American University of Madara (AUM) stated that a large obstacle that Jordan faced with gender and education is gender mainstreaming. Yet most schools in Jordan continue to cast and sustain traditional and outdated roles of a woman in society. By doing so, the educational system reinforces the notion of the gender identity from a young age and perpetuates traditional gender status, thereby undermining women’s social status, autonomy, educational opportunities, and professional careers.⁶⁷

53. Mosawa Network recommended that Jordan amend its Constitution to include “gender” as a basis for non-discrimination. Equality and equal opportunities should be mentioned in the Constitution as well as criminalizing discrimination.⁶⁸

54. AWO JO, HRW, Jordan UPR Observatory, Arab Women’s Legal Network and Bushra Center raised concerns about the Jordanian Nationality Law No 6 of 1954 did not treat Jordanian men and women equally, denying women married to non-Jordanians, the right to pass on their citizenship to their children or their spouses, in clear contravention to all international agreements ratified by Jordan.⁶⁹

*Children*⁷⁰

55. The Bushra Center noted that the percentage of females who married in 2015 under the age of 18 to total females married in 2015 reached 18.1% on the national level compared to 11.6 % in 2011. In addition, situations of poverty and out-of-wedlock pregnancy often result in authorizations of such marriages. For instance, EPCAT noted that the number of early and forced marriages among Syrian refugee girls tripled to reach 32%.⁷¹

56. EPCAT noted that the Penal Code criminalised sexual intercourse with a child under 15 years of age regardless of consent, and adds an aggravated penalty if the girl was under 12 years of age. However, rape was only penalised if the victim was female. Marital rape was explicitly not criminalised. The Penal Code criminalised procurement, attempted procurement, coercion or deception of a woman with the view of engaging her in prostitution. However, regarding child prostitution it only criminalised “a caretaker of a child between 6 and 16 years of age, who permits the said child to reside in, or regularly frequent, a brothel” for an imprisonment for up to six months of a fine or up to 20 Dinars (23,6 Euros).⁷²

57. EPCAT informed that in 2016 a unit dedicated to combat online sexual exploitation of children has been established.⁷³ It recommended ensuring law enforcement agencies have the resources and skills to identify, investigate and respond to sexual exploitation cases.⁷⁴

58. GIEACPC stated that corporal punishment of children was lawful in the home and in some alternative care and day care settings. Prohibition in institutions requires confirmation. It was concerned that during the previous UPR there was no specific recommendation on corporal punishment of children and hoped that states will raise the issue during the next review.⁷⁵

Persons with disabilities

59. HRW commended Jordan's adoption of a new legislation to improve the lives of people with disabilities and recommended Jordan to fully implement its provisions.⁷⁶

Migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons

60. Tamkeen observed that whereas the Labour Law ought to treat both Jordanians and non-Jordanian workers, there were still discriminatory articles towards migrant workers. One example was the national minimum wage, which was raised to be 220 JDs. Tamkeen held that migrants continue to be subjected to numerous forms of verbal, physical and sexual abuses in their workplaces; especially domestic workers who in some cases were forcibly detained in the homes where they work. Tamkeen also expressed concern over the sponsorship system, under which a migrant worker was bound with an absolute subordination to the employer for the duration of the contract.⁷⁷

61. Tamkeen held that, while there had not been reports of cases of mistreatment or torture during their detention, migrant workers are still being administratively detained⁷⁸ due to their employers lodging a complaint against them, or not having personal documentations or whose residency permits have expired.

62. The Jordan UPR Observatory stated that Jordan hosts around 158 thousand Palestinians from Gaza Strip and Jordanian laws impose restrictions that limit their rights of ownership, work, medical treatment, education, membership in professional associations and other civil rights, and there were no national laws that address the legal status of the natives of Gaza Strip.⁷⁹ The Jordan UPR Observatory noted that Jordanian laws ban the employment of natives of Gaza in the public or government sector because they do not hold national numbers, and do not allow them to practice certain professions as legal practice and dentistry in accordance with the decisions by the professional associations.⁸⁰

63. HRW informed that over 655,000 persons from Syria had sought refuge in Jordan, but since June 2016, Jordan had not permitted Syrians to enter the country to seek asylum. Since 2016, Jordanian authorities had severely limited deliveries of humanitarian aid and violated the principle of non-refoulement by deporting hundreds of them.⁸¹

Notes

¹ The stakeholders listed below have contributed information for this summary; the full texts of all original submissions are available at: www.ohchr.org. (One asterisk denotes a national human rights institution with "A" status).

Civil society

Individual submissions:

AccessNow	Access Now, New York (United States of America);
ADF International	ADF International, Geneva (Switzerland);
ACRHR	Al-Aman Center for Human Rights, Amman (Jordan);
Alkarama	Al Karama Foundation, Geneva (Switzerland);
ACHRS	Amman Center for Human Rights Studies (Jordan);
AUM	American University of Madaba, Madaba (Jordan);
AWO JO	Arab Women Organization of Jordan, Amman (Jordan);
AWLN	Arab Women's Legal Network, Amman (Jordan);
Bushra Center	Bushra Center for Women's Studies and Research, Zarqa

	(Jordan);
CDFJ	Center for Defending Freedom of Journalists, Amman (Jordan);
Iradat Shabab	Coalition of Iradat Shabab for UPR, Amman (Jordan);
The CPJ	Committee to Protect Journalists, Amman (Jordan);
CMN	Community Media Network, Amman (Jordan);
Dibeen	Dibeen Association for Environmental Development, Jerash (Jordan);
ECPAT International	ECPAT International, Bangkok (Thailand);
GIEACPC	Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children, London (United Kingdom);
HRW	Human Rights Watch, Geneva (Switzerland);
ICAN	International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, Geneva (Switzerland);
JIPHR	Jordan Independent Panel on Human Rights, Amman (Jordan);
UPR-Jordan	Jordan UPR Observatory, Amman (Jordan);
MN	Mosawa Network, Amman (Jordan);
Rasheed (TI - JO)	Rasheed for Integrity and Transparency (Transparency International - Jordan), Amman (Jordan);
Tamkeen	Tamkeen Fields for Aid, Amman (Jordan).
<i>Joint submissions:</i>	
JS1	Joint submission 1 submitted by: Arab Network for Civic Education-ANHRE and the Jordanian Coalition for Education for all Amman, Jordan;
JS2	Joint submission 2 submitted by: Eye Jordan;
JS3	Joint submission 3 submitted by: The Arab NGO Network for Development & the Phoenix Center for Economics and Informatics Studies;
JS4	Joint submission 4 submitted by: CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Arab NGO Network for Development and The Phoenix Center for Economic & Informatics Studies;
JS5	Joint submission 5 submitted by: The Advocates for Human Rights, The Amman Center for Human Rights Studies, The Arab Coalition Against Death Penalty and the World Coalition Against the Death Penalty
JS6	Joint submission 6 submitted by: Amman Center for Human Rights Studies, Society for Social and Economic Empowerment for Women, Amman Forum Society for Human Rights;
JS7	Joint submission 7 submitted by: INSAN Coalition, which includes Phenix Economic and Informatics Studies Center, Justice Center for Legal Aid, Jordanian Women's Union, Federation of Independent Trade Unions, Lawyers without Borders, Wae'e Center for Human Rights Studies, Ana Insan Society for Rights of the PwD, and Human defenders and Journalist: Rania Al-Sarayrah, Nadine Al-Nimri, Muhammad Shamma, and Najat Shana'a;
JS8	Joint submission 8 submitted by: The Jordanian Civil Alliance Against Torture (JoCAT), which includes Jordanian Society for Human Rights, Tamkeen Fields for Aid, Arab Women's Legal Network, Institute for Family Health– Noor Al Hussein Foundation, Community Media Network, Al Balad Radio, Centre for Defending the Freedoms of Journalists (CDFJ), Bedaya Jadedah for Human Rights Training, Arab law Firm, Jordanian Jurist Association;
JS9	Joint submission 9 submitted by: The Jordanian Organisation Council for Human Rights (UNIHCRD)/Kamal al Mashreqi, which includes the Arab Center for Democracy and Human Rights, the Academy for Democracy and Development Studies, Lawyers Without Borders (Jordan),

East and West Center for Sustainable Development, Jerash Charity Society, Madaba Foundation for Youth, and Child Welfare Association;

JS10 **Joint submission 10 submitted by:** Privacy International (PI) and the Jordan Open Source Association (JOSA);

JS11 **Joint submission 11 submitted by:** Mistika Center for Training and Development, which includes Hamza Abdallah Abualhayja'a - manager of Mestika Center and leader of this alliance; Mohamed Ali Alawneh – activist in Human Rights at Yarmouk University; Leen Hosam Gharaibeh - activist in Human Rights at- University of Jordan; Mohamed Swedat - activist in Human Rights at Jordan University of Science and Technology, Sameer Mashhour - Manager of Human Rights Club in University of Jordan; Abraheem Qushear – activist in Human Rights at Albalqa'a Applied University; and Abdualrahman Abu Shaban- activist in Human Rights at Jordan University of science and Technology.

National human rights institution:

NCHR

The National Center for Human Rights, Amman (Jordan).

² NCHR, page 1.

³ NCHR, page 1.

⁴ NCHR, page 4.

⁵ NCHR, page 4.

⁶ NCHR, page 4.

⁷ The following abbreviations are used in UPR documents:

ICERD	International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;
OP-ICESCR	Optional Protocol to ICESCR;
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;
ICCPR-OP 1	Optional Protocol to ICCPR;
ICCPR-OP 2	Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty;
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;
OP-CEDAW	Optional Protocol to CEDAW;
CAT	Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;
OP-CAT	Optional Protocol to CAT;
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child;
OP-CRC-AC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the involvement of children in armed conflict;
OP-CRC-SC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography;
OP-CRC-IC	Optional Protocol to CRC on a communications procedure;
ICRMW	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families;
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;
OP-CRPD	Optional Protocol to CRPD;
ICPPED	International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

⁸ For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/25/9, para. 120.6 (Norway), Slovakia, Belgium, Brazil, Maldives, Ecuador, Slovenia), A/HRC/25/9, para. A/HRC/25/9, para. 118 (Bangladesh).

⁹ ICAN, page 1.

¹⁰ JS4, 6.1.

¹¹ Al Karama, page 3.

¹² JS8, page 5.

¹³ For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/25/9, para. 118.6 (Viet Nam); A/HRC/25/9, para. 118.12 (Ukraine); A/HRC/25/9, para. 118.10 (Bahrain).

- ¹⁴ Global alliance of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, *Report and Recommendations of the Session of the Sub-Committee on Accreditation (SCA)*, Geneva, 14-18 November 2016, pp. 29-31.; Al Karama.
- ¹⁵ Recommendation 118.13 from Sierra Leone regarding the resources allocated to the Jordanian National Centre for Human Rights.
- ¹⁶ Al Karama, page 2.
- ¹⁷ ICAN, page 1.
- ¹⁸ For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/25/9, para. 118.65 (Sierra Leone); A/HRC/25/9, para. 119.30 (Romania); A/HRC/25/9, para. 120.4 (France), A/HRC/25/9, para. 120.27 (Switzerland), A/HRC/25/9, para. 120.28 (Austria); A/HRC/25/9, para. 118.37 (Australia), A/HRC/25/9, para. 119.5 (Spain), A/HRC/25/9, para. 119.6 (Germany), A/HRC/25/9, para. 120.31 (Brazil); A/HRC/25/9, 2nd Cycle – 17th Session. Rec. 118.82 (Thailand), Rec. 118.83 (Qatar), Rec. 118.85 (Greece), Rec. 118.87 (Rwanda), Rec. 118.88 (Turkey), Rec. 118.89 (Costa Rico), Rec. 118.92 (Malaysia), Rec. 118.93 (Maldives); A/HRC/25/9, para. 118.70 (Austria), A/HRC/25/9, para. 118.73 (France), A/HRC/25/9, para. 118.75 (France), A/HRC/25/9, para. 118.80 (Kuwait); A/HRC/25/9, para. 118.81 (Mexico), A/HRC/25/9, para. 119.11 (Ireland), A/HRC/25/9, para. 119.12 (Canada); A/HRC/25/9, para. 118.94 (Lebanon); A/HRC/25/9, para. 120.34 (Chile); A/HRC/25/9, para. 118.54 (Kyrgyzstan); A/HRC/25/9, para. 118.107 (United Arab Emirates); A/HRC/25/9, 2nd Cycle – 17th Session. Rec. 118.43 (State of Palestine); A/HRC/25/9, para. 118.97 (Iraq); A/HRC/25/9, para. 118.98 (Lebanon); A/HRC/25/9, para. 118.99 (State of Palestine); A/HRC/25/9, para. 118.26; A/HRC/25/9, para. 118.108 (Cuba); A/HRC/25/9, para. 118.30 (Singapore); A/HRC/25/9, para. 120.23 (Uruguay); A/HRC/25/9, para. 118.90 (Indonesia); A/HRC/25/9, para. 118.82 (Thailand); A/HRC/25/9, para. 118.87 (Rwanda); A/HRC/25/9, para. 118.85 (Greece); A/HRC/25/9, para. 118.88 (Turkey); A/HRC/25/9, para. 118.89 (Costa Rica); A/HRC/25/9, para. 118.91 (Djibouti); A/HRC/25/9, para. 118.92 (Malaysia); A/HRC/25/9, para. 118.93 (Maldives); A/HRC/25/9, para. 120.7 (Slovenia); A/HRC/25/9, para. 118.7 (Tunisia); A/HRC/25/9, para. 118.113 (Malaysia); A/HRC/25/9/ para. 118.114 (United States of America).
- ¹⁹ Dibeem, page 4.
- ²⁰ Al Karama, page 4.
- ²¹ JS9, page 7.
- ²² Al Karama, page 6.
- ²³ For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/25/9, paras. 118.110, 120.27, 118.37, 119.5, 119.6, 120.31, 118.54.
- ²⁴ Al Karama, page 3.
- ²⁵ JS5, p. 31.
- ²⁶ JS, paras 15, 16.
- ²⁷ ACHRS, page 1.
- ²⁸ ACHRS, page 2.
- ²⁹ For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/25/9, paras. 118.60, 118.42, 118.61, 118.62, 118.63, 118.56, 118.57, 118.64.
- ³⁰ JS2, page 6.
- ³¹ HRW, page 4
- ³² JS8, page 4.
- ³³ JS7, PAGE 11.
- ³⁴ For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/25/9, paras. 118.70, 118.73, 118.75, 118.80, 118.66, 118.67, 118.68, 118.71, 118.72, 118.74, 118.76, 118.78, 119.8, 119.9, 119.10, 120.32, 120.33, 118.79, 118.77, 118.69, 118.81, 119.11, 119.12, 118.94, 120.34.
- ³⁵ Access Now, Para 8.
- ³⁶ ACHRS, page 5.
- ³⁷ JS4, 2.9; JS3, p. 17-19.
- ³⁸ ADF, para 5.
- ³⁹ JS4, 4.3 JIPHR, p. 5.
- ⁴⁰ ACHRS, page 3.
- ⁴¹ JS11, pages 2-4.
- ⁴² JS11, pages 2-4.
- ⁴³ See: Internet Legislation Atlas, Jordan: Surveillance and data protection, available at: <https://internetlegislationatlas.org/#/countries/Jordan/frameworks/surveillance>.
- ⁴⁴ JS11, pages 2-4.
- ⁴⁵ JS11, pages 2-4.
- ⁴⁶ JS10, para 34.
- ⁴⁷ CPI, para 28.
- ⁴⁸ CDFJ, pages 3-4.

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- ⁴⁹ CDFJ, pages 5-7.
- ⁵⁰ CMN, p. 4.1.
- ⁵¹ CMN, p. 5.
- ⁵² For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/25/9, paras. 118.107, 118.55.
- ⁵³ HRW, Mosawa, JS7 and JS6.
- ⁵⁴ For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/25/9, paras. 118.98, 118.100, 118.102, 118.97, 118.99, 118.96, 118.95.
- ⁵⁵ AWLN, page 3.
- ⁵⁶ Rasheed, page 5.
- ⁵⁷ JS3, pages 5 and 6.
- ⁵⁸ For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/25/9, paras. 118.104, 118.103, 118.126.
- ⁵⁹ JS3, p. 10.
- ⁶⁰ JS3, page 5
- ⁶¹ For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/25/9, para 118.109.
- ⁶² JS1, page 3.
- ⁶³ Al Aman Centre for Human Rights (ACRHR).
- ⁶⁴ For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/25/9, paras. 118.30, 119.3, 120.23, 118.90, 118.86, 118.33, 120.25, 120.26, 118.82, 118.83, 118.84, 118.85, 118.87, 118.88, 118.89, 118.91, 118.92, 118.93, 119.4, 118.25, 120.24, 118.31, 118.46, 118.19, 118.22, 118.43, 118.44, 118.52, 118.53, 118.41, 118.49, 118.50, 118.48, 118.51, 119.2, 119.7, 118.9, 118.45.
- ⁶⁵ AWO JO, para 4.
- ⁶⁶ AWO JO, para 7.
- ⁶⁷ AUM, para 1.4.
- ⁶⁸ Mosawa, page 5.
- ⁶⁹ AWO JO, HRW, UPR-Jordan, Arab Women's Legal Network and Bushra Center.
- ⁷⁰ For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/25/9, paras. 118.36, 118.39, 118.40, 118.24, 118.59, 118.58.
- ⁷¹ EPCAT, page 2.
- ⁷² EPCAT, ps. 20-25.
- ⁷³ EPCAT, p. 32.
- ⁷⁴ EPCAT, page 6.
- ⁷⁵ GIEACPC, p. 1-2.
- ⁷⁶ HRW, page 1.
- ⁷⁷ Tamkeen, page 2.
- ⁷⁸ The number administrative detainees under the Crime Prevention law is about 19,860 in 2015, compared with 20,216 in 2014, 12,766 in 2013, 12,410 in 2012 and 11,345 in 2011, with the percentage of non-Jordanians detained is 4% of the detainees in rehabilitation centres or police departments.
- ⁷⁹ Jordan UPR Observatory, ps. 1.1-1.4.
- ⁸⁰ Jordan UPR Observatory, p. 2.1.1.
- ⁸¹ HRW, page 6.
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