2024



Prepared by:

Phenix Center for Economic and Informatics Studies

Amman, Jordan May 2024





Phenix for Sustainable Development

The Phenix Center is a nongovernmental organization dedicated to independent policy research and measuring public opinions on impactful current and emerging issues in areas of economics, society, and its legislative environment in Jordan. The Center was founded in Amman, Jordan in 2003 under the registration number 142203. It works to promote a sustainable developmental paradigm in Jordan, rooted in human rights and the principles of democratic governance by focusing on reforming the labor policies, lifting of restrictions on freedom of association, and strengthening of social protection policies. The Center specializes in promoting inclusivity in development processes. It compiles databases of relevant actors and stakeholders, develops research, studies, papers and reports, conducts conferences and advocacy campaigns, and empowers several actors to take part in steering development through capacity building.

Disclaimer:

Phenix Center and Porticus are not responsible for the statements of workers and union officials cited in this report.

Conclusions of the Paper

The recommendations accepted by Jordan in the Universal Periodic Review focused on several key areas, most notably civil and political liberties, women's rights, the rule of law, and the right to life, liberty, and personal security. However, Jordan acknowledged several recommendations that require substantial changes to laws and policies, reflecting a contradiction in the government's approach to promoting human rights in the country.

1

Civil society organizations in Jordan face a legal and regulatory environment that limits their independence and freedom, particularly regarding the registration of associations and foreign funding. These restrictions hinder civil society's ability to play an effective role in monitoring recommendations and advocating for reform.

2

Despite Jordan's acceptance of several recommendations aimed at enhancing women's rights and protecting them from violence and harassment, as well as promoting their political and economic participation, there appears to be a reservation on some recommendations related to amending discriminatory laws. This hinders progress in achieving gender equality and fully and effectively protecting women's rights.

3

Freedom of opinion and expression remains practically restricted through laws such as the Cybercrime Law and the Penal Code. While the constitution theoretically protected freedom of opinion and expression, many legal provisions are vague and open to broad interpretation, which limits media freedoms and civil activism.

4

The priority remains strengthening the work environment and protecting workers' rights, including improving working conditions, reducing the gender wage gap, and providing a safe work environment. Despite Jordan's commitment to these reforms, their implementation depends on translating the recommendations into effective policies and laws, foremost among them amending the labor law to align with the recommendations.

5

Introduction

The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) is one of the key mechanisms used by the United Nations to enhance the protection of human rights globally. This review periodically gives every UN member state an opportunity to assess its human rights record and make specific commitments to improve its human rights situation ¹.



On January 25, 2024, the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva reviewed Jordan during the fourth cycle of the UPR. Jordan received 279 recommendations addressing various human rights issues, and the Jordanian government accepted approximately 73% of these recommendations, totaling 204, while noting the remaining ones.

The role of civil society is crucial in monitoring the implementation of the recommendations accepted by the Jordanian government. Civil society plays a vital role in tracking the government's compliance with its commitments, providing independent assessments, and offering continuous recommendations to promote and protect human rights. This process allows civil society to raise public awareness of the recommendations' importance, pressure relevant authorities for appropriate action, and coordinate with international bodies to improve transparency and accountability.

In this context, this report aims to analyze the key areas of focus for the recommendations presented to Jordan, as well as the areas of focus for the recommendations that Jordan accepted and noted. It will also highlight the most prominent recommendations related to civil society's work and freedom of opinion and expression, and explore the potential paths that civil society can take to move forward in the process of monitoring the implementation of these recommendations.

Focus Areas of the Recommendations Presented to Jordan

The focus of Jordan in accepting the recommendations presented to it during the Universal Periodic Review primarily centered on civil and political liberties and women's rights, as shown in Figure (1) ². These two categories each accounted for %12 of the total accepted recommendations. Additionally, %11 of the accepted recommendations focused on the right to life, personal security, and the prohibition of torture. Regarding the rule of law, accepted recommendations accounted for %9.4.

On the other hand, there was a noticeable decline in the acceptance of recommendations related to international commitments and cooperation with human rights mechanisms, with only %5.5 being accepted. Jordan's concerns regarding the potential administrative, financial, and political burdens from accepting such recommendations—which would impose additional internal and external commitments on the state, creating challenges at various levels of government and executive work—explain this hesitation.

Jordan's full acceptance of all recommendations concerning the rights of persons with disabilities, which represented %8 of the recommendations, indicates a firm commitment from the government to promote these rights and ensure the effective integration of persons with disabilities into society. Regarding other areas, Jordan accepted a good proportion of recommendations related to development and the environment (%6), reflecting the government's interest in sustainable development and environmental issues, which have become vital topics on the international stage.

It is also noteworthy that Jordan's acceptance of some recommendations calling for the removal of restrictions on civil society's activities suggests a governmental desire to show flexibility toward this vital sector. This move shows a positive sign toward improving the civil space. However, the extent of Jordan's commitment to implementing these recommendations remains an important step requiring ongoing monitoring to ensure the desired reforms.

The prominence of international commitments and cooperation with human rights mechanisms, which made up %22 of the recommendations Jordan noted, reflects significant challenges in adopting them. These recommendations impose obligations that could directly affect the country's sovereignty or require radical changes to local laws and policies.

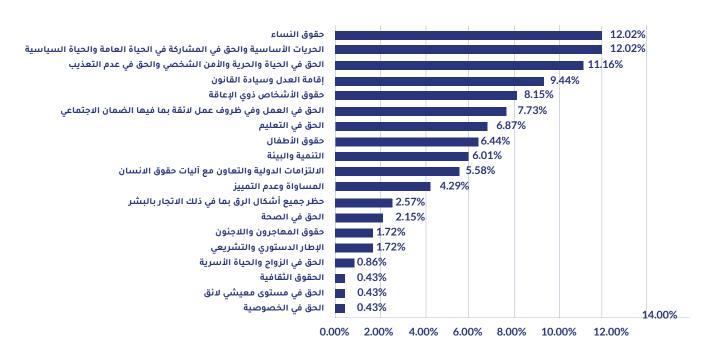
As for the right to life, liberty, personal security, and freedom from torture, these issues represented %14 of the recommendations Jordan noted, indicating the need for fundamental changes in the legislation and policies concerning these basic rights. This percentage reflects the challenge the government faces in making these amendments, which may require wide-ranging reforms affecting sensitive areas of the legal system.

Although Jordan accepted many recommendations related to women's rights, it noted %11 of these recommendations, particularly those calling for legal or political changes, the removal of reservations on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), and ratification of International Labour Convention No. 190, which relates to eliminating violence and harassment in the workplace. This reservation indicates social and cultural challenges that may hinder the acceptance of such recommendations, as well as concerns that adopting legal reforms could conflict with traditional values and social norms.

Regarding recommendations related to the rights of sexual minorities, they were noted because of social and religious challenges, as such issues may provoke widespread debate within Jordanian society, which is particularly sensitive to matters of sexual identity based on religious and cultural values. Additionally, Jordan did not accept any recommendations made by the occupying Israeli state, reflecting its unwavering support for the Palestinian cause and its reluctance to cooperate or engage in dialogue through recommendations issued by Israel.

It is worth noting that Jordan noted %6 of the recommendations related to the rights of stateless persons because of political concerns regarding the granting of citizenship. These recommendations could potentially affect the demographic composition and the legal status of targeted groups, such as refugees and stateless individuals in Jordan, thereby posing political and social challenges.

Figure (1) Focus Areas of the Recommendations Accepted by Jordan



The Enabling Environment for Civil Society

Civil society organizations in Jordan face legislative challenges related to the Associations Law No. 51 of 2008, which include various restrictions on the freedom and independence of associations. Among the most significant restrictions is the requirement for prior government approval for registering associations, which makes the process subject to the discretion of officials and complicates the ability to challenge decisions in the event of rejection. Additionally, there is a lack of a unified body to supervise associations, and the preemptive oversight imposed by the government on annual plans and financial reports undermines the independence of these organizations and imposes excessive limitations on their ability to manage their affairs.

Furthermore, the law prohibits associations from engaging in any political activities without specifying what these activities entail, and grants the relevant minister broad powers to dissolve associations, which affects the continuity of their work. There are also restrictions on obtaining both local and foreign funding, requiring lengthy and complicated approvals, which affects the ability of associations to secure the necessary financial resources. Additionally, the law lacks provisions to provide financial facilitation, such as customs and tax exemptions, or protections for the employees of these organizations.

In a related context, the Non-Profit Companies Law No. 60 of 2007 imposes similar restrictions to those on associations, particularly regarding access to foreign funding, as it requires Cabinet approval, which limits the scope of these companies' operations and affects their ability to finance their activities.

Likewise, the 2024 Planning and International Cooperation Law treats civil society organizations as if they were governmental institutions, requiring Cabinet approval for foreign funding or development projects and failing to define clear criteria for approval or denial. This restricts the independence of associations and complicates their access to

necessary funding, exposing them to bureaucratic delays that may impede their development efforts.

Jordan's acceptance of a set of recommendations from the fourth Universal Periodic Review to enhance civil society freedoms and amend the Associations Law (2008) represents a positive development that signals the government's intent to improve the environment in which civil society organizations operate. This step follows Jordan's acknowledgment of these recommendations during the UPR session on January 25, 2024, which included calls for removing restrictions on foreign funding and simplifying administrative processes. This reflects Jordan's desire to improve its human rights record and strengthen public freedoms.

This acceptance is an important step toward providing a more supportive and flexible legal and administrative environment for civil society organizations. Foreign funding is vital for many of these organizations to ensure the continuity of their activities and enhance their capacity to provide services and advocate for change. Simplifying administrative processes and easing restrictions on funding will allow greater freedom for civil society to operate without excessive constraints, and will help strengthen the role of these organizations as partners in achieving sustainable development and defending human rights.

However, the greatest and most critical challenge remains how to translate these recommendations into concrete policies and actions on the ground. Despite the official acceptance, actual implementation requires strong political will and commitment to developing laws and policies, as well as establishing monitoring mechanisms to ensure effective application of these reforms. The government must demonstrate its commitment to these changes by reviewing legislation, issuing new regulations, and providing adequate safeguards to prevent any backslide or restrictions on public freedoms and civil society rights ³.

Freedom of Opinion and Expression

Although the Jordanian Constitution guarantees freedom of opinion and expression as a fundamental right, and commits to protecting personal freedoms and public rights as outlined in Articles 7 and 15, the actual practice of these rights encounters a range of legislative restrictions that hinder their effective implementation. The constitutional provisions regarding freedom of opinion and expression are clear in affirming this right through various means, such as the media, scientific research, and creativity. However, real challenges emerge through a set of laws that regulate the exercise of these rights, such as the Cybercrime Law and the Penal Code, which contain vague and broad terms, making them susceptible to wide interpretation.

One of the major challenges facing the practice of freedom of expression in Jordan is the restrictions imposed under the current laws, which provide the executive and judicial authorities with broad discretion to limit these freedoms. For example, the Cybercrime Law includes provisions related to combating «hate speech» and «insults» on the internet, but these terms remain undefined, giving authorities the leeway to interpret them in ways that may lead to the punishment of individuals expressing their opinions on social media. Additionally, the Penal Code imposes restrictions on certain acts related to freedom of expression, such as insulting authorities or inciting sedition, without specifying clear criteria for such violations, making these legal provisions flexible and subject to broad interpretation.

Excessive use of these restrictions curtails individual and collective freedoms, weakening freedom of the press and expression, particularly when targeting activists, journalists, and civil society members.

Moreover, these laws may push individuals to practice self-censorship and avoid discussing sensitive or controversial issues out of fear of legal repercussions. Therefore, we must reconsider and amend these laws to ensure a true balance between societal protection and the free and responsible exercise of fundamental rights, preventing their use to restrict public freedoms.

Although Jordan accepted many recommendations from the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) regarding freedom of opinion and expression, this acceptance hides some practical contradictions and challenges in implementation. While the state committed to reviewing legislation to align with international standards, specifically laws such as the Cybercrime Law, the practical reality shows that vague and broad terms still exist in the law that can be used to restrict critical or independent speech, raising concerns about the seriousness of Jordan's commitment to international human rights standards.

Jordan's acceptance of recommendations to protect journalists and ensure their access to information contrasts with the repeated evidence of restrictions on journalists' work and their pursuit, either through security summons or through restrictive laws that prevent the publication of certain information or require prior approval on certain topics. This reflects a practical problem in ensuring the protection of journalists, as the legal and regulatory environment still restricts press freedoms, making it difficult for journalists to access information freely or carry out their work without fear of retaliation.

A complex reality, exemplified by laws restricting digital expression, meets Jordan's affirmation of unrestricted freedom of expression and internet access. For instance, provisions in the Cybercrime Law are used to criminalize comments on social media, leading to legal actions against individuals expressing their opinions freely. Such practices raise concerns about digital expression rights and the freedom to access information, showing a contradiction between the public commitment in international forums and the locally implemented policies.

Jordan's reservation regarding certain recommendations to repeal provisions in the Penal

Code and Cybercrime Law highlights hesitation in making substantial changes to legislation that is supposed to protect freedom of expression. This reservation could enable the laws to be used as tools to restrict this freedom. This hesitation reveals a clear dilemma in balancing international obligations with local practices, where there seems to be a reluctance to undertake legislative reforms that would alter the scope of control over public discourse and reduce the state's tools for regulating public debates, even at the expense of freedom of expression and citizens' fundamental rights ⁴.



Economic and Social Rights

Economic and social rights are a critical aspect of human rights, as they directly affect individuals' quality of life and their ability to achieve a dignified standard of living. During the fourth cycle of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) in January 2024, observers highlighted Jordan's economic challenges, including high poverty and unemployment rates, income inequality, and a lack of equal economic opportunities. These challenges complicate the achievement of inclusive development and the improvement of living conditions for the population, particularly among marginalized groups such as women and youth.

In light of these challenges, the Jordanian government is working to amend labor laws to better balance the rights of workers and employers, aiming to improve working conditions and align them with international standards. Key proposed amendments include strengthening the role of the Ministry of Labor in regulating the labor market, enhancing working conditions for women by increasing maternity leave, and prohibiting the dismissal of pregnant women. These amendments are intended to encourage women's participation in the labor market and ensure broader social protection through modifications to the social security law.

The UPR recommendations reflected astrong emphasis on improving the work environment in Jordan, with calls for the review of national legislation and its effective implementation. The recommendations included narrowing the gender wage gap, increasing labor inspections to protect workers' rights, and providing a safe working environment. Additionally, the recommendations highlighted the importance of decent work and social justice, ensuring that workers in various sectors, including migrant workers, enjoy their rights in environments that are often unsafe and lack adequate protection.

The Jordanian government has shown a tangible commitment to enhancing women's economic participation by accepting recommendations calling for the provision of decent and safe job opportunities for women, increasing work-hour flexibility, providing paid parental leave, and ensuring wage equality. This approach aligns with efforts to improve women's

status in the labor market and support their greater integration into the economy.

However, the challenge remains in translating these recommendations into actual policies and legislation that strengthen women's rights and improve their economic participation.

Regarding the most vulnerable groups, Jordan accepted recommendations aimed at expanding social protection to include persons with disabilities. The government committed to taking steps to empower this group in the labor market and ensure they receive fair access to education and healthcare. These efforts aim to enhance the rights of this group and integrate them into society, but the practical implementation of these policies remains a significant challenge, particularly in ensuring sustainable and effective social protection.

Concerning migrant workers, Jordan accepted recommendations to improve their conditions and protect them from discrimination and exploitation by ensuring their labor rights, facilitating access to justice, and providing decent working conditions. These recommendations align with the needs of migrant workers, who form a substantial part of the workforce in Jordan, especially in sectors heavily dependent on foreign labor, such as agriculture, construction, and domestic services.

Despite the tangible progress made through acceptance of many recommendations, Jordan expressed reservations regarding certain recommendations that require fundamental changes in policies or laws. For instance, the reservation on ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of Migrant Workers and the ratification of the International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention on the Elimination of Violence and Harassment in the Workplace. This reservation reflects the political and legal challenges the country faces in adopting new international standards that may affect local policies and impose additional commitments, particularly given the complex economic and social conditions Jordan is facing 5.

The rights to life, liberty, and personal security, and freedom from torture.

Jordan accepted a number of recommendations related to the right to life, liberty, personal security, and the right to be free from torture, which accounted for approximately 11% of the total recommendations in the Universal Periodic Review (UPR). These recommendations included improving national legislation and practices to ensure the protection of individuals' rights, starting with criminalizing torture inline with Article 1 of the Convention Against Torture, and improving conditions in detention centers. These recommendations aim to align national laws with international human rights standards, and urge amending the Penal Code to enhance legal protection against torture; authorities must hold perpetrators accountable.

A significant portion of these recommendations focused on improving conditions within detention centers and prisons, ensuring their compliance with international standards, with an emphasis on preventing torture and ill-treatment. This reflects an implicit acknowledgment of the need to improve the detention environment and provide greater protection for detainees against torture or inhuman or degrading treatment. The recommendations

also called for training and awareness-raising for security forces on human rights, to enhance their treatment of individuals, especially during arrests and interrogations.

However, Jordan expressed reservations by noting some recommendations that call for the abolition of the death penalty or a temporary moratorium on its implementation. This indicates the Jordanian government's reluctance to commit to the immediate abolition of this penalty, possibly because of social and political factors, as the death penalty is seen as part of the criminal justice system. Additionally, Jordan noted other recommendations that call for improving transparency and accountability regarding cases of arrests and torture, which highlights the ongoing challenge of enhancing accountability and transparency within the justice system and ensuring the effective implementation of these laws in practice.

The Right to Justice and the Rule of Law

During the fourth Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of human rights, Jordan accepted approximately 9% of the recommendations related to the right to justice and the rule of law, which primarily focused on improving the efficiency of Jordan's judicial system. These accepted recommendations included enhancing the training of judges, public prosecutors, and law enforcement agencies in areas related to international human rights agreements, reflecting Jordan's recognition of the importance of strengthening human rights knowledge within the judicial system. These recommendations aim to improve the skills of judicial personnel to ensure fair and independent trials, as well as to foster respect for human rights in judicial procedures.

A notable aspect of the accepted recommendations is the review of the use of administrative detention, with a focus on limiting its application and reducing its duration, along with improving detention conditions in compliance with international standards. The use of administrative detention as a security measure is contentious, as it allows extended detention without trial, potentially violating the right to a fair trial.

Jordan's acceptance of these recommendations reflects a willingness to address this form of

detention, with concrete measures to limit its use and adhere to international standards to treat detainees. Additionally, Jordan committed to improving the scope of the free legal aid system, extending it beyond criminal matters, and expanding the use of technology in judicial procedures. This is an important step toward facilitating access to justice and ensuring more effective protection of individual rights. Strengthening the free legal aid system aims to provide legal support to vulnerable groups and ensures that no individual is deprived of their right to a fair trial because of financial inability.

However, Jordan noted other recommendations calling for the abolition of the Anti-Crime Law and administrative detention, and for ensuring that detention occurs only based on judicial orders. This reservation reflects the challenges the state faces in balancing security and the rule of law with the protection of human rights. Jordan's willingness to enhance certain aspects of the judicial system, alongside its hesitance to implement radical reforms concerning administrative detention, indicates genuine concerns about making substantial changes to policies that could affect executive authorities or restrict their ability to resort to detention for security or political reasons.



Women's Rights

The distribution of recommendations from the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) related to women's rights in Jordan highlights a range of concerns that reflect the challenges women face across various sectors. International concern over Jordan's high levels of gender-based violence led to approximately 38% of the recommendations focusing on protecting women from exploitation, harassment, domestic violence. These recommendations call for strengthening legal frameworks, effectively enforcing related laws, and providing support and services for survivors of violence. This focus underscores the urgent need for legal and social measures to address violence against women, highlighting the major challenges women face because of inadequate legal protection, weak law enforcement, and social pressures that hinder reporting such crimes.

In political and public empowerment, 23% of the recommendations emphasized the importance of enhancing women's participation in public and political life. This reflects the need to increase female representation in decision-making positions, including in the parliament, government, and local leadership roles. These recommendations stress the necessity of policies and programs that bolster women's capacity to participate effectively in political processes, pointing to the clear gap between women's representation in the public sector and their actual role in decision-making.

Additionally, 13% of the recommendations focused on economic participation and decent work for women, indicating the need to enhance economic opportunities for women, provide tangible support

for improving working conditions, and ensure pay equality. This percentage reflects structural gaps in the Jordanian labor market, such as wage disparities between genders, low female workforce participation, and the lack of safe, decent work opportunities. This highlights the challenges women face in Jordan, where legal, social, and economic barriers continue to limit women's opportunities for economic independence.

Furthermore, 15% of the recommendations emphasized the importance of gender equality and combating discrimination against women, through calls to review and amend discriminatory laws and policies, and ensure their effective implementation to achieve actual equality. This area indicates the need for comprehensive legal and social reforms to improve the status of women, and reflects the challenge of addressing institutionalized discrimination and societal norms that perpetuate the gender gap

Lastly, 10% of the recommendations focused on strengthening women's role in climate action, reflecting the growing recognition of the importance of women's participation in environmental and climate issues. These recommendations highlight the need to involve women in designing and implementing environmental policies, especially considering the effects of climate change on vulnerable groups, including women. This reflects an awareness that women play a crucial role in environmental work and that climate policies should be inclusive and gender-responsive, with efforts to build women's capacity to participate effectively in these initiatives ⁶.

Civil Society Pathways for Monitoring the Implementation of Recommendations

In recent months, civil society organizations (CSOs) in Jordan have been engaged in monitoring the implementation of the fourth cycle of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) recommendations on human rights. These organizations have adopted a multidimensional approach to ensure the government's full commitment to implementing the accepted recommendations. Comprehensive monitoring plans and mechanisms were developed, where organizations collected and analyzed data systematically to track progress in implementation. Specialized teams were formed to monitor specific areas, such as legislation, fundamental rights and freedoms, and the rights of marginalized groups, ensuring a thorough followup process. This reflects civil society's dedication to watching developments and practices related to human rights in Jordan.

Besides monitoring, civil society organizations have developed specialized reports and papers analyzing the accepted recommendations. These reports included fact sheets that highlighted the current status of human rights in Jordan and identified the urgent reform priorities. These analyses provided simple information on the challenges facing the implementation of the recommendations and contributed to raising awareness about key issues that require attention. Furthermore, national consultation sessions brought together various stakeholders government representatives, trade unions, and human rights experts—to exchange views on the opportunities and challenges of implementing the recommendations. These sessions paved the way for a transparent dialogue, fostering a deeper understanding of the issues surrounding the implementation of the recommendations⁷.

To raise awareness about the importance of implementing UPR recommendations, civil society organizations organized awareness campaigns and media events to pressure the government to accelerate the implementation process. These activities involved social media, traditional media, and local communities to spread messages about the importance of integrating these recommendations into national plans. These

campaigns have helped increase public awareness and strengthen popular pressure for expediting the implementation of the recommended reforms.

Despite these efforts, as previously mentioned, civil society faces significant challenges that hinder its role in promoting human rights in Jordan, with restrictions on civil and political freedoms topping the list. Laws such as the Cybercrimes Law and the Penal Code contain vague and broad provisions, which can be used to restrict freedom of expression and, consequently, diminish the space for civil society work. Additionally, civil society organizations face strict limitations on the formation, management, and resources of associations under the Associations Law, hindering their ability to operate freely and independently.

Civil society also faces challenges regarding the freedom of public discourse, particularly with restrictions on online content and the prosecution of individuals who publish opinions critical of the government or public policies. Given the role of journalists and media professionals in promoting democratic dialogue, any restriction on press freedom undermines the effectiveness of these discussions, negatively affecting civil society's ability to enhance human rights and good governance.

Moreover, civil society in Jordan faces financial challenges that affect its sustainability effectiveness. The laws impose restrictions on foreign funding, limiting the capacity of organizations to implement their programs and projects. This lack of funding represents a significant challenge, especially for organizations seeking to promote human rights and implement long-term reform programs. In conclusion, the efforts of civil society in monitoring the implementation of UPR recommendations are part of a broader movement aimed at promoting democracy and human rights in Jordan. However, these efforts cannot yield effective results without providing a supportive environment for civil society organizations. This is a point underscored by the international community in its recommendations, which the Jordanian government has committed to implementing.

Recommendations

Government, international community, and civil society must work together to improve human rights in Jordan. The Jordanian government must fully and effectively implement the accepted recommendations, while removing the restrictions that hinder the work and freedoms of civil society. The international community should support reform efforts and provide technical and financial assistance, while civil society must continue its work on monitoring, raising awareness, and advocating for the implementation of the recommendations.



Recommendations for the Jordanian Government:

- Amend the Associations Law and Related Legislation: Empower civil society organizations to operate freely and independently by removing restrictions related to registration and funding. Additionally, facilitate foreign funding and simplify administrative procedures to ensure the sustainability of civil society organizations and their ability to perform their tasks effectively.
- Review the Cybercrime Law and the Penal Code: Ensure their alignment with international human rights standards. Repeal or amend provisions that can be used to restrict freedom of expression, and ensure the protection of journalists and activists from legal prosecution and unjustified arrests.
- Implement Recommendations for Women's Political and Economic Empowerment: This includes reviewing laws that hinder women's participation in public life and the workforce. Provide financial and technical support to enhance women-led entrepreneurial projects, improve their working conditions, increase flexibility in labor laws, and ensure wage equality.
- Amend Labor Laws to Improve Worker Conditions: Ensure the protection of workers' rights, with a focus on increasing the role of inspections to safeguard workers' rights and enhancing social protection, including for migrant workers.
- Review Administrative Detention Legislation: Ensure that detention is based solely on judicial orders. Increase training for judges and prosecutors in human rights, and enhance free legal aid, expanding its scope beyond criminal matters.
- Develop Clear Implementation Plans for Accepted Recommendations: Set a specific timeframe for implementation, establish monitoring and follow-up mechanisms, ensure the involvement of civil society in the reform process, and increase transparency and accountability.

Recommendations



Recommendations for the International Community:

- Provide financial and technical support to both the government and civil society to enable them to implement the recommendations and achieve the necessary reforms. Support capacity-building programs for civil society organizations to enhance their skills in advocacy, monitoring, and documentation.
- Regularly monitor the progress made in implementing the recommendations and provide advice to the Jordanian government on best practices for achieving the required reforms, while exerting pressure to strengthen its commitment to international obligations.



Recommendations for Jordanian Civil Society:

- Continue monitoring the implementation of the recommendations and provide periodic reports on the progress and challenges facing the implementation process.
- Organize advocacy campaigns calling for the amendment of laws that hinder human rights, and work on building dialogue bridges with decision-makers to raise awareness of the importance of fully and effectively implementing the recommendations.
- Strengthen community awareness campaigns on human rights, emphasizing the importance of freedom of expression, gender equality, and the rights of marginalized groups. Organize workshops and training programs aimed at enhancing individuals' capacities for active participation in civil society.
- Strengthen partnerships with governmental institutions, trade unions, the private sector, media, and the international community to ensure effective and integrated collaboration in monitoring the implementation of the recommendations, promoting good governance, and achieving the desired change.
- Diversify funding sources for civil society and build self-financing capabilities to
 ensure sustainability, address legal restrictions related to foreign funding, and
 adopt new strategies to overcome these challenges.

References

- ¹ https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/upr/basic-facts
- ² Awd, Ahmad, and Hadeel Al-Qudah. 2024. Areas of Focus of the Recommendations Submitted to Jordan in the Fourth Universal Periodic Review of Human Rights. Phenix Center for Economic and Informatic Studies.
- ³ Awd, Ahmad, and Hadeel Al-Qudah. 2024. Freedom of Civil Society in Jordan: Based on the Recommendations of the Fourth Universal Periodic Review. Phenix Center for Economic and Informatic Studies.
- ⁴ Awd, Ahmad, and Hadeel Al-Qudah. 2024. Freedom of Opinion and Expression in Jordan: A Basic Framework for Protecting Civil Society Rights. Phenix Center for Economic and Informatic Studies.
- ⁵ Awd, Ahmad, and Hadeel Al-Qudah. 2024. Economic and Social Rights in Light of the Fourth Universal Periodic Review of Jordan.
- ⁶ Awd, Ahmad, and Hadeel Al-Qudah. 2024. Women's Rights in Jordan: A Priority in the Fourth Universal Periodic Review of Human Rights. Phenix Center for Economic and Informatics Studies.
- ⁷ Awd, Ahmad, and Hadeel Al-Qudah. 2024. Priorities of the Fourth Universal Periodic Review: A Civil Society Roadmap for Strengthening Human Rights in Jordan. Phenix Center for Economic and Informatics Studies.





CONTACT US:

الفينيق للدراسات الاقتصادية والمعلوماتية PHENIX FOR ECONOMIC & INFORMATICS STUDIES

℃ Tel. +962 6 516 44 91

Fax: +962 6 516 44 92

P.O.Box: 304 Amman 11941 Jordan

■ E-Mail: info@phenixcenter.net

• www.phenixcenter.net





@PhenixCenter