



Summary of The Twenty-First Annual Report on the State of Human Rights In the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan for the Year 2024





The National Center of Human Rights

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of Human Rights in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
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Amman

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His Majesty King Abdullah II Ibn Al Hussein, May Allah Protect and Preserve Him



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Al Hussein bin Abdullah II

Preamble:

The annual report on the state of human rights in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan is prepared pursuant to Article (12) of the National Center for Human Rights Law No. (51) of 2006 and its amendments. The present report represents the twenty-first annual report for the year 2024. As with previous periodic reports of the Center, it provides a diagnosis of the human rights situation in Jordan during the period covered by the report.

The twenty-first annual report on the state of human rights for 2024 is structured around three main axes:

1. Civil and political rights;
2. Economic, social, and cultural rights;
3. Rights of those most in need of protection (women, children, persons with disabilities, the elderly).

In addition, the report includes three annexes:

- (1) An annex analyzing complaints received by the Center during 2024;
- (2) An annex on outcomes and recommendations related to the legislative impact assessment of the Cybercrime Law and its applications, Law No. (17) of 2023;
- (3) A special annex highlighting the Center's key achievements and main activities during 2024 at the national, regional, and international levels.

Civil and Political Rights Axis

During 2024, the Center received a total of 519 complaints related to civil and political rights, distributed across nine main rights: the right to life, liberty, and physical integrity; the right to access justice and

guarantees of a fair trial; the right to nationality, asylum, residence, and movement; the right to vote and stand for election; the right to freedom of opinion, expression, press, media, and access to information; the right to peaceful assembly; the right to establish and join political parties; the right to form and join trade unions; and the right to establish and join associations.

1. Right to Life, Liberty, and Physical Integrity:

- The right to life, liberty, and physical integrity is a fundamental right guaranteed by the Jordanian Constitution, in addition to relevant national legislation and international treaties to which the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan is a party. This right is considered non-derogable, imposing a legal obligation on the state to protect and promote it. According to international human rights standards, the right to life is a fundamental right that must not be arbitrarily infringed upon. It also requires individuals to enjoy personal liberty and physical safety, with the state protecting them from any threats or violations that may affect these rights. This necessitates the implementation of policies and legislation that ensure effective protection of individuals against any form of threat or violence.
- In 2024, the General Amnesty Law No. (5) of 2024 was issued, published on page (6581) of Official Gazette No. (9195), issued on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the reign of His Majesty King

Abdullah II and the silver jubilee. The number of beneficiaries of the General Amnesty Law reached 10,827 detainees.

- The number of death sentences issued by the High Criminal Court in 2024 decreased to thirteen (13), compared to twenty-five (25) in 2023. For the third consecutive year, no death sentences were issued by the State Security Court during the period 2022-2024.

Administrative Detention

In 2024, there was a noticeable decrease in the number of administrative detainees compared to 2023, with the total number of those administratively detained in 2024 reaching 20,437. The Center reaffirms its position regarding the Crime Prevention Law No. 7 of 1954, emphasizing the principle of separation of powers.

Until a consensus is reached on the necessity to repeal the Crime Prevention Law, the Center highlights the need for a set of amendments to this law, including:

- Calling on the House of Representatives to discuss the Crime Prevention Law, ensuring a balance between introducing the law and its practical application.
- Respecting the binding nature of judicial rulings as an expression of truth.
- Regulating the validity of detention by defining the procedural sequence undertaken and controlling the discretionary authority of administrative judges.
- Relying on the criminal record instead of the security record maintained by the Public Security Directorate.

The Center welcomes the Ministry of Interior's decisions to release administrative detainees to enable their reintegration into society and allow them to resume normal life with their families. The Center issued a statement published on its official website on 8 May 2024 to this effect.

Conditions of Temporary Detention and Correctional and Rehabilitation Centers

Temporary Detention Centers:

- During 2024, the Center conducted 92 visits to detention centers, during which it met with 111 detainees: 65 detainees were visited 62 times following complaints filed by their relatives, and 46 detainees were visited 30 times based on the Center's monitoring.
- Key observations included:
 1. Overcrowding remains a serious issue negatively affecting dignity and health conditions, contrary to minimum standards for prisoner treatment.
 2. Lack of beds, forcing some detainees to sleep on mats on the floor, restricting their movement within the wings.
 3. The spread of foul odors caused by overcrowding and inadequate sanitary facilities in the wings, which are insufficient for the large number of detainees.

Recommendations included:

1. Eliminating legislative shortcomings related to the criminalization of torture and cruel, inhuman treatment, and compensating victims. This includes amending Article 208 of the

Penal Code to exclude torture from the scope of amnesty and statute of limitations, criminalizing attempted torture, explicitly affirming the right of torture victims to compensation, establishing a dedicated fund to support them, and providing their psychological and physical rehabilitation.

2. Taking necessary measures by all concerned authorities to reduce overcrowding in correctional and rehabilitation centers, including expanding alternatives to custodial sentences and detention.
3. Ensuring all parties, including individuals, comply with the provisions of the Firearms Discharge Prevention Charter to regulate the discharge of firearms.
4. Implementing effective measures by relevant authorities to monitor agricultural ponds to ensure public safety and reduce drowning incidents, mostly involving children.
5. Coordinated national efforts to raise awareness about the dangers of drug abuse.

2. Right to Access Justice and Guarantees of a Fair Trial

The report highlighted developments in the legislative framework governing access to justice and guarantees of a fair trial during 2024, notably:

- On the legislative and policy level:
 - The issuance of the General Amnesty Law No. 5 of 2024, published in the Official Gazette, which exempts all criminal and misdemeanor offenses, violations, and

criminal acts committed before 19/3/2024¹.

- Issuance of the Legal Aid Regulation at the Bar Association No. 87 of 2024 on 17 November 2024, which established a legal aid fund within the Bar Association.

Right to Litigation:

- The number of cassation requests submitted to the Minister of Justice by written order reached 786, with 238 requests accepted, 466 dismissed, and 82 under consideration.
- The number of retrial requests submitted to the Minister of Justice totaled 235, with 25 accepted, 188 dismissed, and 22 under study.

Judicial Detention and Alternatives to Detention:

Up to the date of preparing this report, the Center did not receive data on the number of detainees under judicial detention in 2024. However, in 2023, there were 19,163 judicial detainees, compared to 37,850 in 2022.

Remote Trials:

During 2024, Jordanian courts held 130,708 remote trial sessions compared to 133,581 in 2023. Eleven new remote trial rooms were established in correctional and rehabilitation centers, and sixteen new remote trial rooms were established in Jordanian courts during 2024.

¹ Regarding the number of individuals released under the General Amnesty Law, the number had not been provided to the Center up to this date.

The report made a number of recommendations, including:

1. Establishing administrative courts in the northern and southern regions, with clearly defined litigation fees based on objective criteria, rather than leaving the matter to the discretionary authority of the head of the administrative court or the nature of the case.
2. Strict adherence to the legal provisions on detention set forth in Article (114) of the Code of Criminal Procedure No. (9) of 1961 and its amendments, and promoting the use of alternatives to detention and non-custodial alternative sanctions.
3. Equipping courtrooms in public hospitals where detainees or convicts are referred for treatment to conduct remote trials, which would reduce litigation time and simultaneously preserve detainees' rights to receive medical care.
4. Expanding the number of authorized institutions for implementing alternative sanctions and improving the efficiency of their staff.

3. The Right to Nationality, Residency, Movement, and Asylum

The Right to Nationality:

The right to nationality is considered a fundamental right that establishes an individual's legal affiliation to a particular state, thereby conferring specific rights and obligations that distinguish the individual from foreigners. According to Article 15 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, "Everyone has the right to a nationality. No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his nationality nor denied the right to change it." This right reflects the principle of non-

discrimination in legal rights and affirms the protection of individuals from arbitrary deprivation of their legal identity.

In the Jordanian context, the right to nationality holds particular significance, as Article 5 of the Jordanian Constitution stipulates that "Jordanian nationality shall be regulated by law," reflecting the commitment of the Jordanian legal system to define and regulate these rights in accordance with international human rights standards.

The Right to Residency and Movement:

The right to residency and movement is a fundamental right that guarantees individuals the freedom to move within the borders of their country or abroad, including the right to return to their homeland without restrictions or obstacles. This right is reaffirmed by international human rights instruments, notably Article 13 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

This right also includes protection against arbitrary deprivation of residency or freedom of movement, consistent with the principles of freedom of movement emphasized by relevant international and regional treaties. Under Jordanian law, this right constitutes a fundamental guarantee enshrined in national legislation in alignment with international obligations. The State must provide a legal environment that protects individuals' rights to movement and residency based on democratic principles and the protection of civil rights.

In 2024, the issuance of the General Amnesty Law No. 5 of 2024 had an impact by exempting violators from paying residency overstay fines and work permit fines.

Asylum:

The National Center for Human Rights conducted a field visit to the Azraq Camp and reviewed the living conditions of its inhabitants. It was noted that official bodies supervising the camp have addressed most of the problems previously reported regarding Syrian refugees, such as organizing and clarifying mechanisms for guarantees, vehicle permits, voluntary return to Syria, regulating gates with inspection devices for luggage, increasing distribution centers in coordination with relevant international organizations, limiting the sale of tents and caravans through procedures related to sponsorship, return, and deposits with the international organization concerned, reducing smuggling in and out of the camp by constructing earthen barriers, and establishing offices for family protection, drug control, and juvenile police.

However, the team observed the following issues:

1. Intermittent electricity supply limited to specific hours, exacerbating the residents' suffering.
2. The water problem persists, relying on pumping water from artesian wells to shared tanks among camp residents without a direct water network to the refugees' caravans.
3. The issue of shared toilets remains unresolved, with no individual toilets assigned to each caravan inside the camp.

Recommendations included:

1. Amending the Residency and Foreigners Affairs Law No. 24 of 1973 to keep pace with modern developments, simplifying residency and movement procedures.

2. Enhancing international support and sustainable funding for refugees in Jordan.
3. Continuing official efforts to ensure the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) continues providing services to Palestinian refugees.

4. The Right to Vote and Run for Office

The right to vote and run for office is one of the fundamental civil and political rights guaranteed by national constitutions and international human rights standards. Under Jordanian law, this right is considered one of the essential pillars that promote citizens' effective participation in political life. It is based on three main standards: the integrity of the electoral process, the regularity of elections, and fairness in representation. The right to vote and run for office affirms every citizen's right to participate in the management of public affairs, either directly or through freely chosen representatives, without any discrimination, ensuring fair and periodic elections that secure just representation for citizens.

In 2024, elections for the Twentieth House of Representatives were held, and the National Center monitored the electoral process and issued a specialized report on it².

The Center's recommendations were as follows:

1. Amend Article (20/B) of the House of Representatives Elections Law No. 4 of 2022 concerning the right of individuals to declare their intention

² See the monitoring report of the parliamentary elections for the Twentieth House of Representatives for the year 2024, published on the Center's website.

to run for office, ensuring clear standards and controls are established for this matter.

2. Amend the House of Representatives Elections Law No. 4 of 2022 to include penalties for assaulting members of polling committees, using children in electoral campaigning, and to allocate a quota for persons with disabilities in the House of Representatives similar to the women's quota.
3. Amend the law to explicitly prohibit internal elections, which restrict individuals' freedom to run for office and simultaneously influence the will of both voters and candidates, while reinforcing discriminatory practices against women.
4. Reconsider the executive instructions for collecting and announcing the general electoral district results for 2024, which state: "The following groups are allowed to attend the results collection site in the local electoral district using the approved methods: 1. Accredited local and international observers; 2. Accredited media representatives." The Center recommends allowing candidates or their representatives to attend this stage as well.
5. Reconsider the executive instructions on accrediting journalists, media personnel, photographers, technicians, and workers in local and international print, audio, and visual media to cover the 2024 electoral process. Article (6/2) allows photographers to enter polling and counting rooms with coordination by the head of the polling committee and depending on space availability. The Center recommends amending this provision to allow journalists to enter polling and counting rooms for

media coverage, ensuring their right to observe and perform their professional duties according to standards that do not affect the safety and conduct of the electoral process.

6. Adopt a clear mechanism, stipulated in the applicable instructions, to verify the identity of veiled women.
7. Expand the dissemination of information on objection methods and polling center locations through all official visual and audio media channels.
8. Raise awareness about the importance of individual participation in managing public affairs, with parliamentary elections being one of its main manifestations, as the Center observed generally low voter turnout.
9. Increase public awareness about the phase of displaying preliminary voter lists, locations where they are posted, deadlines for personal objections, objections to others, polling center changes, and provide information on communication and inquiries regarding electoral districts and polling centers.
10. Provide necessary facilities for accredited observers by the Independent Election Commission, including allowing the use of mobile phones in polling and counting rooms, and explicitly stipulate this in the applicable instructions, considering developments in monitoring processes and the use of electronic applications for observing the polling and counting process, which require observers to submit forms through such applications, as is done with the Center's election monitoring app.
11. Train and qualify Public Security Directorate personnel on procedures

- for allowing authorized persons to enter polling and counting centers at any time on election day.
12. Train and qualify heads of polling and counting centers and committees on how to deal with observers and facilitate their tasks.
 13. Adopt the “Sanad” application to verify the voter’s identity in addition to the Civil Status ID.
 14. Given that electoral cases and electoral crimes are heard before Courts of First Instance and are granted urgency, these cases should be considered by specialized judicial panels trained in electoral justice.
 15. Position voting booths in a manner that ensures greater privacy.
 16. Expand awareness programs on the ability of persons with disabilities to change their polling and counting centers.
 17. Increase the participation rate of women and persons with disabilities in electoral committees and their leadership, and build their capacities in managing the electoral process.
 18. Prepare all polling and counting centers to accommodate persons with various forms of disabilities.
 19. Establish a database specifying the number of registered voters with disabilities, their percentages, and geographic distribution, to allocate them to polling centers equipped for persons with disabilities.
 20. Build the capacity of media outlets in covering the right of persons with disabilities to vote and run for office in a way that changes stereotypes and raises awareness among the public in this regard.
 21. Implement awareness programs for female candidates on preparing electoral statements, campaigning, and gaining voter support.
 22. Expand the concepts of the right to vote and run for office within school curricula and raise students’ awareness of their rights and duties regarding the electoral process through more extracurricular activities.
 23. Amend the internal instructions and criteria governing electoral processes to ensure: allocating a quota seat for students with disabilities and female students through elections, and setting a clear mechanism for objections.
 24. Train polling and counting committees by the higher committees concerned with university elections on the proper procedures for the entire electoral process to ensure a smooth workflow within the framework of the instructions and internal criteria.
 25. Utilize modern technological tools to enhance the integrity, fairness, and smooth conduct of elections, such as adopting electronic voter registers, activating barcode reader systems during voting, and installing cameras to record ballots during counting.

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

No amendments were made in 2024 to the Cybercrimes Law No. (17) of 2023. The Center continued to follow up on the draft Cybercrimes Law of 2023 since it was referred to the House of Representatives. The Center conducted a thorough study of the draft law in all its aspects within the framework of the Jordanian Constitution — specifically Article 15, which guarantees the right to freedom of opinion and expression

and the freedom of the press and media — as well as within the framework of the international human rights standards to which Jordan is party, foremost among them the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, particularly Article 19 thereof.

For this year, the Center attaches a specialized annex titled “*Study of the Outcomes and Recommendations of the Legislative Impact Assessment of the Cybercrimes Law.*”³ Based on this specialized study and the monitoring conducted, and in light of the recommendations also presented by stakeholders during consultative sessions, the Center concluded a set of recommendations aimed at refining and improving the Law, the most notable of which are:

1. To suffice, with regard to the crime of defamation, insult, and contempt, with the general provisions stipulated in the Penal Code No. (16) of 1960 and its amendments, as these provisions are sufficient and to avoid legislative duplication and ensure overall consistency between these legislations. If this provision is to remain in the Cybercrimes Law, the penalty should be reduced in line with the Penal Code to ensure no pre-trial detention is imposed.
2. To revise the legislative drafting of certain offenses, such as “character assassination,” to ensure that individuals can understand, apply, and comply with the provisions clearly, and to avoid resorting to varying interpretations of these terms. The elements of this crime should also be clearly defined.

3. To precisely define the criminal acts stipulated in certain articles of the Law, especially those related to hate speech, and to specify the elements of such speech in accordance with Article (20) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Likewise, some terms used in the Law, such as “false news,” should be clarified.
4. To adhere to the general rules of criminal legislation, especially regarding the principles of criminal participation and to apply the principle of individualized sentencing accordingly. The Center calls for a review of Article (27) of the Law in this regard.
5. To codify the conditions for permissible criticism established by the esteemed Jordanian judiciary, particularly in its applications relating to publications and press cases.
6. To explicitly stipulate that journalists may not be prosecuted for carrying out their professional and journalistic work except under the Press and Publications Law, which is the legal framework that governs and regulates the work of journalists in Jordan.
7. To expand the use of alternative penalties, especially for certain offenses stipulated in the Law, in order to help reduce overcrowding in correctional and rehabilitation centers.

The Center monitored in 2024 the continued blocking of some electronic publications by the Media Commission, where nine electronic publications were blocked. In this context, the Center affirms that international standards and best practices emphasize that electronic publications should not be subject

³ See the annex of the report.

to mandatory registration but rather be required only to submit a notice to the competent authority upon establishment. Should these publications violate national laws, they should be referred to the judiciary. Blocking publications constitutes a restriction on freedom of expression.

Likewise, the Center observed, in the same context, that one widely broadcast Jordanian satellite TV channel was referred by the Media Commission to the Public Prosecutor. The Commission also reported three violations related to the audiovisual media sector and referred them to the judiciary, in addition to filing a criminal complaint against a satellite channel broadcasting without a license, according to the Commission.

Additionally, the year 2024 witnessed the enactment of the Law on Guaranteeing the Right to Access Information, which included many positive developments. The Center's detailed report highlighted remaining observations on the Law.

The number of complaints received by the Information Council in 2024 reached six complaints, compared to three complaints in 2023⁴ and one complaint in 2022 submitted by a journalist, in which the Council decided to accept the request and directed the relevant entity to respond⁵. In 2021, the number of complaints was three, one of which was filed by a journalist, compared to fourteen complaints in 2020.

In terms of promoting the culture of the right to access information, the total number of training courses held by the end of 2024 reached sixty-four courses, noting that these

courses began in 2022. The total number of courses in 2024 alone was twenty-five, compared to twenty-six in 2023 and fourteen in 2022, with a total of 1,417 trainees.

The report recommended a set of recommendations, including:

1. The need to develop a **national media strategy** aimed at advancing the reality of media freedoms and providing a legislative environment that guarantees freedom of the press and media.
2. To amend legislation related to freedom of expression and freedom of the press and media as a unified legislative framework to prevent contradictions and legislative overlap. This includes amending the Audiovisual Media Law in line with the Center's previous reports and amending the Cybercrimes Law to ensure greater precision and clarity in defining criminal acts.
3. To limit the blocking of electronic publications by the Media Commission and to adhere to international human rights standards in this regard, and to reduce the referral of complaints against the audiovisual media sector while resorting to alternatives that would enhance the media profession in line with international human rights standards.
4. The Center reiterates the recommendations stated in the body of the report regarding the amendment of both the Law on the Right to Access Information and the Cybercrimes Law.
5. To continue current efforts to raise awareness among relevant parties about the right to access information and to expand these efforts,

⁴ Report on the Right to Access Information for the year 2023.

⁵ Information Council Letter No. (M.M/T13), dated 20/03/2023.

especially following the enactment of the amended Law on Guaranteeing the Right to Access Information.

6. The Right to Peaceful Assembly

No amendments were made in 2022 to the Public Gatherings Law No. (7) of 2004 and its amendments. In this regard, the Center reaffirms the need to amend the Public Gatherings Law.

In terms of practice, the year 2024 witnessed a number of sit-ins, marches, work stoppages, solidarity stands, rallies, gatherings, and protests, totaling 3,812 events, including 378 marches.

The report also presented a number of recommendations, including:

1. Reviewing the **Public Gatherings Law**, including revisiting the definition of “gathering” in Article (2) of the Law, distinguishing between public and private gatherings — as the latter is not subject to the provisions of the Public Gatherings Law — and setting clear limitations on the authorities’ powers to disperse gatherings as stipulated in the same Law, in addition to other amendments detailed in the Center’s previous reports.
2. Limiting detention measures so that they remain exceptional and used only in the narrowest scope possible, in line with international human rights standards, the Jordanian Constitution, and national legislation.

7. The Right to Establish and Join Political Parties

1. The year 2024 witnessed the issuance of the **Executive Instructions for the Establishment and Regulation of Political Parties** for the year 2024.

Political Parties and Participation in Parliamentary Elections:

- On September 10, 2024, parliamentary elections were held following the enactment of the Political Parties Law and the Elections Law, both of which stemmed from the outcomes of the Political Modernization Vision. One of the objectives was to enable political parties to participate in elections through a **dedicated national party list**, which allocated 41 seats exclusively for parties.
- These elections marked the first time in the history of Jordanian parliamentary elections that fully party-based lists contested the elections. A total of 25 party lists participated in the elections, in addition to the participation of some political parties through local electoral districts.
- This came in line with the guarantees provided under the Elections Law No. (4) of 2022, which introduced the party list for the first time, allocating 30% of the House of Representatives’ seats to party lists, with provisions for a gradual increase in future elections. The law also guarantees prominent placements for women and youth within these lists.
- The electoral system allowed each voter to cast **two votes**: one at the

level of the local electoral district (for a local list and its candidates) and another at the national level (for a party list).

- A total of **36 political parties** out of 38 participated in the elections under the national party lists, either by running independently or through coalitions among them, as follows:

Table No. (1): Political Parties that Contested the 20th House of Representatives Elections for the Year 2024

Number of Parties	Method of Candidacy
20 Parties	Ran on individual party lists
16 Parties	Ran within 5 party coalitions

In 2024, the Economic and Social Council launched a specialized study entitled: *“The Economic and Social Dimensions of Political Parties in the Elections of the 20th House of Representatives.”* The study reached the following conclusions:

- The economic and social dimensions among all political parties (38 parties) differed in both form and substance. Some parties expressed their interest in economic and/or social issues through their slogan/logo, while others did so through their vision and mission statements.
- In terms of campaign advertising, parties focused on highlighting the names and photos of their candidates rather than promoting their economic and social programs.
- As for party coalitions — which included 5 lists representing 16 parties — there was no notable difference in economic and social

slogans. The main focus remained on the arrangement of candidate names within the lists, with two lists disputing the lead position.

The report recommended several measures, including:

1. The necessity for the visions of economic, political, and administrative modernization to serve as a foundation for developing political parties’ economic, political, and administrative programs.
2. Calling on political parties to activate the role of specialized committees on economic and social issues, and/or the assistants to the Secretary-General for economic and social affairs, to develop detailed plans and programs for the coming phase.
3. Continuing national efforts to strengthen the participation of women, youth, and persons with disabilities in political parties.
4. Increasing transparency and governance in the mechanism of selecting candidates for party lists.
5. Ensuring that political parties’ election campaigns are based on their economic and social programs that fulfill sustainable development goals in society.

8. The Right to Establish and Join Associations

- In 2024, the Planning and International Cooperation Law No. (10) of 2024 was issued. Article (7/A) provides that the Ministry shall handle funding granted to associations, non-profit companies, cooperative associations and unions, and any other entity designated by

the Council of Ministers. The Ministry shall align funded projects with national priorities, facilitate procedures for obtaining the necessary approvals for accepting funding in accordance with legislation, and monitor the progress of funded projects — both at the project level and at the overall funding level — in coordination with ministries, departments, and official and public institutions.

- In 2024, a study entitled “*The Role of Jordanian Civil Society Organizations in Empowering Women in Politics*” was issued. The study demonstrated that the participation of women in political processes holds a central place in development and democratic transformation in any country, and that the extent of this participation determines the level of societal progress and the success of the political reform processes sought by the state.
- The number of institutions and civil society organizations that contributed collective inputs to the Universal Periodic Review of Human Rights reached **159 institutions**, compared to **55 institutions** in 2018. This reflects significant growth in the level of participation and an expansion in the role of civil society. This progress is clear evidence of the government’s commitment to strengthening the civic space and institutionalizing partnership with various sectors within a comprehensive vision to enhance the human rights system.

In 2024, the Center monitored a number of internal challenges and obstacles facing associations, including:

- The failure of many associations to adhere to the values of democracy and good governance; manifestations of this include the absence of records in some associations and the failure to submit financial and administrative reports.
- The small number of general assembly members in many associations, which reduces the possibility of holding free and fair periodic elections.
- The unwillingness of general assembly members to pay membership fees, and often, those intending to run for the presidency of the administrative body cover these fees on behalf of the general assembly members.
- Most association administrators are women, especially in rural areas; however, they do not participate in activities implemented in the capital, which gives the impression that their numbers are low.
- The failure of many associations to comply with their designated geographic scope of work as specified in their internal bylaws, and their engagement in activities and objectives different from those for which they were licensed.
- The failure of some associations to pay workers the minimum wage and to register them with the Social Security Corporation and health insurance.
- The failure of a number of associations to publish their financial reports on their websites due to the following reasons: (1) many associations do not have websites; (2) weakness of the activities implemented by the associations; and (3) the impact of weak activities and

limited annual budgets on obtaining foreign funding.

Establishment and Formation:

The number of licensed associations as of the end of 2024 reached **6,112**.

The report recommended several measures, including:

1. Promoting the values of democracy, transparency, and good governance within associations' frameworks to help reduce corruption.
2. Achieving effective integration between the activities and programs of civil society organizations, with a focus on fulfilling the purposes and objectives for which they were established.
3. Developing sustainability plans for the work of associations and coalitions to ensure a positive return across all developmental fields.
4. Preparing financial and administrative reports periodically and within set deadlines, and calling for their publication on electronic websites. If an institution is unable to maintain its own website, a dedicated section should be provided on the relevant ministry's website for publishing the administrative and financial reports of its affiliated institutions.

9. The Right to Establish and Join Trade Unions

- Professional and labor unions are among the most important sectors and institutions of civil society, representing wide segments of

society. Their role extends beyond merely defending the interests of their members and constituencies; they are active bodies that participate in the management of public affairs and in the effective guidance and awareness of economic, social, and political development plans.

- Chapter Eleven of the Labor Law regulates the legal provisions related to labor unions and employers' associations. These provisions cover combating forced and compulsory labor, eliminating discrimination in employment and occupation, eradicating child labor, and ensuring the right to organize and engage in collective bargaining.

The Center reiterates its recommendations included in previous annual reports, which call for amending certain provisions of the Labor Law related to union work, including:

1. Denying workers the benefit of tools for resolving collective disputes under Article (2), as the definition was limited to workers who have labor unions.
2. Denying workers who do not have unions the right to collective bargaining under Article (44).
3. Granting the General Federation of Trade Unions the right to set the bylaws for both the federation and the unions, without leaving any organizational role to the union itself (whether its general assembly or administrative body) as stipulated in Article (100).

To ensure that the Labor Law aligns with international standards, the Center proposes the formation of a committee that includes all relevant parties — representatives of labor unions, employers, competent

government bodies, and civil society institutions — to produce a modern law that promotes social justice, supports economic growth, and places the country among those committed to international standards.

Professional Union Funds

In **2024**, professional unions were included in the Audit Bureau's audit plans in accordance with Article (4/c) of its Law No. (28) of 1952, which stipulates: *"The Audit Bureau's oversight shall include: any entity that the Council of Ministers decides to task the Audit Bureau with auditing its accounts if the funds of this entity are treated as public funds or if their collection is carried out under the provisions of the law."* This measure aims to prevent financial and administrative violations and to strengthen members' trust in the unions.

The report made several recommendations, including:

1. Developing consensus visions among all parties (government, labor unions, and employers) to produce a modern Labor Law that aligns with the Constitution and international standards, including:
 - (a) Amending Article (116), which grants the Minister of Labor the authority to dissolve a union's administrative body and appoint a temporary administrative body, and replacing it with the previous provision — before its amendment — which gives the Minister of Labor the right to file a lawsuit in court to dissolve a union if certain grounds are met.

- (b) Amending Article (100), which grants the General Federation of Trade Unions the right to set the bylaws for both the federation and the unions jointly, without giving the union (whether its general assembly or administrative body) any organizational role, rendering them merely an instrument to implement the federation's directives.

- (c) Amending Article (98), which imposes restrictions on workers' right to form labor unions to defend their interests.

- (d) Amending Articles (2) and (44), which deny certain non-unionized workers access to tools for dispute resolution and the right to collective bargaining.

2. To strengthen pension funds in unions:

- (a) Review the laws and regulations related to the management of these funds.

- (b) Link pension returns and paid salaries to the ages of contributors, in line with inflation rates, based on accurate actuarial studies and statistical rates and ratios, so they serve as a sound scientific reference for any decision made by the competent authority.

3. To increase women's participation in union work:

- (a) Amend the electoral systems in labor and professional unions to allocate seats within administrative bodies based on

proportional representation or quota systems.

(b) Provide programs to qualify and develop women's capacities in union work.

Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights Axis

During the year **2024**, the Center received **150** complaints related to economic, social, and cultural rights, distributed among **6** main rights, which are: the right to development and an adequate standard of living, the right to work, the right to education, the right to health, the right to a healthy environment, and cultural rights.

1. The Right to Development and an Adequate Standard of Living

The right to development and the right to an adequate standard of living are fundamental, inalienable rights affirmed by international human rights instruments as a core foundation for enhancing human dignity and achieving social justice. The right to development is based on the principle of equal opportunities and economic and social empowerment to ensure that individuals and peoples enjoy their resources and the capacity to participate effectively in developmental decision-making.

These two rights significantly contribute to achieving stability and human progress through combating poverty and unemployment, ensuring food security, enhancing public health and welfare, providing quality education, achieving gender equality, securing clean water, and guaranteeing the right to decent work and sustainable economic growth. The realization of these rights constitutes a legal and ethical obligation for states to guarantee inclusive and sustainable development policies aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and ensure the fair distribution of resources that enhances the effective enjoyment of human rights.

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan's journey of comprehensive reform across all developmental sectors continued in 2024, building on a legacy of achievements and driven by a national will to confront challenges and obstacles hindering progress, prosperity, and comprehensive development. The visions of the Third Modernization were launched under Royal directives; these include the modernization of the political system, the public sector modernization roadmap, and the economic modernization vision, which successively serve as guiding lights for the work of Jordanian state institutions and form a national agenda and comprehensive development plan spanning governments to accelerate the pace of comprehensive reform, positively impacting citizens' lives and livelihoods.

The Third Modernization pathways have given considerable attention to achieving developmental targets in all fields.

Industry Sector

In 2024, the Industrial Policy Action Plan (2024-2028) was prepared and adopted as part of efforts to prepare and launch a policy for promoting locally made products ("Made in Jordan").

Agriculture and Food Security Sector: Enhancing Farmers' Rights to Achieve Sustainable Food Security

Guaranteeing farmers' rights and empowering them economically and socially is a fundamental pillar for achieving food security in Jordan. This requires legal and institutional reforms alongside implementing comprehensive strategies to protect their basic rights, empower them economically, and enhance their access to markets, resources, and technology. These efforts contribute to building a sustainable

agricultural sector capable of facing future challenges.

In 2024, the Food Security Council launched the first national information management system for food security in Jordan, in cooperation with the Department of Statistics and the World Food Program. This system aims to strengthen the national capacity to monitor progress in achieving food security and sustainable development goals and to support decision-making in this area.

Tourism Sector

Tourism is one of the fundamental pillars of the Jordanian economy, significantly contributing to job creation and national income enhancement. However, workers in this sector, especially owners of small and medium tourism projects, faced a severe economic crisis due to consecutive challenges. These began with the COVID-19 pandemic, which led to a complete shutdown of tourism establishments, followed by the repercussions of the war in Gaza, which negatively affected tourist flows and caused a sharp decline in revenues. This resulted in the closure of many projects and the loss of numerous job opportunities, particularly in governorates that heavily rely on tourism as a primary income source.

Climate Change and Human Rights

Climate change is considered one of the major challenges facing Jordan in **2024**, as the Kingdom is affected by rising temperatures, decreased rainfall rates, and an increase in extreme weather events. These climatic changes have severe impacts on Jordan, notably reflected by a recorded decline in rainfall rates for 2024. This decline leads to water scarcity and

exacerbates the water crisis in the country, which has catastrophic consequences especially on the water and agriculture sectors in the Jordan Valley and the Jordan Rift Valley region. These areas, once considered Jordan's breadbasket, are now threatened and unable to sustain their production.

The report issued several recommendations, including:

1. **Prioritize investment as the basis for financing projects, industries, and economic infrastructures in Jordan**, emphasizing the exploitation of resources as an alternative to foreign aid and international borrowing.
2. **Enhance community awareness:** There is a need to increase awareness about the importance of rational water consumption and the application of modern irrigation technologies.
3. **Develop infrastructure:** Improve water distribution networks and reduce water losses.
4. **Promote Jordan's image as a safe and sustainable tourist destination**, despite recurring regional instabilities.
5. **Improve service quality across all locations and upgrade tourism facilities.**
6. **Encourage the use of technologies and innovations that improve water and energy efficiency**, such as solar energy, wind power, and smart agriculture, to reduce dependence on fossil fuels.
7. **Implement measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the agricultural sector**, including the use of organic fertilizers, minimizing

fossil fuel use, and adopting sustainable agricultural systems.

8. **Develop new agricultural technologies resistant to climate changes** and benefit from the experiences of countries facing similar climate challenges.
9. **Strengthen scientific research in the fields of climate change and technological innovation to develop effective solutions.**
10. **Raise community awareness about the importance of adapting to climate change and adopting environmentally friendly practices.**
11. **Collect and analyze food security data from national and international sources through a unified platform.**
12. **Classify and import/export food security data according to specific indicators.**
13. **Enable governmental institutions to monitor food stocks and forecast supply conditions to ensure efficient resource distribution.**
14. **Enhance integration with national and international information systems, in compliance with Jordan's prevailing data protection regulations.**
15. **Incorporate advanced tools such as electronic monitoring dashboards and early warning systems to provide periodic reports on food security status.**
16. **Launch a support and recovery fund for tourism establishments, aiming to provide grants or soft loans to affected tourism project owners, especially in the governorates, to help them resume operations and cover losses.**

Achieving food security requires strengthening farmers' rights and providing an enabling environment to ensure the sustainability of the agricultural sector through:

- a. Ensuring farmers have access to agricultural land, water, high-quality seeds, and modern agricultural technology **to boost productivity.**
- b. Developing legislation to protect farmers' rights to own and utilize their lands and to prevent disputes related to agricultural land ownership.
- c. Improving working conditions for farmers, including social security, health insurance, and fair compensation to ensure a safe and sustainable working environment.
- d. Providing financing and concessional loans, in addition to training on smart and sustainable agriculture to increase productivity and achieve environmental sustainability.
- e. Opening new markets for Jordanian agricultural products, encouraging investment in agricultural technology, and developing modern irrigation systems such as hydroponics and greenhouses.
- f. Establishing emergency funds to compensate farmers for losses resulting from climate changes, natural disasters, or economic fluctuations.

2. The Right to Work

- In 2024, the **General Amnesty Law No. (5) for the year 2024** was enacted. This amnesty covered criminal acts committed before March 19, 2024. Among the offenses related to the Labor Law included in

the amnesty were violations such as conducting mediation activities for the employment of Jordanians without a license, and violations related to the illegal use of foreign labor. This includes employing foreign workers without a work permit, with an expired permit, or in unauthorized professions. The amnesty also encompassed wage violations, such as delays in wage payments, minimum wage violations, breaches of internal work regulations, child labor, women's work, and violations related to occupational safety and health requirements.

On the policy front:

- In 2024, the **Ministry of Labor continued implementing inspection campaigns** to regulate the labor market and control the movement of the workforce between productive and service sectors. These campaigns resulted in the apprehension of **1,542 foreign workers** violating either the Labor Law or residency regulations, with deportation orders issued either formal or administrative. Additionally, **1,509 foreign workers** were deported as a result of these campaigns.
- One of the most notable achievements of 2024 was the **activation of the Victims of Human Trafficking Fund**, including securing travel tickets for the safe voluntary return of **three victims of human trafficking**, financed by the fund.

Qualified Industrial Zones:

- The National Center conducted multiple field visits in 2024 to qualified industrial zones to assess the situation of workers and their enjoyment of labor rights, as well as the adequacy of their working environment. The Center recorded the following observations:
 1. Some factories did not comply with issuing work and residency permits.
 2. Non-compliance with the law requiring the employment of a certain percentage of persons with disabilities.
 3. Non-compliance with regulations concerning the provision of medical first aid tools and devices for workers.
 4. Failure to adhere to instructions on types of occupational hazards, necessary precautions, and preventive measures in the workplace.
 5. Some factories delayed paying workers' wages beyond the legally stipulated deadline, which is no later than the seventh day of each month.
 6. The factory clinic in one ready-made garment factory in Sahab Industrial City relied on a nurse instead of having a full-time doctor.
 7. Many factories lacked adequate occupational health and safety requirements, such as workers not wearing protective masks, workers operating fabric cutting machines without proper

guards, absence of ironing gloves, and lack of rubber mats on floors.

Recommendations included:

1. Amending **Article (25) of the Public Sector Human Resources Management Regulation No. (33) for 2024** to require clear reasons for terminating an employee during the probation period, in accordance with principles of justice and transparency.
2. Amending the **Flexible Work System No. (44) for 2024** to include specific wage controls aligned with the minimum wage and require social security coverage for all flexible workers.
3. Establishing an effective monitoring system for child labor.
4. Defining "organized begging" in the **Anti-Human Trafficking Law No. (9) of 2009 and its amendments**, to enable monitoring of such cases and taking legal action against perpetrators, including referring cases to the judiciary or protecting victims. Also, securing adequate funding for the Victims Assistance Fund to fulfill its mandated role.
5. Taking all necessary measures to enforce national legislation regarding the employment of persons with disabilities.
6. Continuing and intensifying the Ministry of Labor's inspection and enforcement efforts to ensure all companies and factories in industrial zones across the Kingdom comply with health and safety regulations.
7. Ensuring occupational health and safety conditions in all workplaces.

3. The Right to Education

- By the end of 2024, the total number of schools in the Kingdom reached approximately **7,649** schools, compared to **7,505** schools in 2023. This total includes **4,083** public schools, **51** other government schools, **3,354** private schools, and **161** schools affiliated with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA).
- Kindergartens continue to face various challenges and obstacles that prevent all children of the target age group from enrolling. For the 2023/2024 academic year, the total number of kindergarten classes for both KG1 and KG2 in the Kingdom reached **8,757**, including **3,144** classes in public schools, **5** classes in other government schools, and **5,608** classes in the private sector.

Integrating Human Rights Concepts and Values into School Curricula

- As part of the partnership between the **National Center for Human Rights** and the **National Center for Curriculum Development** to promote and disseminate a culture of human rights, the National Center contributed in 2024 — continuing efforts that began in 2023 — to reviewing school curricula to assess the extent to which they incorporate human rights in accordance with the Jordanian Constitution and international human rights standards. The reviewed subjects included Social Studies, Arabic Language, Islamic Education, History, Civic and National Education, and Geography. The review covered the following grades: Grade 1, Grade 4,

Grade 7, Grade 9, Grade 10, and Grade 12 across all streams.

- As part of its follow-up on observations and recommendations regarding the condition of primary and secondary schools, the National Center for Human Rights issued **17 official correspondences** to the Ministry of Education in 2024. These letters conveyed the findings of monitoring visits to a number of primary and secondary schools in the southern region (Aqaba Governorate) and the central region (Madaba and Zarqa Governorates). The Ministry of Education issued **three responses** to these correspondences, outlining measures taken within its available human and financial resources to enhance the quality of educational services and care. Notable actions included:

1. Vacating the old rented building of Prince Hamzah Primary School (under the Directorate of Education in Zarqa Second District) and renting a suitable alternative building in good condition for the students.
2. Implementing various remedial measures — in coordination with relevant departments — to reduce the phenomenon of school dropouts, including:
 - Activating preventive measures to limit school dropouts.
 - Strengthening the role of school counselors in monitoring frequent absenteeism and assessing students' family situations.
 - Creating a safe and attractive school environment for students with frequent absences, with the Safe School Environment Council

collaborating with counselors to provide psychosocial support through student initiatives that motivate continued education.

- Raising awareness among parents and students about the principles of promotion, completion, and failure.
- Increasing parents' awareness of the importance of their children's regular school attendance and the negative impacts of dropouts on students and society, recognizing parents as partners in the educational process through regular meetings.

The report included several recommendations, such as:

1. Providing transportation for students to and from schools, especially in remote areas, given the distance between schools and students' residences.
2. Improving the educational environment by ensuring sufficient classroom space and providing interactive whiteboards.
3. Heating schools adequately by supplying safe and sufficient heating equipment or installing solar energy systems.
4. Enhancing programs to reduce school dropout rates in all Ministry of Education schools.
5. Strengthening inclusive education for persons with disabilities in schools throughout the Kingdom.
6. Addressing classroom overcrowding in public schools.

4. The Right to Health

The year 2024 witnessed the continued enforcement of the Public Health Law No. (47) of 2008 and its amendments, in addition to the issuance and amendment of several related regulations and instructions, including:

1. The decision of the Jordan Medical Association Council to approve the 2024 Medical Fees Tariff.
2. The issuance of instructions for establishing fertility units / IVF units in private hospitals for the year 2024.
3. The issuance of instructions for establishing dialysis units in private hospitals for the year 2024.
4. The Ministry of Health launched the National Strategy for Tobacco Control for the years 2024–2030 to combat all forms of tobacco use.

In 2024, the total number of hospitals in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan reached **120** hospitals providing services to Jordanian and non-Jordanian patients, distributed as follows: **70** private hospitals, **31** public hospitals, **17** military hospitals, and **2** university hospitals, with a total bed capacity of approximately **16,200** beds, at an average of **14 beds per 10,000 people**.

Throughout 2024, national efforts continued under the Ministry of Health to advance the health sector and improve services provided to citizens, including the opening of the Kufr Asad Health Center, the expansion of the Kufr Yuba Comprehensive Health Center, and the introduction of specialized clinics within it.

Preventive Health

The National Center carried out a number of monitoring visits to the Ministry of Health

and recorded various measures implemented by the Ministry in 2024 to limit the spread of communicable and non-communicable diseases, most notably:

- Continuing to supervise the implementation of infection control policies and procedures that must be followed at the national level in public and private hospitals and health centers.
- Continuing epidemiological surveillance of communicable diseases and taking necessary preventive measures to limit their spread.
- Activating the Counseling Center and the National AIDS Program Hotline for HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases.

The National Center also organized a specialized dialogue session titled “*The Reality of the Health Sector: Universal Health Coverage as a Model*”, aiming to identify the challenges facing the health sector and possible solutions. The session concluded with the following observations and recommendations:

1. The absence and weakness of salary systems and the lack of incentives to attract and retain distinguished competencies.
2. The need to focus on comprehensive healthcare (promotive, preventive, palliative, and curative).
3. The need for an organized health sector that ensures equitable access for all citizens and residents to integrated, high-quality health services.

Additionally, the National Center organized a specialized dialogue session titled “**Healthy Food Industries in Jordan**”,

which highlighted the importance of expanding the healthy food industry sector in Jordan and ensuring its inclusiveness, while also addressing field challenges facing the health sector and the mechanisms needed to overcome them within an inclusive participatory approach among all stakeholders. The session concluded with the following recommendations:

1. The need to establish a **general policy for health communication and awareness about healthy food** through coordination and agreement among all relevant parties, ensuring its integration into school curricula and its implementation in school cafeterias in all public and private schools.
2. Working to **enhance and improve the quality of education** in Jordanian universities in departments specialized in food industries and nutrition, in addition to providing specialized training for university students before graduation, which would strengthen trust between academia and industry and benefit the local industry and Jordanian citizens first and foremost.
3. Establishing an **Innovation and Development Center for local food industries**.
4. Focusing on the preventive aspect and the importance of forming a **Consumer Protection Committee** consisting of representatives from the academic and industrial sectors and all relevant partners, which could specialize in the food and pharmaceutical sectors.
5. Developing the idea that **graduation projects for bachelor's, master's, and doctoral students** in Jordanian universities should support this type of food industry to build bridges of

cooperation between the industrial sector and universities.

6. Emphasizing the need to **introduce a quality mark on Jordanian food products** and its role in prevention and reducing the spread of non-communicable diseases, in addition to increasing the competitiveness of Jordanian products locally, regionally, and globally.
7. Working to achieve **integration in policies** among different institutions such as the Ministries of Industry and Trade, and Agriculture.

The report recommended a set of recommendations, including:

1. Addressing the challenges related to infrastructure, medical staff, equipment, availability of medicines, and other observations mentioned in the body of the report or previously communicated by the Center to the Ministry of Health in detail.
2. Restructuring the health sector to ensure greater productivity and efficiency, improving the quality of medical services provided, ensuring individuals' access to health services, and enhancing governance and oversight mechanisms, which would generally help overcome the current challenges.
3. Taking the necessary measures to achieve **universal health coverage**, guaranteeing individuals' right to enjoy the right to health equally, including unifying the entity responsible for health insurance.
4. Institutionalizing **home healthcare services** for certain groups, especially the elderly, persons with disabilities, and other groups that may need this type of care, to ease the pressure on health centers and

- hospitals while respecting the privacy of these groups.
5. Institutionalizing and expanding **electronic linkage** to include all health institutions, given the importance of electronic linkage in accessing the medical history of patients, especially in emergency cases, which would enhance the quality of medical services provided and the accuracy of diagnosis.
 6. Upgrading **primary and secondary health centers** and expanding the establishment of comprehensive health centers to reduce the burden on hospitals, improve accessibility, enhance the quality of medical services, and strengthen preventive, reproductive, maternal, and child health services.
 7. Establishing a **specialized center for organ donation and transplantation**, raising awareness among all groups about the importance of donation, and promoting this culture, including integrating it into educational curricula.
 8. Expanding the **National Immunization Program**, providing sufficient quantities of vaccines, and raising awareness at the same time about their importance and their impact on individuals' lives in the future.
 9. Activating and implementing the **National Strategy for Tobacco Control** in all its forms, monitoring its enforcement in relevant institutions, and working towards the full implementation of all its pillars.
 10. Enhancing the efficiency and capacity of **medical and nursing staff** working in government hospitals and comprehensive and primary health centers in dealing with persons with disabilities of various types.
 11. Providing **environmental facilities and necessary accommodations** for persons with disabilities and the elderly in various hospitals and health centers.
 12. Strengthening **preventive and reproductive health services** to help reduce the incidence and spread of diseases, improve individuals' quality of life, and ultimately reduce spending on the health sector.
 13. Activating and enforcing the **National Strategy for Tobacco Control** in all its forms, monitoring its enforcement in relevant institutions to ensure its full implementation.
 14. Continuing efforts to carry out effective **inspection and monitoring** by the Ministry of Health and the Food and Drug Administration to ensure that all institutions, food factories, and restaurants throughout the Kingdom comply with public health and safety standards.
 15. Encouraging the **business sector** to expand the production of healthy food products for people with chronic diseases as part of its social responsibility, and raising awareness among all individuals and groups about the importance of such products and encouraging their consumption. This includes taking the necessary legislative and administrative measures and providing economic and investment incentives to owners of healthy food industries to help expand production and marketing.
 16. Developing general policies or integrating existing policies to ensure the expansion of **healthy food industries** targeting people with

chronic diseases, which would reduce the expected cost burden on the health sector, given the preventive role these industries play in limiting the occurrence and exacerbation of diseases, thus ensuring individuals' right—especially people with chronic diseases—to enjoy the right to food appropriate to their health conditions and financial capabilities.

17. Adopting a legislative provision to **protect health data** and ensure its privacy within the new digital system.
18. Allocating a **fixed percentage of the state budget** for preventive health as a legal requirement.

5. The Right to a Safe and Healthy Environment

- The year 2024 witnessed developments in the legislative framework governing the right to a safe and healthy environment, the most notable of which was: (1) The issuance of the Agricultural Waste Management Regulation No. (32) of 2024, issued pursuant to paragraph (T) of Article (10) and Article (31) of the Framework Waste Management Law No. (16) of 2020.
- The Center conducted a monitoring visit to Ajloun Governorate and its affiliated villages, documenting a number of quarry and mine areas to assess their impact on the right to a healthy environment in all its components. The following observations were recorded:
 1. Accumulation of waste in the monitored sites.

2. Exposure of some forested lands that were monitored to fires.
 3. Some sites with inactive stone quarries require rehabilitation projects to meet environmental and public safety requirements and to repurpose these sites for other uses.
- The Center conducted a monitoring visit to the Industrial Clusters City / Sahab in the Capital Governorate to assess the surrounding environment of the industrial clusters area. The following observations were recorded:
 1. Accumulation of waste in various locations within the city, some of which contain large amounts of flammable textiles, posing a threat to public safety.
 2. Spread of stray dogs in different parts of the city, also posing a threat to public safety.
 - The Center conducted a monitoring visit to the Dhleil Industrial Area in Zarqa Governorate, documenting several environmental challenges and recording the following observations:
 1. An urgent need for a sewage network in the Dhleil area, where a large number of cesspits are used due to the lack of a sewage system. This contributes to the spread of foul odors, insect, fly, and rodent infestations, especially when these cesspits overflow. Over time, these cesspits threaten groundwater sources and the structural safety of buildings.

2. The presence of factories in the middle of a densely populated area, resulting in harm to the health of local residents due to emissions and dust from some factories in the area.

The report included a set of recommendations, including:

1. Revising the legislative frameworks governing the licensing of stone quarries to ensure that no quarry is licensed within forests and woodland areas, in order to preserve the environment and ecosystem in general and protect woodland areas in particular. In addition, no quarry should be licensed near residential communities, and comprehensive environmental and social impact assessments must be prepared prior to granting any license.
2. Raising the fences of the park established at the former Pepsi Pool site with iron mesh to prevent waste dumping and entry of stray dogs.
3. Intensifying monitoring of the park established at the former Pepsi Pool site on all its borders by increasing the number of guards and installing surveillance cameras to prevent waste dumping, ensure that children do not enter unsupervised, and stop stray dogs from entering.
4. Increasing awareness campaigns by the Ministry of Environment targeting residents living near the former Pepsi Pool site to encourage them to maintain cleanliness in the area and cooperate with the authorities supervising the park in the area.

5. Developing the drainage system infrastructure established at the former Pepsi Pool site.
6. Taking further measures to protect forest resources and raising awareness of their importance.

6. Cultural Rights

Cultural rights are among the fundamental rights guaranteed by the Jordanian Constitution, as well as by international standards, in addition to various provisions of national laws such as the Culture Care Law, the Copyright Protection Law, the Trade Names Law, the Urban Heritage Protection Law, and other laws that safeguard cultural rights.

- The report highlighted the need to protect tangible cultural heritage, which is of national significance and supports the national economy. It also outlined the national efforts exerted to preserve and protect this heritage in line with the best international standards and to present it in a sustainable manner.
- The number of cultural entities registered under the supervision of the Ministry of Culture has reached 748 associations, enriching the overall cultural scene with remarkable diversity, including artistic troupes, associations concerned with literature, criticism, tangible and intangible heritage, and specialized scientific bodies.
- The digital library “Al-Kotba” was launched as a digital platform that provides free books and aims to disseminate knowledge and promote reading among all segments of society, thereby contributing to raising cultural awareness and

strengthening cultural education within the community.

The report included a set of recommendations, including:

1. Enhancing cooperation between government institutions, security bodies, and the judiciary to ensure the tracking and recovery of stolen artifacts and the protection of heritage and natural sites from destruction or unlawful use.
2. Developing awareness and educational programs in schools and universities to promote a culture of heritage and environmental conservation, considering them an integral part of national identity and a collective responsibility.
3. Enacting strict legislation to protect tangible and intangible heritage, natural resources, and the environment from violations and abuses committed through the illicit trade of antiquities and cultural heritage, or through assaults on trees and natural environmental resources. This requires activating robust monitoring mechanisms, tightening penalties for violators, and raising community awareness about the importance of preserving cultural and national identity.
4. Ensuring fair geographical distribution when implementing cultural activities across all regions of the Kingdom.

Axis of Rights Most in Need of Protection

In 2024, the Center received **40 complaints** related to the rights most in need of protection, which fall under four main rights: **women's rights, children's rights, the rights of persons with disabilities, and the rights of the elderly.**

1. Women's Rights

Legislative Developments:

In 2024, several amendments were made to national legislation related to women's rights, including:

1. The issuance of the Social Development Law No. 4 of 2024;
 2. The Nursery Homes Regulation No. 6 of 2024;
 3. The Governance Rules for Joint Stock Companies Instructions for 2024;
 4. The Executive Instructions for the Establishment and Monitoring of Political Parties for 2024.
- The National Center recorded an increase in women's participation in the Senate for the year 2024, with the number of women reaching **10 out of 69 members** (14%), compared to **7 out of 65 members** in the previous Senate of 2020 (10.7%).
 - In 2024, the Independent Election Commission adopted a definition of electoral violence against women as: *"Any act or omission (physical or moral) committed with the intent of depriving a woman of, or hindering her from exercising, any right, work, or freedom guaranteed under the Election Law, based solely on her gender."*

Field Monitoring by the Center:

- The Center monitored the Karama Shelter for Victims of Human Trafficking and noted that the Ministry of Social Development expanded the shelter's scope to include potential victims in addition to men, women, and children who are victims of human trafficking. This is based on the Amended Regulation for Shelters for Victims and Affected Persons of Human Trafficking for 2023. The Center made the following observations:
 - (a) The need to activate the Victims' Assistance Fund in accordance with the provisions of the Regulation;
 - (b) Increased oversight of domestic worker recruitment agencies by regulatory bodies and the Ministry of Labor;
 - (c) The need to establish a mechanism to provide airline tickets for trafficked foreign domestic workers to enable their return to their home countries.
- The Center monitored the Amneh Shelter for the Hosting and Rehabilitation of Women and noted the following:
 - (a) The need to provide maternity kits for emergency cases;
 - (b) The need for a psychological specialist, and to allocate a room for the specialist equipped with supportive tools;
 - (c) The need to provide a medical bed and an appropriate medical mattress for persons with disabilities within the prepared apartment.
- The Center monitored the Family Reconciliation House in Aqaba and

noted the following: (a) The need to review the scope of specialization for Family Reconciliation Houses to ensure they are dedicated to abused women and children accompanying their mothers, while ensuring that juvenile girls are referred instead to juvenile care homes or appropriate institutions that provide care suited to their needs and conditions according to their age, and to ensure their physical, psychological, and mental safety. Placing juvenile girls in Family Reconciliation Houses, while protective, may not fully meet the requirements and considerations of the child's best interests.

1. The Center monitored the conditions of female workers in the agricultural sector in Mafrq Governorate and the Northern and Central Jordan Valley and recorded the following:
 - (a) The lack of transportation means that meet public safety standards for transporting agricultural workers to and from farms;
 - (b) Failure to implement the Agricultural Workers Regulation of 2021, particularly concerning the granting of annual and sick leave, maternity leave, enrolling women in social security, and compliance with the minimum wage;
 - (c) Weak compliance with occupational safety and health requirements;
 - (d) Insufficient inspection by the Ministry of Labor of agricultural employers to monitor the application of the Agricultural Workers Regulation and take legal measures against non-compliant employers.

2. The National Center organized a roundtable discussion titled **"Women's Participation in Trade**

Union Councils" to assess the reality of women's and women with disabilities' participation in decision-making positions in unions from the perspective of legislation, policies, and practices, as well as the challenges hindering their participation. The roundtable resulted in the following recommendations:

1. Amending the internal regulations of labor and professional unions to explicitly stipulate the allocation of specific seats for women in these councils.
2. Launching media plans to support the rights of women and women with disabilities by adopting policies aimed at raising societal awareness of the importance of women's participation in public life and unions, and their access to leadership positions, reinforcing their role as key partners in the decision-making process.
3. Training all union members, regardless of type, through awareness and training programs on union work, building the capacity of women regarding their roles in decision-making, leadership, election campaigning, and building grassroots and professional bases.

The Report Included a Set of Recommendations, including:

1. Disseminating awareness programs on the **Family Protection Law against Domestic Violence** and

- providing free counseling and psychological treatment programs for victims of violence in all governorates, while continuing to build the capacities of service providers and staff working in family protection and care shelters.
2. Increasing women's participation rates in electoral committees and chairing such committees, and building their capacities in managing the electoral process.
 3. Implementing legal awareness programs for all segments and groups of society throughout the year about women's right to vote freely and without undue influence.
 4. Implementing awareness programs for female candidates on how to prepare their electoral statements, conduct electoral campaigns, and gain support from voters for their candidacy.
 5. Building the capacities of female parliamentarians regarding their legislative and oversight roles on human rights in the Constitution and the international standards to which Jordan has committed.
 6. The necessity for concerned authorities to strengthen oversight of workplaces employing women in the agricultural sector, ensuring compliance with occupational safety and health conditions, providing first aid, protective footwear, masks, gloves, and other tools that guarantee their right to physical safety.
 7. Adopting suitable employment contracts for female agricultural workers that align with their working conditions and safeguard their rights in relation to working hours, wages, leave, social and health insurance, and their rights during pregnancy and breastfeeding periods.

2. Children's Rights

- The annual report documented legislative developments governing children's rights, including:
 1. The issuance of the Social Development Law No. (4) of 2024;
 2. The Nursery Homes Regulation of 2024;
 3. The E-Learning Regulation in School Educational Institutions of 2024;
 4. The Instructions on the Conditions and Procedures for Licensing Private and Foreign Educational Institutions of 2024;
 5. The Executive Instructions for Electoral Campaign Rules for 2024.
- The Center carried out a monitoring visit to the Jordanian SOS Children's Villages in Aqaba Governorate as part of its monitoring visits to shelters for children deprived of family care, to review the reality of children's rights and assess the status of services provided to them as well as the challenges they face. The Center recorded several observations, the most important of which are:
 1. The village does not have financial independence, meaning it is a voluntary sector that does not receive financial support from the government and implements its programs and activities through projects, which are dependent on funding—once a project and its funding end, the programs also end.
 2. There is a lack of employment opportunities for

graduates, especially girls, in Aqaba Governorate, in addition to the scarcity and limited diversity of vocational training courses and the opening of training divisions.

3. The Psychological Treatment Unit at Prince Hashem Military Hospital has not been activated, despite there being only one psychiatrist at the hospital who works three days a week at the Aqaba Comprehensive Center for Special Education, while there is no public hospital with a resident psychiatrist—there is a need for children to have access to a psychiatrist.
 4. Discontinuation or non-enrollment of children residing at the shelter in education, and difficulties reintegrating them into schools due to long periods of absence.
- The Center conducted field monitoring visits to a random sample of public parks and children's playgrounds in the three regions of the Kingdom, including Al-Baq'a Camp for Palestinian refugees, with the aim of monitoring the reality of the child's right to safe play and the extent to which parks are designed to be friendly to children with disabilities, and the availability of games suitable for children with autism and disabilities. Observations were recorded, relevant authorities were contacted, and recommendations were made accordingly. The report emphasized the need to take all necessary measures to activate the provisions

of Article 18(b) of the Children's Rights Law, to develop parks in general, expand the creation of safe children's playgrounds according to specific standards that consider population density in certain areas, and to pay proper attention to children with disabilities by providing safe games that enable them to enjoy their right to play on an equal basis with other children.

Children in Conflict with the Law

The Center conducted monitoring visits to juvenile detention facilities in the governorates of **Ma'an** and **Aqaba**, as part of its field monitoring visits to juvenile detention facilities within police directorates in the three regions. The Center commends the efforts made by the **Public Security Directorate** to improve and develop the services provided to children in conflict with the law, starting with the existence of male juvenile detention facilities in Ma'an and Aqaba governorates and a female juvenile detention facility in Aqaba governorate. The Center recorded several observations, the most important of which are:

1. The need to establish a dedicated juvenile detention facility for girls in Ma'an Governorate to ease the burden on families residing there, as female juveniles are currently transferred either to the female juvenile detention facility in Aqaba Governorate or to the Capital Governorate, which places an extra burden on families during visitation.
2. Juvenile detention facilities for both males and females in Aqaba Governorate require beds, and attention must be given to the cleanliness of sanitary facilities and

their suitability for persons with disabilities.

Children Victims of Drugs and Psychoactive Substances

The Center conducted a field monitoring visit to the **Behavioral Modification and Child Rehabilitation Center** to assess the services provided and the conditions of this group. The Center recorded several observations and recommendations, the most important of which are:

1. The need to provide the Behavioral Modification and Child Rehabilitation Center with a general practitioner to monitor the health conditions of children during their treatment phase for addiction and substance abuse, and to follow up on their individual treatment plans.
2. The Center is still in the establishment phase and has not yet been fully equipped; therefore, the Center's administration must develop a plan for extracurricular programs and recreational activities, supervise their implementation, expedite the equipping of the activity hall with the necessary equipment to enable beneficiaries to engage in extracurricular activities, accelerate the establishment of an outdoor playground, and pay greater attention to the psychological well-being of the beneficiaries.
3. There is no library or designated study hall; thus, a mechanism must be established in cooperation with the Ministry of Education to help beneficiaries complete their education and homework, and a suitable study hall must be equipped.
4. Cooperation should be pursued with specialized legal institutions through

memorandums of understanding to provide legal services and consultations needed by the beneficiaries, as well as legal assistance before judicial bodies, and to deliver legal awareness and education through lectures and seminars held from time to time.

5. Cooperation with the **Anti-Narcotics Department** is needed to hold awareness lectures on the legal, social, health, and religious effects of drug abuse.
6. The Center is located in an underserved area, making access difficult; the nearest hospital is Prince Faisal Hospital, which is approximately half an hour away.

The report included a set of recommendations, among them:

1. Work to facilitate the enrollment of graduates of care homes in vocational training institutions by opening sections that take into account the needs of young men and women and the labor market requirements in Aqaba Governorate.
2. Emphasize the role of the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs and Holy Places and its active role in combating begging by clarifying the religious ruling on the phenomenon of begging and urging citizens to give donations and alms through licensed entities that can deliver them to those genuinely in need, whether individuals or accredited charities concerned with this field.
3. The need to relocate the Male Beggars Care and Rehabilitation Center in Madaba Governorate to another location that provides easier

access for the families of the children to enable them to reach the Center easily, and to ensure that the Center's building is accessible for persons with disabilities in line with the Persons with Disabilities Rights Law of 2017, which obliges centers to be inclusive of persons with disabilities by providing reasonable accommodation measures, accessible formats, and ensuring physical access. The Center must also be supported with additional staff, particularly qualified social workers holding specialized academic degrees. Additionally, it is necessary to develop a treatment plan for children caught begging who use narcotic substances to ensure they receive treatment in the relevant specialized centers before being placed in beggars' care and rehabilitation centers.

4. Relocate the Girls Beggars Care and Rehabilitation Center in Zarqa Governorate, Al-Dhulail District, to another building.
5. The Ministry of Education shall conduct an evaluation of the situation at Abdullah Bin Maktoum Secondary School for the Blind and tighten supervision over it.
6. The Ministry of Local Administration shall increase the number of municipal staff working in the gardens department and supervising public gardens to ensure greater oversight, build the capacities of garden management staff to deal with children and children with disabilities, design programs suited to children's abilities and ages, and conduct more periodic maintenance of parks, their facilities, and available playground equipment.
7. It is necessary to provide the Behavioral Modification and Child Rehabilitation Center with a general practitioner to monitor children's health during their treatment phase for addiction and substance abuse and to follow up on their individual treatment plans.
8. Implement legal awareness programs for staff working at SOS Children's Villages regarding the legislation governing the operation of family protection shelters, and implement awareness programs about the Juvenile Law targeting children living in the village and youth in the youth houses.
9. Strengthen the role of the Ministry of Social Development and activate social defense programs for child beggars by intensifying inspection and follow-up campaigns in cooperation with the Public Security Directorate, and activate the role of the Aftercare Department in the Ministry of Social Development to ensure the success of anti-begging efforts, which cannot succeed without the availability of awareness and education programs in addition to vocational training and the provision of aftercare.
10. Develop a mechanism to increase cooperation between government entities and the private sector to secure job opportunities for male and female graduates of care homes alike, and establish a working mechanism between the Ministry of Industry and Trade, the Ministry of Social Development, and other concerned parties to develop a specific plan to employ this group of youth in private companies.

3. Rights of Persons with Disabilities

The report highlighted amendments to some national legislation related to the rights of persons with disabilities, including:

1. The issuance of the **Social Development Law No. (4) of 2024**.
2. The issuance of the **Nurseries Regulation No. (6) of 2024**.

The report also noted an increase in the issuance of identification cards by the **Higher Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**, and the issuance of a circular by the Prime Minister addressed to all ministries, government departments, and national institutions emphasizing the necessity of providing appropriate environmental conditions to enable persons with disabilities to exercise their rights and access services.

- The Center monitored the **Aqaba Comprehensive Center for Special Education**, and noted that the **Ministry of Social Development** and relevant stakeholders had improved the services provided there in response to the Center's recommendations. The annual report included the following observations:
 - a) The **Aqaba Comprehensive Center**, which is responsible for the early diagnosis of disabilities, is still under the supervision of the **Ministry of Social Development** despite the issuance of the **Rights of Persons with Disabilities Law No. (20) of 2017** and the provision contained in **Article 23(e)** thereof.
 - b) The unavailability of the autism-specific medication **Esparador**.
 - c) The weak acceptance by public school administrations, teachers, and the local community of children with

disabilities, especially those with intellectual disabilities and autism, due to a lack of knowledge on how to deal with and integrate them, which is attributable to the scarcity of training programs for teachers on how to deal with students with disabilities and the importance of their inclusion.

d) The need to provide the Center with an ENT specialist, a pediatrician, a psychiatrist, and an ophthalmologist.

e) The need to provide two speech therapists, an occupational and physical therapist, two psychologists, and a counseling specialist to meet the needs of beneficiaries.

f) The need to supply the Aqaba Center with a dedicated vehicle for the **Early Intervention Unit** to conduct home visits for early detection of children's disabilities and for implementing aftercare programs for those who have enrolled in kindergartens and beyond.

g) The need to train Early Intervention Unit staff on programs other than the "Portage" program, with a focus on using modern, advanced methods that keep pace with developments in the field of autism care.

- The Center monitored the conditions of female beneficiaries at the **Family Reconciliation Shelter** in Aqaba Governorate and found that the shelter's building is equipped for women with disabilities in accordance with **Article 27(e)** of the **Rights of Persons with Disabilities Law of 2017**, which mandates the provision of reasonable accommodation measures, accessible

formats, and physical access in shelters for victims of domestic violence.

- The Center monitored the conditions of beneficiaries at the **Safe Women's Shelter and Rehabilitation Center (Amneh)** and noted that the **Ministry of Social Development** had equipped an apartment within the shelter building to be fully usable by women with disabilities by providing reasonable accommodation measures, accessible formats, and physical access. In this regard, the Center also requested that the shelter be provided with a medical bed and mattress suitable for persons with disabilities, in addition to a wheelchair and mobility aids such as a **Walker** and medical canes.
- The Center monitored juvenile detention facilities in **Ma'an and Aqaba Governorates**, and requested that sanitary facilities in these detention centers be made accessible for children with disabilities.
- The Center monitored the **Male Beggars Care and Rehabilitation Center in Madaba**, and called for its relocation to another place to ensure that families can easily access it, and to ensure the building is accessible for persons with disabilities through the provision of reasonable accommodation measures, in compliance with the **Rights of Persons with Disabilities Law of 2017**.
- The Center monitored **Al-Karak Greater Municipality** and **Muadh Bin Jabal Municipality** in the Northern Ghor District and found that they require upgrades to ensure the provision of reasonable accommodation measures to enable use by visitors with physical and

visual disabilities. On the occasion of the **International Day of Persons with Disabilities**, the Center issued a statement calling for the provision of environmental facilities and reasonable accommodation measures in the health and education sectors, workplaces, and other relevant locations.

- The Center monitored the **Abdullah Bin Maktoum School for the Blind** and noted that the **Ministry of Social Development** and the school administration had improved and developed the services provided to students. Among the most positive developments observed by the Center were the increase in extracurricular activities for students and their achievement of awards at the national level in sports and reading competitions. On the other hand, during its monitoring, the Center recorded the following observations and recommendations:
 - a) A lack of discipline among students and their failure to remain seated in classrooms, with students roaming around the school facilities without supervision or accompaniment.
 - b) Low levels of cleanliness in the school and its sanitary facilities.
 - c) The need for general maintenance work for the school building and its facilities, and the necessity to completely separate the male and female dormitories and assign supervisors to oversee the male students' dormitory.
 - d) Allegations from students and their families regarding verbal abuse by bus drivers and some teachers toward male and female students⁶.

⁶ The National Center addressed the Ministry of Education by letter No. (HA/18/479) dated

The report included a set of recommendations, including:

1. Amend the Election Law for the House of Representatives to include a quota for persons with disabilities, and amend the Political Parties Law to increase the participation rate of persons with disabilities in political parties.
2. Build and enhance the capacities of persons with disabilities to activate their engagement in political parties and the electoral process.
3. Work on increasing the number of early detection centers for disabilities and equip them with qualified staff, distributing them geographically to better serve persons with disabilities.
4. Prepare all polling and counting centers across the Kingdom to be accessible for persons with disabilities, regardless of the type of their disabilities.
5. Create a database that identifies the number of registered voters with disabilities, their types of disabilities, percentages, and geographical distribution, to allocate them to polling centers adapted for persons with disabilities.
6. Establish an updated national database including all persons with disabilities, detailing their numbers, percentages, geographic distribution, and types of disabilities, to ensure the provision of appropriate services and preparation of dedicated polling centers.
7. Amend educational curricula in schools and universities to ensure the

integration of concepts related to the rights of persons with disabilities, and promote a culture of acceptance and social inclusion, along with providing specialized educational technologies for them.

8. Launch national awareness campaigns to enhance society's understanding of the rights of persons with disabilities, break negative stereotypes, and promote social and economic inclusion culture.
9. Provide environmental accommodations and reasonable adjustments in the health and education sectors, workplaces, judiciary, places of worship, tourist, recreational, and sports facilities, among others.
10. Develop a comprehensive social protection system ensuring integrated health insurance, financial support for persons with disabilities unable to work, in addition to sustainable vocational rehabilitation programs to help integrate them into the labor market.
11. Obligate public and private institutions to maintain a fair employment quota for persons with disabilities, monitor the implementation of laws enforcing their inclusion in the labor market, and provide incentives to companies that comply with employing them.

4. Rights of the Elderly

- The report referred to the issuance of the Jordanian National Strategy for the Elderly for the years (2025–2027), which aims to provide security, dignity, and achieve well-being for the elderly. This strategy was prepared by the National

28/05/2024, and the Center received a response by letter No. (26895//13/18) dated 05/06/2024, stating that intensified supervisory and technical visits to the school will be conducted to verify the observations submitted by the National Center.

Council for Family Affairs using a participatory approach with the National Center for Human Rights and all relevant governmental and non-governmental entities.

- The Center conducted a monitoring visit to Princess Mona Center for Elderly Women and recorded the following observations:

- The center needs to be supported with specialized staff in rehabilitation and occupational therapy based on the provisions of Article (10/B/10/14) of the Instructions for Licensing Residential Care Homes for the Elderly, 2013, and general maintenance works need to be carried out for one of the rooms.

- The Center conducted a monitoring visit to Al-Zahraa Home for the Elderly and recorded the following observations:

1. The medical clinic is not equipped and lacks any medical devices except for a hospital bed.
2. Absence of recreational programs and activities, except for occasional TV watching.
3. Lack of side handles on all walls (only limited parts have them), which constitutes a violation of Article (10), paragraph (B/11) of the Instructions for Licensing Residential Care Homes for the Elderly, 2013. These instructions emphasize the necessity to provide fixed handrails on walls, corridors, halls, bedrooms, and sanitary facilities.
4. The number of supervisors working at the home is insufficient and does not match the number of elderly residents and their needs.
5. Medical beds are not available for all residents; their availability depends on the

health condition of the resident. The number of medical beds for the elderly is limited, most of which are iron beds with worn-out and dirty mattresses. Additionally, some rooms are overcrowded with beds, and there are no partitions in double rooms to ensure the privacy of beneficiaries, which constitutes a violation of Article (10) of the Instructions for Licensing Residential Care Homes for the Elderly, 2013. Paragraph (B/2/14) regarding bedrooms stipulates that “medical beds suitable for motor disabilities and the health condition of the elderly must be provided, with the bed width not less than 90 cm under any circumstances, and a side space not less than 140 cm to facilitate the elderly person’s transfer to the bed.” The same article also emphasizes the need for partitions in double rooms to ensure patient privacy in special cases.

- The Center conducted a monitoring visit to the Pioneers Forum for the Elderly in May 2024 and recorded the following observations:

1. **The need to establish government-run daytime clubs for the elderly in all governorates of the Kingdom** to help them spend their free time, promote intergenerational communication, and benefit from their experiences.
2. **The need to provide financial and in-kind support to the Pioneers Forum for the Elderly** through cooperation with official and non-official entities to enable the forum to carry out its activities related to the elderly.

The Center monitored a fire incident that broke out in parts of the Elderly Guest House affiliated with the White Family Association, resulting in **7 deaths and dozens of injuries**. The Center recorded the prompt intervention of the Civil Defense

teams who controlled the fire and evacuated the injured to hospitals in a short time.

The Center recommends taking precautionary and preventive measures to prevent the recurrence of such incidents in the future and suggests the following:

- Intensify and tighten oversight on social care homes by regulatory bodies.
- Reconsider and continuously review public safety procedures in all social care homes, and prepare the buildings and facilities of care homes to be suitable for elderly use.
- Train all staff working in social care homes in specialized training programs for dealing with crises and risks, such as evacuation and first aid.
- Review the staffing needs of social care homes and the adequacy of social and psychological specialists working there, and implement training programs for them on case management and dealing with the psychological and social situations of the elderly, providing the necessary interventions.

The report also made a number of recommendations:

1. Expedite the issuance of regulations governing the implementation of the Social Development Law No. (4) of 2024.
2. Continue to provide reasonable accommodations in various facilities and institutions for the elderly, involve them in strategies and plans

related to development goals, motivate the private sector to offer financial, moral, psychological, social, and legal support for the elderly, support and encourage intergenerational communication, and provide opportunities to benefit from the experiences of the elderly in various fields. Adopt comprehensive programs at the official or social level to integrate the elderly into social and cultural life, and promote a culture of volunteer work serving the elderly or benefiting from their experiences.

3. Encourage the private sector and civil society to contribute to supporting elderly care programs through providing home care services, financial support, and volunteer activities that help improve their quality of life.
4. Enhance health care services directed at the elderly by facilitating their access to medical services and providing specialized medical staff in geriatrics within healthcare institutions.
5. Include specialized psychological support programs for the elderly to ensure necessary psychological care for those suffering from loneliness, depression, or other psychological problems, or through psychologists in residential care homes and community centers.
6. Implement specialized programs about the rights of the elderly and enhance the role of the media in raising awareness of their rights.
7. Expand home healthcare programs, especially for the elderly and those with chronic diseases.