

**Recommendations issued by the second workshop
of members of the House of Representatives**

On the rights of women in Jordanian legislation held by the Amman Center for Human Rights Studies with the support of the United Nations Democracy Fund (UNDEF) on 22 and 23 of August 2019

1. Changing societal culture and citizens' attitudes towards women's participation in political life.
2. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).
3. Enhance women's political participation and increase their representation in decision-making positions and senior positions.
4. Increase the quota of women in the Parliamentary Elections Law to reach the election of one woman for each constituency, and adopt an advanced binding agreement for women on the electoral list.
5. Provide proportional financial support to political parties that nominate women in parliamentary elections, and furthermore, an additional financial support for political parties where female candidates win the elections.
6. Amend the unconventional provisions of the Constitution and the national legislation related to political and civil rights and freedoms, to conform corresponding to international conventions and treaties to which Jordan is committed. Clearly stipulate the rights of women under explicit and incontrovertible texts, to ensure equality. This includes explicitly stipulating the right of women to vote, hold public office and assume leadership positions in the state, as long as they have the necessary qualifications and experience.
7. Raising awareness and educating people from different backgrounds of society on the concept of gender. In order to achieve justice, integrate gender mainstreaming in society to ensure that men and women benefit from equal access to opportunities and resources, according to their needs.<
8. Include awareness raising programs within the national education curriculum to ensure that new generations understand the stigmatization on gender roles, and that women are able to participate in all sectors of life, especially the economic, political and social life in parallel with men.
9. Activate the content of international conventions to which Jordan has ratified and implement women's rights in practice, not only in theory.

10. Reforming electoral systems and increasing the quota in elected councils, municipality, parliamentary and governorates to ensure fair representation of women in Jordan in terms of number and population distribution.
11. Promote democracy within political parties and legally (in the laws of political parties) give women an advanced role in their ranks to encourage them to assume leadership positions.
12. Amend Article 4 of the Civil Service Law No. 82 of 2013, supporting the role of women in public positions and in all pillars of civil service.
13. Restrict the discretionary authority of the Shari'a judge to grant permission to marry a 16-year-old, as the laws are now. Children under 18 years are not to be permitted to marry as this will greatly harm the child.
14. Enable female heirs to benefit from the inheritance of their parents without the lineage of male relatives. The current situation is a great harm to daughters who may have contributed to the accumulation of their father's wealth from their personal salaries.
15. Redress the drawbacks of the new work law, which abolished the right of direct collective bargaining for workers. This is detrimental to women since many enterprises employing only females will lose this right, especially since there is a ban on specialized trade union work.
16. Amend the legislation, on the mother violating the husband's religion with respect to custody and alimony in the Personal Status Law, in accordance with the recent decision of the Court of Cassation rejecting the sentence to alimony for the wife of a non-muslim.
17. Reviewing article 279 of the Personal Status Law, which relates to the commandment that this article still allows for the distinction between male and female children. This excludes the daughter of the deceased woman from her inheritance.
18. To change the unfair laws that does not allow non-muslim women to inherit from her deceased Jordanian husbands.
19. Put more restrictions to reduce polygamy.
20. Amend the text of Article 4 of the Law of Mukhtars in order to abolish the exclusivity of the male vote requirement, and give women the right to vote again.