

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan Constitutional amendments of 2011 are as follows:

Section 1: Section 6 of the Constitution is amended by adding an additional paragraphs No. (2), (4) and (5) stating as follows:

Paragraph (2): “Defending the homeland, its land and people's unity and maintaining social peace are sacred duties of every Jordanian.”

Paragraph (4): “The family is the foundation of the society. It is founded on religion, morals and patriotism. The law preserves its legal entity, strengthens its ties and values.”

Paragraph (5): “The law protects motherhood, childhood, older persons and cares for youth and people with disabilities and protects them from exploitation”.

Section 2: Section 7 of the Constitution is amended by adding an additional paragraph No. 2 providing as follows: “Any infringement on the rights and public freedoms or sanctity of private life of Jordanians is a crime punishable by law.”

Section 3: Section 8 of the Constitution is repealed and replaced as follows:

“1- No person may be arrested, detained, imprisoned, have his/her freedom restricted or prevented from free movement except in accordance with the provisions of the law.

2- Every person who is arrested imprisoned or his/her freedom is restricted, must be treated in a way that preserves his/her human dignity. It is forbidden for him/her to be tortured (in any form) or harmed physically or mentally, as it is forbidden to detain him/her in places outside of those regulated prisons designated by the laws. Any statement extracted from a person under duress of anything of the above or the threat thereof shall neither bare any consideration nor reliability.”

Section 4: Section 9 paragraph No. (2) of the Constitution is amended by adding a phrase “or prevented from free movement” after the phrase “any place”.

Section 5: Section 15 of the Constitution is amended as follows:

1- An additional paragraph is added paragraph No. (2) that states as follows: “ The State shall guarantee to Jordanians the freedom of scientific research, literary, artistic and cultural creativity in a manner that does not violate public regulations and decency.”

2- Paragraphs (2), (3) and (4) are repealed and replaced as follows:

Paragraph (2): “The freedom of the press, print, and publishing media outlets shall guaranteed within the limits of the law”.

Paragraph (3): “Newspapers and Media shall not be suspended from publication and publishing nor shall their permits be revoked except in accordance with a juridical order and according to the provisions of the Law.”

Paragraph (4): “In the event of the declaration of martial law or a state of emergency, the law may impose a limited censorship on newspapers, publications, books and broadcasts and communication outlets in matters affecting public safety and national defense”.

Section 6: Section 16 paragraphs (2) and (3) of the Constitution are amended by adding the phrase “professional associations” before the phrase “political parties”.

Section 7: Section 18 of the Constitution is repealed and replaced as follows: “All postal, telegraphic and telephonic communications and other means of communication shall be

treated as secret and as such shall not be subject to censorship, suspension or confiscation except by a Judicial Order under the provisions of the law.”

Section 8: Section 20 of the Constitution is amended by repealing the phrase " primary education" and replacing it by the phrase "basic education".

Section 9: Section 27 of the Constitution is amended by adding the phrase “independent” after the phrase “the Judicial Power”.

Section 10: Section 42 of the Constitution is repealed and replaced as follows: “No person shall be appointed as a Minister unless he/she is a Jordanian not holding any other Nationality.”

Section 11: Section 45 paragraph No. (1) of the Constitution is amended as follows: the phrase “by any other Legislation “ is repealed and replaced by the word “Law”.

Section 12: Section 50 of the Constitution is repealed and replaced as follows: “Upon the resignation of the Prime Minister, his dismissal or death, all Ministers shall be considered as having automatically resigned.”

Section 13: Section 54 of the Constitution is amended as follows:

- 1- Paragraph 3 of the Section is amended by repealing the phrase “If the Chamber of Deputies is not in session at the time, or stands dissolved, the Speech from the Throne shall be considered as a statement of its policy for the purposes of this Article”.
- 2- Adding paragraphs No. (4), (5) and (6) to the Section providing as follows:
 1. Paragraph No. (4): “If the Chamber of Deputies is not in session, it will be summoned to convene in an extraordinary session. The Government has to present a statement of its policy and to request a vote of confidence on the basis of the said statement within one month of its convening. “
 2. Paragraph No. (5): “If the Chamber of Deputies is dissolved, the Government has to present a statement of its policy and request a vote of confidence on the basis of the said statement within one month of the convening of the new Chamber.”
 3. Paragraph (6): “the government shall obtain the confidence if the absolute majority of the members of the Chamber of Deputies voted for confidence.”

Section 14: Section 55 of the Constitution is repealed and replaced as follows:

“Ministers shall be tried for crimes attributed to them resulting from the performance of their duties before the Court of Civil Appeals in the capital, according to the provisions of the law.”

Section 15: Section 56 of the Constitution is repealed and replaced as follows: "The Chamber of Deputies is entitled to refer ministers to the General Attorney, justifying the reasons for such referral. The referral's decision should be issued by the majority of the members of the Chamber".

Section 16: Section 57 of the Constitution is repealed and replaced as follows:
“A minister shall be suspended from work, who is accused by the General Attorney after the referral's issuance. His/her resignation shall not prevent filing law suits against him/her or the continuance of his /her trial".

Section 17: Chapter V, shall be added to the Constitution titled as “the Constitutional Court” and shall be before the Section 58.

Section 18: Sections 58, 59,60 and 61 of the Constitution are repealed and amended, providing that a Constitutional Court shall be established by a law in the Hashemite kingdom of Jordan based in Amman. It will be independent and separate judicial body, and shall consist of nine members, including the president, they shall be appointed by the king. The term of membership in the Constitutional Court is six years and shall not be renewed. The Constitutional Court shall monitor the constitutionality of laws and regulations and issues its judgments in the name of the King. Its rulings are final and binding on all. The Rules will take effect immediately unless another date is specified. The Constitutional Court rules will be published in the Official Gazette within fifteen days from the date of its issuance.

The membership in the Constitutional Court requirements and conditions are as follows:

- 1- Must be Jordanian and not having any other Nationality.
- 2- Reached 50 years of age.
- 3- The members served as judges in the Cassation Court and the Supreme Court or legal professors at universities or specialized and legal experts advocates who work at least 15 years in the legal field.

Section 19: Section 67 of the Constitution is repealed and replaced as follows:

- 1- "The Chamber of Deputies shall consist of members elected by secret ballot in a general direct election and in accordance with the provisions of the Electoral Law which shall ensure the following matters and principles:
 - a- The candidates have the right to supervise the Election process.
 - b- The punishment of any person who may adversely influence the will of voters.
 - c- The integrity of the election process at all stages".
- 2- "Establishing an Independent Commission to oversee elections."

Section 20: Section 71 of the Constitution is repealed and replaced by a new paragraph concerning the representation validity of the Chamber of Deputies and the Court trial procedures.

Section 21: Section 73 of the Constitution is amended by repealing paragraphs No. (4), (5) and (6).

Section 22: Section 74 of the Constitution is repealed and amended concerning if the Chamber of Deputies is dissolved the Parliament must submit its resignation within one week of the date of the Chamber of Deputies dissolution.

Section 23: Section 75 of the Constitution is amended by repealing paragraph No. (1)(f), amending paragraph No. (1)(b) and paragraph No. (2) and adding a new paragraph No. (3).

Section 24: Section 78 paragraph No. (3) of the Constitution is amended by repealing the phrase "four months" and replacing it by the phrase "six months".

Section 25: Section 84 paragraph No. (1) of the Constitution is repealed and replaced stating that the meetings in the Chamber of Deputies and the Chamber Senate shall be considered duly constituted if the absolute majority of the members attended the meeting.

Section 26: Section 88 of the Constitution is repealed and replaced by a new paragraph that provides the procedures on appointing a new member in the Senate or in the

Chamber of Deputies when one of the members seat becomes vacant by his death or resignation or for any other reason.

Section 27: Section 89 paragraph No. (1) of the Constitution is repealed and replaced by a new paragraph.

Section 28: Section 94 of the Constitution is repealed and replaced by a new paragraph stating that in cases of the Chamber of Deputies dissolution the Council of Ministers with the approval of the King may issue Temporary Laws that faces the following cases:

- 1- General Disasters.
- 2- State of War and Emergencies.
- 3- The need for urgent expenditures incapable of postponement.

Section 29: Section 98 of the Constitution is amended by adding additional paragraphs No. (2) and (3) providing that a Judicial Council shall be established by a law and shall take responsible for all matters related to Civil Judges and have the sole right to appoint them.

Section 30: Section 100 of the Constitution is amended by repealing the phrase "High Court of Justice" and replacing it by the phrase "Administrative Judiciary should be at two levels".

Section 31: Section 101 of the Constitution is repealed and replaced by a new paragraph stating that the court shall be open to all people, and no civilian shall be tried in criminal cases unless all the judges are civil judges, excludes treason, espionage, drug crimes, terrorism and counterfeiting of currency. Moreover, provides that the defendant is innocent until his guilty proven.

Section 32: Section 109 of the Constitution is repealed and replaced by a new paragraph concerning Tribunals of Religious Communities.

Section 33: Section 112 of the Constitution is repealed and replaced by a new paragraph on submitting a Draft Law on General Budget and a Draft Law on Government Units Budgets.

Section 34: Section 119 paragraph No. (1) of the Constitution is repealed and replaced as follows:

“The Audit Office shall submit to the Senate and Chamber of Deputies at the beginning of each ordinary session, or whenever any of the two chambers demands, a general report embodying its views and comments and indicating any irregularities committed and the responsibility arising there from”.

Section 35: Section 122 of the Constitution shall be repealed and replaced as follows:

1- “A High Tribunal shall be established the Senate shall be as President and eight members, three of whom shall be selected by ballot by the Senate from amongst its members and five members to be selected from amongst the judges of the highest Civil Court in order of seniority. In case of necessity, the number shall be completed from the presidents of the lower courts, also in order of seniority”.

2-“ The High Tribunal shall have the right to interpret the provisions of the Constitution if so requested either by virtue of a decision of the Council of Ministers or by an order

taken by the Senate or the Chamber of Deputies passed by absolute majority. Such interpretation shall be implemented upon its publication in the Official Gazette”.

3- “This Section shall be deemed void once the Constitutional Court’s law comes into effect”.

Section 36: Section 128 of the Constitution is repealed and replaced as follows:

1- “The laws issued by virtue of this Constitution to regulate the rights and freedoms shall not impair the substance of these rights or affect their fundamentals”.

2- “All laws, regulations and other legislative acts in force in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan on the date on which this Constitution comes into force shall continue to be in force until they are repealed or amended by the legislation issued thereunder within a maximum period of 3 years”.