

Report Summary

Monitoring the Performance of Jordan's 20th House of Representatives During Its First Year

Prepared by:

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Reporting Period:

18 November 2024 – 15 September 2025

1. Introduction

This report provides a comprehensive summary of the performance of Jordan's 20th House of Representatives during its first year. It was prepared by Al-Hayat Center – RASED as part of its ongoing parliamentary monitoring program, which has been tracking parliamentary performance since 2009. The report aims to promote parliamentary accountability, open data, access to information, and informed public evaluation of elected representatives.

The report reviews the legislative, oversight, organizational, and representative roles of Members of Parliament, parliamentary blocs, and standing committees. It also provides performance cards for MPs, blocs, and committees, allowing citizens, media, researchers, and stakeholders to better understand parliamentary behavior and effectiveness.

2. Methodology

RASED relied on both quantitative and qualitative indicators to prepare the report. The monitoring process included reviewing all parliamentary sessions held during the reporting period, documenting MPs' attendance, analyzing legislative and oversight interventions, tracking parliamentary questions, memoranda, interpellations, proposed laws, and committee activities.

The report also adopted a structured performance-card approach covering parliamentary blocs, standing committees, and individual MPs. These cards measure attendance, oversight tools, legislative activity, interventions, committee representation, and public engagement.

3. Key Findings

3.1 Parliamentary Sessions

During the first year, the 20th House of Representatives held 22 parliamentary sessions across 37 working days. These included 25 legislative working days, 11 oversight working days, and one mixed legislative and oversight working day.

This reflects a clear focus on legislative work, while oversight sessions represented a smaller but important part of the House's activities.

3.2 Attendance and Commitment

The report monitored the attendance of parliamentary blocs and MPs during sessions. A total of **448 absences** were recorded among bloc members, including **364 absences with excuse** and **84 without excuse**.

The **Islamic Action Front bloc** recorded the highest level of attendance commitment, with an absence rate of 7.1%, followed by the **Erada and National Islamic bloc** with 8%.

3.3 Parliamentary Interventions

MPs delivered a total of **1,905 interventions** during parliamentary sessions. These interventions were classified by type and impact.

By type, **82.8%** of interventions were legislative, **14.3%** were oversight-related, and **2.9%** were organizational. By impact, most interventions were classified as quantitative, while fewer were considered qualitative or decisive.

The high percentage of legislative interventions shows that most parliamentary discussions during the first year were linked to debating, amending, or commenting on draft laws.

3.4 Oversight Performance

The report highlights the use of parliamentary oversight tools, particularly parliamentary questions. MPs submitted **1,126 parliamentary questions** to the government, and the government responded to **93%** of them.

This indicates a significant use of formal oversight mechanisms, although the effectiveness of these tools depends not only on the number of questions submitted, but also on the quality of government responses and whether follow-up actions were taken.

3.5 Legislative Performance

The House worked on legislative files through debates, amendments, and proposed laws. MPs submitted **28 proposed laws** during the first year. At the bloc level, the **Islamic Action Front bloc** submitted the highest number of proposed laws with **13 proposals**, followed by the **Erada and National Islamic bloc** with **11 proposals**.

In terms of legislative interventions, the **Islamic Action Front bloc** ranked first with **37%** of legislative interventions, followed by the **Mithaq National bloc** with **23%**.

3.6 Performance of Standing Committees

The standing committees carried out **710 activities** during the first year. These activities included legislative, oversight, and organizational meetings, press statements, field visits, meetings with foreign delegations, and workshops.

The level of committee activity increased compared to previous parliaments, as the standing committees conducted **480 activities** during the first year of the 19th Parliament and **568 activities** during the first year of the 18th Parliament. The most active committees included the **Finance Committee** with **85 activities**, the **Labor and Social Development Committee** with **84 activities**, and the **Public Services and Transport Committee** with **70 activities**.

4. Overall Analysis

The first year of the 20th House of Representatives showed active parliamentary movement, especially in legislative discussions, committee work, and the use of parliamentary questions. The data also shows that parliamentary blocs played an important role in shaping discussions and advancing legislative proposals.

However, the report also points to areas that require further strengthening, particularly the need to enhance the impact of oversight tools, increase the quality of interventions, and ensure that parliamentary monitoring leads to stronger accountability and better representation of citizens' needs.

5. Conclusion

Overall, the report presents the 20th House of Representatives as an active parliament during its first year, with notable levels of legislative debate, committee activity, and oversight questioning. At the same time, it emphasizes the importance of moving from numerical activity to measurable impact, especially in oversight, government accountability, and the quality of parliamentary debate.

The report serves as an important reference for citizens, media, civil society, researchers, and political actors seeking to evaluate parliamentary performance based on evidence, indicators, and open data.