



**European Union programme
“European Instrument for Democracy and
Human Rights” for Jordan**

**Promoting a complete
domestication into Jordan legal
framework of UN
standards for prevention of
torture and other forms of
ill-treatment**



This project is funded by the European Union

<http://ec.europa.eu/europe-aid/>



التعاون الاسباني

This project is cofunded by the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation and Development

www.aecid.es



Spanish implementing organization: NGO RESCATE Internacional

<http://ongrescate.uni.me/>



Jordanian Implementing organization: Watan for Human Rights

E-mail: info@whr-jo.org

Website: www.whr-jo.org

**Amman - Bayader Wadi Sir
Building No. (30) Cairo Amman Bank**


P.O.Box: 144089 Amman 11814

Tel: + 962 6 5833667

Fax: + 962 6 5863667

“This brochure has been produced with the assistance of the European Union. The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of Watan for Human Rights and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union”






Promoting a complete domestication into Jordan legal framework of UN standards for prevention of torture and other forms of ill-treatment Project

Jordan endorsed the U.N. Convention Against Torture (UNCAT) on June 15th, 2006. This must be followed by the transposition of the texts' provisions into the signatories' national legislation. In 2009, Jordan submitted its first national report on the guarantees for Human Rights in the country and committed itself to the domestication of some UNCAT provisions. Yet, Jordan's domestic legal framework has not been accordingly harmonized with the UNCAT provisions, which leaves some gaps concerning the definition and the use of torture.

The project, founded by the EIDHR of the EU, aims to harmonize Jordan's national legislation with the norms and standards of the main international legal tools on Human Rights, as a way to prevent torture and other forms of ill-treatment, leading Jordan's national legislation as one of the most advanced in terms of fighting against torture.


To achieve this objective, RESCATE Internacional and Watan for Human Rights helped by a group of experts on Human Rights, Jordan's national legislation and International Law, will elaborate an exhaustive study containing the main legal



amendments that Jordan should take into force for the effective domestication of the UNCAT. After the publication of the study, the project will make advocacy and promote the implementation of the study's main outputs and the Jordan's adherence to the Optional Protocol of the Convention against Torture (OPCAT) through the involvement and participation of civil society and decision makers.

The Jordan society must be fully aware of the legal and humanitarian dimensions and repercussions of the crime of torture, as it is an immoral crime that violates all humane, cultural and religious values which Jordan believes in. One cannot deny that violations of these values occur from time to time, and not in a regular basis, affecting some individuals in Jordan, as it is shown in the reminded that the Committee Against Torture (CAT) send to Jordan in January 2013 at the beginning of the CAT round III for reporting the fulfillment status of the UNCAT. Such violations are individual cases that do not reflect in any way Jordan's policy or position towards torture, despite of this, some legal improvements are needed for helping to eradicate those cases.

Jordan's compliance with international laws, treaties and conventions is one of the basic pillars of Jordan's judicial system, which fully recognizes the grave nature of torture crimes as well as the grave repercussions (at individual and country level) that are entailed by overlooking or ignoring them.



Despite all the achievements, Jordan still has a long way to go. This requires a true partnership between the government and the civil society organizations, as well as the support and understanding of international organizations as regards Jordan's efforts and conditions. The political of Jordan is to cooperate and conduct genuine dialogue for the sake of preventing torture. This project will help and support the measures that the kingdom adopted during the past years, promoting the complete domestication of the provisions of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (UNCAT) into Jordan's legal framework.

Project's objectives:

Overall objective: To contribute Jordan legislation effectively fulfils most advanced international prevention of torture and other forms of ill-treatment Conventions. This will be achieved by two specific objectives:

- 1- Elaborating and publishing a comprehensive study on the legislative amendments needed for the effective domestication of the U.N. Convention against Torture (UNCAT) in Jordan's legislation.**
- 2- Advocacy targeting civil society and decision makers in order to promote Jordan's Government to transpose the study's recommendations into its national legislation and adhere to the Optional Protocol of the Convention against Torture (OPCAT)**



The main activities for reaching those objectives will be:

1- Creation and operation of a multidisciplinary group of 6 experts (doctors, lawyers, social worker) to elaborate a final legal amendments needed recommendation report. They will be helped in its work by international experts and round tables with other Jordanian experts and stakeholders, considering specially representatives from vulnerable groups (arrested women, non-Arabic speaking foreign workforces, minorities, and mental disabled people).

2- Raise advocacy among Jordan society about the necessity for properly domesticate into Jordan legal framework the U.N. Convention against Torture (UNCAT), already signed by Jordan, and the necessity for the Optional Protocol of the Convention Against Torture (OPCAT) to be signed by Jordan's Government. This will be done through awareness activities of the project objective looking for the society active support and implication (awareness talks, Facebook, Twitter, petition drive).

3- Individual meetings with Parliament members as an attempt to obtain almost ten signatures with the aim of present the final recommendations report to the Parliament and transmit them the necessity for properly fulfil Jordan's international commitments.

Project's duration: 20 months, from Feb. 2014- Sep. 2015.



A very important part of the project will be Jordan society, CBO's and NGO's participation, involvement and constructive opinion. All the expert group work and discussions, round tables, achievements, advocacy efforts among Parliaments,... will be shared in a regular basis in:

Project main website

***<http://www.watanpreventingtorture.org>**

Facebook Account

***<https://www.facebook.com/Watan.preventing-Torture>**

Twitter Account

*** https://twitter.com/Watan_whr**

Project Petition

***http://www.petitions24.com/watan_for_human_rights_for_preventing_torture**

The aim is to inform general society about the necessity for the project's objective and HHRR fulfilment, asking for its support through its active participation and its signature in a petition drive.

The project will be implemented, with the support of the Spanish NGO RESCATE Internacional, by the Jordanian organization Watan for Human Rights.



Watan for Human Rights

Mission: Seeking to spread and promote the culture of human rights and to take part in providing help to vulnerable groups.

Vision: Every man/woman should enjoy equal treatment that preserves his/her dignity and rights, without discrimination or prejudice, by seeking to enhance social justice and wellbeing for all in order to secure the respect of the human rights anywhere and anytime.

Objectives:

- * To promote the respect of HHRR, basic freedoms and democracy in Jordan.
- * To follow up developments in international HHRR legislations.
- * To provide assistance to people whose rights are violated.
- * To conduct studies about HHRR and law amendments.
- * To Help to guarantee society basic freedoms and rights.