











Gender-Based Violence and Discrimination Against Women and Girls With Disabilities

Access to Justice in Jordan

Policy Paper - 2021









King Hussein Foundation, represented by the Information and Research Center and the Institute for Family Health, in cooperation with the I Am Human Society for Rights of People with Disability, prepared this policy paper on "Gender-Based Violence and Discrimination Against Women and Girls with Disabilities: Access to Justice" which includes the suggestions and recommendations to address the challenges facing women and girls with disabilities exposed to violence.
This paper was issued as part of "You have a Right, a Choice Claim It" Project funded by the Embassy of The Netherlands in Amman. A consortium of national institutions contributed to the preparation of this paper and had a prominent role in reviewing its content, providing observations, and suggesting relevant recommendations. Those institutions include the Jordanian National Commission for Women, the Higher Population Council, the National Council for Family Affairs, and the Higher Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Importance

According to the World Health Organization (WHO) reports, about %15 of each community are persons with disabilities (PwD)¹. Ratio of female and male PwD may be higher in some communities affected by crises or wars. Based on the latest population and housing census surveys in Jordan for 2015, the proportion of PwD aged five years and over is %11.2.²

The Information and Research Center - King Hussein Foundation (IRCKHF), issued a thorough literature and legislation review on gender-based violence against women and girls with disabilities in Jordan ³. The aim of the work was to provide an overview of the legislative framework governing the rights of PwD, key actors and relevant stakeholders, in addition to research the issue of the prevalence of gender-based violence (GBV) *, to find out the gaps in the studies and research conducted on this subject.

Later in the year 2020, and after completing the thorough review of the literature and legislation, the partners conducted a quantitative study on "Gender-Based Violence against Women and Girls with Disabilities in Jordan and Access to Justice". The study aimed at bridging the information gap on knowledge of women and girls with disabilities about the rights and services available to them and to identify the forms of GBV to which they may be exposed, and the extent of its spread and impact on them and their lives from their point of view.*

The findings of the literature review indicated that women and girls face double discrimination based on gender on the one hand and on disability on the other hand. They are also more vulnerable to GBV compared to women without disabilities. Despite the size and seriousness of the problem, it often remains invisible due to the isolation they are exposed to, and the lack of awareness of their legal rights and how to access the justice system. The same was proved through the findings of the quantitative study, which argued that %71.7 of women and girls with disabilities lack a system of protection from violence directed against them. As for seeking help when exposed to violence, %42.5 of the respondents indicated that they do not seek help, while %61 of them indicated that they lack knowledge of the bodies that provide legal aid.

Hence, this paper will develop proposals and recommendations that would reduce the challenges of accessing the justice system for women and girls with disabilities who experience violence

^{*} The National Strategy for Women in Jordan (2025-2020) clarified that the term "gender" still faces many misconceptions at the regional, national, and local levels. The term "gender" in this paper means: gender equality, gender equity, responding to different gender needs, and sex discrimination. According to the strategy, the term "gender" means: a term that refers to the social characteristics attributed to men and women, and these social characteristics are determined based on different factors such as age; religion; national, ethnic, and social origin, and also differ according to culture, and upon which, the identity, status, roles, responsibilities, and power relations between members of any society or culture are defined. Gender is learned through socialization, which is not a fixed or innate concept, but evolves in response to the changes in the social, political, and cultural environment.

^{*} The quantitative study sample included %9.3 of service providers who provide services for refugee women and girls with disabilities. %1.6 of the study sample are women and girls with disabilities who live in the camps.

Identifying the Problem

The abovementioned literature review on GBV against women and girls with disabilities in Jordan indicated that there is an increase in cases of GBV, especially with the spread of the COVID19-. At the national level, the annual report issued by the Department of Family and Juvenile Protection for the year 2020, stated an increase in the number of reports of domestic violence, with 54,743 thousand cases, compared to 41,221 thousand cases in 2018, and that %58.7 of cases for the year 2020 were subjected to physical violence. It is worth noting that most of the victims of violence are females, especially the wife, sister, daughter, and mother, as well as children with disabilities.

Women and girls with disabilities are subjected to various forms of violence such as domestic violence, partner or husband violence, physical violence, sexual violence or sexual harassment, and forced isolation by the family. Violence, such as physical violence, denial of access to medication, or substandard provision of care and personal care can be practiced by caregivers. Some women and girls with disabilities may be afraid to report violence because of their emotional or physical dependence on the abuser, and that they will lose them if reported, or that reporting the abuse may lead to the repetition of violence against them or to their abandonment in care institutions.⁶

With regard to access to justice for women and girls with disabilities, it was found that judicial and court facilities suffer from poor environmental and physical settings and lack accessibility. In addition, police stations - law enforcement agencies - are considered an obstacle to women's and girls' access to them, despite work to prepare the Palace of Justice building for persons with motor and visual disabilities to have access to the building. However, this initiative is not generalized to the rest of the courts spread across the Kingdom.

The lack of information on access to protection and legal rights in formats such as Braille prevents women and girls with disabilities from recognizing the abuse or violence when it occurs. They do not know where to go or obtain support and rights, in addition to the weak availability of procedural evidence and guidelines for PWD about court procedures and investigation stages. Recently, the Ministry of Justice published a guide to legal terms in sign language and created an office for "Support Services for People with Disabilities" within the Palace of Justice in Amman in 2020, with the aim of providing the necessary information and technical support. However, this service is limited only to PwD who are auditors of the Palace of Justice building.

In order to ensure access to justice for women and girls, legal aid must be made available to them in a timely manner, either free or at an affordable fee, to deal with the violations they face, as they are less able to defend themselves and have less access to justice. ¹⁰

Based on the fact that justice and equality are the right of PwD, women and girls with disabilities in particular must be able to lead a life free from disability-based violence (DBV), and that laws, policies and programs recognize the specific forms of GBV and not exclude DBV. They need to engage them in designing, implementing and monitoring programs and policies, and working to change stereotypes and stigma by society against them.

Legislation

The Jordanian constitution guarantees the right of PWD from abuse and exploitation, as Article 5/6 states that "The law protects motherhood, childhood, old age, cares for young people and PWD, and protects them from abuse and exploitation." The constitution also guarantees the right of every person to equality before the law and to a just settlement of disputes.

As for the International Convention on the Rights of People with disabilities, which became part of the Jordanian national legislation after signing and ratification by the government in 2008, it affirmed in Articles 12 and 13 the right of PWD to access justice, enjoy procedural guarantees before the law, and enjoy legal capacity on an equal basis with others in all aspects of life, and to take appropriate measures to provide them with access to the support they request while exercising their legal capacity, and to provide effective means of recourse to justice and procedural facilities that are appropriate for their ages and in all legal procedures, whether they are witnesses or in the investigation and other preliminary stages.

Article 30/a of the Rights of People with Disabilities Law No. 20 of 2017 defines violence as "Every act or omission that deprives a person with a disability of a right or freedom, or restricts the exercise of either of them, or inflicts physical, mental or psychological harm on him on the basis of or because of disability." As for Article 31 of the Law, the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Interior, each according to its competence, required to include in policies, programs and plans measures to ensure the exercise of the right of PwD to litigation, whether they are plaintiffs or defendants, and to qualify certified experts in facilitating communication with PwD in the stages of investigation and litigation, such as sign language interpreters, and experts for communicating with persons with intellectual disabilities and deaf-blind persons, in addition to training staff, including judges and judicial police officials, on the rights of PwD.

Barriers to Accessing Justice for Women and Girls with Disabilities

Public Utilities and Services

PWD face multiple behavioral, physical and administrative barriers that prevent them from accessing justice. Barriers are increasingly complex for women and girls, where services may be inappropriate or does not suite their needs, or they cannot access services. Also, awareness programs on access to justice by women and girls with disabilities are not sensitive or inclusive of them, and they are excluded from official and unofficial media networks. Environmental and physical obstacles play an important role in the lack of access to justice in the event of violence, such as the distance of institutions that provide services, or the barrier of inaccessibility due to the lack of appropriate setting, such as the transportation barrier, which is often not adapted for PWD.

Access to Legal Information in Easy Ways

Failure to publish information on access to protection and legal rights in alternative forms results in women and girls with disabilities not being aware of the abuse or violence when it occurs, and not knowing where to obtain or access support and rights. The poor alignment of official policies, institutional procedures and interventions with the needs of women and girls with disabilities, and the lack of those in charge and workers in these institutions, law enforcement agencies and the judiciary with the necessary training to deal with women and girls with disabilities and cases of violence, all affect the access of women and girls to services related to GBV. It must be acknowledged that there is a significant weakness in information and ways to access it to take into account different types of disability. Moreover, women and girls with disabilities and their families do not have information on how to access information about rights and access to justice easily.¹²

SDG 5 and SDG 6 emphasize gender equality and access to justice, and that empowering women and girls to obtain rights and access the justice system has a multiplier effect in achieving equality. SDGs emphasize the need for states to commit to protecting all groups of people, especially the most vulnerable.

It is worth noting that the National Strategy for women in Jordan 2020-2023 paid attention to the access of the most vulnerable females to justice in a way that ensures the achievement of equality and equity between members of society and within the family, by providing support, guidance and legal assistance services for women and girls with disabilities and facilitating their access to these services safely and less costly.

The quantitative study sample constituted of 278 participants who were women and girls with disabilities and their families, and 52 institutions that provide services to them.

71.7% of women and girls with disabilities lack a system to protect them against violence



78.8% of service providers lackthis system.



Source: Findings of the quantitative study on GBV against women and girls with disabilities conducted of 2020.

Infrastructure

The accessibility of court buildings and law enforcement centers in Jordan is still not fully developed for PwD reception and access. There are challenges in the access of PWD to information at various stages of investigation. Although Article 31 of the Rights of People with Disabilities Law of 2017, stressed the need to include measures to ensure that they exercise their right to litigation, whether they are plaintiffs or defendants on the basis of equality with others in the relevant policies, strategies, plans and programs. The Law also obligated the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Interior "each according to its competence" in coordination with the Supreme Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to work on making all amendments within a period not exceeding five years from the date of enforcement of the Law on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 20 of 2017. However, until 2021, what is stated in Article 31 of the Law was still not enforced.

Training and Awareness Raising

Article 31 of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Law of 2017 obligated the Ministry of Justice to qualify accredited experts in facilitating communication with PwD in the investigation and litigation stages, including sign language interpreters and educational experts to communicate with persons with intellectual, hearing and visual disabilities. In addition, it is important to train working cadres, including judges and judicial police officials, and make available to them training manuals on the rights of PwD, the provisions and contents of the International Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities, remove barriers that hinder women and girls with disabilities from accessing justice, increase communication skills, procedural facilities, reasonable facilities, etc.

Although the Higher Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities has implemented a series of training courses for judges and Ministry of Justice employees to facilitate access to justice for PwD, and instructions have been issued to accredit sign language interpreters by the Council and to provide the concerned authorities with a list of accredited translators through a circular issued by the Prime Ministry However, the reality indicates that the actual application of the provisions of the law is still weak after five years of its issuance.

Legal Capacity

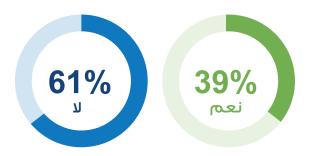
Article 44 of the Civil Code and Article 204 of the Jordanian Personal Status Law stipulate that "no one who lacks being distinguished due to young age, dementia or insanity shall be eligible to exercise his civil rights." This text gave a picture of non-recognition of the legal personality of persons with psychological and intellectual disabilities. A person with psychological and intellectual disabilities was described as a young child subject to guardianship and care, as both previous laws emphasized that completely insane person is considered an undistinguished boy who has not reached the age of seven, and that a demented person is considered a distinguished boy who has completed seven years of age and has not yet completed fifteen years of age.

Article 132 of the Civil Code and Article 215 of the Personal Status Law stipulated, "If a person is deaf and dumb, or blind and dumb and is unable to express his will because of that, the court may appoint a guardian to assist him in the actions that require his interest." Here the text refers to a guardian and it is assumed to mention an assistant who helps and assists PwD in court procedures and is not a guardian for them. This text also makes them lose their legal capacity. It is important to activate the principle of free and informed consent in litigation procedures gives them their right to litigation, which calls for defining the concept of "incompetent" in the Code of Civil and Criminal Procedure, so that this term is not an excuse to consider PwD as lacking eligibility to litigation and lack of respect for their will.

Legal Assistance

To ensure access to justice for women and girls with disabilities, legal aid must be made available to them in a timely manner, either free or affordable, for violations or loss of basic freedoms and rights such as the right to life, liberty, personal safety, property, housing and independence in decision-making. The availability of legal assistance and advice for women and girls who have been subjected to violence is of paramount importance in restoring their rights and reintegrating them. Despite the issuance of the Legal Aid Regulation for 2018 under the supervision of the Ministry of Justice, which emphasizes the provision of legal aid fees to PwD according to specific bases and objectives, the findings of the quantitative study for the year 2020, and as shown in Figure 1 shows the lack of knowledge of women and girls with disabilities about the existence of national bodies or institutions exceeded %60.

Figure 1: Women and Girls' Knowledge of the Agencies that Provide Assistance in the Event of Violence



Reporting Violence against Women and Girls with Disabilities and Protection from Violence

Among the powers of the Supreme Council for the Rights of People with Disabilities, according to Article 8/f, is to monitor the situation of the rights of PwD at the national level, and to verify individual and institutional complaints of discrimination on the basis of or because of disability. As per Article 7 of the same Law, a person with disability has the right to sue. On the other hand, the annual report of the Supreme Council for the Rights of People with Disabilities for 2019 has monitored and received 342 complaints in various aspects, including violence, submitted by PwD. The Council stressed the need to create a national documentation mechanism that ensures documentation of cases of violence against PwD. The mechanism shall be unified for all concerned parties, provided that it includes all cases of violence and information such as gender, nature of disability, age, type of crime and place of occurrence.²¹

Just as the National Center for Human Rights monitors and receives complaints related to human rights and the rights of PwD, the Center can, according to its powers, monitor the conditions of PwD in day centers that receive PwD, and monitor violations committed against them. On the contrary, the quantitative study indicated that %61 of women and girls with disabilities are not aware of the existence of national institutions/agencies that provide assistance in the event of violence.

Although reporting violence is a humanitarian task, many people are reluctant or hesitate to report violence against women and girls with disabilities, noting that the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Law No. 20 of 2017, emphasized the provision of protection to witnesses and reporters, by ensuring non-disclosure about their identity or whereabouts and for other protection. In addition, women and girls subjected to violence may refrain from reporting violence against them, due to family or social considerations that affect the family's reputation along with other considerations. In addition, Article 4 of the Law No. 15 of 2017 on Protection from Domestic Violence stipulates that "every health, educational or social service provider in the public and private sectors must report any case of domestic violence that occurs to a person who is incompetent as soon as he becomes aware of it or is informed of it." The law did not neglect the protection of the whistleblower or the witness and the confidentiality of dealing with cases of violence in general.

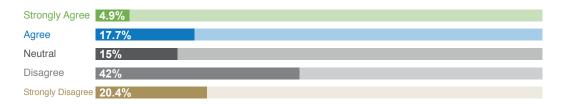
It became clear that there is a failure on the part of national institutions concerned with the rights of PwD, human rights organizations and civil society organizations to focus, train and raise awareness on procedures and protocols for protection and prevention of violence against women and girls with disabilities before it occurs. Since individual work may disperse achievements and may not involve unified methodologies by service-providing institutions, it is necessary to rely on the formulation of a guideline for the application of accreditation and quality control standards for services provided to cases of violence directed to PwD, and to work on them collectively by official and non-governmental institutions that provide protection services from violence towards PwD, women and girls in particular.

Penalties for Violence against Women and Girls with Disabilities

Rights of People with Disabilities Law

The Law on the Rights of People with disabilities imposed a penalty of no more than one year and a fine of no more than 1,000 Jordan dinars, or both, for anyone who perpetrated violence against a person with a disability, but the law neglected sexual violence against PWD, despite its importance.

Many publications report that PWD are exposed to violence more than others, especially women, who are exposed to violence four times more than women without disabilities, while children with disabilities are exposed to violence three times more than children without disabilities. For children with mental or psychological disabilities, the percentage increases to five times more than other children without disabilities. According to the quantitative study of 2020, when women and girls with disabilities were asked about their enjoyment and access to the rights recognized by law for them, the responses were as shown in the following Figure 2.²⁵



• Jordanian Penal Code²⁶

The amendments to the Penal Code included an enhancement of the scope of criminal protection for PWD, and the existence of new provisions that make the commission of some crimes against PWD an aggravating circumstance, requiring the imposition of the maximum penalty for the perpetrator. Below is a the list of amendments.

- Neglect and Abandonment of PWD:

The last amendment to the Jordanian Penal Code of 2017, included PWD in the crime of leaving them without a legitimate or reasonable reason, as stated in Article 289 of the Law in the second paragraph against "1) Anyone who leaves a minor who has not completed fifteen years of age without a legitimate or logical reason and endangering his life, or in a manner likely to cause permanent damage to his health, shall be punished with imprisonment from three months to one year. 2) The penalty of imprisonment shall be from one to three years if the minor has not completed twelve years of age or has a disability regardless of his age". Article 290 was also amended in order to enhance legal protection for children and PWD and included a penalty of up to six months to two years in prison for anyone who left a person with a disability without providing him with food and clothing and abandoned him intentionally and without reason.

- Sexual Violence

Article 293 of the Penal Code addresses the issue of sexual violence perpetrated against a female with disabilities in the case of rape, "unlawful intercourse", where the penalty is up to 15 years, but if sexual violence is committed against a girl with disabilities, the penalty increases to 20 years. Article 297 of the Law also addresses the issue of sexual violence against PWD in cases of "indecent assault", with a penalty of 5 to 10 years.

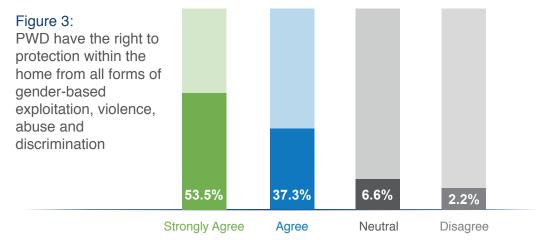
- Beatings and Deprivation of Freedom

In Article 330 of the same Law, the penalty for beating that leads to death has been increased to twelve years if the victim has a disability. Article 346 also criminalizes anyone who detains the freedom of a person with disabilities, and doubles the penalty if the offender has an official capacity. Article 346 stipulates, "Anyone who unlawfully arrests a person with disabilities and deprives him of his freedom shall be punished by imprisonment for a period not exceeding one year or a fine not exceeding fifty Jordan dinars, and if his detention is based on his false claim that he holds an official position or that he holds a legal warrant for his arrest, he shall be punished by imprisonment for a period of six months to two years. If the acts are committed against an employee during his employment or because of what he has done by virtue of his position, the penalty shall be from six months to three years."

However, if any person with physical, psychological or mental disabilities was subjected to any of the economic crimes such as fraud, the penalty was increased against the offender, as it was addressed in Article 417 of the Penal Code. The last amendment to Article 467 by adding a paragraph to it: "A penalty of up to one month's imprisonment or a fine of 200 Jordan dinars, or both penalties, shall be imposed on anyone who leaves a person with a serious mental or psychological disability whose care he is entrusted with."

Protection from Domestic Violence Law

The Law on Protection from Domestic Violence covers all persons, including PWD, and protects women and girls affected by the family, but it does not provide in its texts effective measures that enable PWD to obtain various services, or increase penalties in the event of violence committed against them by a family member. When women and girls with disabilities and their families were asked about the right of PWD to be protected from violence within the family, the answers were as shown in Figure 3.²⁸



Recommendations

• At the Legislative Level:

- Activating the provisions of the Law on the Rights of People with Disabilities No. 20 of 2017, and forcing all relevant national institutions, "each according to their competence", to commit to activating the texts of the Rights of People with Disabilities No. 20 of 2017.
- Recognizing the legal capacity of persons with psychological and intellectual disabilities, by amending Articles 44 of the Civil Code and 204 of the Personal Status Law to recognize the legal capacity of persons with psychological and intellectual disabilities.
- Activating the principle of free and informed consent for persons with audio-visual disabilities by amending Articles 132 of the Civil Code and 215 of the Personal Status Law, to include a clear text on the need to appoint an assistant to help them in litigation procedures rather than a guardian.
- Defining the concept of legal capacity in Civil Law, and the principles of criminal trials, so that this term is not an excuse for any party or person to consider PWD as incapable of litigation and not respecting their will.
- Amending the Domestic Violence Protection Act to ensure greater protection for women and girls victims of domestic violence who hesitate to report violence or file a complaint. Adding mechanisms and procedures to protect witnesses and persons who report acts of violence, and not limiting mandatory reporting of violence to service providers, but also to community members.

• At the Policies and Strategies Level:

- Allocating institutional inputs on GBV targeting girls and women with disabilities in the National Plan for Protection from Gender-Based Violence, Domestic Violence, and Child Protection for the years 2021 2023, and the National Strategy for Reproductive and Sexual Health for the years 2020 2030. Monitoring financial support for the plan and the institutions' commitment to ensure the implementation of its activities in a way that enhances the national protection system. In addition to allocating inputs on violence against women and girls with disabilities in all national plans and strategies.
- Including GBV against women and girls with disabilities in the (experimental) National Electronic Referral System, disseminating the system for automating procedures for dealing with cases of violence and activating it at the national level, and involving all institutions authorized to receive complaints submitted by PwD.

Access to Justice:

- Designing and developing a system that ensures access to justice for PwD on an equal basis with others, so that the system complies with the international guidelines (ten principles) published by the United Nations on access to justice, under the supervision of the Supreme Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and in partnership with competent official institutions and law enforcement agencies.
- Issuing administrative instructions by the Public Security Directorate, the Ministry of Social Development, the Ministry of Justice and the Judicial Council to train and qualify staff and employees to deal with persons with disabilities in a human rights sensitive and correct manner.
- Organizing and modifying buildings and facilities for courts and security centers according to the Code of Building Requirements in terms of creating parking spaces for the use of PwD and working to prepare entrances and all facilities to ensure ease of entry and use.
- Instructing the Ministry of Justice to provide free legal aid and legal representation before the judiciary to women and girls who need it, and the possibility of educating PwD about the existence of these services.
- Making available and disseminate all information related to obtaining protection and legal rights in accessible forms to facilitate access for PwD thereto and ensuring their access to information during the investigation and trial period (the litigation stage) in accessible forms that are appropriate for PwD.
- The Ministry of Social Development prepares shelters for women survivors of violence to accommodate women and girls with disabilities and trains its staff on how to deal with cases of violence and ways to detect violence and physical and psychological abuse.
- Using the expertise of the private sector and CSOs when working with shelters for women survivors of violence and dealing with cases of violence against women in general and women with disabilities in particular through the purchase of services or volunteering.

Access to Information and Awareness:

- The need to find a national documentation mechanism that includes documenting cases of violence against PWD, and that it is a reference for all relevant authorities, and includes all cases of violence, in addition to gender, nature of disability, age group, type of crime and place of occurrence.
- Conduct a comprehensive national study by specialized studies and research centers to access the missing information on the prevalence of GBV against women and girls with disabilities, and the challenges they face in accessing the justice system in all its stages.
- Civil society and human rights organizations should train and raise awareness on procedures and protocols for protection and prevention of violence against women and girls with disabilities before it occurs and provide psychological support.
- That the media and civil society organizations shall be guided to develop initiatives to change stereotypes and stigma by society towards women and girls with disabilities, and to establish a model based on human rights.

Resources

- 1 The official website of the WHO, facts published on 01 December 2020. Please view it via the link: https://bit.ly/3uHuyue
- 2 Report: the main results of the General Population and Housing Census 2015, published in the official website of the Department of Statistics via the link: https://bit.ly/3pBIDu2
- 3 Literature review: Gender-based Violence against Women and Girls with Disabilities in Jordan for the Year 2020. As part of the project You have a Right, a Choice... Claim It, funded by the Embassy of The Netherlands, managed by the King Hussein Foundation, and implemented by the Information and Research Center and the Noor Al Hussein Foundation Institute for Family Health Care and I Am Human Society for the Rights of People with disabilities (Jordan). Please view it via the link: https://bit.ly/3lgep16
- 4 The quantitative study entitled "Gender-based Violence against Women and Girls with Disabilities for the Year 2020" carried out by IRCKHF in collaboration with the Institute for Family Health Care and the I Am Human Society for the Rights of People with disabilities (Jordan). The sample included 226 girl and woman participants with disabilities and their families, and 52 institutions and organizations that provide services to PWD, within the project You have a Right, a Choice... Claim It, funded by the Embassy of The Netherlands, managed by the King Hussein Foundation.
- 5 Ibid, 3.
- 6 Ibid, 3.
- 7 A report published on the website of the Ministry of Justice. Please view it via the link: https://bit.ly/3E6u4Cx Legal Paper: The Reality of Persons with Disabilities in Jordan, 2021. Justice Center for Legal Aid. Please view
- 8 it via the link: https://bit.ly/3hsQ6FF
 - A report published in the Jordanian newspaper Al-Ghad for the year 2020. Please view it via the link:
- 9 https://bit.ly/2YKgUL3
 - A report issued by the Supreme Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities for the year 2019. Please
- 10 view it via the link: https://bit.ly/3Eblu5h
- 11 Ibid, 7.
 - The first annual report to monitor the status of the rights of persons with disabilities indicates that communication services and website services for the 21 ministries and institutions that have been monitored
- 12 have shown that 7 websites are prepared for the use of persons with disabilities.
 - SDG 5: Gender Equality. SDG 6: Peace, justice and strong institutions. Published on the UNDP link:
- 13 https://bit.ly/3DgSGqN
 - The third outcome of the first strategic objective p. 37: "Increasing the ability of women and girls to access justice in a way that guarantees the achievement of equality and equity among members of society and within
- 14 the family...". Please view via the link: https://bit.ly/3BbqLYJ
 - A report entitled "People with Disabilities and the Elderly Suffer in Courts for Access to Justice". Published in
- 15 Al-Ghad newspaper, available via the link: https://bit.ly/3rRmyE4
- 16 Civil Law No. (43) of 1976. http://www.lob.gov.jo/AR/Pages/AdvancedSearch.aspx
- 17 Personal Status Law No. (15) of 2019. https://www.aliftaa.jo/ShowContent.aspx?ld=205#.YGJZ9lUzbX4
- 18 Legal Aid Regulation No. 119 of 2018, issued by virtue of Article (208) of the Criminal Procedure Code of 1961.
- 19 Ibid, 4.
 - The annual report of the Supreme Council for the Rights of People with Disabilities for 2019. Please view via
- 20 the link: http://www.hcd.gov.jo/sites/default/files/Annual%20Report.pdf
 - A recommendation issued by the first annual report to monitor the situation of persons with disabilities in Jordan,
- 21 available via the link: https://bit.ly/3m7LEx2
 - Law of the National Center for Human Rights No. (51) of 2006, published at the link:
- 22 http://www.lob.jo/?v=1.10&url=ar/LegislationDetails?LegislationID:3145,LegislationType:2,isMod:false
- 23 Ibid, 4
 - United Nations website, publications on the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. Please view via the
- 24 link: https://www.un.org/ar/observances/day-of-persons-with-disabilities/background
- 25 Ibid 4.
 - Jordanian Penal Code No. (16) of 1960 and its amendments, published at the link:
- 26 http://www.lob.jo/?v=1.10&url=ar/LegislationDetails?LegislationID:3263,LegislationType:2,isMod:false Protection from Domestic Violence Law No. (15) of 2017, published at the link:
- 27 http://www.mosd.gov.jo/UI/Arabic/ShowContent.aspx?ContentId=80
- 28 Ibid 4.

