



THE EMBASSY OF THE
HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN
WASHINGTON, D.C.

On January 23, 2013, the Kingdom of Jordan held its first-ever elections to elect a Parliament which will serve for four years and who will help move Jordan forward on the path to a more democratic, transparent and prosperous future.

What is the status of democratic reform in Jordan?

- Jordan has committed itself to developing a sustainable, stable democracy which balances the rule of the people with the protection of the views of the minority. As part of this process, Jordan has enacted constitutional reforms which will help uphold pluralism in a democratically elected society. This package of reforms is aimed at allowing the new Parliament to take office in an environment characterized by integrity and transparency.
- Jordanians are excited to participate in the upcoming elections. A recent poll showed that nearly 2/3 of Jordanians believe that the Independent Elections Commission will conduct clean and credible elections. 87% of adult Jordanians have registered to vote and 70% have indicated they will go to the polls.
- Unlike some other countries in the region, Jordan has long recognized the need for democratic reforms – while also recognizing that reform would need to be a gradual process in order to develop the civil and political structures needed to ensure political and economic stability.
- The future of Jordan is being placed in the hands of Jordanian voters as they go to the polls. Their votes will decide the composition of the new government and they will have the responsibility to hold their elected officials accountable.
- The Kingdom of Jordan is committed to ensuring that this accountability does not end at the ballot box, but instead is part of a continuous process which spurs the evolution of an active and engaged civil society.

How will the elections affect how Jordan is governed?

- As part of the process of developing a democratic society, Jordan is working with candidates for parliamentary office to form political blocs representing the various political orientations within Jordanian society. The Jordanian vision for parliamentary government relies on the development of mature political parties able to engage and inform voters and represent their interests.

Contact:

Dana Daoud, Jordan Information Bureau, 571-314-1670, ddaoud@jordanembassyus.org, @DanaZKat



THE EMBASSY OF THE
HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN
WASHINGTON, D.C.

- Following the elections, the new Parliament will select a new Prime Minister in consultation with His Majesty King Abdullah. The designee will consult with the elected blocs to form a government based on a parliamentary majority.

- The Kingdom of Jordan aspires to eventually reach a stage of advanced parliamentary democracy with mature political parties and institutions which can lead the Jordanian people into the future.