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AMMAN'S MOCK ELECTIONS FOR THE 2020 PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

* This work was carried out by long-term monitors as part of the process of monitoring the parliamentary elections 2020



هذا المشروع ممول من الاتحاد الأوروبي



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Within the framework of cooperation between the Independent Election Commission (IEC) and the electoral process partners to develop and enhance public awareness ahead of the 19th parliamentary elections, a mock election was held in Amman in cooperation with Hayat Centre-RASED, and with the support of the European Union (EU) and the Spanish Agency for International Development (AECID).

It presented a practical experience targeting 700 young men and women from the capital, Amman, who participated in candidacy and voting with the aim of raising awareness of the importance of participating in parliamentary elections and political life, in accordance with the new executive instructions developed by the Independent Election Commission to match the prevailing health conditions due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

H.E. Musa Al-Maaytah, Minister of Political and Parliamentary Affairs, spoke about the experience, by stressing its importance, and stating that “this experiment will contribute to raising youth awareness of the essence of the election law, the importance of participation, and selection based on competence and programmatic basis. Furthermore, Minister Musa Al-Maaytah called on young women and men to participate in the electoral process and to choose who they want to be represented by in the upcoming parliament.

“The EU strongly supports the development of democratic institutions in Jordan and looks to help strengthen Jordanians’ participation in the political and public life of the country,” stated the EU Ambassador to Jordan, H.E. Maria Hadjitheodosiou. “We hope that in the upcoming parliamentary elections citizens’ participation in political life will be enhanced, but also that Jordanians’ – and in particular Jordanian youth and women’s – wishes and aspirations will be heard by and represented in the new Parliament. Today’s mock elections is a good way to see how the electoral process will work, an opportunity to raise people’s awareness about the elections but also for the IEC to fine-tune their organisation.”

Dr. Amer Bani Amer, Director of Hayat-RASED, stated that this cooperation comes as a continuation of the partnership with the IEC, in order to improve the electoral process. This experience contributes to raising awareness among young people in particular, of the need for correct participation in the electoral process, which also aims to measure monitoring procedures and their harmony with the health status and its protocol. "These elections are a live exercise in conducting elections in light of the Covid-19 pandemic, and a test of the new instructions. For the elections mimic the conditions of public safety approved by the Epidemiology Committee. Moreover, these elections also aim towards increasing the awareness of the local community in the election procedures in all its stages, so that the citizen is more aware of what the electoral process needs regarding human and administrative capacities in order to manage itself."

During the mock elections, which were held at Nadim al-Mallah School for Boys, Amman was considered one electoral district, where 53 female and male candidates were nominated in 11 virtual electoral lists. Furthermore, the elections took place from 11:00 am until 3:00 pm.



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