



RASSED's Preliminary Report on the Parliament's Performance During the Discussion and Voting on the Public Budget

22 / 1 / 2017

- **56.6% of the members of parliament (MPs) agreed on the proposed public budget.**
- **The voting process did not take parliamentary transparency into account.**
- **Jordan fell two rankings in the International Budget Transparency Index.**
- **The MP's spent 20 hours and 35 minutes discussing and voting on the budget.**
- **50% of the female MP's agreed on the public budget.**
- **Only 2% of MP's asked for the implementation of decentralization.**
- **Only 10% of MP's demanded strengthening the efforts to combat terrorism and extremism.**
- **45% of MP's demanded the cancelling or merging of independent institutions.**
- **35% of MP's demanded increasing the salaries of the armed forces.**
- **60% of MP's demanded not raising taxes on the citizens.**
- **MP's gave the government 958 demands that ranged from public policy and services.**

The results of the Parliament's performance during the discussion and voting on the public budget and the independent governmental units' budgets report for 2017 shows that the percentage of the members of Parliament who agreed on the public budget of the financial year of 2017 was 56.6% of the overall attendees, who were 121 members on voting day. The report also showed the percentage of MP's who agreed on the independent governmental units' budgets was 52.4% of the overall attendees, who were 122 members on voting day.

RASSED technical team has matched the visual records of the MPs' faces to their names in the voting record, creating the list showcasing the full names and the voting demeanour of all members . It is worth mentioning that the voting process did not take parliamentary transparency into account; but rather was done very hastily, which affects the transparency and limits the citizens' knowledge of their representatives' performances. RASSED's team thus examined the pictures and visual data in order to get a better picture of the representatives' behaviour.

The parliament spent a total of 20 hours and 35 minutes over the span of 5 days discussing and eventually voting on the budget. 107 out of the 130 MP's spoke during the discussions. After analysing the members' speeches, the results show that 79% of the members refused lifting subsidies and increasing prices. On the other hand, 75% of all speakers demanded supporting poverty pockets and finding solutions for unemployment. 45% of speakers demanded cutting down government spending. 35% and 29% demanded increasing the salaries of armed forces and increasing civilians' salaries respectively. 20% of speakers demanded keeping the medical exemptions.



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52% of the overall speakers talked about the mechanisms to combat and reduce tax evasion. 40% of the speakers called for strengthening oversight and accountability for governmental agencies. As for the report of the Audit Bureau and the importance of discussing its content in detail, only 7% of the speakers talked about it.

The members presented 958 demands during the budget discussions, 58% of them were concerning national policies. 42% of the demands were about providing services for the electoral constituencies on a local level, such as installing water meters for 300 houses, providing a bus for funeral use, filling the vacancies in some service institutions, providing scholarships and supporting the logistic needs of some of the municipalities like supplying them with machines, compressors and pickup trucks.

The report also encompasses the results of auditing the numbers mentioned in the MP's interventions during the budget's discussions. The results show that 24% of the numbers mentioned were not accurate. RASSED used the numbers stated in the public budget bill and the bill of the governmental units' budget as a reference for comparison.

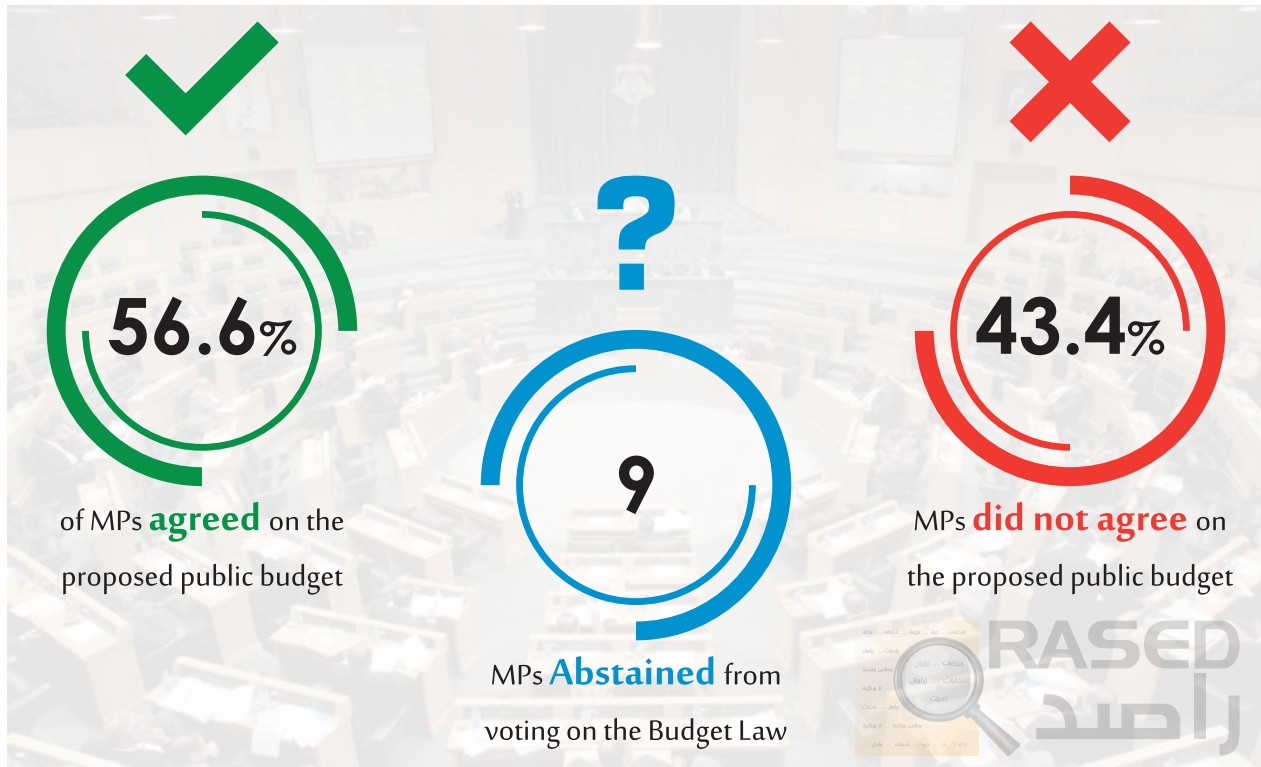
The report also shows that the sum of the demands presented by the parliamentary blocs were 126 demands, all of which were concerning financial public policies on the national level and increasing salaries for both civilians and armed forces. None of the parliamentary blocs' members showed any signs of commitment to their platforms.

When it comes to the female parliament members, 50% of them agreed on the 2017 budget. 17 of them spoke during the discussions, 82% of them demanded supporting poverty pockets and combating unemployment and 65% of all female speakers demanded combating corruption. 18% of the female speakers demanded supporting women's issues.

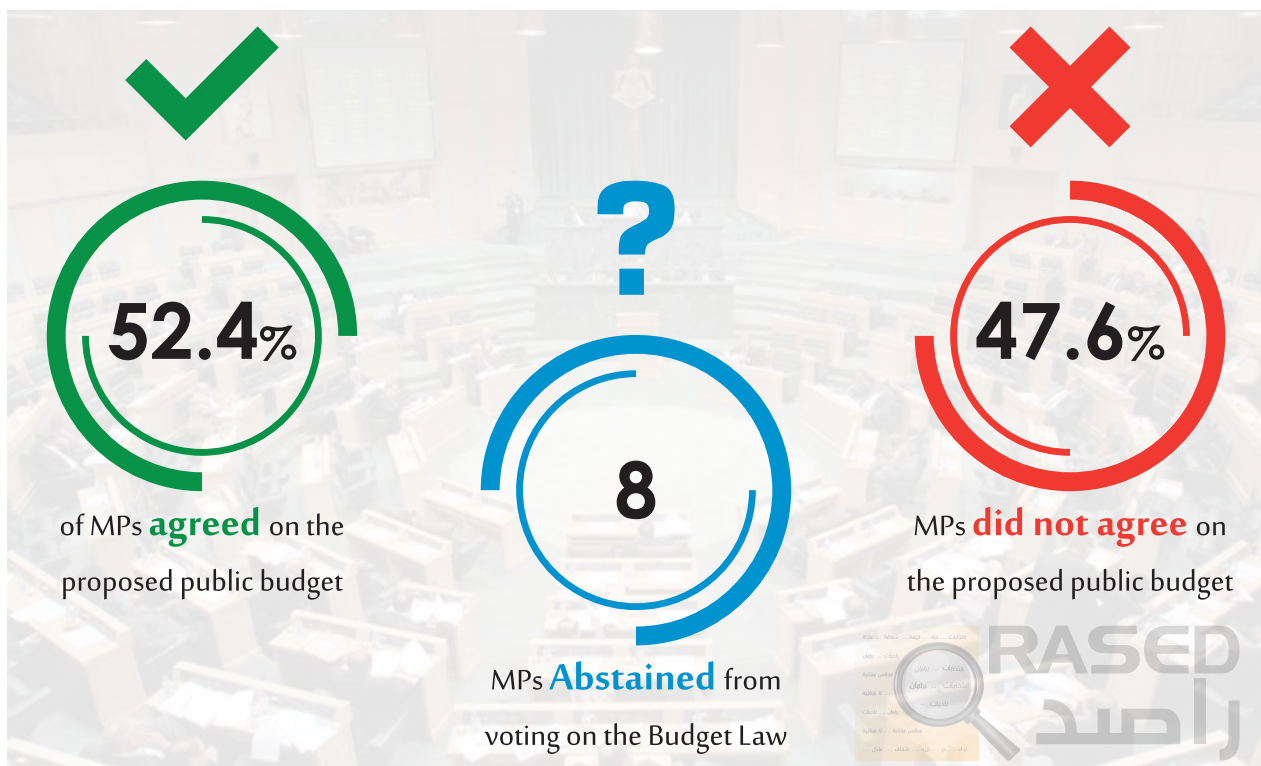
The report mentions the suggestions presented by the MP's as alternatives to taxing the citizens, which based on their estimations, will constitute treasury revenue for that might reach 4.347 Billion Jordanian Dinars. This, however, is keeping in mind that the government is not obliged to take the MP's suggestions and recommendations into consideration unless they are incorporated within the articles of the public budget law which they weren't.

RASSED's team also tracked Jordan's ranking on the International Transparency Budget Index, which shows that Jordan fell two rankings back to 55th globally in 2015 compared to 57th in 2012. The International Transparency Budget Index is an independent measuring system that measures and evaluates budgets' transparency, contribution and supervision on an international level. It aims to assess the presence and comprehensiveness of eight key budget documents that the governments must publish according to international standards.

Voting Percentages of Budget Law for 2017 Fiscal Year



Voting Percentages of Governmental Units Budgets of 2017 Fiscal Year





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MPs Interventions Qualitative Analysis During Public Budget Discussions



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| Names of Absent MPs | Names of MPs Voted (NO) | | Names of MPs Voted (YES) | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| تامر بينو | وفاء بني مصطفى | خليل عطية | مجحم الصقور | زيد الشوابكة | اندريه العزوني |
| حسني الشيباب | عبدالله العكايلة | ابراهيم بني هاني | محمد الظهراوي | زينب الزبيد | ابراهيم البدور |
| سليمان الزين | عمر قراقيش | ابراهيم ابو العز | محمد العياصرة | صباح الشعار | احمد هميسات |
| صالح العرموطي | غازي الهواملة | ابراهيم ابو السيد | محمد البرايصة | صوان الشرفات | احمد الفريحات |
| عبدالكريم الدغمي | فوزي داوود | ابراهيم القرعان | محمد العتايقة | عبد المحسيري | احمد اللوزي |
| عبدالله عبيدات | قيس زيادين | أحمد الرقب | محمد الفلاحات | عبدالرحمن العوايشة | احمد الصفدي |
| عدنان الركيات | محاسن الشرعة | بركات المهيرات العبادي | محمد الحويطي | عبدالقادر الازايدة | انتصار حجازي |
| نواف الزيود | محمد هديب | جمال قموه | محمد الزعبي | عبدالله الزريقات | انصاف الخوالدة |
| يحيى السعود | محمد الرياطي | جودت الدرايسة | محمود العدوان | عزيز العبيدي | حابس الشبيب |
| | محمد نوم القضاة | حازم المجالي | محمود النعيمات | عقلم الزبون | حابس الفايز |
| | محمود الفراهيد | حياة مسيمي | محمود طيطي | علي حجاجة | حسن السعود |
| | مصطفى ياغي | خالد عواد | مرام الحيصة | علي الخلايلة | حسن العجارمة |
| | مصطفى العساف | خالد الفناطسة | مرزوق الدعجة | علي ابو هليل | حسين القيسي |
| | مصلح الطراونة | ابتسام النوافلة | مصطفى الخصاونة | عواد الزوايدة | حمود الزواهره |
| | معتز ابو رمان | خميس عطية | مفلح الخزايلة | عيسى خشاشنة | خالد الحيارى |
| | منال الضمور | ديمه طهبوب | موسى الزواهره | فضيل المناصير العبادي | خالد البكار البشتاوي |
| | منتهى البعول | راشد الشوحه | نصار القيسي | فضيه ابو قدورة الديات | خالد ابو حسان |
| | منصور مراد سحاجه | رسميه الكعابنة | نضال الطعاني | فواز الزعبي | خير ابو صعيلىك |
| | موسى الوحش | رندة الشعار | نواف النعيمات | فيصل الاعور | رائد الخزايله |
| | موسى هنطش | سعود ابو محفوظ | هيا الشبلي العبادي | قصي الدميسي | رجا الصرايرة |
| | نبيل الشيشاني | شاهه العمارين | وائل رزوق | كمال الزغول | رمضان الحنيطي |
| | نبيل الغيشان | شعيب الشديفات | وصفي حداد | ماجد قويسم | رياض العزام |
| | هدى العتوم | صدام الحباشنة | مازن القاضي | | ريم ابو دلبوم |
| | هيثم الزيادين | صفاء المومني | | | |
| | عبدالمنعم العودات | طارق خوري | | | |
| | يوسف الجراح | عبدالله القرامسة | | | |