

JORDAN

Polity5 regime codes:

fac	scode	polity	pers	bmon	bday	byear	emon	Eday	eyear	exrec	exconst	polcomp
0a	JOR	-9	6	5	25	1946	1	7	1952	1	1	2
0b	JOR	-4	5	1	8	1952	10	20	1956	2	3	5
0c	JOR	5	1	10	21	1956	4	24	1957	6	5	8
0d	JOR	-9	13	4	25	1957	11	9	1974	2	2	1
0e	JOR	-10	9	11	10	1974	1	10	1984	2	1	1
0f	JOR	-9	6	1	11	1984	11	8	1989	2	2	1
1X	JOR	-4	3	11	9	1989	8	31	1992	2	3	6
1O	JOR	-2	15	9	1	1992	7	30	2007	2	3	9
1Oa	JOR	-3	11	7	31	2007	99	99	9999	2	3	8

PITF Problem Events:

- 1) 04/57-04/57 (ARC 04/57)
- 2) 02/70-07/71 (REV 02/70-07/71)

0a) May 25, 1946 (independence) – The Transjordan portion of the British-controlled Palestine Mandate is generally recognized as gaining independent statehood on May 25, 1946, when Emir Abdullah assumed the title of king over the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

0b) January 8, 1952 (new constitution) – King Abdullah was assassinated on July 20, 1951, and Crown Prince Talal ascended to the throne. Jordan became a constitutional monarchy on January 8, 1952, during King Talal’s brief reign; he suffered from poor mental health and a Regency Council was appointed to govern the country. King Talal was declared unfit to rule and deposed on August 11, 1952, and the Regency Council continued until Crown Prince Hussein could be coronated upon reaching his eighteenth birthday on May 2, 1953.

0c) October 21, 1956 (parliamentary elections) – Like most other Arab states at the time, Jordanian politics was influenced both by royalist nationalism and pan-Arabism. Parliamentary elections held on October 21, 1956, resulted in a plurality for the National Socialist (NS) party led by Sulayman Nabulsi; a leftist coalition government was formed with the National Front (communist) and Ba’ath parties. Prime Minister Nabulsi differed with and challenged the king’s position in several important issues.

0d) April 25, 1957 (martial law; ban political parties) –

Adverse Regime Change: April 1957

On April 10, 1957 King Hussein dismissed the government of Prime Minister Nabulsi following a period of increasing tensions between supporters of the parliamentary government and supporters of the King. A new government headed by Dr. Khalidi was formed on April 15. A coup plot was uncovered and fighting between left-wing and royalist elements in the army broke on April 18; the Chief of Staff, Maj-Gen. Abu Nuwar, went into exile in Syria the following day. Demonstrations demanding the reinstatement of Mr. Nabulsi’s government took place on April 22-24. To end the crisis, King Hussein installed a right-wing cabinet on April 25 that proclaimed martial law, dissolved all political parties, and purged the civil service of opposition supporters.

Revolutionary War: February 1970 – July 1971

In February 1970 the government began cracking down on Palestinian guerrilla groups operating in Jordan. This repression triggered intense fighting that ended with Jordanian military victory in July 1971.

0e) November 9, 1974 (new constitution) – On November 9, 1974 King Hussein approved changes to the Jordanian constitution that gave him the power to dissolve the legislature and postpone elections. These changes were pushed through, in part, to give the king the necessary powers to cede control of the West Bank to the Palestinian Liberation Organization. This, in turn, would lead to a Jordanian parliament without Palestinian representatives from the West Bank. The king proceeded to dissolve the legislature on November 23.

0f) January 11, 1984 (new government) – On Jan. 10, 1984 King Hussein accepted the resignation of the government of Prime Minister Mudar Badran and on the same day appointed a new cabinet under Ahmad Ubaydat. This change of government followed the recall of the National Assembly on January 5.

1X) Date of Change to Factional-Autocratic: November 9, 1989 (parliamentary elections)

Brief Explanation of Change To:

On November 9, 1989, Jordan conducted its first parliamentary elections since 1967. Martial law had been imposed, and tensions had remained high, since the 1967 war with Israel, especially in regard to Jordan's caretaker role over the Israeli-occupied, Arab-Palestinian territory of the West Bank; a 1970-71 rebellion by Palestinian Arabs had been crushed by government forces. King Hussein publicly renounced Jordan's claim to administration of the West bank in a speech on July 31, 1988. Martial law was incrementally relaxed until it was finally repealed by royal decree on July 7, 1991.

Identify Main Factions:

- *Monarchists* — Support for maintaining the Hashemite monarchy in Jordan is strongest among the East Bank Bedouin tribes.
- *Opposition* — The opposition was comprised mainly of Palestinian Arabs and represented by the only legal political organization at that time, the Muslim Brotherhood.

1O) Date of Change from Factional-Autocratic: September 1, 1992 (royal decree legalizing political parties)

Brief Explanation of Change From:

Both houses of the National Assembly passed a draft law lifting the ban on political parties on July 5 and 23 respectively; the law was enabled by royal decree on August 31, 1992. The new law was regarded by observers as a decisive step towards greater political liberalization. The law also barred parties from receiving funding from abroad. Pro-monarchist independent candidates

emerged as the largest group in November 8, 1993, legislative elections, whereas the Muslim Brotherhood-backed Islamic Action Front was the largest single party, winning 16 seats.

Changes with Stabilization Period:

10a) July 31, 2007 (increased government control of parties) – Jordan's path to political liberalization faced increased restrictions targeting Islamic parties and influence. The main opposition party (IAF) boycotted municipal elections held on July 31, 2007, in protest; it also accused the government of electoral fraud in November 2007 legislative elections.