

Empowering youth to play an informed role in Jordan's political & decision-making processes



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Enjoy!!! - Usharek team



The 3rd National Student Debate Competition 2015

Meet Our Graduates...



Almoud



Razan

**21 JORDANIAN
UNIVERSITIES**
JOIN ANA USHAREK &
USHAREK+ PROGRAMS

2015

USHAREK CENTER

- 1 The University of Jordan (UJ)
- 2 Princess Sumaya University for Technology (PSUT)
- 3 Philadelphia University (PHU)
- 4 Al-Ahliyya Amman University (AAU)
- 5 Al-Balqa Applied University (BAU)
- 6 Al-Zaytoonah University of Jordan (ZUJ)
- 7 German-Jordanian University (GJU)
- 8 Middle East University (MEU)

USHAREK NORTH

- 9 Yarmouk University (YU)
- 10 Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST)
- 11 Jadara University (JAD)
- 12 Irbid National University (INU)

USHAREK EAST

- 13 Al-Albayt University (AABU)
- 14 The Hashemite University (HU)
- 15 Zarqa University (ZU)
- 16 Faculty of Engineering Technology - Al Balqa Applied University (FET)

USHAREK SOUTH

- 17 Mutah University (MU)
- 18 Tafila Technical University (TTU)
- 19 Al-Hussein Bin Talal University (AHU)
- 20 Ma'an College - Al Balqa Applied University (MC)
- 21 Aqaba University College - Al Balqa Applied University (AUC)



USHAREK PROGRAM

Upon graduation from Ana Usharek program, 350 exelling students continue with their participation in the interactive training program Usharek+.

This leadership program focuses on providing participants with advocacy and campaigning skills. Students gather in groups and launch their own campaigns. They are also linked with professional public advocates and politicians who provide mentorship and guidance.

Usharek+ has to date brought together 900 students interested in political engagement and advocacy, public policy, campaigning, and communication.

ANA USHAREK

The Ana Usharek ("I participate") program is an extracurricular program for 9,398 students in 21 Jordanian universities.

Through discussions and debates, youth openly discuss democratic practices and current events while learning about the basic principles of democracy, human rights, political parties and Elections.

Ana Usharek students gain skills for conducting meaningful and respectful debates with their peers, helping them become active citizens who participate in the political process.

USHAREK +


WINTER SCHOOL OF POLITICS
Training sessions on media and events planning

**NATIONAL
DEBATE
COMPETITION**



YOUTH FORUMS

As part of Usharek programs, regional youth forums are conducted in the Center, East, North, and South of Jordan to discuss issues of youth and community concern. At the end of each of the forums, students develop & present recommendations to decision makers.

PARLIAMENTARY VISITS



USHAREK ALUMNI

In order to sustain the gains made by Ana Usharek and Usharek+, the Usharek Alumni was established! Graduates who have excelled are able to stay connected with each other, network with civil society organizations, and advocate decision makers, while continuing to get technical assistance from Usharek.

THE 3RD NATIONAL STUDENT DEBATE COMPETITION 2015



On Tuesday June 15th 2015, 16 debate teams representing as many Jordanian universities participated in **Usharek's 3rd National Student Debate Competition**, at the University of Jordan.

With the attendance of **over 500 university students**, university deans, professors, representatives from the Parliament and Civil Society Organizations, Usharek students debated current and important topics, including internet censorship in Jordan, the single-non transferable vote system, the political parties draft law and the "Tawjihi" exam system.

The Competition started off with qualifying debates, with eight winners qualified to compete in the quarter-final debates. At this stage the debates were dominated by teams from big public universities, winning six spots in the quarter finals. **In similar fashion, public universities secured three out of four spots in the semi-finals, with Jadara University being the only private university in the semis.**

The final debate brought an epic showdown between two southern universities, Mu'ta and Tafilah Technical. The latter clinched victory with 0.3 points margin, which was the closest call of the day.

The panel of judges featured **MP Rudaina Ati; Dr. Ghazi Al-Zaben, former Senator and former MP; Professor Fatima AlDabbas, lawyer and human rights activist; Nermin Murad, Chief of Party, Takamol – Jordan; Dr. Abeer Dababneh, Director of the Center for Women's Studies at the University of Jordan; and Dr. Sakher Al-Khasawneh, Director of the Jordan Media Institute.**

Among the guests were **Dr. Nabil Al-Shareef, former Senator and Ambassador; Maysoun Al-Zobi, former Secretary General of the Ministry of Water and Irrigation; HE Shehada Abu Hudeib, former Minister of Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Former Senator; Enaya Abu Laban from the Ministry of Interior; Mohamed Al-Nsour, Director of Human Rights and Family Affairs at the Ministry of Justice; Ruba Hattar, Arabic Book Program Director from the US Embassy; Saddam Abu Azzam, the Legislative Studies and Research Centre in the Jordanian Parliament; Valentina Qussisiya, CEO of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation.**

IN THE MEDIA

"Such debates contribute significantly to the awareness of young Jordanians through access to information and expressing proposition or opposition of public issues in a scientific manner rather than violence. These debates also promote freedom of expression and opinion and consolidate the values of democracy based on participation and decision-making, which are crucial for active youth participation."

Dr. Sakher Khasawneh

AlSabeel website and newspaper



The competition was covered by Roya TV to be aired in winter 2015

"We all have the capacity and motivation to serve our community and nation, but perhaps not the know-how; this is where Ana Usharek came in to clarify the role of civil society organizations in community service."

He added: "I believe that debates are the optimal tool to spread a culture of dialogue, develop the ability to build meaningful dialogue in the family or community, as well as self expression."

Usharek+ student Amer Ghuzlan

2015

USHAREK YOUTH FORUMS



NORTH YOUTH FORUM: FUTURE OF NATIONAL LISTS

“National Lists should be voted for in terms of programs not members”

– Moataz Abu Rumman, Member of Parliament

On Tuesday, May 19th, Ana Usharek conducted the North Youth forum on “The Future of National Lists” at Yarmouk University. 70 students from four northern universities took part in the forum, which brought together legislators and youth to address National Lists within the Election Law. The forum featured a presentation by Usharek+ campaign “My List is My Country” from Jordan University for Science and Technology that advocates for allocating additional seats for National Lists.

MP Wafa Bani Mustafa discussed Article 67 of the Jordanian constitution that is concerned with parliamentary Election Law. She noted the importance of consulting the constitutional court on legislative issues related to parliamentary elections. In a discussion with students she expressed her belief that Jordan is ready for a modernized election law.

Moreover, MP Motaz Abu Rumman expressed that National Lists have clearer programs and than individual candidates, and that issues like voting for the most qualified candidates would be met with National Lists, since Jordan would be one electorate and people would be able vote for the most qualified regardless of their residency. MP Abu Rumman also supported the idea of having 50% of the seats in the Parliament be allocated for National Lists.

Students’ recommendations to the Election Law:

- Allocating 30% of the seats to National Lists as a start.
- Increasing the number of seats allocated to National Lists to 50% of the seats in the Parliament, as a next step.
- Forming National Lists by political parties.
- The National Lists should take into consideration geographical distribution.
- Lowering the age of candidacy to 25 years.

ANA USHAREK STUDENTS FROM CENTRAL REGION'S UNIVERSITIES DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS TO AMEND THE PRESS AND PUBLICATIONS LAW

On Tuesday, May 26th at Zaytoonah University. The forum brought together Media experts and 60 students from seven universities to address issues with the current press and publication law, primarily its impact on freedom of speech.

Speakers at the event were:

- **Jamil Al Nimri** – Member of Parliament
- **Abdullah Tawalbeh** – Assistant Director of Jordan's Media Commission
- **Mosab Shawabkeh** – Investigative journalist at Al Balad Radio
- **Wael Jaraisheh** – Journalist at Ammon News

MP Jamil Al-Nimri discussed the role of media in democracy and in Jordan. He explained that members of Parliament knew very little about the law and its affect when endorsing it two years ago. He added that restricting free media would not in his opinion prevent citizens from seeking the truth. Dr. Tawalbeh, representing the government, said that the Jordanian government has always had dialogue with journalists. He stressed on the importance of regulating the press to protect citizens and journalists from those who misuse media. Mr. Shawabkeh had a different opinion, promoting the idea of self-regulation among journalists. He also stressed on the importance of free media through a less restrictive law. Mr. Jaraisheh pointed out some violations made by smaller new websites and supported having regulations made by the government regarding the registration of these websites.



Students issued recommendations that reflected the views of Jordanian youth on the use of social media and the operation of news websites:

- The Journalists association should be involved in drafting and amending the law
- News websites that violate the law must be given a notice first, and then a financial penalty rather than an immediate close down.



ANA USHAREK STUDENTS FROM EAST REGION'S UNIVERSITIES DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS TO INCREASE WOMEN'S POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

Ana Usharek conducted the East Youth forum "Women's Political Participation" on Wednesday, May 27th at Zarqa Private University. 60 students participated from four universities in the East region. The forum brought women activists and elected municipal members together with youth to discuss the political role of women in local communities, women's representation in partisan and parliamentary life.

An'am Asha (Legal Activist and member of Women's Solidarity Institution TADAMON) discussed the social dimension and impact on the political status of women, noting that social factors do affect the overall perception of the role of women in the political life, and that was reflected in legislations.

Jamilah Mashaqbah (Hashmeiyah municipal council member) stressed on the significance of women insisting on their own rights and pushing for more representation in political life.

Hayat Al Zawahreh (Zarqa municipal council member) stated that education is a corner stone in this issue, as educated Women are more aware of their rights and can do a better job by raising awareness in all fields.

Students issued recommendations that reflect the views of Jordanian youth about the participation of women in politics in general with focus on Zarqa and Mafraq governorates as they are seen as less developed than other governorates.

- Allocating a percentage of municipal budgets to support women developmental projects
- Increasing women quota in municipal councils to %50 of seats
- Exerting more media coverage for Women who have succeeded in elections
- Encouraging women's caucus in parliament to deliberate and push for laws that are related to women 's participation in politics

MEET OUR GRADUATES



Ahmad Adawi moved to Karak to pursue a Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering at Mutah University. During his studies, he joined Ana Usharek and Usharek+ programs where he led one very important campaign against campus violence at his university. What drove Ahmad and his Usharek+ colleagues to advocate for this campaign was the tragic death of their colleague during a fight on campus.

Ahmad and the team used theatrical plays and art to gather support. They gathered over 2000 signatures requesting a change in the law to include a rehabilitation plan instead of expelling the students who participate in violent acts.

Today Ahmad heads an elected committee for a registered initiative that he and his colleagues established after graduating from Usharek Programs. Their initiative "Athar for Youth Development" has over 200 volunteers and over 2000 Facebook members combating violence at universities in Jordan. Ahmad has recently joined Usharek's team of trainers as an intern.



When **Rawan Azem** was studying at Hashemite university, she didn't expect that joining Ana Usharek and Usharek+ programs at the university would be the first step towards a successful career.

Rawan and her fellow Usharek+ students conducted a campaign to stop child labor. The campaign allowed students to work in different governorates and with different organizations and decision makers which expanded their network, enriched their knowledge and provided them with hands on experience in advocacy management.

Today, Rawan is not only a leading trainer on debate skills, but also a judge in EU debate competitions. Rawan also works on different development projects around Jordan.



January 14 marked the beginning of the **Usharek+ Winter School of Politics**. The school brought together 200 Usharek+ students to participate in a three-days workshop of comprehensive events and communication training sessions, taking place in Wadi Musa.

The training sessions conducted during the winter school are a continuation of the Usharek+ advocacy campaign training curricula, in which students apply the skills they learn to their advocacy campaigns.

Students at the winter school attend sessions on events planning, traditional media, media relations and communication skills, during which they create strategic plans for their events, hold press conferences and rehearse for TV interviews. Students also learn how to draw attention of journalists to their advocacy campaigns using emails, Facebook and Twitter. They also practice to present their messages to public figures and civil society leaders.

"Participating in the Winter School has added a lot to my knowledge of media relations. I am confident that we will manage to attract high media coverage to our campaign now that we completed this training" Mujahed Qazan- Jordan University of Science and Technology



USHAREK+ ADVOCACY CAMPAIGNS

8 | YU

MY VOTES... MY FREEDOM

Abolish the 1-man-1-vote Election Law for a truly representative parliament

8 | YU

IN YOUR SHOES

Improve the unified national admissions system by forming an independent admissions body

8 | YU

ONLINE WITHOUT BORDERS

Amend specific articles in the Press & Publications Law for online press freedom

8 | YU

MY GRADES MATTER

Change the percentage grading system to letters for a just evaluation of student grades

9 | JUST

MY LIST... MY COUNTRY

Increase the percentage of parliamentary seats dedicated to National Lists to 50%

9 | JUST

WE NEED MUCH MORE...

Demand much-needed improvements in university services. Starting with transportation

10 | JAD

MY MUNICIPALITY

Amend the article 37 of the Municipal Law to remove authority of the minister to dismiss the mayor

10 | JAD

PROTECT HER INSTEAD

Amend article 306 in the Penal Code to increase the penalty set for harassment

1 | JU

WE CANNOT PAY MORE

Reduce tuition fees at the University of Jordan

1 | JU

ACTIVATE TO PROTECT US

Campaign to activate the death penalty

2 | PSUT

ONE VOTE IS NOT ENOUGH

Proposing amendments to the elections law for a truly representative parliament

3 | PHU

MY RIGHT TO PROTECTION

Amend Article 7 in criminal law for protection against being detained without criminal charge

4 | AAU

ROAD TRAFFIC RIGHTS

Amend specific articles the traffic law

5 | BAU

STUDENTS FOR CHANGE AT BAU

Improve university services starting with lowering the high cost of food services

5 | BAU

308 IS KILLING HER

Amend Article 308 of the Penal Code to ensure justice to rape victims

12 | AABU

308 EMPOWERS HIM

Amend Article 308 of the Penal Code to ensure justice to rape victims

12 | AABU

A STUDENT UNION IS WHAT WE WANT

Request an elected student union to represent & speak for all students

12 | AABU

PROTECT OUR KIDS FROM BEGGINS

Amend article 389 of the Penal Code to curb the phenomenon of children begging in Mafraq

12 | AABU

I AM NOT A PRODUCT I AM HUMAN

Amend laws to comply with international standards for the elimination of trafficking

13 | HU

EVERYTHING BUT MY FREEDOM SHYLOCK

Amend article 22 in the Executive Law to avoid inconsistent penalties related to unpaid debts

13 | HU

SERVE YOUR COUNTRY 5T

Towards a comprehensive students' activities to serve the country

15 | FET

INVEST IN ME & SEE WHAT HAPPENS

Allow extracurricular activities on campus

16 | MU

CLEAN CITY

Activate article 40 of the Municipal Law to ban street trade & move vendors to designated markets

16 | MU

STOP OVERLOADING

Activate traffic law #49 Article 24 , to punish violations of overloaded vehicles

16 | MU

I CAN'T AFFORD YOU

Stop the privatization of university food services & monitor prices of all products

16 | MU

3 VOTES

Change the 1-man-1-vote Election Law for a truly national parliament

16 | MU

NO TO DRUGS!

Amend Article 3 of the university Penal Code to find a solution to drug dealing on campus

16 | MU

NO TO NUCLEAR REACTORS

Stop the nuclear power plant and invest in renewable energy projects

16 | MU

OUR HEALTH IS NOT A JOKE

Enforce the existing law against smoking in public places for a smoke free campus

16 | MU

GPS IN KARAK

Activate article 40 of the Municipal Law to name streets in Karak & improve mapping

16 | MU

WE WANT TO LEARN

Towards a unified & free admission system at Jordanian universities

17 | TTU

MY COUNSELOR

Appoint a legal counselor to provide advice & assist students confronted with problems

17 | TTU

MY SCHOOL, MY PROPERTY

Stop renting buildings in bad conditions to schools in Tafila

18 | AHU

YOUR SCHOOL, YOUR FUTURE

Connect schools & parents through SMS for ongoing updates on school attendance

18 | AHU

AL-HUSSEIN IS BETTER WITH US

Increase admissions at Ma'an university by amending article 6 of the higher education law



USHAREK+

ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN EVENTS

Usharek+ students launched a series of field events to sway public opinion and to advocate decision-makers in support of their advocacy campaigns....

NORTH

My Votes... My Freedom
Yarmouk University



My Municipality
Jadara University



My Grades Matter
Yarmouk University



Protect her Instead
Jadara University



In your Shoes
Yarmouk University



We need much more...
Jordan University of Science & Technology



Online Without Borders

"According to the Jordanian Constitution, each Jordanian is entitled to freedom of speech. However, our Press and publications Law (2012) denies Jordanians that freedom." Rahma Mohammad, Usharek+ student from Yarmouk University stated during the opening of the "Online Without Borders" campaign launching event.

The current Jordanian Press and Publications law holds the owner of a blog or a website responsible for any comment made by users on their blog or website. Students believe that this will limit practices related to open dialogue, conflicting against freedom of press and speech.

The event started with a short video of interviews featuring Law Professor Maha Khasawneh, Editor Lina Ejelat from 7iber.com, Journalism Professor Ali Al-Zainat from Yarmouk University, Editor Sonya Zghoul from Amman.net and Deputy Editor Wael Jaraiseh from Ammon news.

The event featured MP Jamil Al-Nimri, member of the Parliamentary Administrative Committee and the Media committee; Journalist Yehya Al-Shoqair; a Columnist at Al-Arab daily newspaper; Abd Al-Rahman Al-Sharayreh, Lawyer and activist from MELAD Unite; Khaled Foukhadeh, Al-Rai daily newspaper and Ahkelak online news website, and Saif Obaidat, Deputy Editor at Saraya online news website.

MP Jamil said: "I believe we need a brand new law rather than amending the current law" he added that "This is a good time for students to lobby for changes in the law considering that it is currently being discussed at the Parliament".





Everything but My Freedom, Shylock

Students running this campaign organized an outdoor activity at Hashemite University to gather the support of students and to spread awareness about their campaign which calls for amending (Law 36 Article 22-c) in the Executive Law to correspond to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which states that "No one shall be imprisoned merely on the ground of inability to fulfill a contractual obligation".

Students set up their campaign banner in a high-traffic area on campus and invited students to learn about their campaign and to join their efforts by signing the campaign wall and by joining their social media channels.

Students plan to move forward with the support they gathered by meeting with organizations to join efforts in amending this law.

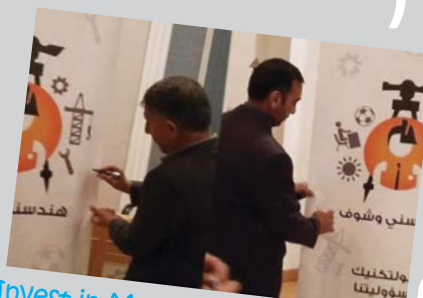
A Student Union is What We Want

Hashemite University



Serve Your Country (ST)

Hashemite University



Invest in Me & See What Happens

Faculty of Engineering Technology Al-Balqa Applied University

CENTER

EAST

I Am Not a Product I Am Human

Al Albayt University



308 Empowers Him

Al Albayt University



Protect Our Kids from Begging

Al Albayt University



We Cannot Pay More!

The University of Jordan



Students for Change at BAU

Al-Balqa Applied University

Road Traffic Lights

Al-Ahliyya Amman University



308 is Killing Her

Al-Balqa Applied University



Activate to Protect Us

The University of Jordan

My Right to Protection

The event which was held at Philadelphia University brought together MP Falak Al-Jamaani, Lawyer Lubna Al-Dawani Director of Sisterhood is Global Institute SIGI-Jordan, Professor Moutaz Al-Shaikh Salem, President of Philadelphia University and Professor Osama Al-Naimat, Dean of the Faculty of Law.

Students and guests engaged in an open discussion on activating Jordan's Reform and Rehabilitation Centers Law No. 9 (8-4), to separate the administratively detained from the judicially arrested in prisons. They also touched on cases related to placing women who are deemed to be threatened by their families in separate shelters, and granting them the petition for their own release.

Students succeeded in spreading awareness about the current law. Guests added their signatures on the campaign wall with promises to join efforts towards amending the law.



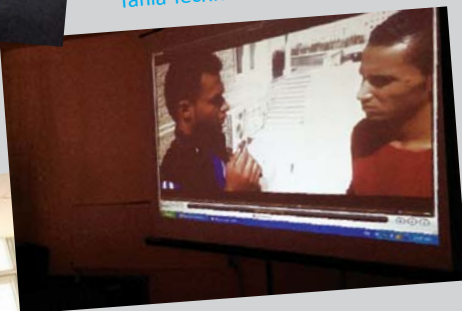
One Vote is Not Enough

Princess Sumaya University for Technology

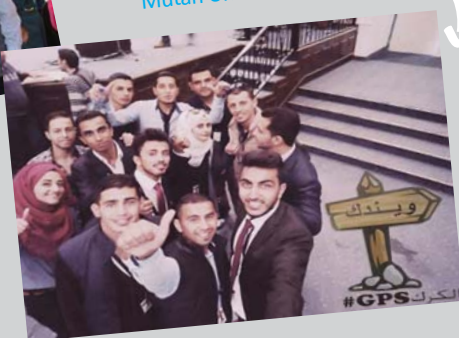


My School, My Property
Tafila Technical University

My Counselor
Tafila Technical University



GPS in Karak
Mutah University



Clean City
Mutah University

No to Drugs
Mutah University



I can't Afford You
Mutah University



Al-Hussein is Better with Us
Al-Hussein Bin Talal University



Your School, Your Future
Al-Hussein Bin Talal University



No to Nuclear Reactor

Students leading this campaign from Mutah University call for the protection of Jordanians from the dangers of nuclear energy. During the event, students highlighted that one minor accident at the plant could poison up to a third of the water in the country and could cause death, burns, and serious public health problems. Students also pointed out that the cost of nuclear energy is high and would contaminate Jordan's scarce water supply. For that, they favor the use of renewable energy such as the solar power and wind energy.

Students invited MP Hind Al-Fayez, MP Mahmoud Kharabsheh, MP Fares Al-Gsous, MP Mustafa Al-Rawashdeh and campaign partner Mr. Jamal Al-Nawayseh, the President of the Renewable Energy and Environment Investment Association to a debate followed by a discussion on the topic.

Students collected over 140 signatures against the nuclear power plants. Guests expressed their support to the campaign in future activities.

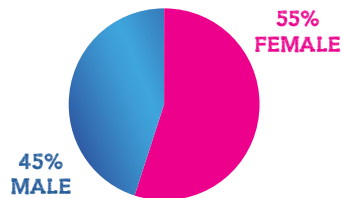


SOUTH

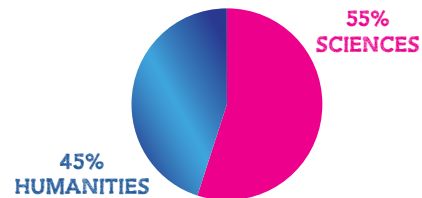
USHAREK PROGRAM IN NUMBERS

4985 STUDENTS JOINED THE PROGRAM IN 2014, 2015

MALE / FEMALE RATIO

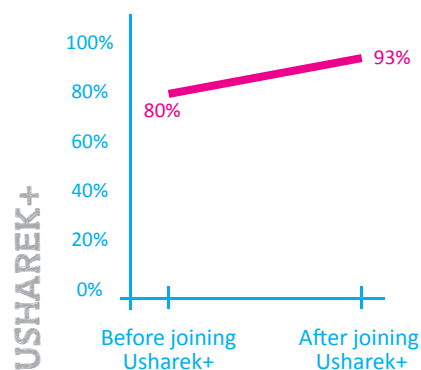
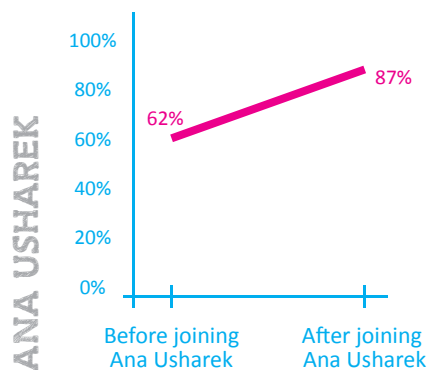


MAJOR

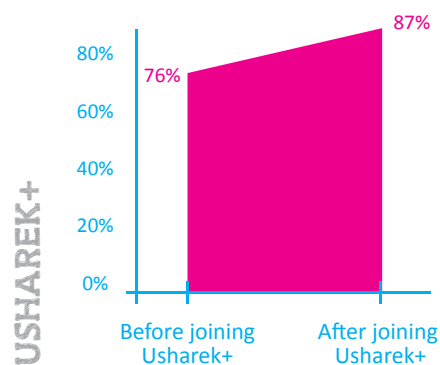
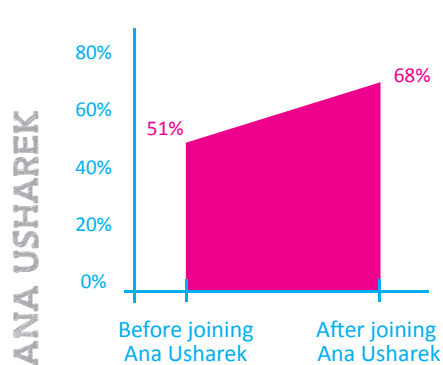


WE ASKED ANA USHAREK & USHAREK+ STUDENTS...

HOW KNOWLEDGEABLE ARE YOU ABOUT COMPONENTS OF A DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT?



ARE YOU CURRENTLY ACTIVE IN COMMUNITY SERVICE OR POLITICS?



Testimonials

“We all have the capacity and motivation to serve our community and nation, but perhaps not the know-how; this is where Ana Usharek came in to clarify the role of civil society organizations in community service.

I believe that debates are the optimal tool to spread a culture of dialogue, develop the ability to build meaningful dialogue in the family or community, as well as self expression”

Usharek+ student Amer Ghuzlan

“I commend NDI for their continuous efforts whether at the Parliament or with students at Jordanian universities. This is an important campaign that affects our society and it requires high attention from NGOs in Jordan”

MP Falak Al-Jamaani, taking part in “My Right to Protection” campaign event that calls for the separation of the administratively detained and judicially arrested

“I ran for student union elections as I felt confident and empowered to be part of the decision making process. Usharek provided me with the necessary skills, paving the path for me to take this important step and giving me the confidence to run a campaign and win student votes. I won a seat in the elections and I hope that this success would be my first step towards participating in Parliamentary elections in the future, bringing positive change to our university and society”

Ahmed Alkaraki, Usharek+ student from University of Mutah

“I am proud of what our students have presented today. We would love to continue supporting them to participate in Usharek Programs. We hope for such programs to be included in our curriculum at the Law department.”

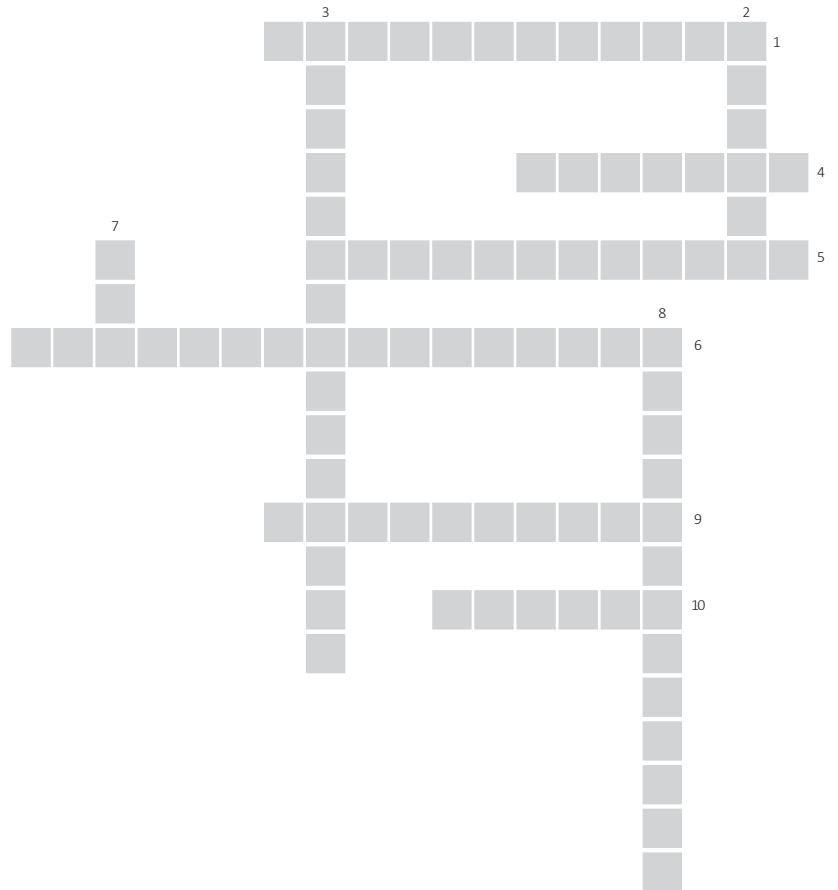
Professor Osama Al-Naimat - Dean of the Faculty of Law - Philadelphia University

Quotes

“Early on, we realised that for reform to last, democratic consent must be built in. Today, Jordan’s progress towards democracy and pluralism is irreversible, and we are committed to it.”

HM King Abdullah II

CROSSWORD



Visit our Facebook page to find the answer

عامودي

- 2 شجرة الأردن الوطنية
- 3 السلطة التي تناط بجلالة الملك + مجلس الوزراء
- 7 دولة عربية من مؤسسي حركة عدم الإنحياز
- 8 نظام انتخابي متبع في الأردن

أفقي

- 1 قام بتعريب قيادة الجيش العربي
- 4 السلطة الرابعة
- 5 منظمة دولية أنشئت عام ١٩٤٥
- 6 مهمتها الرقابة على دستورية القوانين وتفسير نصوص الدستور
- 9 نمط تنظيم إداري تنقل الدولة بموجبه سلطات القرار إلى أجهزته محلية
- 10 تعني في اللغة الشدة والغلبة أو النهر

For suggestions and inquiries, please visit Ana Usharek offices at the Deanship of Student Affairs building in partner universities

www.facebook.com/anausharekjo

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www.youtube.com/AnaUsharek

