
Draft Law No () of 2006
Political Parties Draft Law

- Article 1- This Law shall be cited "the Political Parties Law of 2006" and shall come into force as from the date of publication in the Official Gazette.
- Article 2- The following words and expressions, wherever stated in this law, shall have the meanings indicated herein below unless the context implies otherwise:
The Ministry: the Ministry of Interior.
The Minister: the Minister of Interior.
The Party: Any political organization established in accordance with the Constitution and the provisions of this Law.
The Court: the Supreme Court of Justice.
- Article 3-
- A. The Party is any political organization consisting of a group of Jordanians according to the Constitution and the provisions of Law for the purposes of participation in public life and achieving goals related to social, economic and political affairs acting by true and lawful means.
- B. A Party shall be constituted on the basis of citizenship without any discrimination founded on a **sectarian, ethnic or group basis or favoritism because of gender, origin or religion.**
- Article 4-
- A. Jordanians have the right to establish political parties and to voluntarily join the same according to the provisions of Law.
- B. The Party has the right to participate in elections in all locations and at all levels.

Article 5-

A. **Number of founding members of any party must not be less than two hundred fifty people provided that to have a regular residence in five governorates at east with a percentage of 10% of the founders for each governorate.** A founder must meet the following conditions:

1. Had completed 21 years of age.
2. To be of Jordanian nationality for a period not less than ten years.
3. Must not be convicted with a conclusive ruling rendered by a competent court for a felony or offense involving honor or public moral turpitude or any other crime except for political crimes unless rehabilitated.
4. Must be of full legal and civil capacity and a regular resident in the Kingdom.
5. Must not claim a citizenship of another state or a foreign protection.
6. Must not be a member or any other Jordanian or non-Jordanian political party or organization.
7. Must not be member of the Jordan Armed Forces, security agencies or Civil Defense.
8. Must not be a judge.

B.

1. A group of ten Jordanians at least, who desire to establish a party, may apply to the Minister illustrating the Party's principles and primary thought. The Minister has the right to approve their practice of preliminary political activities and promotion of those thoughts provided that they apply for establishment once the prerequisites stipulated in this Law are met within a period not exceeding six months as from the date of that approval.

2. In case that establishment prerequisites are not fulfilled with the period stated in Item (1) herein, the Minister's approval shall be considered null and void, where the applicants for establishment shall have to suspend their activities at once and

may not submit a new application but after one year as from the date of that period's end.

Article 6- the Party's bylaw must include:

- A. The party's name and emblem provided that not to be similar to any name and emblem of any other Jordanian party.
- B. The addresses of the party's headquarters and its branch offices, if available, provided that all those branches must be public and within the Kingdom, and not to be within the main offices of any public, private, charity, religious, productive, educational or union institution.
- C. The principles, goals and means of implementation of the party.
- D. Membership conditions and affiliation procedures in accordance with the provisions of Law.
- E. Procedures of forming the party's bodies, selecting the leaders, regulating the relationship with its members, exercising activities and designating of administrative, financial, organizational and political functions for any of those bodies. As well as the mechanisms of periodical elections on a democratic basis for all of levels of these bodies and leaderships.
- F. Identification of the party's financial resources and the adopted procedures for organizing its financial affairs including the procedures of expenditure and budget planning, approval and areas of expenditure thereof.
- G. The procedures of voluntary dissolution, merger with other parties, funds clearing and the body to whom those funds shall accrue.
- H.
 1. To observe holding a periodical general conference or the like according to the party's bylaws provided that the time interval for holding the same should not exceed two years.
 2. to approve the budget and ratify the annual balance sheet by the highest body elected for the period between two general conferences.
- I. Observance of principles and rules stated in the provisions of the Constitution and this Law.

Article 7-

- A. an application subscribed by founders for establishment of a party must be submitted to the Minister with the following data and documents enclosed therewith:
1. Three copies of the bylaws of the party signed by the founders.
 2. A certified copy of the personal ID card issued by the Department of Passports and Civil Status.
 3. Non-Conviction certificate for each founder issued in a date does not exceed three months as from the date filing the application.
 4. A statement signed by ten founders before the competent officer at the Ministry that affirm the authenticity of signatures of founding members.
- B. The competent officer in the Ministry shall receive the establishment application, information and attached documents against a receipt indicating the date of reception of the application and the enclosures thereof.

Article 8-

- A. The ten founders stated in Item 4 of Clause A of Article 7 herein shall elect three of them to jointly follow up the provision of information and documents to the Ministry, receive notifications, notices and communications on behalf of all founders during the period of establishment of the party.
- B. The officer who is responsible for notification shall prepare a statement indicating the date and method of notification affixed with its name and signature. The responsible for receiving the notification shall have to sign a reception statement.

Article 9-

- A. The authorized founders may withdraw any documents or data provided with the establishment application and replace the same

within a period starting from the date of filing the application and lapses after fifteen days as from the date of communicating a notice on receiving the establishment application.

B. The Minister may request the founders to provide any clarifications, documents or data necessary for implementing the provisions of this Law by a thirty days letter as from the date of communicating a notice on receiving the establishment application.

C. One of the three authorized founders mentioned in Clause A of Article 8 herein may provide the required clarifications, documents and data within fourteen days as from receiving the Minister's letter, and the Minister may extend the same for a similar period at the request of the founders.

D. The competent officer shall issue a receipt for receiving those clarifications, documents and data indicating the name of the founder who provide the same and the date of reception thereof.

Article 10-

A. in case that the application for establishing a party meets the conditions stipulated in this law, the Minister shall announce the establishment within seven days after the expiry of sixty days from the date of communicating the notification on receiving the establishment application that meets the conditions, or within fifteen days as from the date of notification receiving the clarifications, documents and data mentioned in Article 9 herein, and the announcement shall be published in Official Gazette and two local daily newspapers.

B. In case the Minister refuses to announce the establishment of the party within the period stated in Clause A herein, he/ she shall have to show the causes thereof and advise the founders in this respect in accordance with the procedures stated in this Law.

Article 11-

A. Any of the founders may appeal before the court with respect to the Minister's decision referred to in Clause B of Article 10 herein within thirty days as from receiving a notification on this decision.

B. In case that the court decides to revoke the Minister's decision, the Minister is to announce the establishment of the party as from the date of rendering the court's decision and publish the announcement in the Official Gazette and two local daily newspapers.

Article 12- in the event that the number of the founders falls to less than two hundred fifty for any reason before the announcement of establishment of the party according to the provisions of this Law, the application for party's establishment shall be considered annulled.

Article 13-

A. The party may use the public utilities of the state after obtaining the Minister's prior approval in coordination with the relevant authorities.

B. It's prohibited to utilize or use any funds, equipment and headquarters of unions, charities, clubs religious institutions for the benefit of any party organization.

C. It's prohibited to utilize the headquarters and premises of religious institutions and houses of worship for any partisan activity.

Article 14-

A. The party shall be considered as a judicial person that may not be, whether itself or its leadership, dissolved but in accordance with its bylaws or upon the court's decision.

B. the management of the party's affairs shall be assigned to a leadership formed according to the provisions of the bylaws. the head of the party is responsible for representing it before third parties including the administrative and judicial authorities, in case the bylaws does not provide for the position of head of the party, then its secretary-general assumes the representation's responsibilities. The head or the secretary-general may, as necessary, appoint one person or more from the leadership members in writing to practice his/ her

authorities or any of them, and to appoint an attorney in judicial and legal procedures related to the party.

Article 15- a member who desires to join the party after announcing its establishment must be over eighteen years old in addition to the conditions stipulated in Items 2-8 of Clause (A) of Article 5 herein.

Article 16- subject to the provisions of Publication and Print Law in force and any other related legislations, the party may issue one periodical publication or more; establish an electronic website; and use any communications means to express its principles and opinions, and it shall advise the same to the competent authority.

Article 17-

A. The party's headquarters, documents, correspondences and means of communication are protected by law and they may not be monitored, raided or confiscated but by a judicial order.

B. It's impermissible to search the party's headquarter, save for the cases of red-handed and flagrante delicto, but by an order issued by the order of the public prosecutor in charge in addition to the party's representative, in the event of the latter's refusal, such shall be noted down in the minutes of search which shall take place with in the presence of two witnesses.

C. Breach of Clause B herein shall cause the search's invalidity.

Article 18-

A.

1. **The party must totally depend on recognized and declared Jordanian financing sources in respect of its financial resources and may not receive any monetary amounts in return for the services it renders.**

2. The party may accept donations and gifts from Jordanian citizens only provided that to be recognized and declared and that the amount provided by one person must not exceed ten thousand Dinars annually.

3. The party may invest its funds within the Kingdom in any manner it deems appropriate provided to be public and lawful, and that the goal of such activities is not for achieving any personal gains or benefits for any of the party's members.

4. The party's headquarters are exempted from all public taxes and duties accrue on immovable properties.

B. For the purposes of implementing of Penal Code's provisions, the party's funds are considered as public and the persons in charge for the party's affairs and its staff shall be considered as public servants for those purposes where the members of the party's leadership are subject to the legal rules on illicit gain.

C. The party is entitled to dispose of its funds for the purposes and objectives stated in its bylaws.

D. The party may deposit it funds with Jordanian banks only.

Article 19- an item in the State's public budget shall be allocated for supporting the parties with Treasury funds according to standards and conditions that specify the cases of granting or deprivation the same and mechanisms and means of outlay pursuant to a special regulation issued for this purpose.

Article 20-

A. It's impermissible to annoy, question, interrogate or violate the constitutional rights of a citizen because of its partisan affiliation.

B. The party may use the public mass media to demonstrate its viewpoint and clarify its principles and programs.

Article 21-

A. The party must provide the Minister with a copy of its balance sheet annually within the first quarter of the year following the balance

sheet approved by a legal authorized audit office for revision and approval of the competent authority.

B. When presenting its annual balance sheet, the party is obligated to have two hundred fifty people in its membership, in the event that this number decreases, the party shall be granted a period of six months for rectification or otherwise it shall be considered dissolved.

Article 22- the party shall adhere to the following rules and principles in exercising its activities, where the same must be explicitly stated in its bylaws:

A. To abide by the rules of the Constitution and respect the rule of law.

B. To respect the principle of political pluralism in thinking, opinion and organization.

C. To undertake the maintenance the country's independence and security, safeguard the national unity, discard violence in all forms and nondiscrimination between citizens.

D. To ensure the realization of equality of opportunities among all citizens at assuming the responsibility or participating thereof.

E. To observe not to be financially or organizationally affiliated to any non-Jordanian party or to orient the party's activities according to orders or instructions of any external body or country.

F. To abstain from partisan organization or attracting among the Armed Forces, security agencies, Civil Defense and judiciary, or to form any military or paramilitary organizations in any manner.

G. To abstain from interfering in other countries affairs and from causing harm to the Kingdom's political relations with other countries disturbing the same, as well as with foreign organizations or societies.

Article 23- the party must maintain the following records and data in its headquarters:

A. The Party's bylaw.

B. Names of the party's members including the founding members, members of the leadership and their addresses and domiciles.

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- C. Record of the leadership's decisions.
 - D. A separate record of the party's revenues and expenditures.

Article 24- the leadership of the party shall advise the Minister by a letter deposited with the Ministry's bureau against a receipt in relation to any decision issued by the party involving the self-dissolution, merger, replacement of any of its leaders or any amendments made to the bylaws within ten day as from the date of issuing the decision or affecting the change or the amendment.

Article 25-

A. Any person who receives any funds from non-Jordanian bodies for the benefit of the party shall be subject to the punishment of detention for a period not exceeding two years or penalty not exceeding two thousand Dinars or both punishments, such funds shall be seized and deposited to the account of the Treasury.

B. Any person participates in a non-licensed party or a party that did not announce itself according to the provisions of this law shall be subject to a punishment of detention for a period not exceeding six months or a penalty not exceeding five hundred Dinars or both punishments.

C. Any person who forms a military or paramilitary organization shall be subject to the provisions of the Penal Code.

D. Any person who commits a violation contradictory to the provisions of this Law shall be subject to detention for a period not exceeding three months or a penalty not exceeding two hundred Dinars unless other punishment is observed for such a violation. In case of repetition of such a violation, both punishments jointly apply.

Article 26-

A. It's permissible to dissolve the party according to the court's ruling upon a lawsuit filed by the Minister for the party's breach of any of the provisions of Clauses 2 and 3 of Article 16 of the Constitution.

Further, the court may render a ruling for suspending the party's

activity upon a request presented by the Minister; the suspension ruling shall be considered annulled if the Minister does not file a lawsuit for dissolving the party within a period of eight days as from the date of notifying the latter with that ruling.

B. The Minister may authorize the head of the administrative prosecution or one of its assistants to file any case under this article, to submit any application or pleading the case requires, and to request or take all the necessary actions including introducing evidence, pleadings and notifications.

C. The court shall render its final decision in any litigation under this article within a period not exceeding sixty days as from the date of registering the case thereof.

Article 27- each party shall have to rectify its situation according to the provisions of this Law within a period not exceeding one year as of the date of putting the provisions of this Law into effect, in case the ratification process is not completed within this period, the party shall be legally considered dissolved.

Article 28- the Cabinet Council issues the regulations necessary for implementing the rules of this Law.

Article 29- the Political Parties Law No. 32 of 1992 shall be repealed.

Article 30- the Prime Minister and Ministers are responsible for implementing the rules of this Law.