



## Media Newsletter

November 2022

### News | Politics and Society Institute honors Dr. Azmi Mahaftha and chooses Eng. Mohammed Saqr as his successor.

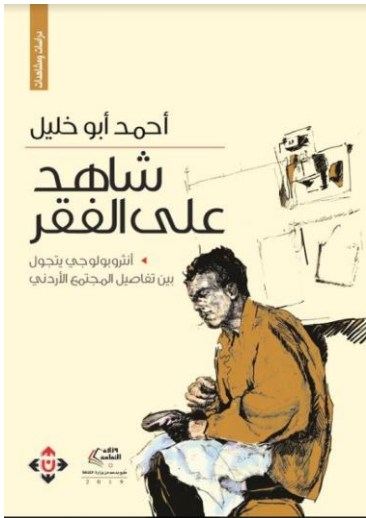
The honorary president of the Politics and Society Institute, Shaker bin Zaid, presented an honorary plaque to the former chairman of the Board of Trustees of the institute, Dr. Azmi Mahaftha, after the issuance of a royal decree to appoint him Minister of Education and Higher Education. In addition, the Board of Trustees of the Politics and Society Institute chose Eng. Muhammad Saqr to succeed Dr. Mahaftha as chairman of the board.



## Book Discussions | Politics and Society Institute forum for writers discusses the book “Witness to Poverty.”

The Politics and Society Institute’s forum for writers held a discussion session including a group of young people and activists to discuss “Witness to Poverty” with its author, writer and researcher Ahmed Abu Khalil. The session sought to identify ways to address the issues of poverty that afflict Jordanian society and to talk about the book’s anthropological monitoring of the phenomenon in Jordan.

[For details, please click here.](#)



## Decision Papers | Jordanian Interests in Light of the New European-Gulf Partnership

Despite the many negative effects of the Russian-Ukrainian war on international relations in general and the ensuing crises related to energy prices, food chains, and inflation, these events led to the re-evaluation of the strategic importance of the Middle East and the Arabian Gulf region, particularly in the fields of energy, food, and the global economy. Many politicians and Jordanian, Arab, and European experts participated in a recent discussion workshop on this topic held by the Politics and Society Institute in cooperation with the German Friedrich Ebert Foundation via Zoom. Participants in the workshop, titled “Jordanian Interests in Light of the New European-Gulf Partnership,” indicated that the international uncertainty today constitutes an opportunity to deepen economic integration between the Middle East and the European Union at all levels – not just in the energy regard.

## Who We Are | Politics and Society Institute

PSI is a non-profit and independent research institute that aims, through its work, to achieve stability and prosperity in Jordan and the region and to enhance the frameworks and tools available to understand the region and its societies.

The institute conducts analyses, anticipates changes and risks, and presents creative ideas and practical solutions to help address local and regional challenges in the political, security, economic and social fields, especially those related to demographic shifts and the role of youth in politics and society.

The institute also contributes to clarifying public policies and complex challenges and enhancing the knowledge base of citizens and officials about local and global transformations that define the features of the future.

The institute also plays a role within the system of national values in promoting a culture of moderation, the rule of law, good governance, and the development of democratic life.

However, they warned that achieving the desired goals for the partnership requires learning from previous mistakes by avoiding bilateral agreements and instead moving towards partnerships between “economic blocs” that guarantee the participation of the largest possible number of partners to serve the desired goals and achieve common interests.

“This cooperation between the **European Union** and the **Gulf countries** will constitute an opportunity to reposition the various powers in the region and bring the Gulf and European viewpoints closer on many regional issues on which the two sides previously differed. In addition, these new moves today represent a promising opportunity for partners of both parties – like **Jordan** and **Egypt** – who are able to play a mediating role to enhance cooperation politically, geographically, economically, and culturally...”

[For more details, click here.](#)





**Dialogues | Al-Razzaz from the Politics and Society Institute: “The large number of plans and the lack of implementation result from the weakness of direct and indirect accountability tools.”**

The Politics and Society Institute organized a dialogue session under the title “Youth and the Paths of Modernization: Searching for a Horizon,” in which it hosted the former prime minister, Dr. Azmi Mahaftha, and a number of the members of the institute’s Board of Trustees.

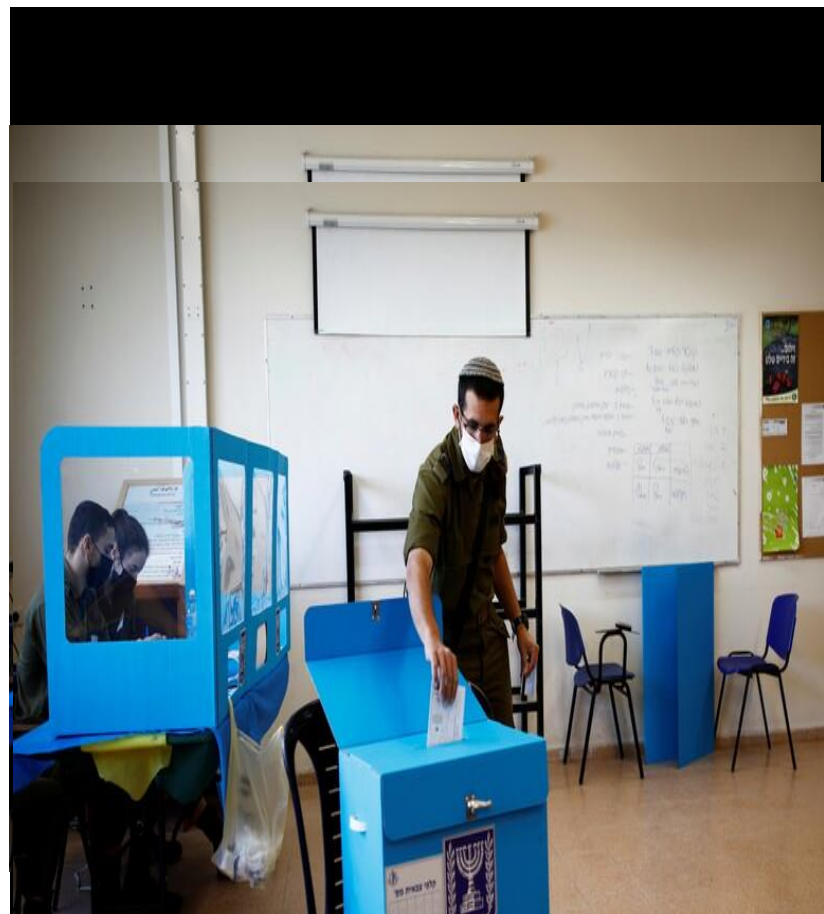
In his speech, Al-Razzaz focused on the importance of accountability – that is, for the citizen to have the opportunity to question the performance of those responsible and the performance of their affiliated institutions in all sectors and at all levels, an embodiment of truly effective citizenship and accountable governments. Al-Razzaz emphasized that the phenomenon that Jordanians know well, the multiplicity of plans and weak implementation, is the result of weak mechanisms of accountability, direct through the citizen and indirect through the Parliament.

It is not enough to say that the current government in Israel is the most right-wing in its history in order to understand the political scene and its expected repercussions. Rather, the main variable to understand is the electoral base of the political forces that entered the Israeli Knesset and have become candidates to lead the Israeli government and politics.

**Decision Papers | The Israeli Elections: A Second Zionist State in Palestine and the Legitimization of Corruption?**

In an assessment of the situation issued by the Politics and Society Institute, Dr. Ahmed Jamil Azm, a Palestinian writer and researcher in political science and international relations, discusses the recent Israeli elections and raises questions about a second Zionist state in Palestine and the legitimization of corruption.

[For more details, click here.](#)





## News | Politics and Society Institute begins assisting political parties in preparing their strategies and operational plans.

The Politics and Society Institute began assisting the political parties in preparing strategies and operational plans through the “Strategic Planning Project for Political Parties.”

This step comes after the institute held a special training for the party working groups last month.

## Projects | The Politics and Society Institute signs an agreement to implement the "Our Community Story" project in 6 governorates.

The Politics and Society Institute concluded an agreement with the U.S. Embassy in Amman to implement a project targeting young men and women in 6 different governorates of Jordan. The project will equip these young people with modern digital storytelling tools and skills to tell stories of their choosing based on the most important issues in their communities.

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How do we share our stories using digital tools?

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