RASED RECOMMENDS SPEEDING UP JUDICIAL PROCEDURES RELATED TO CASES OF CORRUPT MONEY

• More than 100 witnesses and defendants in cases related to corrupt money.

• RASED appreciates the Commission’s response to forming field teams for electoral violations.

* This work was carried out by long-term monitors as part of the process of monitoring the parliamentary elections 2020
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Amman, Jordan
Hayat - RASED: As a continuation of the parliamentary election monitoring process for 2020, the RASED Coalition for Election Observation issued a report on the electoral campaign monitoring process. The report included a follow-up to the propaganda violations and issues of corrupt money, at Jordan’s electoral level, and in this context, the coordinator of the RASED Coalition, Dr. Amer Bani Amer responded to the Independent Election Commission’s response to building teams at the electoral level to follow up and monitor irregularities. RASED recommended the formation of teams at the electoral district level prior to the registration stage for candidates.

In the context of follow-up, it was found that the commission heard 100 witnesses or complaints related to cases of corrupt money, as 12 cases were transferred to the public prosecutor, and 4 cases to the security services, but the cases transferred so far have not issued any final judgments. Here, we demand that the judicial procedures are speeded up and the issuance of judgments related to them, because this confirms the will of the Jordanian government to combat the phenomenon of corrupt money, and to contribute to enhancing the citizens’ confidence in the procedures related to the electoral process.

At the level of the governorates, it was found that the capital, Amman, was the highest with 37% of the total cases related to corrupt money at the Jordanian level, followed by the Balqa Governorate with 11% of the total cases, and then the Karak governorate with 6%.

In the same context, the number of violations related to electoral campaigning reached more than 350 violations in all departments of Jordan, which the commission dealt with by removals and follow-ups. Violations varied between publishing propaganda campaigns on social media prior to the legal period for starting the campaigns and using royal photos in the videos of male and female candidates. Violations related to charity parcels were detected in quarantined areas, and a former MP was spotted using his car’s red license plate after the dissolution of The Parliament, and some attacks on candidates’ propaganda boards were reported in Amman’s Fifth electoral district, Mafraq and Balqa Governorates.

With regard to candidates’ withdrawals, the number of official withdrawals, up to 102020/20/, reached 13 official withdrawal requests, and they were published on the website of the Independent Election Commission. Then each of Karak, Ajloun, Jerash, and Amman’s third district with only one withdrawal, and in this context, RASED stresses the need to draw attention to the nature of these withdrawals, study them, and demonstrate their impact on the candidate electoral lists, especially since there was a long period of time before the candidacy process, where candidates could have framed their plans for the campaigning process.