

Preparing for Orderly Change in Jordan When the Time Comes

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ABOUT THE AUTHORS



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The kingdom has navigated tricky successions in the past, and many of the elements that allowed it to do so remain in place today.

The Washington Institute has been sponsoring a series of discussions about sudden succession in the Middle East. Each session focuses on scenarios that might unfold if a specific ruler or leader departed the scene tomorrow. Questions include these: Would the sudden change lead to different policies? Would it affect the stability of the respective countries involved, or the region as a whole? What would be the impact on U.S. interests? Would the manner of a leader's departure make a difference? The discussions also probe how the U.S. government might adjust to the new situation or influence outcomes.

This essay, the fourteenth and last in the [series \(https://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/series/sudden-succession-essay-series\)](https://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/series/sudden-succession-essay-series), looks at prospects for an eventual succession in Jordan. Even as the kingdom today is dealing with serious economic, regional, and political challenges, Hussein bin Abdullah—the twenty-seven-year-old crown prince—faces no challenges and has steadily assumed more public responsibilities. Jordan has navigated tricky successions in the past, and many of the elements that allowed it to do so remain in place today. The next handover could therefore be smooth as well, whatever the complexities of its context. ❖

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