

# From Hussein to Abdullah:

## Jordan in Transition

by [Robert Satloff \(/experts/robert-satloff\)](/experts/robert-satloff)

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### ABOUT THE AUTHORS



[Robert Satloff \(/experts/robert-satloff\)](/experts/robert-satloff)

Robert Satloff is the Segal Executive Director of The Washington Institute, a post he assumed in January 1993.



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**C**hange in Jordan has come swiftly and remarkably smoothly. The new king--Abdullah II--has adopted as his mantra the promise of "continuity" of his father's policies, yet he has already displayed ingenuity and cunning, especially on internal matters. Nevertheless, the challenges to Abdullah remain acute. Once this honeymoon period ends, Abdullah will have little time to provide real answers to Jordan's pressing problems. A policy of "continuity" will not suffice. His major test will be to discern when to apply his father's answers and when to provide his own.

## THE AUTHOR

**R**obert Satloff is the executive director of The Washington Institute. He is the author of numerous works on Jordanian history and politics, including *From Abdullah to Hussein: Jordan in Transition* (Oxford, 1994) and *Troubles on the East Bank: Challenges to the Domestic Stability of Jordan* (Praeger, 1986). Dr. Satloff wrote this Policy Focus after visiting Jordan while on research sabbatical in the Middle East in March 1999. ❖

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