



## COI QUERY

<b>Country of Origin</b>	<b>JORDAN</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Re-admission to Jordan of Palestinians with Temporary Passports</b>
<b>Reference period</b>	June 2020 – 20 February 2023
<b>Topic(s)</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><a href="#">Entry requirements and procedures for Palestinians with temporary passport issued by Jordanian government</a><ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><a href="#">Entry requirements and procedures for Palestinians with expired temporary passport issued by Jordanian government</a></li></ol></li><li><a href="#">Possibility to renew temporary passports issued by Jordanian government from abroad</a></li></ol>
<b>Date of completion</b>	21 February 2023
<b>Query Code</b>	Q5-2023
<b>Contributing EU+ COI units (if applicable)</b>	N/A

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### Disclaimer

This response to a COI query has been elaborated according to the [EASO COI Report Methodology](#) and [EASO Writing and Referencing Guide](#).

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All sources used are referenced and cited in the bibliography section. A quality review has been performed in line with the above mentioned COI methodology. This document does not claim to be exhaustive or conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim to international protection. If a certain event, person or organisation is not mentioned in the report, this does not mean that the event has not taken place or that the person or organisation does not exist. Terminology used should not be regarded as indicative of a particular legal position.

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## COI QUERY RESPONSE – Jordan

### Re-admission to Jordan of Palestinians with Temporary Passports

#### 1. Entry requirements and procedures for Palestinians with temporary passport issued by Jordanian government

In Jordan, there are more than 2 million Palestinian refugees registered with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).<sup>1</sup>

As of 2021, there were four groups of Palestinians residing in Jordan.<sup>2</sup> The first group, comprising of Palestinians migrated to Jordan and the Jordan-controlled West Bank after the Arab-Israeli war in 1948, were granted full citizenship. The second group, comprising Palestinians migrated to Jordan after the 1967 war with no residency entitlement in the West Bank, were also granted full citizenship. The third group was made of Palestinians who migrated to Jordan after the 1967 war but still holding residency in the West Bank. Individuals belonging to this third group were not granted citizenship, but they could obtain temporary travel documents without national identification numbers, provided they did not also hold a travel document issued by Palestinian Authority. The fourth group is comprised of Palestinians and their children who fled Gaza after the 1967 war. This group was not granted citizenship, it was instead provided with temporary travel documents without national numbers.<sup>3</sup> This latter group, also known as “ex-Gazan” refugees, comprises a population ranging from 158 000<sup>4</sup> to 174 000.<sup>5</sup> The rights of the ‘ex-Gazan’ refugees in Jordan are described as limited and their living conditions as vulnerable due to several legal restrictions.<sup>6</sup> As of 2021, these Palestinians were unable to access government service, such as health and social service support, and were almost completely dependent on UNRWA.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> UNRWA, Where We Work – Jordan, last updated: March 2018, [url](#)

<sup>2</sup> As noted by the USDOS, an additional category not included in the 4 groups described here are the Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS), see USDOS, 2021 Country Report on Human Rights Practices: Jordan, 12 April 2022, [url](#)

<sup>3</sup> USDOS, 2021 Country Report on Human Rights Practices: Jordan, 12 April 2022, [url](#)

<sup>4</sup> UNRWA, Protection in Jordan, last updated March 2018, [url](#)

<sup>5</sup> USDOS, 2021 Country Report on Human Rights Practices: Jordan, 12 April 2022, [url](#)

<sup>6</sup> UNRWA, Protection in Jordan, last updated March 2018, [url](#)

<sup>7</sup> USDOS, 2021 Country Report on Human Rights Practices: Jordan, 12 April 2022, [url](#)



Under the law, ‘ex-Gazan’ Palestinians are treated as foreigners<sup>8</sup> and the foreigners’ rights are established in the Law No. 24 of 1973 on Residence and Foreigners' Affairs.<sup>9</sup> Whereas provisions for persons who are entitled to Jordanian nationality are established on the Law No. 6 of 1954 on Nationality (last amended 1987).<sup>10</sup>

The websites of the Civil Status and Passports Department of Jordan (CSPD), describes the different procedures for issuing a ‘first time’ temporary passport for West Bankers<sup>11</sup> and for issuing for a ‘first time’ temporary passport for people from the Gaza Strip.<sup>12</sup>

Within the reference period of this COI Query Response, updated information on entry and exit requirements for Palestinians who hold a temporary passport issued by the Jordanian authorities could not be found among all public sources consulted within the limited time for drafting this document.

In 2020, the Danish Immigration Service (DIS) published a report based on a fact-finding mission to Jordan, addressing – *inter alia* – the possibilities and requirements for Palestinians to entry and re-entry Jordan.<sup>13</sup> According to the DIS report, the Jordanian authorities do generally not accept forced returns of Palestinians without citizenship to Jordan.<sup>14</sup>

## **1.1 Entry requirements and procedures for Palestinians with expired temporary passport issued by Jordanian government**

Among the open sources consulted within the reference period of June 2020 to 20 February 2023, no information on entry requirements and procedures for Palestinians with expired temporary passports issued by the Jordanian government could be found.

According to the official website of the Government of Jordan, the application for a renewal of a temporary Jordanian passports for Palestinians within Jordan can be completed at the Ministry of Interior, and it can take between 10-14 days.<sup>15</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> Frost L, Ambiguous Citizenship: Protracted Refugees and the State in Jordan, 2020, The George Washington University ProQuest Dissertations Publishing, 28088037, [url](#), p.2; El Abed, O., Immobile Palestinians: ongoing plight of Gazans in Jordan, Forced Migration Review 26 – Palestinian Displacement, August 2006, [url](#), p.1; Frost, L, Report on Citizenship Law: Jordan, Country Report RSC/GLOBALCIT-CR 2022/2, European University Institute, February 2022, [url](#), p.2

<sup>9</sup> Jordan: Law No. 24 of 1973 on Residence and Foreigners' Affairs, [url](#)

<sup>10</sup> Jordan: Law No. 6 of 1954 on Nationality (last amended 1987) [url](#)

<sup>11</sup> Jordan, Civil Status and Passports Department, Services Guide, [url](#)

<sup>12</sup> Jordan, Civil Status and Passports Department, Services Guide, [url](#)

<sup>13</sup> Between 1 - 6 March 2020, the Country of Origin Information Division of the Danish Immigration Service conducted a fact-finding mission to Amman, Jordan where they conducted a series of interviews with UNRWA, Western embassies and a Jordanian governmental body. For more information on the scope and methodology of the report see Denmark, DIS, COI Report Palestinian Refugees: Access to registration and UNRWA services, documents, and entry to Jordan, June 2020, Introduction and methodology, [url](#), pp. 4-5

<sup>14</sup> Denmark: DIS, COI Report Palestinian Refugees: Access to registration and UNRWA services, documents, and entry to Jordan, June 2020, [url](#), p. 33

<sup>15</sup> Jordan, Ministry of Interior, Application for the Renewal of a Temporary Jordanian Passport, n.d., [url](#)



Interviewed by DIS in 2020, Susan Akram, Professor at Boston University Law and expert on Palestinian refugees, explained that most temporary passports issued to Palestinians are not renewed, including the five-year duration passports issued to Palestinian Jordanians. The same source further noted that the practice of denying the renewal of these passports has intensified since the implementation of the so-called ‘Jordan First policy’, according to which ‘there are no Palestinians, and that the ones who are citizens are Jordanians. Anyone else residing in the country is considered a foreigner.’<sup>16</sup>

## **2. Possibility to renew temporary passports issued by Jordanian government from abroad**

The Jordanian government defines the possibility to renew a temporary passport from abroad and describes the general requirements on the Civil Status and Passport Department website. Applicants outside Jordan can apply through the Jordanian embassy or consulate where they reside. Palestinians from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip must follow different procedures.<sup>17</sup>

Information on the modalities to renew the temporary passports from abroad vary according to some Jordanian embassies' official websites. Differences regard the number and format of the pictures, the fee to be paid, the modalities to hand the documents and the time to process the application.<sup>18</sup>

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<sup>16</sup> Denmark: DIS, COI Report Palestinian Refugees: Access to registration and UNRWA services, documents, and entry to Jordan, June 2020, [url](#), p. 67

<sup>17</sup> Jordan, Civil Status and Passports Department, Services Guide, [url](#); Jordan, Civil Status and Passports Department, Services Guide, [url](#)

<sup>18</sup> Jordan, The Embassy of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in Singapore, Renewal Of A Temporary Jordanian Passport, [url](#); Jordan, Embassy of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Consular Services, [url](#); Jordan, The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan Canberra, Instructions for Renewal or Issuance of Temporary Passports, [url](#); Jordan, The Embassy of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in Brussels, Renewing a Jordanian Passport, [url](#); Jordan, Jordanian Embassy in Ottawa, Jordanian Passports, [url](#); Jordan, Jordan Embassy in Germany, Instructions for Renewing the Temporary Jordanian Passport, [url](#); Jordan, The Embassy of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in Malaysia, Jordanian Temporary Passports, [url](#); Jordan, The Jordanian Embassy In Abu Dhabi, Temporary Jordanian passport renewal service (for the people of the Gaza Strip - the people of the West Bank), [url](#); Jordan, The Embassy of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in Cyprus, Services, Procedures for renewing temporary passports – West Bank, [url](#); Jordan, Embassy of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in Cyprus, Services, Procedures for renewing temporary passports – (two years or one year, Gaza), [url](#); Jordan, Embassy of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in Cyprus, Services, Procedures for renewing temporary passports – West Bank, [url](#)



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## **ADDITIONAL SOURCES CONSULTED**

The Jordan Times; Refworld; e-coi.net, Al-Monitor; Middle East Eye