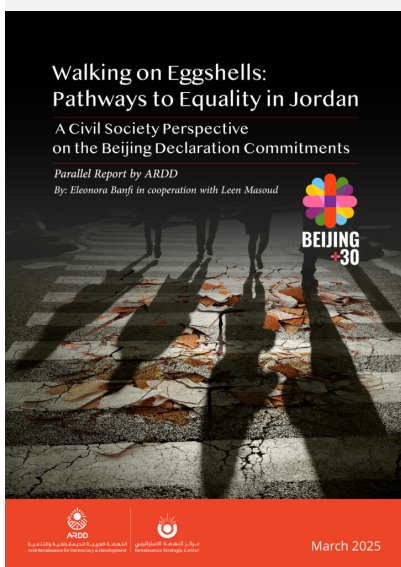




Launch of the “ARDD-Europe” in Brussels: Strengthening Dialogue and Cooperation between Europe and the MENA Region

In a significant move to enhance dialogue and cooperation between the Middle East, North Africa, and Europe, the Arab Renaissance for Democracy and Development (ARDD) has launched the “[Euro-MENA Initiative for Democracy and Development \(ARDD-Europe\)](#)” in Brussels. This new platform aims to foster mutual understanding and build bridges between stakeholders and civil society in both regions. [READ MORE](#)



Walking On Eggshells: Pathways to Equality in Jordan Civil Society Perspective on Beijing’s Commitments

This Shadow Report is an independent civil society assessment of Jordan’s progress over the past five years in implementing the commitments of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BPFA). It provides an evidence-based perspective rooted in grassroots voices and feminist advocacy. [READ MORE](#)



Nobel Peace Laureates Conclude Jordan Visit with Meeting with HRH Prince El Hassan bin Talal”

The Nobel Women’s Initiative delegation concluded its visit to Jordan and the occupied Palestinian territories with a meeting with HRH Prince El Hassan bin Talal and HRH Tharwat El Hassan at Basman Palace on Thursday, April 10, 2025. The meeting was attended by a diverse group of women leaders, experts, and Jordanian activists. [READ MORE](#)

LATEST PUBLICATIONS



A Shared Vision
Activating Arts and Culture to Enhance
Community Engagement and Ownership
of Civic Spaces
Jabal Amman Area as a Case Study April 2025



ARDD
Arabian Renaissance for Democracy & Development



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra
Embassy of Switzerland in Jordan

A Shared Vision: Activating Arts and Culture to Enhance Community Engagement and Ownership of Civic Spaces

This policy brief explores the integration of civic engagement and culture into urban planning in Jordan, using Jabal Amman as a case study to examine how art and cultural initiatives can reshape public spaces and foster inclusive urban development. [READ MORE](#)



Changes in the US Policies and their Impact on Women's Rights and Women Organizations in Jordan

President Trump's administration's decision to globally freeze US foreign development assistance for 90 days, pending reassessment, and to halt all initiatives related to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) sent shockwaves through the humanitarian and development sectors worldwide. [READ MORE](#)



Global Impacts of Shifting US Gender Policies

President Trump administration's rollback of gender-focused policies and foreign aid cuts—totaling over \$8 billion—poses significant challenges for civil society organizations advancing gender equality, reproductive rights, and Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) initiatives. [READ MORE](#)

The Question of Palestine Program



The Next Three Years: Francesca Albanese on her Second Term

[VIDEO LINK](#)



End the Suffering, End the Killing, Stop the Genocide

We unequivocally condemn the resumption of indiscriminate bombing and attacks against Gaza, on the night of Monday 17th March 2025, which has killed at least 410 Palestinians and injured over 500 in the span of one night only—with most of the casualties reaching hospitals being reportedly children. [READ MORE](#)

Social Protection and Economic Development (SPED)



JONAF Members Conclude ARDD-Led Training on Effective Advocacy

As part of the Jordan NGOs Forum (JONAF) efforts to strengthen its advocacy capacity and enhance members' skills to better represent and respond to community needs, the Arab Renaissance for Democracy and Development (ARDD) recently concluded a training program for JONAF members. [READ MORE](#)



Minimum Wage, Maximum Gap: The Limits of Wage Policy in the Arab Region

As the world marked International Workers' Day, the Arab region finds itself grappling with an urgent question: How can wage policies truly reach the workers they are meant to protect, especially in economies where informality is the norm, not the exception? [READ MORE](#)



Labor in the Arab World: Reforms Still on Hold!

As Labor Day on May 1st approaches, it reaffirms the vital role of work in building societies and ensuring economic and social stability. Improving working conditions and safeguarding workers' fundamental rights are

essential for achieving inclusive and equitable development. [READ MORE](#)



On World Water Day: Water Security and Sanitation is still not guaranteed to Jordan's most vulnerable

World Water Day, held on the 22nd of March of every year, is an annual United Nations observance. It strives to celebrate water and encourage action to tackle the global water crisis, in a context where 2.2 billion people worldwide still live without safely managed drinking water. [READ MORE](#)



Global Disability Summit 2025: Towards A Global Partnership to Promote the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

International and governmental institutions working in the field of humanitarian work are anticipating the Global Summit for Persons with Disabilities, which will be held in Berlin from 2 to 3 April 2025, as a “unique opportunity” to improve the lives of persons with disabilities at all levels and in all fields. [READ MORE](#)

Women and Youth Empowerment



ARDD Holds Roundtable on TFGBV and Its Impact on Young Women's Democratic Participation

ARDD's Renaissance Strategic Center(RSC) convened a high-level roundtable on Sunday, May 4, 2025, titled "Online Harm, Offline Consequences: Exploring the Barriers to Young Women's Democratic Participation." [READ MORE](#)



Women Nobel Peace Laureates and Jordanian Human Rights Defenders Call for Collective Action for Peace and Security

In honor of the Nobel Women's Initiative Delegation to Jordan and the Occupied Palestinian Territories, the Arab Renaissance for Democracy and Development (ARDD), in cooperation with Nobel Women's Initiative, held a Roundtable on Wednesday, April 9th 2025, titled "Women's Collective Power to Lead Peace and Security." [READ MORE](#)



ARDD and René Moawad Foundation Sign Partnership Agreement to Enhance Girls' Participation in Decision-Making

As part of the IGNITE project – Inspiring Girls and Grassroots Networks for Inclusive and Transformative Education, the Arab Renaissance for Democracy and Development (ARDD) and the René Moawad Foundation signed a partnership agreement on Tuesday, April 8, 2025, to implement the project “Nidaa for Change” in Jordan, specifically in the governorates of Mafraq and Amman. [READ MORE](#)



Digital Shadows: The Threat of Online Violence Against Women in Jordan

The proliferation of social media platforms is a double-edged sword for women. Since the introduction of social media platforms, women have been using them to not only express their identities but also to advocate for their rights. Social media has become a readily accessible platform for facilitating the harassment of women both online and offline, fueling a new type of violence aptly named Technology-facilitated Gender-Based Violence or TFGBV. [READ MORE](#)

Migration, Forced Displacement, Asylum, and Statelessness in the Arab World Program



Addressing the Humanitarian Health Crisis

By Maria Giovanna Mariani, RSC Intern

Current humanitarian crises are severely affecting health especially for the most vulnerable populations. Approximately 300 million people worldwide need urgent humanitarian assistance, [READ MORE](#)

Arab Transformations

Statement from JICOF



On the Edge: Urgent Action Needed to Safeguard Jordan's Humanitarian and Development Workforce and Services

Jordan's humanitarian and development sector is on the brink of a new crisis. The abrupt suspension of U.S. foreign aid has triggered a wave of mass layoffs, stripping livelihoods from hundreds and threatening the survival of thousands more. Already, 576 individuals have been laid off, with national estimates projecting at least 3,200 job losses by the end of 2025. [READ MORE](#)

JONAF Updates



Five JONAF Members Win Elections for Charitable Associations Unions

In a significant step toward empowering charitable and local associations as well as Jordanian civil society, four members of the Jordan National NGO Forum (JONAF) won elections for charitable and women's associations. These elections were held for the first time under the new unions' system issued in February 2024, with voter turnout reaching 93% for charitable associations and 100% for the women's union, according to the Ministry of Social Development. [READ MORE](#)



Relief aid in the month of Ramadan"... Members of JONAF Respond to the Most Affected Families and Bring Them Back Hope

The efforts of JONAF members from local associations are renewed, proving that they are the most able to touch upon the needs of their

communities and cater to them properly, especially with regard to the distribution of aid and commitment to humanitarian standards, as well as getting access to beneficiaries such as the elderly and people with disabilities, which brought joy to the hearts of hundreds of families. [READ MORE](#)

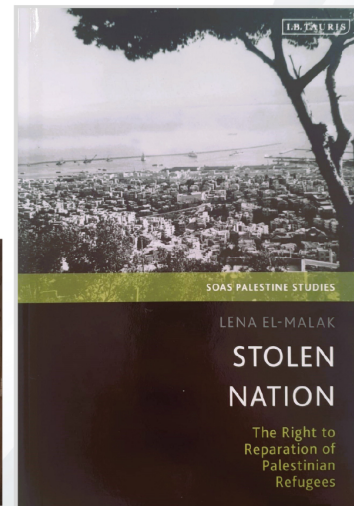
IN-HOUSE EVENTS



مركز النهضة الاستراتيجي
Renaissance Strategic Center

As Part of the 77th Anniversary of Nakba Activities
Book Launch

Stolen Nation: The Right to Reparation of Palestinian Refugees

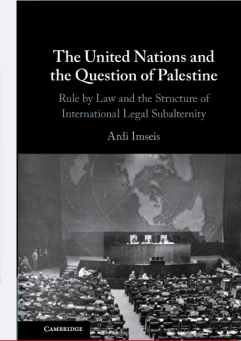


Book Launch: Stolen Nation: The Right to Reparation of Palestinian Refugees

As part of the activities marking the Nakba's 77th Anniversary, independent legal expert and associate member of the Center for Palestine Studies at the School of Oriental and African Studies, Dr. Lena El-Malak presented her timely new book *Stolen Nation: The Right to Reparation of Palestinian Refugees*. In this important work, Dr. El-Malak provides a legal analysis of the right to reparation of Palestinian refugees under international law for the destruction and expropriation of their property during the Nakba.



Book Launch "The United Nations and the Question of Palestine"



Book Launch: The United Nations and the Question of Palestine

In February, RSC welcomed Dr. Ardi Imseis - Associate Professor of Law at Queen's University - for the launch of his book "the United Nations and the Question of Palestine".

In his book, Dr. Imseis critically explores the tensions between the organization's stance and international law, challenging conventional narratives about the UN's commitment to the rule of law in favor of what he describes as an international rule by law.

Upcoming Events

Book Launch

"Identity Building in Jordan and Kuwait: The Strategy of Inclusion and Exclusion"

Book Abstract

This book examines identity construction in Jordan and Kuwait, focusing on the strategies of inclusion and exclusion that have shaped national belonging and citizenship. Drawing from extensive fieldwork, including over 80 semi-structured and 20 unstructured interviews, the study investigates how spatial and narrated identities influence self-perception in these societies.

The research is grounded in the fields of MENA studies, Middle Eastern history, nationalism, minority studies, late Ottoman studies, post-colonialism, and transnationalism. The book contributes to academic discussions on state formation, citizenship, and the sociopolitical dynamics of minority communities in the modern Middle East.

The Book Author



Dr. Odetta Pizzigrilli

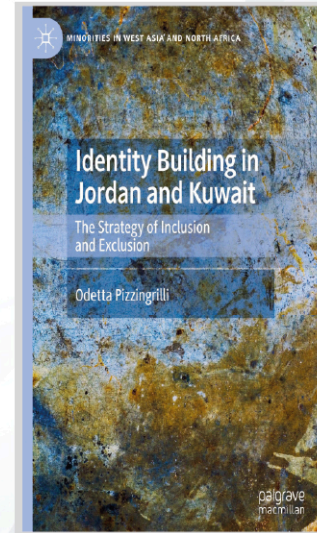
Postdoctoral Researcher at the Department of Civilizations and Forms of Knowledge at the University of Pisa

Moderator



Dr. Mariam Abu Samra

Political Scientist and Coordinator of the Renaissance Strategic Center



Sunday, 18th May, 2025

17:30 - 19:00 Amman Time



Al-Jaabri Hall -ARDD Headquarters
Jabal Amman, Third Circle

Book Launch "Identity Building in Jordan and Kuwait: The Strategy of Inclusion and Exclusion"



مركز النهضة الاستراتيجي

The Renaissance Strategic Center The Renaissance Strategic

Center (RSC) is an independent think tank based in Jordan that operates within the organizational framework of the Arab Renaissance for Democracy and Development (ARDD). It was established by ARDD in 2018 to promote new thinking and policy initiatives to address the multiple challenges confronting the contemporary Arab world. The center is a house of knowledge that enables and hosts inclusive dialogue on various issues pertinent to the Arab world to stimulate innovative social solutions. RSC envisages an Arab world in which the rule of law is fully respected and applied to all who reside within it, with an emphasis on the individual rights of citizenship and participation, and the collective right to self-determination. Our diverse team of researchers, guided by senior advisors, each a leading expert in their field, conduct evidence-based research, on 6 programmatic areas: Access to Justice; Social Protection and Economic Development (SPED); Arab Transformations; The Question of Palestine Program; Migration, Forced Displacement, and Statelessness in the Arab World, Women and Youth Empowerment.

RSC would love to hear from you! Please feel free to reach out to us with any questions or inquiries!

Get involved:

<https://renaissancestrategiccenter.com/get-involved>



Contact information RSC@ar-dd-jo.org **ARDD** www.ar-dd-jo.org

