



NEWSLETTER



KAS AMMAN OFFICE

EDITION 2
September 30, 2010

KAS Events During Summer 2010

KAS Amman has focused on **Cooperation and Political Dialogue** for summer 2010. In July, the office organized joint workshops with its partners on Elections' Observation (with UNIHHRD) and the promotion of media competence among youth in Jordan (with AWMC). The KAS Amman office also participated at the quadrennial World Congress for Middle Eastern Studies international conference in Barcelona, Spain. In September, KAS Amman placed special focus on the **Social Market Economy** and organized with TAGCBB a workshop on Jordan's Competition Law under the patronage of H.E. Amer Al-Hadidi.

Cooperation and Political Dialogue

Bloggers for Elections' Observation - July, with UNIHHRD



A group of young Bloggers during an interactive session on the amendments of the electoral law for 2010

The blogosphere has grown at a substantial rate since the 1990s. In contrast to the specialized interest groups, political action committees or the mass media blogs do not appear to be either very powerful or very visible. However, with the growth of internet use and the emergence of easy-to-use publishing tools, blogging became an important means of communication. Also the youth in Jordan became increasingly interested in blogging as it provides a new simple way to reach people, and to communicate opinions, ideas or events. In the light of the upcoming parliamentary elections KAS and UNIHHRD organized a workshop on July 3 and 4, 2010, to train 40 young bloggers in approaches to monitor elections, and methods to report on the election campaign, the electoral process and the election results.

Media for Youth (M4Y) - July, with AWMC



Dr. Martin Beck and Ms. Mahasin al-Emam, Director of AWMC, delivering a welcome speech

In view of increasing interest from Jordanian youths in new form of media as a means to communicate political ideas and opinions, KAS Amman and the Arab Women Media Center organized a joint workshop from July 7 to 13, 2010, to promote media competences among the younger generations. Ten students from different areas in Jordan interested in journalism and audio visual presentation were chosen to participate in the training course which was conducted by highly qualified professional media representatives. In the course of the workshop the students were acquainted with the technical side of the media industry as well as with the importance of political subjects in the media.

3rd World Congress for Middle Eastern Studies - July, Barcelona



Professor Birgit Schäßler (Erfurt University) at the KAS book stand at WOCMES with Thomas Birringer (KAS Abu Dhabi), Dr. Martin Beck and Professor Carlo Masala (University of the Federal Armed Forces, Munich)

KAS Amman participated at the 2010 quadrennial World Congress for Middle Eastern Studies (WOCMES) international conference in Barcelona. The conference provided KAS Amman - supported by the KAS Regional Program Gulf States - the opportunity to present its work to a knowledgeable and influential audience from

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the Middle East, Europe, and the US where it was able to improve its networks with both the academic world and the media. The KAS Office Amman organized a panel on "The Multi-Level Facet of Middle Eastern Security". KAS Amman also provided a book and information desk which was easily accessible to conference attendees.

Social Market Economy

Jordan's New Draft Competition Law: Achievement Made, Improvement Required - September, with TAGCB (Under the Patronage of the Minister of Industry and Trade, HE Mr. Amr Al-Hadidi)



Mr. Hussein Al-Hamadani lecturing during the first session

A fair market access guarantees not only more economic effectiveness but also curtails monopolies and oligopolies thereby improving the transparency of the market functioning and a fair price system. During the joint workshop of Talal Abu-Ghazaleh and Company International and Konrad Adenauer Stiftung under the patronage of the Minister of Industry and Trade, HE Mr. Amr Al-Hadidi, held on September 27, 2010, experts from the judicial and economic sectors came together to assess the new draft competition law for Jordan and to discuss new possible amendments. Furthermore, the results of the KAS-TAGI working group highly contributed to a lively discussion on different legal aspects of the amendments and the competition law. Participants and experts especially emphasized that Jordanian judges must be educated in the competition law and learn how to assess abuses so that the implementation of the law will be improved in the future to serve the interest of the Jordanian people.

KAS Has A Face



Today's is: Mohammad Qaraman
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Mohammad about Mohammad: With KAS Amman I am working as the financial manager. I am Jordanian but I spent most of my childhood in Vienna. During my youth I was politically active in Amman. Today, I attempt to promote the political consciousness among young Jordanians. In my free time I like doing sports such as jogging. Furthermore, I like reading and listening to music.

Recent Lectures

- **"Mediation in the Arab-Israeli Conflict: What Role Can the EU play?"** Contribution to the Amman Conference on "Justice and Peace Building in the Middle East: Exploring the Role of Third-Party in Mediation Processes, Prospects of Reconciliation in Regional Conflicts" organized by the Lund University, Regional Center for Conflict Prevention and the Jordan Institute of Diplomacy at the Jordan Institute of Diplomacy on August 3, 2010 in Amman.
- **"The Concept of Regional Power as Applied to the Middle East"** in the frame of the panel "(No) Regional Powers in the Middle East" organized by Professor Dr. Henner Fuertig (GIGA Hamburg) on July 21, 2010 at the 3rd WOCMES in Barcelona, Spain.

Recent Publications

- Martin Beck 2010: **Regional Politics in a Highly Fragmented Region**, in: Daniel Flesmes (ed.): Regional Leadership in the Global System. Ideas, Interests and Strategies of Regional Powers, Surrey: Ashgate, 127-148.
- Martin Beck 2010: **The Middle East as a Crisis Region**, in Myriam Dunn Cavelty/Victor Mauer (eds.), Handbook of Security Studies, London: Routledge, 309-318.
- Al-Quds Center for Political Studies and Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (ed.) 2010: **Towards a Civic Democratic Islamic Discourse II - Islam, State and Citizenship**, Amman: Al Quds Center for Political Studies / Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

Upcoming Events

- **20 Years of German Re-Unification** Opening Ceremony, Amman, October 5 with Goethe Institute and the Jordan University (Under the Patronage of HE Dr. Joachim Heidorn, German Ambassador to Jordan)
- **Women's Rights in Society and Politics** Workshop, Beirut, October 11 to 13 with the Jordanian Center for Civic Education Studies
- **Presentation of the Publication "Democracy and Elections: History and Testimonies"** Book Launching, Amman, November 4 with the Arab Women Media Center