

Press Review Jordan

30 July to 06 August 2017

Foreign Affairs

- Jordan signed a 107 mil JOD **agreement with Germany**, increasing the support in the form of soft loans and grants from Germany to Jordan to 282 mil JOD in 2017. The support is part of the commitments Germany made in the **London and Brussels conferences** last year. (July 31st, Jordan Times) > [Further information](#)
- The Higher Court has upheld a **sentence on the Jordanian soldier** who killed **three U.S. soldiers** last year in November. The sentence was hotly debated as members of the **Hweitat tribe** (the tribe of the soldier) have called the sentence "politically motivated". The military has released the video showing the incidence and the apparent surrender of U.S. troops. (August 4th, Jordan Times) > [Further information](#)
- The Jordanian government has cautiously allowed an **Israeli investigation** to be conducted concerning the **embassy shooting** of last month. The probe will examine whether the measures by the Israeli guard were justified. (August 5th, Jordan Times) > [Further information](#)

Domestic Politics

- Lawmakers have approved **amendments to the Penal Code**, increasing sentences and fees for felonies ranging from terrorism to money laundering and cybercrime. **Article 98**, formerly providing "mitigating" circumstances" for perpetrators in a "tantrum", has been amended and the respective **part has been scratched**. (July 31st, Jordan Times) > [Further information](#)
- In a different vote, the controversial **Art. 308** has been **scraped** by the lower house. The article allows men who have raped a woman to avert prosecution if he marries its victim and the marriage lasts for more than 3 years. After a heated debate over whether to amend the article or scrape it altogether, lawmakers decided to go with the **government's recommendation**. (August 1st, Jordan Times) > [Further information](#)
- The Trade Union federation has issued **freelance work permits** for **Syrian refugees** in Jordan. This allows for an expansion of economic opportunity while minimising economic competition between Syrians and Jordanians and allowing for equal pay. (August 5th, Jordan Times) > [Further information](#)

Economy

- The multitude of procedures necessary for an investor to conduct business in Jordan has now been replaced by a **single security**

approval to incentivize investments. Furthermore the time period needed to conduct both the single security procedure and similar bureaucratic measures have been reduced. (August 5th, Jordan Times) > [Further information](#)