

URGENT ACTION

AYMAN SANDUKA'S SENTENCE UPHELD

On September 15, 2025, Jordan's State Security Court upheld its conviction and five-year prison sentence of political activist, Ayman Sanduka. Ayman Sanduka appealed the September 2025 conviction. In December 2025, the Court of Cassation rejected the appeal. Ayman Sanduka was tried for a Facebook post he wrote in October 2023 addressed to the King of Jordan, in which he criticized Jordan's diplomatic relations with Israel. The Jordanian authorities must drop all charges and immediately and unconditionally release Ayman Sanduka who is detained for exercising his right to freedom of expression.

TAKE ACTION:

- Write a letter to the government official(s) listed. Use the sample letter below as a guide or use your own words.
- [Click here](#) to report your action(s) on **Third UA 26.24**. We share this number with the officials we are trying to persuade.

His Majesty King Abdullah II ibn Al Hussein

Royal Hashemite Court

Amman, Jordan

X: @KingAbdullahII

Send a copy of your letter to the address below

CC: Jordanian Embassy in the United States

Ambassador Dina Kawar

3504 International Drive, NW,

Washington DC 20008

Email: hkjconsular@jordanembassyus.org

Your Majesty,

I am concerned that political activist and mathematics professor **Ayman Sanduka's** appeal to the Court of Cassation was rejected in December 2025, and that Ayman Sanduka is continuing to serve the five-year prison sentence handed down by the State Security Court (SSC) in September 2025 for exercising his right to freedom of expression.

On January 7, 2025, the SSC convicted Ayman Sanduka in relation to a Facebook post addressed to you, the King, in October 2023, in which he criticized Jordan's diplomatic relations with Israel. In July 2025, the Court of Cassation ruled that Ayman Sanduka's post did not amount to "incitement to oppose the political regime" but instead "fell under the lesser offense of 'insulting the King,'" which carries a maximum prison term of three years, and ordered the case to be retried.

The SSC was legally bound under Article 10(c) of the SSC Law to comply with the Court of Cassation's July 2025 decision. However, instead, on September 15, 2025, the SSC upheld its original ruling convicting Ayman Sanduka of "incitement to oppose the political regime" and to 5 years in prison.

I urge you to ensure that Ayman Sanduka is immediately and unconditionally released as he has been convicted solely for exercising his right to freedom of expression. Pending his release, I urge you to ensure that he is protected from torture and other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment and has access to adequate medical care on request or as necessary.

Yours sincerely,

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Ayman Sanduka was initially summoned by the public prosecutor on December 18, 2023, in relation to Facebook posts expressing pro-Palestinian sentiments, including a call for a general strike in support of Gaza. On December 21, 2023, the State Security Court (SSC) prosecutor summoned and detained Ayman Sanduka in relation to a letter he posted on Facebook in October 2023 addressed to the King of Jordan in which he criticized Jordan's diplomatic relations with Israel.

According to his lawyer, Ayman Sanduka continues to be detained in Al-Tafilah prison, which is about 300 km from his hometown, making it very hard for his family to visit him.

On January 23, 2024, Ayman Sanduka was transferred from Marka prison in Amman to Al-Tafilah prison. Security forces also subjected him to verbal humiliation, and, during his transfer, tightly tied his hands and feet. On January 24, 2024, a criminal court sentenced Ayman Sanduka in another case to three months in prison on charges of "defaming an official body", under the new Cybercrime Law.

On February 12, 2024, the SSC prosecutor charged Ayman Sanduka of "incitement to oppose the political regime", under article 149 of the Penal Code. On January 7, 2025, the SSC convicted Ayman Sanduka of "incitement to oppose the political regime," under Article 149 of the Penal Code and Article 15 of the Cybercrimes Law and sentenced him to five years in prison. While the sentence was formally issued as five years of labor under Article 149, in practice, this equates to a term of imprisonment.

Since the October 2023 Israeli offensive in Gaza, the Jordanian authorities have weaponized overly broad laws, including articles in the Penal Code and the Cybercrimes Law, to target and harass journalists, activists, and others for expressing opinions online that are critical of government policies towards Israel. By 2024, Amnesty International had [documented](#) the cases of 15 individuals who were prosecuted under the Penal Code and the Cybercrimes Law after criticizing the authorities online. In all these cases, the authorities violated the defendants' rights, including by arresting them without a warrant, failing to inform them of the reasons for their summons or the charges against them, questioning them without a lawyer and using psychological coercion and intimidating tactics during their interrogation or trial.

PREFERRED LANGUAGE TO ADDRESS TARGET: English, Arabic, or your own language.

PLEASE TAKE ACTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE UNTIL: November 13, 2026

NAME AND PRONOUN: Ayman Sanduka (he/him)