

Political and Civil Rights in the Middle East

FREEDOM OF IDEAS

Country	Free Media (uncensored)	Freedom to Criticize Religion	Academic Freedom	Free Artistic Expression	Free Entry of Foreign Arts/Books/Press
Egypt	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Iran	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Iraq	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Jordan	NO	NO	PARTIAL	PARTIAL	PARTIAL
Libya	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Saudi Arabia	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Syria	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Israel	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

Sources: Freedom House Reports 2000 at www.freedomhouse.org; US Dep't of State, Human Rights Reports, 1999 at www.state.gov/g/drl/hr/c1470.htm; United Nations Arab Human Development Report, 2002, p.2 at www.undp.org.

CIVIL RIGHTS

Country	Free Speech and Assembly	Fair and Open Trials	Religious Freedom Protected	Freedom House Rating* Scale 1-7
Egypt	Minimal	NO	NO	5
Iran	NO	NO	NO	6
Iraq	NO	NO	NO	7
Jordan	Limited	Limited	Limited	4
Lebanon	Limited	NO	Limited	5
Libya	NO	NO	NO	7
Palestinian Authority	NO	NO	Limited	6
Saudi Arabia	NO	NO	NO	7
Sudan	NO	NO	NO	7
Syria	NO	NO	NO	7
USA	YES	YES	YES	1
United Kingdom	YES	YES	YES	2
Israel	YES	YES	YES	2

Facts about Arabs living in Israel

- 1.2 million Arab-Israelis live within Israel.
- Arab-Israelis make up 18-20% of the total population.
- Arabic is an official language and on equal footing with Hebrew.
- Arabs hold 12 of 120 seats in the Israeli parliament.
- There are 5 official Arab parties.
- All Arab municipalities receive government funding for education and infrastructure.

For more information, see www.knesset.gov.il, www.cbs.co.il, www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/mideast/israel.htm, www.state.gov/g/drl/hr/c1470.htm

KNOW THE FACTS

BEFORE YOU FORM AN OPINION ABOUT THE MIDDLE EAST

For more facts about the Middle East: www.StandWithUsCampus.com