

## Constitutional Protection of Patient Privacy in the Digital Age during a Health Emergency

Jehad D. Aljazi<sup>1</sup>, Abdullah Ehjelah<sup>2</sup>, Yusuf Mohammed Gassim Obeidat<sup>3</sup>, Bahaeddin M.S. Khwaira<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1,2,3</sup>Faculty of Law, Yarmouk University, Jordan

<sup>4</sup>College of Law, Lusail University, Qatar

Corresponding Author: [jehad.aljazi@yu.edu.jo](mailto:jehad.aljazi@yu.edu.jo)

### ARTICLE INFO

#### Article History

Received: October 1, 2025

Revised: December 11, 2025

Accepted: December 27, 2025

#### Keywords

Patient Privacy;

Social Media;

Constitutional Right;

COVID-19 Pandemic;

Health Emergency

This is an open-access article under the CC-BY-SA license



### ABSTRACT

This study aims to analyze the protection of patient privacy in the digital space in Jordan, focusing on the impact of social media on individuals' health data and assessing the adequacy of the current legislative framework. The study contributed to clarifying the scope of constitutional and legal protection of patients' right to privacy in the relevant legislation against violations committed through social media platforms. It also analyzed the Defense Order on protecting the privacy of COVID-19 patients and highlighted the psychological impact of violating their privacy. This study employs a doctrinal legal research method that relies on a legislative and constitutional analysis approach to Jordanian privacy law. The results showed that privacy is no longer confined to traditional dimensions but has extended to the digital space, which represents an integral part of personal identity. The study also demonstrated that social media provides an environment vulnerable to health data violations, exposing patients to defamation and social stigma. Although Jordanian legislation provides constitutional protection for privacy, it lacks effective enforcement tools to address digital violations. This study concludes that developing a modern legislative system with clear controls over digital responsibility and raising legal and social awareness are crucial amid numerous violations of patients' constitutional right to privacy, especially during a health emergency. The study recommends that the legislature adopt more effective oversight, accountability, and remedial mechanisms when digital rights are violated, thereby enhancing the state's ability to protect health privacy amid digital transformation.

## Introduction

The contemporary world has witnessed a radical shift in the concept of privacy due to the digital revolution and the open spaces it has created, enabling the exchange of personal data on an unprecedented scale.<sup>1</sup> Private information, including individuals' health data, has become vulnerable to immediate disclosure

<sup>1</sup> Federico Tomasello, "From Industrial to Digital Citizenship: Rethinking Social Rights in Cyberspace," *Theory and Society* 52, no. 3 (June 3, 2023): 463–86, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11186-022-09480-6>.

and dissemination via social media without the consent of its owners.<sup>2</sup> This has led to the erosion of the traditional boundaries between private life and the public sphere.<sup>3</sup> These technological changes are no longer merely communication tools; they have transformed into platforms that impact the fundamental rights of individuals, most notably the right to privacy as a cornerstone of human dignity and protection from tracking, defamation, and infringement of one's social standing.<sup>4</sup>

The right to privacy is considered an integral pillar of the Jordanian constitutional system.<sup>5</sup> The Constitution stipulates that personal freedom, the sanctity of private life, and human dignity are rights that may not be infringed upon under any circumstances. Privacy is not an individual privilege subject to absolute restriction; rather, it is a constitutional guarantee closely linked to the right to tranquility and human security.<sup>6</sup>

This right requires preventing any form of tracking or disclosure of personal data without the data subject's consent, including in material, physical, and informational contexts.<sup>7</sup> However, digital advancements have posed new challenges that require a reinterpretation of these constitutional provisions to keep pace with the contemporary electronic reality.<sup>8</sup> Thus, the need arose to expand the scope of constitutional privacy protection to include "digital privacy," prohibiting automated tracking and halting the circulation or dissemination of individuals' health data in a manner that would compromise their psychological and social well-being. This development represents a shift in the concept of fundamental rights, as patients are now threatened not only in their physical bodies but also in their digital existence.

---

<sup>2</sup> Robert M A van der Boon et al., "Risks and Benefits of Sharing Patient Information on Social Media: A Digital Dilemma," *European Heart Journal - Digital Health* 5, no. 3 (May 20, 2024): 199–207, <https://doi.org/10.1093/ehjdh/ztae009>.

<sup>3</sup> Frei Fitri Astuti and Laila Nur Jannah, "Flexibility in Accessing Legal Information Through Social Media and Its Implications for Law Enforcement," *Journal of Indonesian Constitutional Law* 2, no. 1 (March 5, 2025): 23–36, <https://doi.org/10.71239/jicl.v2i1.37>.

<sup>4</sup> Giancarlo Frosio and Christophe Geiger, "Taking Fundamental Rights Seriously in the Digital Services Act's Platform Liability Regime," *European Law Journal* 29, no. 1–2 (January 21, 2023): 31–77, <https://doi.org/10.1111/eulj.12475>.

<sup>5</sup> Tareq Al-Billeh, "Legal Framework for Protecting the Right to Private Life in the Digital Space: The Extent to Which Jordanian Constitution and Legislation Takes into Account International Requirements," *Revista de Investigações Constitucionais* 11, no. 1 (July 30, 2024): 258, <https://doi.org/10.5380/rinc.v11i1.90631>.

<sup>6</sup> Amal A. Abuanzeh and Muhammad Alshurideh, "Cyberspace and Criminal Protection of Privacy in the Jordanian Legislation Under the Corona Pandemic: A Comparative Study," in *Proceedings of the 8th International Conference on Advanced Intelligent Systems and Informatics 2022* (Cham: Springer Cham, 2023), 540–57, [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-20601-6\\_45](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-20601-6_45).

<sup>7</sup> Eugenia Politou et al., *Privacy and Data Protection Challenges in the Distributed Era*, vol. 26, Learning and Analytics in Intelligent Systems (Cham: Springer International Publishing, 2022), <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-85443-0>.

<sup>8</sup> Rini Jarwati Indah N. C et al., "Freedom of Expression in the Spread of Hoax News on Social Media Between Indonesia and South Korea," *Journal of Indonesian Constitutional Law* 1, no. 3 (December 28, 2024): 246–62, <https://doi.org/10.71239/jicl.v1i3.12>.

Protecting patient privacy is an essential part of protecting the right to privacy. The confidentiality of health data is a pivotal element in preserving human dignity and trust in the healthcare system.<sup>9</sup> Jordanian legislation, such as the Medical and Health Liability Law No. 25 of 2018, prohibits the disclosure of patient confidentiality by healthcare providers, whether through direct access or by any other means.<sup>10</sup> Publishing a patient's health data online or on social media without their explicit consent constitutes a violation of their personal information, leads to psychological and social harm, and threatens their sense of security.

The COVID-19 pandemic has posed a true test of the ability of legislation to protect privacy amid the digital revolution. Social media has witnessed the widespread dissemination of personal information, photos, and medical reports of infected people. Jordanian Defense Order No. (8) of 2020, issued pursuant to the Defense Law of 1992, responded to this phenomenon.<sup>11</sup> It criminalized the publication or circulation of any data related to those infected with the virus, affirming that violating patients' privacy in the digital space constitutes a legal and criminal assault on the right to privacy.<sup>12</sup> This experience highlights the importance of clear legislative texts that adapt to digital challenges to provide real protection for those infected by digital abuse.

The importance of this topic stems from its addressing one of the most serious challenges facing humanity in the digital age: protecting patients' privacy from digital violations on social media. These violations not only affect the legal aspect but also affect human dignity, the sanctity of one's body, and the confidentiality of one's health information. This gives the research a humanitarian and ethical character before it is a legal one.

The problem this research addresses is the extent to which Jordanian constitutional texts protect patient privacy from digital violations on social media, especially during a health emergency. Do these texts constitute an actual and effective guarantee, or is true protection provided only within the framework of exceptional legislation such as defense orders? The research also aims to demonstrate the extent to which legislative measures issued during the COVID-19 pandemic are compatible with constitutional principles, particularly the principle of proportionality between rights and restrictions. It also seeks to uncover legislative shortcomings and provide a legal vision that contributes to the development of the

---

<sup>9</sup> Nahla Alwirfili, "The Right to Privacy in the Digital Age," *Al-Haq Journal for Sharia and Legal Sciences* 14 (December 2, 2024): 139–57, <https://doi.org/10.58916/alhaq.vi.242>.

<sup>10</sup> Yaser Jalghoum et al., "Challenges to Healthcare Information Systems Development: The Case of Jordan," *International Journal of Healthcare Management* 14, no. 2 (April 3, 2021): 447–55, <https://doi.org/10.1080/20479700.2019.1658159>.

<sup>11</sup> Saif Ziad Aljunidi et al., "Constitutional Constraints on Jordan's Defense Law: A Covid-19 Case Study," *Malaysian Journal of Syariah and Law* 13, no. 2 (August 31, 2025): 339–64, <https://doi.org/10.33102/mjssl.vol13no2.1152>.

<sup>12</sup> Mishael Mohammad Alraggad, "Improving Criminal Law in Jordan: Challenges of Our Time," *International Journal of Religion* 5, no. 9 (June 3, 2024): 1072–80, <https://doi.org/10.61707/ndqa6a73>.

constitutional system to ensure the protection of patients from any digital assault that violates their dignity.

In light of the above, this research aims to demonstrate the effectiveness of the constitutional protection established for patient privacy in the face of digital violations via social media. It also aims to assess the compatibility of legislative and exceptional measures, such as defense orders, with constitutional principles regarding the preservation of human dignity and personal freedom.

This study aims to address a research gap by examining a topic that prior researchers have not explored: the importance of privacy rights in general contexts, as examined by Mohammed Ali Zaal Al-Shabatat and Ziad Mohammad Al Wahshat. Their research discusses privacy rights broadly, reviews the challenges and risks faced in cyberspace, proposes several solutions to these problems, and explains the legislative, regulatory, and technical mechanisms necessary to protect privacy under Jordanian law<sup>13</sup>. Araram Jaafar and Badr El-Din also focused on the right to privacy, reviewing its definition, distinguishing it from related concepts, and examining various forms of privacy violations in the digital environment. The study also discusses legislative protection of the right to privacy, both in international agreements and national laws, particularly Algerian law.<sup>14</sup> Meanwhile, Aliya Ali Zakaria Ali also examines personal rights, focusing on data protection, but does not address patient privacy rights. Specifically, it addresses Egyptian and French law and reviews several other jurisdictions, but it does not discuss Jordanian law.<sup>15</sup> In addition, this study does not examine patient privacy rights or mechanisms that can be violated by others through social media.

Studies focusing on the protection of privacy rights in the medical sector include research by Talal Faris Al-Aslami, which discusses legal provisions under civil law and other laws regarding patients' civil rights. The report also reviews laws related to patient protection and their rights under the Saudi legal system and Islamic law.<sup>16</sup> However, this study does not discuss the protection of patient privacy rights under Jordanian law, nor does it examine the protection of privacy rights against violations through social media. Ben Issa Ahmed and Ben Al-Akhdar Mohamed discuss in depth the criminal protection of these rights. This study examines several laws, particularly international agreements and Algerian laws

---

<sup>13</sup> Mohammed Ali Zaal Al-Shabatat and Ziad Mohammad Al Wahshat, "The Right to Privacy in the Digital Era" *Al-Zaytoonah University of Jordan Journal for Legal studies* 6, no.3, (2025) 67-84. file:///C:/Users/yarmouk/Desktop/2025.7.4.pdf

<sup>14</sup> Araram Jaafar and Mohammedi Badr El-Din, "Legislative Development from the Right to Private Life to the Right to Privacy," *Journal of Law and Political Sciences* 9, no. 2 (2023): 142–54, <https://asjp.cerist.dz/en/article/238959>.

<sup>15</sup> Aliya Ali Zakaria Ali, "The Protection of Sensitive Medical Personal Data Based on the Development of the Right to Health: A Comparative Study," *Roub Al-Qawanin Journal* 35, no. 104 (September 14, 2023): 111–342, <https://doi.org/10.21608/las.2023.230939.1160>.

<sup>16</sup> Talal Faris Al-Aslami, "Protecting the Civil Rights of Patients in Law in Light of the Saudi Systems," *Journal of Legal and Economic Studies* 11, no. 2 (June 1, 2025): 741–815, <https://doi.org/10.21608/jdl.2025.386748.1529>.

concerning the protection of these rights during the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>17</sup> However, this research does not discuss violations of these rights through social media, nor does it include constitutional dimensions as in our study.

This study distinguishes itself from previous research by focusing on the constitutional and legal dimensions of patient privacy in the digital age, while highlighting the unique context created by the COVID-19 pandemic. Thus, the novelty of this research lies in its combination of legal and constitutional analysis on the one hand, and modern digital analysis on the other, with a focus on relevant Jordanian legislative texts and defence orders. This study also offers a clear and novel contribution by examining patient protection against digital violations, making it a valuable addition to the legal literature on digital rights protection.

## Methods

The study adopted the analytical approach, as it is the most appropriate approach for the topic under investigation. Protecting patients' right to privacy in general, and during the COVID-19 pandemic in particular, cannot be understood without a careful analysis of the legal and constitutional texts governing this field. Relevant articles of the Jordanian Constitution of 1952 were analyzed, particularly those that emphasize the protection of private life and human dignity. Jordanian Defense Law No. (13) of 1992 was also analyzed, as it is the legislative framework that grants the executive authority exceptional powers in the face of emergency circumstances. Defense Order No. (8) of 2020, which includes explicit provisions criminalizing the publication of infected persons' data or the circulation of their health information via social media, was examined in depth. The aim was to determine the constitutionality of these provisions and their effectiveness in achieving genuine protection of the rights under study.

The analysis was not limited to the textual or legislative levels, but also extended to practical application through a study of judicial rulings and the identification of strengths and shortcomings in protecting patient privacy from digital violations. This contributes to developing a critical vision aimed at strengthening the constitutional protection of these rights and establishing the rule of law, even in exceptional circumstances.

## Discussion

### Social Media Platforms and Constitutional Right to Patient Privacy in the Digital Age

Social media has witnessed widespread expansion over the past two decades and has become an integral part of people's daily lives. These platforms offer unlimited possibilities for the instant exchange of information, images, and videos.

---

<sup>17</sup> Ben Issa Ahmed and Ben Al-Akhdar Mohamed, "The Right of Privacy for a Patient with Coronavirus Between Protection and Violation," *Researcher Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences* 13, no. 1 (2021): 191–202, <https://asjp.cerist.dz/en/article/149342>.

This digital revolution has radically changed the concept of privacy, making it easy for anyone to access others' data, including their personal and health information, without requiring their consent.<sup>18</sup>

One of the most prominent of these platforms is Facebook, established in 2004, which has created a vast virtual community connecting millions of users worldwide. Twitter also emerged in 2007, renamed to X, and focused on short messages and instant tweets, enabling information to spread rapidly. In 2009, WhatsApp emerged as an instant messaging platform that enabled easy exchange of messages, images, and files. Instagram and Snapchat, launched in 2011, focused on daily photo and short video sharing, accelerating the rapid and direct dissemination of individuals' personal data. This reflects the ongoing evolution in the design and functionality of these digital social networks.<sup>19</sup>

These platforms constitute a fertile environment for digital violations,<sup>20</sup> particularly with regard to patients' right to privacy. Health information or personal photos can be published without the consent of their owners, leading to psychological and social harm and a violation of human dignity. Hence, the importance of studying these platforms within the context of protecting constitutional rights, to ensure the establishment of legal controls that balance freedom of expression with individuals' right to privacy and digital safety.

Social media is closely related to the right to privacy,<sup>21</sup> and conceptualizing that right is also important for helping readers understand its urgency in today's social media era. The right to privacy is a fundamental human right enshrined in numerous constitutions and international human rights conventions.<sup>22</sup> It is a fundamental pillar for protecting human dignity and constitutes an important cornerstone of any democratic society.<sup>23</sup> It is closely linked to many other rights, such as freedom of expression and freedom of access to information. This right is

---

<sup>18</sup> Rashid O. M. Al-Kasasbeh, "Violation of the Right to Privacy Via Electronic Means," *Political Science & Law Series* 4, no. 2 (2025): 232–43, <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.59759/law.v4i2.797>.

<sup>19</sup> Amit Kumar Tyagi, Richa, and Smita Manohar Gaikwad, "Application and Future Trends in Online Social Networking for the Next Generation," in *Online Social Networks in Business Frameworks* (New Jersey: Wiley, 2024), 133–58, <https://doi.org/10.1002/9781394231126.ch7>.

<sup>20</sup> Ainun Najib et al., "Regulation on Freedom of Expression on Social Media in Indonesia and Malaysia," *Journal of Indonesian Constitutional Law* 1, no. 1 (August 19, 2024): 46–60, <https://doi.org/10.71239/jicl.v1i1.20>.

<sup>21</sup> Sabine Trepte, "The Social Media Privacy Model: Privacy and Communication in the Light of Social Media Affordances," *Communication Theory* 31, no. 4 (November 13, 2021): 549–70, <https://doi.org/10.1093/ct/qtz035>.

<sup>22</sup> Yuval Shany, "Digital Rights and the Outer Limits of International Human Rights Law," *German Law Journal* 24, no. 3 (April 22, 2023): 461–72, <https://doi.org/10.1017/glj.2023.35>.

<sup>23</sup> Abeer Hassan Alubaidi, "The Human Right to Privacy in the Digital Revolution," *Journal of Jurisprudential and Legal Research* 44, no. 44 (January 1, 2024): 1073–1134, <https://doi.org/10.21608/jlr.2024.254785.1333>.

supposed to grant the individual a sense of privacy and freedom, free from interference by others, provided it does not conflict with applicable legislation.<sup>24</sup>

The right to privacy takes several forms, such as the right to privacy of one's name, place of residence, personal address, contact information, marital and family information, and correspondence. It also includes privacy regarding memories and religious and political beliefs, privacy regarding one's financial assets, the right to the sanctity of one's home and shelter, and privacy regarding patients' lives.

Relevant constitutions and legislation have limited themselves to specifying the forms of violation of the right to privacy, leaving it to jurisprudence and the judiciary to define this right. One branch of jurisprudence defines it as: "The right to privacy, i.e., the right of a person to live a peaceful life, or to be left without disturbance or anxiety."<sup>25</sup> Another branch defines it as "the right of an individual to determine for himself the extent to which others share his thoughts and behavior, as well as the facts related to his personal life."<sup>26</sup> It is a natural and fundamental right vis-à-vis the state and individuals, and to guarantee the dignity of the individual and his freedom to determine his destiny."<sup>27</sup>

Since the scope of this research revolves around the violation of the right to privacy through social media, it is necessary to clarify this right by examining its violation through technical means. Therefore, the right to online privacy has been defined as "the right that protects a person's private life by surrounding it with a fence of confidentiality and punishing anyone who attempts to violate it through information systems or the internet."<sup>28</sup>

In this paper, we focus on the right to privacy in all its forms, specifically the right to patient privacy in general and the privacy of COVID-19 patients as a model patient. Therefore, we will clarify the concept of this right as follows:

### 1) *Privacy as a General Constitutional Right*

The right to privacy is one of the most sublime human rights, protected by constitutions and international conventions as a fundamental pillar of personal

---

<sup>24</sup> Baha' aldeen Al hilat and Jihad D. Aljazi, "The Impact of Job Rotation on the Constitutional Rights of Public Employee: A Comparative Study," *An-Najah University Journal for Research - B (Humanities)* 39, no. 2 (February 2025): 81–90, <https://doi.org/10.35552/0247.39.2.2321>.

<sup>25</sup> Dorota Mokrosinska, "Why States Have No Right to Privacy, But May Be Entitled to Secrecy: A Non-Consequentialist Defense of State Secrecy," *Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy* 23, no. 4 (June 6, 2020): 415–44, <https://doi.org/10.1080/13698230.2018.1482097>.

<sup>26</sup> Robert Sprague, "Privacy Self-Management: A Strategy to Protect Worker Privacy from Excessive Employer Surveillance in Light of Scant Legal Protections," *American Business Law Journal* 60, no. 4 (December 21, 2023): 793–836, <https://doi.org/10.1111/ablj.12236>.

<sup>27</sup> Ankit Kumar Jain, Somya Ranjan Sahoo, and Jyoti Kaubiyal, "Online Social Networks Security and Privacy: Comprehensive Review and Analysis," *Complex & Intelligent Systems* 7, no. 5 (October 1, 2021): 2157–77, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40747-021-00409-7>.

<sup>28</sup> Lusine Vardanyan, Ondrej Hamulák, and Hovsep Kocharyan, "Personal Autonomy and Human Corporeality: What Protects the Right to Personal Integrity?," *Internet of Things* 27 (October 2024): 101279, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.iot.2024.101279>.

freedom and human dignity.<sup>29</sup> It includes protecting individuals' privacy and preventing interference, surveillance, or the publication of their data without their consent. Article 7/2 of the Jordanian Constitution of 1952 stipulates that "any infringement upon public rights and freedoms or the sanctity of the private life of Jordanians is a crime punishable by law."<sup>30</sup> This confirms that protecting privacy is not merely a moral obligation, but a binding constitutional obligation.<sup>31</sup> This right extends to protecting personal identity, correspondence, family information, social relationships, and everything within an individual's private life.<sup>32</sup>

## 2) *Patient Health Privacy in the Digital Age*

Patient privacy constitutes an advanced form of the right to privacy, as it is directly linked to bodily integrity and human dignity.<sup>33</sup> With the digital transformation and the growing use of electronic medical technologies and digital records, health data has become more vulnerable to electronic risks and intentional or unintentional breaches via social media. Health information is no longer confined to medical institutions. It can now be shared and disseminated online with a single click, necessitating greater legal protection. Jordanian Medical and Health Liability Law No. 25 of 2018 criminalizes any disclosure of patient confidentiality, recognizing that maintaining the confidentiality of health information is part of the rights to life, dignity, and peace of mind, whether the disclosure occurs in a traditional setting or via electronic means.

Article (8) of the aforementioned law stipulates that "a service provider is prohibited from the following: e. Disclosing the confidentiality of a service recipient that they become aware of during or as a result of practicing their profession, whether the service recipient has entrusted them with this confidentiality or the service provider has learned it themselves." According to this provision, which prohibits the publication of patient confidentiality to anyone who has accessed it by virtue of their work, violating patients' privacy and publishing anything related to their private lives via social media constitutes a flagrant violation of the right to privacy and an assault on it, and constitutes a crime punishable by law.

---

<sup>29</sup> Carly Nyst and Tomaso Falchetta, "The Right to Privacy in the Digital Age," *Journal of Human Rights Practice* 9, no. 1 (February 2017): 104–18, <https://doi.org/10.1093/jhuman/huw026>.

<sup>30</sup> Ali Mohamed Aldabbas, Kamal Jamal Alawamleh, and Worud Jamal Awamleh, "Jordan's Commitment towards Compulsory and Free Basic Education as a Constitutional Right: An Analytical Field Study," *Arab Law Quarterly* 34, no. 4 (July 23, 2020): 356–86, <https://doi.org/10.1163/15730255-BJA10049>.

<sup>31</sup> Mohammed Toriki Bani Salameh and Azzam Ali Ananzah, "Constitutional Reforms in Jordan: A Critical Analysis," *Digest of Middle East Studies* 24, no. 2 (September 27, 2015): 139–60, <https://doi.org/10.1111/dome.12068>.

<sup>32</sup> Oskar J. Gstrein and Anne Beaulieu, "How to Protect Privacy in a Datafied Society? A Presentation of Multiple Legal and Conceptual Approaches," *Philosophy & Technology* 35, no. 1 (March 29, 2022): 3, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13347-022-00497-4>.

<sup>33</sup> Mohammed Al-Maaddawi, "Protection of Users' Informational Privacy through Social Media Networks – A Comparative Study," *Journal of the Faculty of Law and Sharia in Tanta* 33, no. 4 (December 1, 2018): 1926–2057, <https://doi.org/10.21608/mksq.2018.30623>.

### 3) *Privacy of COVID-19 Patients as a Practical Example of the Right to Privacy*

The coronavirus pandemic has provided a stark example of the seriousness of violating health privacy through digital means.<sup>34</sup> Social media platforms have widely published the names, photos, and test results of infected individuals, exposing them to digital bullying.<sup>35</sup> Given the rapid spread of digital information, the violation of these patients' privacy negatively impacts their fundamental rights, undermines confidence in the health system, and discourages infected individuals from disclosing their conditions for fear of being defamed. Jordanian lawmakers have recognized the seriousness of this violation.<sup>36</sup> Defense Order No. (8) of 2020 criminalizes the publication of any data or information related to COVID-19 patients via social media.<sup>37</sup> This is based on the premise that protecting patient privacy is not merely an individual matter, but also a health and social necessity that contributes to enhancing epidemic security and public reassurance.

### **Acts of Violation Threatening Patient Privacy in the Digital Age**

The digital age is a fertile environment for the emergence of new forms of patient privacy violations.<sup>38</sup> Health information has become vulnerable to unauthorized disclosure and rapid circulation across electronic platforms.<sup>39</sup> Hence, there is a need to study these violations and their legal implications for protecting the right to privacy.

#### 1) *Digital Violations of Patients' Right to Privacy in the Digital Age in General*

The digital age has witnessed tremendous developments in data collection, storage, and transmission technologies.<sup>40</sup> This has led to the emergence of new and multiple risks threatening patients' right to health privacy. Digital platforms and social media networks have become fertile environments for the circulation of sensitive data about individuals' health conditions, whether through deliberate

---

<sup>34</sup> Bayu Dwi Anggono and Fahmi Ramadhan Firdaus, "Handling of the Covid-19 Pandemic by the Government in View From the Legal Products Formed," *Trunojoyo Law Review* 5, no. 1 (March 20, 2023): 18–40, <https://doi.org/10.21107/tlr.v5i1.19410>.

<sup>35</sup> Wendy Craig et al., "Social Media Use and Cyber-Bullying: A Cross-National Analysis of Young People in 42 Countries," *Journal of Adolescent Health* 66, no. 6 (June 2020): S100–108, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jadohealth.2020.03.006>.

<sup>36</sup> Shatha Ahmad Al-Assaf, "Protecting Right to Privacy in Jordan in Light of the COVID-19 Pandemic: Restrictions and Guarantees," *Cogent Social Sciences* 11, no. 1 (December 31, 2025), <https://doi.org/10.1080/23311886.2024.2445166>.

<sup>37</sup> Ghofran Hilal, Thawab Hilal, and Mohammad Al-Fawareh, "Misinformation and the Demonization of Human Rights: The Jordanian Child Rights Law," *Cogent Education* 11, no. 1 (December 31, 2024), <https://doi.org/10.1080/2331186X.2024.2329417>.

<sup>38</sup> Nan Liu and Shiyong Chen, "The Protection Mechanism of Personal Health Information in the Digital Economy Environment," ed. Ping Gao, *Journal of Environmental and Public Health* 2022, no. 1 (January 13, 2022), <https://doi.org/10.1155/2022/2314468>.

<sup>39</sup> Parisasadat Shojaei, Elena Vlahu-Gjorgievska, and Yang-Wai Chow, "Security and Privacy of Technologies in Health Information Systems: A Systematic Literature Review," *Computers* 13, no. 2 (January 31, 2024): 41, <https://doi.org/10.3390/computers13020041>.

<sup>40</sup> Ali, "The Protection of Sensitive Medical Personal Data Based on the Development of the Right to Health: A Comparative Study."

publication or unauthorized leaks of medical files.<sup>41</sup> The open nature of these platforms and the ease of accessing, storing, and sharing information with the click of a button have turned health data into a tradable digital commodity. This constitutes a flagrant violation of the sanctity of private life and exposes patients to social, psychological, and legal risks.<sup>42</sup>

Legal jurisprudence considers the right to digital privacy for patients to be an extension of the human right to physical and psychological integrity.<sup>43</sup> The confidentiality of health information is directly linked to the patient's dignity and right to control their fate, and it may only be disclosed with their consent or pursuant to a specific and explicit legal provision.<sup>44</sup>

In addition, modern technologies, such as smartphones, electronic records, and digital medical platforms, have contributed to an increase in the volume of personal data collected about patients.<sup>45</sup> This has increased the likelihood of data being hacked or misused. Healthcare institutions and medical professionals are now legally and ethically obligated to take strict measures to protect this data from leakage or unauthorized access. Violations of health privacy in the digital environment constitute a fundamental constitutional right and a direct cause of civil<sup>46</sup> and criminal liability.<sup>47</sup> This right enables individuals to remove or restrict the publication of their personal and health data on social media platforms, thereby enhancing the protection of their dignity and their right to digital peace of mind.<sup>48</sup>

## 2) *Digital Violations of the Right to Privacy of COVID-19 Patients as a Special Example*

The spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) was a turning point that revealed the extent of the vulnerability of the right to health privacy in the absence

---

<sup>41</sup> Vardanyan, Hamul'ák, and Kocharyan, "Personal Autonomy and Human Corporeality: What Protects the Right to Personal Integrity?"

<sup>42</sup> Wang Shoushan, "Legal Protection of Patients' Right to Privacy," *Academic Journal of Humanities & Social Sciences* 6, no. 3 (2023), <https://doi.org/10.25236/AJHSS.2023.060315>.

<sup>43</sup> Christoph Bublitz, "The Body of Law: Boundaries, Extensions, and the Human Right to Physical Integrity in the Biotechnical Age," *Journal of Law and the Biosciences*, 2022, 1–26, <https://doi.org/10.1093/jlb/ljac032>.

<sup>44</sup> Roy McClelland and Colin M. Harper, "Information Privacy in Healthcare — The Vital Role of Informed Consent," *European Journal of Health Law* 30, no. 4 (October 27, 2022): 469–80, <https://doi.org/10.1163/15718093-bja10097>.

<sup>45</sup> Ahmed Salah El-Din Balto, "Human Rights Binding Standards in Digital Health Applications," *Arab Journal for Security Studies* 39, no. 2 (December 31, 2023): 164–74, <https://doi.org/10.26735/IBCW7901>.

<sup>46</sup> Obeidat, Y. M. G. "The Efficient Breach Theory under Jordanian Civil Law," *Arab Law Quarterly* 30, no 4. (2016) 336-356. <https://doi.org/10.1163/15730255-12341328>

<sup>47</sup> Rita Alexandra Brilha Ribeiro and Cristina Branca Bento de Matos Soeiro, "Analysing Criminal Profiling Validity: Underlying Problems and Future Directions," *International Journal of Law and Psychiatry* 74 (January 2021): 101670, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijlp.2020.101670>.

<sup>48</sup> Jehad D. Aljazi, "The Right of Local Government Employees to Expungement of Disciplinary Offences Processed Digitally in Jordanian and Qatari Legislation," *Legality: Jurnal Ilmiah Hukum* 33, no. 1 (November 25, 2024): 20–43, <https://doi.org/10.22219/ljih.v33i1.36212>.

of digital legal controls.<sup>49</sup> The COVID-19 pandemic has led to a significant increase in the dissemination of medical data about infected patients on social media, including the publication of their names, photos, health conditions, and quarantine locations. This has led to their social stigmatization and exposed them to discrimination and ostracism. Amid the fear and panic that accompanied the spread of the virus, some individuals and entities have resorted to sharing patient data under the pretext of public interest or to issue warnings. However, this behavior constitutes a direct assault on the right to privacy and is punishable by law.<sup>50</sup>

Jordanian law has addressed this type of violation through Defense Order No. (8) of 2020. It explicitly criminalizes the dissemination of any information about individuals infected with COVID-19 on social media, recognizing that these violations not only affect individuals' right to privacy but also undermine public health security and confidence in the healthcare system.<sup>51</sup> Comparative judicial rulings, such as the Kuwaiti Constitutional Court ruling and the Egyptian Constitutional Court ruling, have also confirmed that a patient's health condition falls within the "deepest areas of private life" that may not be disclosed or discussed even under exceptional circumstances, and that the protection of health privacy is not waived under the pretext of emergency or public interest except to the extent of extreme necessity as determined by law. The Egyptian Supreme Constitutional Court stated in its ruling issued on March 18, 1995, in case number 23 of the 16th Constitutional Year, "There are areas of every individual's private life that represent depths that may not be penetrated."<sup>52</sup> It is always legitimate to prevent such areas from being intruded upon, in order to guarantee their confidentiality, protect their sanctity, and prevent any attempt to spy on them or steal some of their aspects. This is especially true through modern scientific methods, whose development has reached an astonishing level. Their growing penetration capabilities have had a far-reaching impact on everyone, even in their most intimate affairs and aspects of their lives, and even their personal data, which access and collection have become prey to their eyes and ears.

Accessing them has often caused embarrassment or harm to their owners, and these areas are among the special and intricate aspects of life..." In another ruling, the Kuwaiti Constitutional Court explicitly affirmed the protection of

---

<sup>49</sup> Sharifah Sekalala et al., "Analyzing the Human Rights Impact of Increased Digital Public Health Surveillance during the COVID-19 Crisis," *Health and Human Rights Journal* 22, no. 2 (2020): 7–20, <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33390688/>.

<sup>50</sup> Rachel Hulkower, Matthew Penn, and Cason Schmit, "Privacy and Confidentiality of Public Health Information," in *Public Health Informatics and Information Systems* (Cham: Springer Cham, 2020), 147–66, [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-41215-9\\_9](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-41215-9_9).

<sup>51</sup> Al-Assaf, "Protecting Right to Privacy in Jordan in Light of the COVID-19 Pandemic: Restrictions and Guarantees."

<sup>52</sup> Samy Ayoub, "The Egyptian State as a Muğtahid: Law and Religion in the Jurisprudence of the Egyptian Supreme Constitutional Court," *Arab Law Quarterly* 38, no. 5 (June 21, 2022): 579–608, <https://doi.org/10.1163/15730255-bja10119>.

patients' right to privacy.<sup>53</sup> In its ruling No. 3/1982, issued on November 8, 1982, it stated: "The right of a member of the National Assembly to ask a question in accordance with the provisions of Article 99 of the Constitution is not an absolute right. Rather, it is limited by the exercise of the individual's constitutional right to guarantee his personal freedom, which requires preserving his dignity and respecting his private life after his confidentiality has been violated, including his health condition and illness.<sup>54</sup> It is impermissible for someone entrusted with a medical secret, including the Minister of Health, to reveal a patient's secret, including his name, without his permission or a legal authorization."

There is no doubt that the protection of the right to patient privacy extends even if this right is infringed on in cyberspace. Jordanian Defense Order No. (8) of 2020, in its second clause, criminalized the act of publishing data related to the privacy of COVID-19 patients via social media and prescribed criminal penalties for such acts.<sup>55</sup>

After searching for accurate statistics and data regarding the extent of violations of patient privacy in general, or COVID-19 patients' privacy in particular, we were unable to obtain clear figures from either official or unofficial sources. This is because this right is a personal one, and pursuing a criminal case requires the affected individual to file a complaint.<sup>56</sup> It is often difficult to obtain precise statistics because of the vast number of social media platforms. However, personal monitoring of these platforms indicates that this group has been subjected to widespread violations of their privacy. Nevertheless, the cases that actually reach the courts represent only a very small fraction of these violations.

### **Impact of Violations of the Constitutional Right to Privacy Through Social Media on Patients' Mental Health**

Violations of patients' privacy through social media are no longer merely a formal or technical issue; they directly infringe upon the constitutional rights to protect human dignity and to safeguard the psychological well-being of the individual.<sup>57</sup> Health privacy, with its personal and intimate content, constitutes an

---

<sup>53</sup> Noura H. Al-Mutairi, "The Right to Privacy in the Digital Age as Expressed in a Muslim Country: A Case Study of Kuwait," *Arab Law Quarterly* 38, no. 1–2 (June 9, 2022): 110–37, <https://doi.org/10.1163/15730255-bja10108>.

<sup>54</sup> Noura Hezam Almutairi, "Shedding Light on the Inadequate Protection of Internet Users' Right to Privacy under Kuwaiti Law," *Yearbook of Islamic and Middle Eastern Law Online* 23, no. 1 (January 9, 2024): 3–46, <https://doi.org/10.1163/22112987-20230054>.

<sup>55</sup> Nayel AlOmran et al., "Constitutional Safeguards of Rights and Freedoms Amid Criminalization and Punishment: A Comparative Legal Study," *Petita: Jurnal Kajian Ilmu Hukum Dan Syariah* 10, no. 2 (July 29, 2025), <https://doi.org/10.22373/petita.v10i2.917>.

<sup>56</sup> Diala Altaani et al., "Virtual Justice: Navigating the Challenges of Remote Testimony at the International Criminal Court," *International Journal of Criminal Justice Science* 19, no. 2 (2024): 15–26, <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.19202>.

<sup>57</sup> Hui Zhang et al., "Patient Privacy and Autonomy: A Comparative Analysis of Cases of Ethical Dilemmas in China and the United States," *BMC Medical Ethics* 22, no. 1 (December 2, 2021): 8, <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12910-021-00579-6>.

integral part of patients' personal and human identity.<sup>58</sup> Any violation of it constitutes an intrusion into a constitutionally protected area that may not be justified under any circumstances. Publishing health information, photos, or details of medical conditions via digital platforms without the patient's consent sometimes causes psychological trauma, undermining their sense of control over their private life and generating a sense of loss of security and reassurance.<sup>59</sup> This contradicts the foundation of the right to privacy, which serves as a barrier protecting human dignity and personal freedom.<sup>60</sup>

The repercussions of these violations are not limited to the individual's psychological aspect, but extend to the patient's social structure. They may be subjected to social stigma, exclusion, or forced pity. This leads to a loss of trust in human relationships and a diminished sense of social integration. It is not limited to feelings of fear or anxiety; it may develop into serious psychological disorders such as depression and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) due to a sense of powerlessness in the face of the rapid spread of information in the digital space and an inability to control or remove it. This places the patient in a constant state of anticipation of any misuse of their information.

These violations also seriously impact the relationship between the patient and the healthcare system. Patients lose trust in healthcare providers or medical institutions, and are reluctant to disclose accurate medical information or comply with treatment instructions for fear of their data being leaked or exploited. This leads to a weakening of the effectiveness of the healthcare system at the national level and threatens public health.<sup>61</sup> Therefore, protecting health privacy is a constitutional duty that is not limited to protecting the individual, but is also essential to ensuring the continuity of the healthcare system and its societal role.

The seriousness of digital privacy violations lies in their permanent nature and uncontrollable spread. Once disseminated, information becomes vulnerable to widespread and repeated circulation, exacerbating the psychological impact on the patient and increasing their feelings of isolation and humiliation.<sup>62</sup> Exploiting digital platforms for defamation, blackmail, or discrimination deepens the negative psychological impact and transforms the digital space into a tool for moral violence. This requires constitutional legislators to consider this type of violation as

---

<sup>58</sup> Diego Adão Fanti Silva and Ramiro Colleoni, "Patient's Privacy Violation on Social Media in the Surgical Area," *The American Surgeon*<sup>TM</sup> 84, no. 12 (December 1, 2018): 1900–1905, <https://doi.org/10.1177/000313481808401235>.

<sup>59</sup> Maushumi Bhattacharjee et al., "Patient Photographs on Google Images: A Commentary on Informed Consent, Copyright, and Privacy Laws," *Law, Innovation and Technology* 15, no. 2 (July 3, 2023): 536–57, <https://doi.org/10.1080/17579961.2023.2245684>.

<sup>60</sup> Katharine Sarikakis and Lisa Winter, "Social Media Users' Legal Consciousness About Privacy," *Social Media + Society* 3, no. 1 (January 1, 2017), <https://doi.org/10.1177/2056305117695325>.

<sup>61</sup> R. Craig Lefebvre and Alexandra S. Bornkessel, "Digital Social Networks and Health," *Circulation* 127, no. 17 (April 30, 2013): 1829–36, <https://doi.org/10.1161/CIRCULATIONAHA.112.000897>.

<sup>62</sup> Bakhta Dendane, "Constitutional Protection of the Right to Health," *Journal of Law and Sustainable Development* 12, no. 11 (November 21, 2024): e4147, <https://doi.org/10.55908/sdgs.v12i11.4147>.

a form of assault on psychological integrity, which is an integral part of the right to life and dignity.<sup>63</sup>

Therefore, the constitutional protection of health privacy should not be understood as the protection of confidential information, but rather as the protection of the human being from psychological and social collapse.<sup>64</sup> It means that the right to privacy must be interpreted in light of a constitutional philosophy that places the human being at the center of legal protection and considers any violation of health privacy through digital means a fundamental violation of their humanity and their right to live in peace.<sup>65</sup> Therefore, the state's role is not limited to enacting punitive legislation. It extends to establishing a comprehensive constitutional system that promotes a culture of respect for privacy, imposes strict oversight over the circulation of health data, and guarantees the patient's right to prompt legal redress and psychological and moral redress for the harm they have suffered.<sup>66</sup>

Based on the above, a set of legal and practical solutions can be proposed to reduce the violations patients face in the digital age, particularly given the widespread use of social media.<sup>67</sup> In this context, it is recommended to develop national legislation related to patients' rights to provide more comprehensive protection for their personal data, establish clear restrictions on its circulation or access by others, and limit the categories of individuals authorized to access patient data, linking this right to strict controls and enabling the competent authorities to withdraw authorization immediately in case of any violation.<sup>68</sup>

In addition, training healthcare personnel to respect patient privacy and refrain from disclosing their secrets except within the scope of professional necessity should be strengthened. Guidelines should be prepared to clarify the importance of health data and methods to safeguard it. It is also recommended to enforce disciplinary accountability for any healthcare worker who exceeds the

---

<sup>63</sup> Greg M. Kramer, Julie T. Kinn, and Matt C. Mishkind, "Legal, Regulatory, and Risk Management Issues in the Use of Technology to Deliver Mental Health Care," *Cognitive and Behavioral Practice* 22, no. 3 (August 2015): 258–68, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cbpra.2014.04.008>.

<sup>64</sup> Zahara Nampewo, Jennifer Heaven Mike, and Jonathan Wolff, "Respecting, Protecting and Fulfilling the Human Right to Health," *International Journal for Equity in Health* 21, no. 1 (December 15, 2022): 36, <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12939-022-01634-3>.

<sup>65</sup> Craig et al., "Social Media Use and Cyber-Bullying: A Cross-National Analysis of Young People in 42 Countries."

<sup>66</sup> Jenifer Sunrise Winter and Elizabeth Davidson, "Harmonizing Regulatory Regimes for the Governance of Patient-Generated Health Data," *Telecommunications Policy* 46, no. 5 (June 2022): 102285, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.telpol.2021.102285>.

<sup>67</sup> Maroš Šip et al., "Human Dignity in Inpatient Care: Fragments of Religious and Social Grounds," *Religions* 14, no. 6 (June 7, 2023): 757, <https://doi.org/10.3390/rel14060757>.

<sup>68</sup> Miral Sabry AlAashry, "A Critical Analysis of Journalists' Freedom of Expression and Access to Information While Reporting on COVID-19 Issues: A Case of Selected Arab Countries," *Journal of Information, Communication and Ethics in Society* 20, no. 2 (2022): 193–212, <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1108/JICES-06-2021-0066>.

limits of their professional duties by disclosing patients' health information without legitimate justification.

## Conclusion

The study concluded that the Jordanian Constitution provides clear constitutional protection for individuals' right to privacy, including during the COVID-19 pandemic. The protection includes individuals' right to a sense of security and reassurance, as well as patients' right to maintain the confidentiality of their health data. This right is of paramount importance in light of technological advancements and the widespread use of social media. These platforms have become a fertile ground for digital violations that affect the private lives of individuals, particularly the privacy of patients.

The study demonstrated that patient privacy protection extends to cyberspace. Jordanian Defense Order No. (8) of 2020 criminalizes the publication of data related to the health status of COVID-19 patients on social media, imposing criminal penalties on violators. This provision constitutes an important step toward protecting individuals from digital violations. It also revealed that social media platforms have become a primary vehicle for committing violations that threaten individuals' right to reassurance and patient privacy, particularly when health data, photos, or personal information are published without their consent. These violations have demonstrated a significant psychological and social impact on patients. It causes them to feel powerless, stigmatized, and fearful of discrimination, and impacts their confidence in the healthcare system and their willingness to comply with medical procedures. Therefore, protecting this right is not merely a formal legal matter; it is a constitutional and ethical necessity to ensure the individual's psychological and social safety and preserve their human dignity.

In light of the study's findings, it becomes clear that the constitutional protection of the right to privacy requires further legislative development to ensure its effectiveness in confronting contemporary digital challenges. Hence, the need for clear texts specifying that modern digital media can pose a threat to individuals' privacy, and requiring the victim to file a complaint before initiating a criminal case.

Finally, the study confirms that protecting patients' privacy in the digital space represents a true extension of the constitutional protection of fundamental rights, and that any violation of this privacy constitutes an infringement on human dignity and the individual's right to peace of mind and psychological and social safety. This requires legislators and the judiciary to establish effective mechanisms for oversight, redress, and compensation. Moreover, the state's commitment to protecting these rights in the age of digitalization represents a true test of the state's seriousness in respecting constitutional rights and protecting individuals

from digital attacks. It makes protecting health privacy an integral part of its national and constitutional responsibility.

## Acknowledgement

None

## References

- Abuanzeh, Amal A., and Muhammad Alshurideh. "Cyberspace and Criminal Protection of Privacy in the Jordanian Legislation Under the Corona Pandemic: A Comparative Study." In *Proceedings of the 8th International Conference on Advanced Intelligent Systems and Informatics 2022*, 540–57. Cham: Springer Cham, 2023. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-20601-6\\_45](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-20601-6_45).
- Ahmed, Ben Issa, and Ben Al-Akhdar Mohamed. "The Right of Privacy for a Patient with Coronavirus Between Protection and Violation." *Researcher Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences* 13, no. 1 (2021): 191–202. <https://asjp.cerist.dz/en/article/149342>.
- Al-Aslami, Talal Faris. "Protecting the Civil Rights of Patients in Law in Light of the Saudi Systems." *Journal of Legal and Economic Studies* 11, no. 2 (June 1, 2025): 741–815. <https://doi.org/10.21608/jdl.2025.386748.1529>.
- Al-Assaf, Shatha Ahmad. "Protecting Right to Privacy in Jordan in Light of the COVID-19 Pandemic: Restrictions and Guarantees." *Cogent Social Sciences* 11, no. 1 (December 31, 2025). <https://doi.org/10.1080/23311886.2024.2445166>.
- Al-Billeh, Tareq. "Legal Framework for Protecting the Right to Private Life in the Digital Space: The Extent to Which Jordanian Constitution and Legislation Takes into Account International Requirements." *Revista de Investigações Constitucionais* 11, no. 1 (July 30, 2024): 258. <https://doi.org/10.5380/rinc.v11i1.90631>.
- Al-Kasasbeh, Rashid O. M. "Violation of the Right to Privacy Via Electronic Means." *Political Science & Law Series* 4, no. 2 (2025): 232–43. <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.59759/law.v4i2.797>.
- Al-Maaddawi, Mohammed. "Protection of Users' Informational Privacy through Social Media Networks – A Comparative Study." *Journal of the Faculty of Law and Sharia in Tanta* 33, no. 4 (December 1, 2018): 1926–2057. <https://doi.org/10.21608/mksq.2018.30623>.
- Al-Mutairi, Noura H. "The Right to Privacy in the Digital Age as Expressed in a Muslim Country: A Case Study of Kuwait." *Arab Law Quarterly* 38, no. 1–2 (June 9, 2022): 110–37. <https://doi.org/10.1163/15730255-bja10108>.
- AlAashry, Miral Sabry. "A Critical Analysis of Journalists' Freedom of Expression and Access to Information While Reporting on COVID-19 Issues: A Case

- of Selected Arab Countries.” *Journal of Information, Communication and Ethics in Society* 20, no. 2 (2022): 193–212. <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1108/JICES-06-2021-0066>.
- Aldabbas, Ali Mohamed, Kamal Jamal Alawamleh, and Worud Jamal Awamleh. “Jordan’s Commitment towards Compulsory and Free Basic Education as a Constitutional Right: An Analytical Field Study.” *Arab Law Quarterly* 34, no. 4 (July 23, 2020): 356–86. <https://doi.org/10.1163/15730255-BJA10049>.
- Ali, Aliya Ali Zakaria. “The Protection of Sensitive Medical Personal Data Based on the Development of the Right to Health: A Comparative Study.” *Roub Al-Qawanin Journal* 35, no. 104 (September 14, 2023): 111–342. <https://doi.org/10.21608/las.2023.230939.1160>.
- Aljazi, Jehad D. “The Right of Local Government Employees to Expungement of Disciplinary Offences Processed Digitally in Jordanian and Qatari Legislation.” *Legality : Jurnal Ilmiah Hukum* 33, no. 1 (November 25, 2024): 20–43. <https://doi.org/10.22219/ljih.v33i1.36212>.
- Aljunidi, Saif Ziad, Farah Alshanik, Ahmad Aqeil Alzaqibh, and Hazem Suleiman Toubat. “Constitutional Constraints on Jordan’s Defense Law: A Covid-19 Case Study.” *Malaysian Journal of Syariah and Law* 13, no. 2 (August 31, 2025): 339–64. <https://doi.org/10.33102/mjssl.vol13no2.1152>.
- Almutairi, Noura Hezam. “Shedding Light on the Inadequate Protection of Internet Users’ Right to Privacy under Kuwaiti Law.” *Yearbook of Islamic and Middle Eastern Law Online* 23, no. 1 (January 9, 2024): 3–46. <https://doi.org/10.1163/22112987-20230054>.
- AlOmran, Nayel, Ibrahim Aldarmaki, Noor Alhendi, and Hisham Al-Kasasbeh. “Constitutional Safeguards of Rights and Freedoms Amid Criminalization and Punishment: A Comparative Legal Study.” *Petita: Jurnal Kajian Ilmu Hukum Dan Syariah* 10, no. 2 (July 29, 2025). <https://doi.org/10.22373/petita.v10i2.917>.
- Alraggad, Mishaal Mohammad. “Improving Criminal Law in Jordan: Challenges of Our Time.” *International Journal of Religion* 5, no. 9 (June 3, 2024): 1072–80. <https://doi.org/10.61707/ndqa6a73>.
- Altaani, Diala, Abdullah Ehjelah, Shaima Bani Amer, and Hamzeh Abu Issa. “Virtual Justice: Navigating the Challenges of Remote Testimony at the International Criminal Court.” *International Journal of Criminal Justice Science* 19, no. 2 (2024): 15–26. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.19202>.
- Alubaidi, Abeer Hassan. “The Human Right to Privacy in the Digital Revolution.” *Journal of Jurisprudential and Legal Research* 44, no. 44 (January 1, 2024): 1073–1134. <https://doi.org/10.21608/jlr.2024.254785.1333>.
- Alwirfili, Nahla. “The Right to Privacy in the Digital Age.” *Al-Haq Journal for Sharia*

*and Legal Sciences* 14 (December 2, 2024): 139–57.  
<https://doi.org/10.58916/alhaq.vi.242>.

Anggono, Bayu Dwi, and Fahmi Ramadhan Firdaus. “Handling of the Covid-19 Pandemic by the Government in View From the Legal Products Formed.” *Trunojoyo Law Review* 5, no. 1 (March 20, 2023): 18–40.  
<https://doi.org/10.21107/tr.v5i1.19410>.

Ayoub, Samy. “The Egyptian State as a Muğtahid: Law and Religion in the Jurisprudence of the Egyptian Supreme Constitutional Court.” *Arab Law Quarterly* 38, no. 5 (June 21, 2022): 579–608.  
<https://doi.org/10.1163/15730255-bja10119>.

Balto, Ahmed Salah El-Din. “Human Rights Binding Standards in Digital Health Applications.” *Arab Journal for Security Studies* 39, no. 2 (December 31, 2023): 164–74. <https://doi.org/10.26735/IBCW7901>.

Bani Salameh, Mohammed Toriki, and Azzam Ali Ananzah. “Constitutional Reforms in Jordan: A Critical Analysis.” *Digest of Middle East Studies* 24, no. 2 (September 27, 2015): 139–60. <https://doi.org/10.1111/dome.12068>.

Bhattacharjee, Maushumi, Chris Kaposy, Maura R. Grossman, and Zack Marshall. “Patient Photographs on Google Images: A Commentary on Informed Consent, Copyright, and Privacy Laws.” *Law, Innovation and Technology* 15, no. 2 (July 3, 2023): 536–57. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17579961.2023.2245684>.

Boon, Robert M A van der, A John Camm, C Aguiar, E Biasin, G Breithardt, H Bueno, I Drossart, et al. “Risks and Benefits of Sharing Patient Information on Social Media: A Digital Dilemma.” *European Heart Journal - Digital Health* 5, no. 3 (May 20, 2024): 199–207. <https://doi.org/10.1093/ehjdh/ztae009>.

Bublitz, Christoph. “The Body of Law: Boundaries, Extensions, and the Human Right to Physical Integrity in the Biotechnical Age.” *Journal of Law and the Biosciences*, 2022, 1–26. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jlb/ljac032>.

Craig, Wendy, Meyran Boniel-Nissim, Nathan King, Sophie D. Walsh, Maartje Boer, Peter D. Donnelly, Yossi Harel-Fisch, et al. “Social Media Use and Cyber-Bullying: A Cross-National Analysis of Young People in 42 Countries.” *Journal of Adolescent Health* 66, no. 6 (June 2020): S100–108.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jadohealth.2020.03.006>.

Dendane, Bakhta. “Constitutional Protection of the Right to Health.” *Journal of Law and Sustainable Development* 12, no. 11 (November 21, 2024): e4147.  
<https://doi.org/10.55908/sdgs.v12i11.4147>.

Frei Fitri Astuti, and Laila Nur Jannah. “Flexibility in Accessing Legal Information Through Social Media and Its Implications for Law Enforcement.” *Journal of Indonesian Constitutional Law* 2, no. 1 (March 5, 2025): 23–36.  
<https://doi.org/10.71239/jicl.v2i1.37>.

- Frosio, Giancarlo, and Christophe Geiger. "Taking Fundamental Rights Seriously in the Digital Services Act's Platform Liability Regime." *European Law Journal* 29, no. 1–2 (January 21, 2023): 31–77. <https://doi.org/10.1111/eulj.12475>.
- Gstrein, Oskar J., and Anne Beaulieu. "How to Protect Privacy in a Datafied Society? A Presentation of Multiple Legal and Conceptual Approaches." *Philosophy & Technology* 35, no. 1 (March 29, 2022): 3. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13347-022-00497-4>.
- Hilal, Ghofran, Thawab Hilal, and Mohammad Al-Fawareh. "Misinformation and the Demonization of Human Rights: The Jordanian Child Rights Law." *Cogent Education* 11, no. 1 (December 31, 2024). <https://doi.org/10.1080/2331186X.2024.2329417>.
- hilat, Baha' aldeen Al, and Jehad D. Aljazi. "The Impact of Job Rotation on the Constitutional Rights of Public Employee: A Comparative Study." *An-Najah University Journal for Research - B (Humanities)* 39, no. 2 (February 2025): 81–90. <https://doi.org/10.35552/0247.39.2.2321>.
- Hulkower, Rachel, Matthew Penn, and Cason Schmit. "Privacy and Confidentiality of Public Health Information." In *Public Health Informatics and Information Systems*, 147–66. Cham: Springer Cham, 2020. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-41215-9\\_9](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-41215-9_9).
- Jaafar, Araram, and Mohammedi Badr El-Din. "Legislative Development from the Right to Private Life to the Right to Privacy." *Journal of Law and Political Sciences* 9, no. 2 (2023): 142–54. <https://asjp.cerist.dz/en/article/238959>.
- Jain, Ankit Kumar, Somya Ranjan Sahoo, and Jyoti Kaubiyal. "Online Social Networks Security and Privacy: Comprehensive Review and Analysis." *Complex & Intelligent Systems* 7, no. 5 (October 1, 2021): 2157–77. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40747-021-00409-7>.
- Jalghoum, Yaser, Asem Tahtamouni, Sahar Khasawneh, and Amro Al-Madadha. "Challenges to Healthcare Information Systems Development: The Case of Jordan." *International Journal of Healthcare Management* 14, no. 2 (April 3, 2021): 447–55. <https://doi.org/10.1080/20479700.2019.1658159>.
- Kramer, Greg M., Julie T. Kinn, and Matt C. Mishkind. "Legal, Regulatory, and Risk Management Issues in the Use of Technology to Deliver Mental Health Care." *Cognitive and Behavioral Practice* 22, no. 3 (August 2015): 258–68. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cbpra.2014.04.008>.
- Lefebvre, R. Craig, and Alexandra S. Bornkessel. "Digital Social Networks and Health." *Circulation* 127, no. 17 (April 30, 2013): 1829–36. <https://doi.org/10.1161/CIRCULATIONAHA.112.000897>.
- Liu, Nan, and Shiyong Chen. "The Protection Mechanism of Personal Health Information in the Digital Economy Environment." Edited by Ping Gao. *Journal of Environmental and Public Health* 2022, no. 1 (January 13, 2022).

<https://doi.org/10.1155/2022/2314468>.

- McClelland, Roy, and Colin M. Harper. “Information Privacy in Healthcare — The Vital Role of Informed Consent.” *European Journal of Health Law* 30, no. 4 (October 27, 2022): 469–80. <https://doi.org/10.1163/15718093-bja10097>.
- Mokrosinska, Dorota. “Why States Have No Right to Privacy, But May Be Entitled to Secrecy: A Non-Consequentialist Defense of State Secrecy.” *Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy* 23, no. 4 (June 6, 2020): 415–44. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13698230.2018.1482097>.
- Najib, Ainun, Umar Umar, Abim Bhakti, Prika Fatikasari, and Aminah Nur Kauthar Binti Zawawi. “Regulation on Freedom of Expression on Social Media in Indonesia and Malaysia.” *Journal of Indonesian Constitutional Law* 1, no. 1 (August 19, 2024): 46–60. <https://doi.org/10.71239/jicl.v1i1.20>.
- Nampewo, Zahara, Jennifer Heaven Mike, and Jonathan Wolff. “Respecting, Protecting and Fulfilling the Human Right to Health.” *International Journal for Equity in Health* 21, no. 1 (December 15, 2022): 36. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12939-022-01634-3>.
- Nyst, Carly, and Tomaso Falchetta. “The Right to Privacy in the Digital Age.” *Journal of Human Rights Practice* 9, no. 1 (February 2017): 104–18. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jhuman/huw026>.
- Politou, Eugenia, Efthimios Alepis, Maria Virvou, and Constantinos Patsakis. *Privacy and Data Protection Challenges in the Distributed Era*. Vol. 26. Learning and Analytics in Intelligent Systems. Cham: Springer International Publishing, 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-85443-0>.
- Ribeiro, Rita Alexandra Brilha, and Cristina Branca Bento de Matos Soeiro. “Analysing Criminal Profiling Validity: Underlying Problems and Future Directions.” *International Journal of Law and Psychiatry* 74 (January 2021): 101670. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijlp.2020.101670>.
- Rini Jarwati Indah N. C, Dhea Zeftyaningrum, Richo Febria Putra, and Dio Ashar Wicaksana. “Freedom of Expression in the Spread of Hoax News on Social Media Between Indonesia and South Korea.” *Journal of Indonesian Constitutional Law* 1, no. 3 (December 28, 2024): 246–62. <https://doi.org/10.71239/jicl.v1i3.12>.
- Sarikakis, Katharine, and Lisa Winter. “Social Media Users’ Legal Consciousness About Privacy.” *Social Media + Society* 3, no. 1 (January 1, 2017). <https://doi.org/10.1177/2056305117695325>.
- Sekalala, Sharifah, Stéphanie Dagrón, Lisa Forman, and Benjamin Mason Meier. “Analyzing the Human Rights Impact of Increased Digital Public Health Surveillance during the COVID-19 Crisis.” *Health and Human Rights Journal* 22, no. 2 (2020): 7–20. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33390688/>.

- Shany, Yuval. “Digital Rights and the Outer Limits of International Human Rights Law.” *German Law Journal* 24, no. 3 (April 22, 2023): 461–72. <https://doi.org/10.1017/glj.2023.35>.
- Shojaei, Parisasadat, Elena Vlahu-Gjorgievska, and Yang-Wai Chow. “Security and Privacy of Technologies in Health Information Systems: A Systematic Literature Review.” *Computers* 13, no. 2 (January 31, 2024): 41. <https://doi.org/10.3390/computers13020041>.
- Shoushan, Wang. “Legal Protection of Patients’ Right to Privacy.” *Academic Journal of Humanities & Social Sciences* 6, no. 3 (2023). <https://doi.org/10.25236/AJHSS.2023.060315>.
- Silva, Diego Adão Fanti, and Ramiro Colleoni. “Patient’s Privacy Violation on Social Media in the Surgical Area.” *The American Surgeon*<sup>TM</sup> 84, no. 12 (December 1, 2018): 1900–1905. <https://doi.org/10.1177/000313481808401235>.
- Šip, Maroš, Bohuslav Kuzyšín, Miroslav Sabolik, and Michal Valčo. “Human Dignity in Inpatient Care: Fragments of Religious and Social Grounds.” *Religions* 14, no. 6 (June 7, 2023): 757. <https://doi.org/10.3390/rel14060757>.
- Sprague, Robert. “Privacy Self-Management: A Strategy to Protect Worker Privacy from Excessive Employer Surveillance in Light of Scant Legal Protections.” *American Business Law Journal* 60, no. 4 (December 21, 2023): 793–836. <https://doi.org/10.1111/ablj.12236>.
- Tomasello, Federico. “From Industrial to Digital Citizenship: Rethinking Social Rights in Cyberspace.” *Theory and Society* 52, no. 3 (June 3, 2023): 463–86. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11186-022-09480-6>.
- Trepte, Sabine. “The Social Media Privacy Model: Privacy and Communication in the Light of Social Media Affordances.” *Communication Theory* 31, no. 4 (November 13, 2021): 549–70. <https://doi.org/10.1093/ct/qtz035>.
- Tyagi, Amit Kumar, Richa, and Smita Manohar Gaikwad. “Application and Future Trends in Online Social Networking for the Next Generation.” In *Online Social Networks in Business Frameworks*, 133–58. New Jersey: Wiley, 2024. <https://doi.org/10.1002/9781394231126.ch7>.
- Vardanyan, Lusine, Ondrej Hamulák, and Hovsep Kocharyan. “Personal Autonomy and Human Corporeality: What Protects the Right to Personal Integrity?” *Internet of Things* 27 (October 2024): 101279. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.iot.2024.101279>.
- Winter, Jenifer Sunrise, and Elizabeth Davidson. “Harmonizing Regulatory Regimes for the Governance of Patient-Generated Health Data.” *Telecommunications Policy* 46, no. 5 (June 2022): 102285. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.telpol.2021.102285>.

Zhang, Hui, Hongmei Zhang, Zhenxiang Zhang, and Yuming Wang. "Patient Privacy and Autonomy: A Comparative Analysis of Cases of Ethical Dilemmas in China and the United States." *BMC Medical Ethics* 22, no. 1 (December 2, 2021): 8. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12910-021-00579-6>.