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## Formal sitting: address by ABDULLAH II, King of Jordan

Reference: [I273558](#) Duration: [00:14:57](#) Location: [Strasbourg](#) Date: [Jun 17, 2025](#)  
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### Summary:

Following the introduction by European Parliament President Roberta Metsola, His Majesty King Abdullah II bin Al-Hussein of Jordan addressed Members of the European Parliament during a formal sitting in Strasbourg. In his speech, King Abdullah II urged decisive global action to end the Gaza crisis and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, framing it as a test of international values. He called for European leadership and reaffirmed Jordan's role as a committed partner. Emphasizing peace, justice, and human dignity, he warned that inaction risks eroding the moral foundations of the global community. This transcription is a result of an automatic process. Please check against delivery.

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TIME	DESCRIPTION	DURATION
00:00:02	SOUNDBITE (English), His Majesty King ABDULLAH II of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful. Madam President, Honorable Members, your Excellencies. Thank you all. And it is an honor, as always, to be here to address the European Parliament.	00:00:18
00:00:20	SOUNDBITE (English), His Majesty King ABDULLAH II of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, 'My friends, five years ago, I stood at this podium and spoke of the urgent need to find a political solutions to conflicts to restore confidence in global justice and help people, especially young people, find hope and opportunity. Since then, multiple political, technological and economic upheavals have tested our international community. A global pandemic, new security threats, unprecedented technological acceleration, rampant hyper-charged misinformation and a raging war in Ukraine and, a cruel one on Gaza. And now the attacks on Iran, which threaten a dangerous escalation of tensions in my region and beyond.	00:01:06

00:01:26	SOUNDBITE (English), His Majesty King ABDULLAH II of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, We are living through wave after wave of disruption without pause. It is no wonder our world feels untethered, like it has lost its moral gravity. Rules are unraveling, truth shifts by the hour, hatred and division thrive and moderation and universal values are losing ground to ideological extremes. In the chaos, we risk forgetting who we are and what we stand for. But it is precisely at these junctures of history that we must recommit to our values.	00:00:51
00:02:17	SOUNDBITE (English), His Majesty King ABDULLAH II of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Because when the world loses its moral bearings, we lose our shared sense of right and wrong, of what is just and what is cruel. And when that happens, conflict is never far behind. History teaches us that wars are rarely just about territory. There are battles over worldviews over which ideas and ideals will shape our future. And Europe understands that.	00:00:41
00:02:58	SOUNDBITE (English), His Majesty King ABDULLAH II of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, After World War II, it made a choice: to rebuild not just its cities, but its founding pillars. The people of Europe were determined to leave the past in the past and build a new era of peace. They chose human dignity over domination, values over vengeance, law over might, cooperation over conflict. In the wake of war, Europe realized that real security does not lie in the strength of armies, but in the strength of shared values and that peace imposed by force or fear would never last.	00:00:55
00:03:53	SOUNDBITE (English), His Majesty King ABDULLAH II of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Equally, you chose to recognize that what you had in common was far greater than what sets you apart. Today, so must our global community. We know that disputes and differences are a human reality, that the challenges we face will only get more complex, and that disruptions are the hallmark of our age. But it's how we handle them and the values we anchor ourselves to that count.	00:00:41
00:	SOUNDBITE (English), His Majesty King ABDULLAH II of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Throughout Arab and European history, respect, responsibility, goodwill, and good faith have guided collaborations that led to our mutual good. And they can guide our response to today's challenges as well. Speaking from this podium and many others in the last	

04: 34	two decades, I have sought to shed light on the values we share, many rooted in our different faiths, Islam, Christianity, Judaism, the values of compassion, justice and equality. The moral teachings passed to us over generations that call on us to love our neighbors, to protect children and the innocent, to aid the poor and injured, to care for God's earth and more.	00:01:06
00: 05: 40	SOUNDBITE (English), His Majesty King ABDULLAH II of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, In Jordan, our firm belief in these common values, grounded in our history and heritage, drives our national principles of tolerance and mutual respect. And we are proud to be home to the Baptism Site of Jesus Christ, peace be upon him at Bethany, Beyond the Jordan. Our Muslim country is home to a historic Christian community and all our citizens share in building our nation. The same call to goodwill lies behind the Hashemite Custodianship of Muslim and Christian Holy Sites in Jerusalem.	00:01:01
00: 06: 41	SOUNDBITE (English), His Majesty King ABDULLAH II of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, 'Whose historical and multi-religious identity we have vowed to protect from attack. Indeed, our commitment echoes a promise to the people of Jerusalem, made many centuries ago. The Pact of Oman ordered Muslims to respect and protect the city's churches and not harm a priest, nor kill a child, woman or elder. And a thousand years later, the Geneva Conventions made these tenants universal. Recent events have called them into question, but we must ensure that these values and principles stand the test of time and turmoil.	00:01:00
00: 07: 41	SOUNDBITE (English), His Majesty King ABDULLAH II of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, My friends, when I was last in this hall, I shared my conviction that there is always a better version of us around every corner. Eighty years ago, you turned that corner. You chose a better Europe and for the longest time, the choices you made helped shape a more stable, principled world. Today, that world is in more decline. A shameful version of our humanity is unfolding before our eyes in real time, and our global values are unraveling at a shocking pace, with devastating consequences. Nowhere is that clearer than in Gaza.	00:01:05
	SOUNDBITE (English), His Majesty King ABDULLAH II of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, A place where the world has stood at countless corners, each an opportunity to become something better. And time after time had failed to do so. Think	

00:08:46	back to 2023, the first Israeli attacks and raids on a hospital in Gaza sparked global shock and outrage. Since then, the World Health Organization has documented nearly 700 attacks on Gaza's health care facilities. How is it that what was considered an atrocity just 20 months ago is now so commonplace it barely registers? What version of our humanity allows the unthinkable to become routine? Permits weaponizing famine against children? Normalizes the targeting of health workers, journalists and civilians seeking refuge in camps?	00:01:05
00:09:51	SOUNDBITE (English), His Majesty King ABDULLAH II of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Twenty months. That should alarm us all, but not surprise us. Because when our global community fails to bridge the gap between principle and action, when values are not practiced, they become performative, abstract and expendable.	00:00:31
00:10:22	We are at another defining crossroad in our history, one that demands a choice, power or principle, the rule of law or the rule of force, decline or renewal. Because that is what's at stake for everyone. This is not just about Gaza, and it is not just another political moment. It is a struggle over who we are as a global community and who we will become. This year is likely to be a time of pivotal decisions for our entire world. Europe's leadership will be vital in choosing the right course, and you can count on Jordan as your staunch partner.	00:01:06
00:11:28	SOUNDBITE (English), His Majesty King ABDULLAH II of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, 'There are two essential areas for action. First, it is supporting development because a thriving Middle East creates opportunities that benefits us all. But as we have seen time and again that reality cuts both ways. When hope is diminished, the consequences ripple across borders. Second, it is strong, coordinated action to ensure global security. Our mutual security won't be assured until our global community acts not only to end the-three-year war in Ukraine, but also the world's longest and most destructive flashpoint, the eight decade long Palestinian-Israeli conflict. Because, my friends, Palestinians, like all people, deserve the right to freedom, sovereignty and yes, statehood.	00:01:16
	SOUNDBITE (English), His Majesty King ABDULLAH II of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, What is happening in Gaza today defies international law, moral standards, and our common values. And we are witnessing transgression after	

00:12:44	transgression in the West Bank, with the situation worsening by the day. If our global community fails to act decisively, we become complicit in rewriting what it means to be human. Because if Israeli bulldozers continue to illegally demolish Palestinian homes, olive groves and infrastructure, so too will they flatten the guardrails that define moral conduct.	00:00:45
00:13:29	SOUNDBITE (English), His Majesty King ABDULLAH II of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, And now, with Israel's expansion of its offensive to include Iran, there is no telling where the boundaries of this battleground will end. And that, my friends, is a threat to people everywhere. Ultimately, this conflict must end, and the only viable solution is one grounded in a just peace, international law and mutual recognition.	00:00:42
00:14:11	SOUNDBITE (English), His Majesty King ABDULLAH II of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, And my friends, the path to our better selves cannot be paid by technological advancements, scientific breakthroughs, or political triumphs alone. It is forged by the choices we make each day as individuals and as leaders. The path to peace has been walked before. It can be again if we have the courage to choose it and the will to walk it together. Thank you.	00:00:41
00:14:52	End	00:00:05

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