

## Biography

Hadeel Abdel-Aziz is a Jordanian human rights activist from Palestinian origin, that founded the NGO Justice Center for Legal Aid (JCLA) and acts as its current Director.

Hadeel worked for over 20 years in fields of judicial reform, access to justice and legal aid.

She holds two bachelor's degrees in finance and law. She also has a diploma in judicial administration.

Hadeel is currently serving as the General Coordinator of HIMAM - a coalition of human rights NGOs. She is one of the primary leaders in Jordanian civil society, advocating for judicial reform, rule of law, and protection against GBV.

Hadeel's organization JCLA is the most important legal aid provider in Jordan, operating through a network of legal aid clinics that serves the most vulnerable people including women, children and refugees in civil, criminal, and family cases including Sharia law.

Hadeel is a fellow of both Ford Fellowship and the Eisenhower Fellowship.

She is also a commissioner at the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ). She served on board of trustees of the Jordan National Center for Human Rights for 3 years.

She is a recipient of the Franco-German Prize for Human Rights and the Rule of Law.

In 2023, Hadeel received the International Women of Courage Award by the U.S. Department of State that recognizes exceptional courage, strength, and leadership, in November 2023, she returned the IWOC award in protest of US unwavering support for Israeli assault on Gaza.