Reporters Without Borders

http://www.rsf.org/jordan-iraqi-opposition-tvstation-s-13-06-2014,46434.html

Middle East/North Africa - Jordan

Al-Abasiya - Act II Iraqi opposition TV station's staff to be charged with terrorism

13 June 2014

Reporters Without Borders deplores a Jordanian state security court prosecutor's decision vesterday to bring terrorism charges against Amman-based Iragi opposition TV station Al-Abasiya's owner and 13 journalists, three days after their arrest during a police raid and the station's closure.

RWB calls for the immediate release of all those detained during the raid, and the withdrawal of all charges.

A judicial source told Agence France-Presse that the prosecutor was accusing the 14 detainees of "using the Internet to carry out acts that exposed Jordanians to attack." They are facing possible five-year jail sentences.

Jordan's broadcasting commission separately told AFP that Al-Abasiya had been broadcasting illegally from Jordan, without a licence.

Jordan is ranked 141st out of 180 countries in the 2014 Reporters Without Borders press freedom index.