

The Effectiveness of the Electronic Administrative Decision in Light of Digital Transformation

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Abstract

Digital transformation has become an urgent necessity imposed by the rapid development in the use of information technology tools. Countries worldwide are competing to benefit from the significant advantages offered by digital and technological instruments, particularly in the field of electronic administrative decisions, with the aim of improving and developing services provided to citizens and beneficiaries electronically, achieving justice, development, and efficiency in processing transactions. This study examines the effectiveness of the electronic administrative decision, as the administrative decision represents one of the most important legal instruments through which public administration expresses its will and exercises its legal activities. The study reached several findings, most notably that electronic effectiveness constitutes a central issue in administrative decisions, producing legal effects from the moment of issuance by the administration and from the moment the concerned parties become aware of it, especially in light of modern communication technologies that facilitate notification of electronic administrative decisions. The study recommends the enactment of specialized legal regulations governing the issuance, effectiveness, and implementation of electronic administrative decisions, alongside ensuring the availability of necessary technical and administrative requirements. This is due to the significant legal implications of such decisions, including their evidentiary value, proof mechanisms, notification date, and the possibility of judicial appeal.

Keywords: Electronic Administrative Decision; Effectiveness of Administrative Decision; Digital Transformation.

Introduction

The world has witnessed a significant technological and informational revolution toward the end of the twenty-first century, which continues to develop rapidly to the present day across various fields, particularly within public utilities and state institutions. Digital transformation has imposed a new administrative reality characterized by modern technological methods that differ substantially from traditional administrative practices.

Digital transformation has also contributed to strengthening e-government operations and management by connecting public institutions and enhancing public service delivery. This transformation aims to save time, effort, and costs, given the vital importance of public facilities that serve broad segments of society through the issuance of electronic administrative decisions, which produce legal effects upon their effectiveness and implementation.

This digital transformation is closely linked to preparing an appropriate environment capable of adopting and accommodating the principles and specific characteristics of modern electronic administration. Consequently, it requires the adoption of a well-structured strategy implemented through gradual steps to ensure the proper digitalization of the administrative system.

The digitalization of administrative procedures contributes to improving the performance of public institutions by replacing paper-based transactions with electronic processes relying on centralized databases that enable easy, rapid, and transparent access to information. Such systems facilitate the issuance and effectiveness of administrative decisions electronically. Accordingly, there is no legal obstacle preventing the administration from expressing its will through electronic administrative decisions or from using electronic means of notification, publication, and announcement, provided that legal writing requirements are respected where mandated by law.

Significance of the Study

This study addresses a contemporary and evolving issue represented by the administration's use of various electronic means in issuing its administrative decisions and communicating them to concerned parties. It seeks to clarify the effective date of electronic administrative decisions for the purpose of producing their legal effects in relation to both the addressees of such decisions and the issuing administrative authority, thereby preventing confusion between the date of issuance and the date of effectiveness.

The study further highlights the necessity of taking appropriate measures to ensure the implementation of electronic administrative decisions, enabling affected individuals and interested parties to exercise their right to challenge such decisions before competent courts. The importance of this topic also stems from the growing necessity of providing public services electronically and ensuring the continuity of administrative activity.

Moreover, the study emphasizes the role of electronic notification methods in informing concerned parties of administrative decisions, particularly in light of the widespread use of electronic communication tools such as email addresses, smartphones, and specialized digital applications. These means play a crucial role in determining the exact timing of sending and receiving electronic administrative decisions, which directly affects their legal validity and enforceability.

Research Problem and Questions

This topic raises several legal issues reflected in the following questions:

- What is the legal validity (probative value) of the electronic administrative decision, and what are the legal foundations governing its effectiveness?
- What is the effective date of an electronic administrative decision with respect to its addressees through electronic notification methods, and when does the period for judicial appeal commence?
- To what extent do specialized legislative frameworks exist to regulate the issuance of electronic administrative decisions, and how adequate are the technical, administrative, and communication infrastructures necessary for issuing, announcing, and publishing such decisions electronically?

Research Methodology

The study adopts both descriptive and analytical approaches. It aims to define the nature of the electronic administrative decision, determine when it becomes effective, and examine the means through which knowledge of such decisions is established. The research also analyzes and critiques relevant administrative legislation, reviews jurisprudential opinions and judicial rulings, and draws upon comparative experiences and legislative frameworks of advanced countries in order to achieve the intended academic and practical benefits.

Study Terminology

Electronic Administrative Decision:

An administrative decision issued unilaterally by a public authority within the limits of its legal competence with the aim of producing a specific legal effect intended to achieve the public interest, while relying on available electronic means in its issuance.

Effectiveness of the Administrative Decision:

The stage at which the administrative decision enters into force and becomes legally operative from the date of its issuance by the competent authority, thereby producing its legal effects in accordance with applicable legal rules. Recipients through Means of Notification of Administrative Decisions

Digital Transformation: Investing in knowledge and changing behavior to achieve a fundamental transformation in work methods and service delivery, by leveraging significant technological advancements to serve beneficiaries more efficiently and effectively, accompanied by the restructuring of procedures necessary for activation and implementation.

Study Plan

Based on the above, this study will be divided into two main sections. The first section addresses the legal regulations governing electronic administrative decisions, subdivided into two subsections. The first subsection examines the concept of the electronic administrative decision, while the second explores the methods of implementing electronic administrative decisions in the context of digital transformation. The second section will discuss the mechanisms for enforcing electronic administrative decisions, also subdivided into two subsections: the first examines the concept of electronic enforcement, and the second addresses the means of electronic enforcement. The study is structured as follows:

Section One: Legal Regulations of the Electronic Administrative Decision

Section Two: Mechanisms for Enforcing the Electronic Administrative Decision

Section One: Legal Regulations of the Electronic Administrative Decision

Technological advancements have contributed to the development of administrative work methods and enhanced communication channels within administrative institutions. These developments have compelled state administrations to transition from traditional decision-making methods to digital transformation, adopting modern electronic approaches that utilize the Internet, computers, and various software to issue electronic administrative decisions and carry out administrative activities. This aligns with the characteristics of administrative law, which include flexibility and adaptability. Delays or inadequate use of digital transformation limit the benefits it provides.

Legal principles constitute the fundamental foundations that guide the formation, application, and interpretation of law within a state, while simultaneously upholding morality and justice within the legal order. From a theoretical perspective, legal principles are not merely abstract norms; rather, they reflect the ethical values deeply embedded in society(Ahmad Agus Ramdlany, Integrating Fiqhiyyah Legal Maxims and Positive Law Principles in the Formation of Indonesia's New National Criminal Code,” Nusantara: Journal of Law Studies, Vol. 5, No. 1 (2026), p. 454, <https://doi.org/10.66325/nusantaralaw.v5i1.156>). The legislative texts regulating the system of suspension of administrative decisions are not integrated and do not cover all aspects of the system in Jordan. (Saleem Asouli, Legal Problems of Article VI of The Jordanian Administrative Justice Law Concerning Formal Conditions for Suspending the Execution of Administrative Decisions: Comparative Study,” International Research Journal of Multidisciplinary Scope (IRJMS), Vol. 6, No. 1 (2025), p. 1463, <https://doi.org/10.47857/irjms.2025.v06i01.02573>).

The principle of legality is a fundamental principle of international criminal law, requiring crimes and penalties to be clearly defined by law and preventing retroactive criminalization. Article 22 of the Rome Statute expressly reflects this principle. (Talal Yassin Aleissa, Principle of Legality in International Criminal Law,” Pakistan Journal of Criminology, Vol. 15, No. 4 (2023), p. 683). The security and safety of international civil aviation require a continuous legal process based on the development and effective implementation of legal rules, respect for international obligations, and sustained cooperation among States and international organizations. (Ziad Mohammad Al Wahshat, Saleem Asouli, Criminalization of Aircraft Hijacking in International Law,” Social Science Forum Journal, ISSN: 0352-3608, E-ISSN: 1581-968X, p. 294.

Electronic administrative policing is a modern extension of traditional administrative policing, aimed at protecting public order and preventing cyber threats before they occur. Despite its reliance on advanced technologies such as electronic surveillance, artificial intelligence, and data analytics, it remains subject to the principle of legality and must balance administrative powers with the protection of digital rights and fundamental freedoms. (Saleem Asouli, “Digital Administrative Policing and Its Role in Regulating Cyberspace: A Comparative Study between Jordan and Indonesia,” Al-Biruni Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences, Vol. 04, No. 06, 2026, pp. 28–41, DOI: <https://doi.org/10.64440/BIRUNI/BIR0028>).

Information has become the primary source of competitive advantage for public services in Jordan. Therefore, it became necessary to explore new horizons within the digital economy and information society by converting most governmental administrative functions into electronic formats, aiming to achieve public benefits and provide citizens with greater opportunities to participate in shaping public administrative policies. Furthermore, the role of e-government is evolving to anticipate and deliver proactive, high-quality services in public administrative

facilities ([Adweidar, Lujain, 2022, Legislative Requirements for E-Government Transformation in Jordan, Ramah Research and Studies, Issue 73, p.110]). This will be examined through electronic administrative decisions, which will be divided into two subsections: the first addressing the concept of electronic administrative decisions, and the second discussing the methods of their implementation in the context of digital transformation.

Subsection One: Concept of the Electronic Administrative Decision

The Jordanian legislator has not provided a formal definition of the electronic administrative decision, leaving the interpretation to legal scholars and administrative courts. There is no provision in the legislation that conflicts with expressing administrative intent through electronic administrative decisions.

Article 4 of the Electronic Transactions Law No. 15 of 2015 states that:

"Any ministry, public institution, or municipality may conduct its transactions using electronic means, provided the requirements for electronic dealings are met."

Article 2 of the same law defines electronic means as:

"The technology involving the use of electrical, magnetic, optical, electromagnetic, or any similar means,"

and defines electronic transactions as:

"Any procedure conducted between one or more parties to establish an obligation on one party or a reciprocal obligation between two or more parties, whether related to commercial, civil, or governmental matters."

Article 3 stipulates that:

"The provisions of this law apply to transactions conducted by electronic means."

Analysis of these legislative texts indicates that an electronic administrative decision can be verified if an independent party (distinct from the issuing parties) provides an electronic signature, which is not controlled by any other party. Its role includes recording the date and time of document creation, preserving it, detecting any alteration or modification of the document or electronic signature, and identifying the issuing administrative authority. This ensures that the authority has the competence to issue the decision through the electronic signature.

Issuance of an administrative decision electronically includes all essential elements: legality, form, reasoning, competent authority, and public interest considerations. It also ensures compliance with statutory writing requirements in specific cases, thereby enabling verification of both issuance and date of the electronic administrative decision, and subsequently applying the rules of enforceability against the administration or individuals ([Al-Salamat, Nasser, 2009, Doctoral Thesis: Enforceability of Administrative Decisions in Jordanian Administrative Law, Ain Shams University, pp.48–53]).

Administrative legal scholarship defines the electronic administrative decision as an electronic document representing the binding will of the administration, issued unilaterally to produce legal effects. Others define it as issued by the administration within the scope of its powers to achieve a specific legal effect for the public interest, utilizing available electronic means. It is further described as the mandatory will of the administration manifested on its platform, issued and electronically signed, and communicated to the concerned individual via email in accordance with laws and regulations, to produce a specific legal effect ([Mousa, Hossam, 2024, Electronic Administrative Decision and Methods of Its Implementation, Al-Anbar Journal of Humanities and Legal Sciences, Vol.14, Issue 1, p.1342]).

These definitions indicate that an electronic administrative decision, like a traditional paper-based decision, must meet the conditions of validity and legal elements. It is a final legal act issued unilaterally by the administrative authority, producing legal effects with the same characteristics as a conventional administrative decision.

Subsection Two: Methods of Implementing Electronic Administrative Decisions in the Context of Digital Transformation.

Technological progress has necessitated the adoption of modern electronic tools in administrative work, moving away from traditional paper-based decision-making methods. Administrative authorities increasingly rely on digital platforms, computer networks, and specialized software to issue electronic administrative decisions and manage administrative operations.

Digital transformation in public administration is not merely a technical upgrade; it involves a holistic change in behavior, workflows, and decision-making processes. It requires investment in both human capital and technology to ensure that the shift produces substantial improvements in service delivery. Moreover, it entails redesigning existing procedures to fit the capabilities of electronic systems, which improves efficiency, reduces errors, and enhances transparency.

In Jordan, the shift to electronic administrative decisions supports the public interest by facilitating citizen participation in policy-making and providing proactive, high-quality services. E-government initiatives allow administrative authorities to anticipate citizens' needs and deliver services based on predefined standards of quality and responsiveness ([Adweidar, Lujain, 2022, Legislative Requirements for E-Government Transformation in Jordan, Ramah Research and Studies, Issue 73, p.110]).

From a legal perspective, the implementation of electronic administrative decisions must satisfy all requirements for validity, including legality, proper form, reasoned justification, and issuance by a competent administrative authority. Electronic systems must ensure:

Authentication of the issuing authority through secure electronic signatures.

Accurate recording of issuance time and date.

Detection and prevention of unauthorized modifications to the decision.

Compliance with statutory obligations regarding documentation and notification.

Administrative scholars have emphasized that electronic administrative decisions are legally equivalent to traditional paper-based decisions. They must produce the intended legal effect, respect administrative powers, and safeguard the public interest. Furthermore, electronic platforms facilitate enforcement, monitoring, and accessibility, which enhances administrative accountability and public trust ([Mousa, Hossam, 2024, Electronic Administrative Decision and Methods of Its Implementation, Al-Anbar Journal of Humanities and Legal Sciences, Vol.14, Issue 1, p.1342]). Electronic administrative decisions are issued through which public administrations provide their services to the public electronically. They receive any electronic request, examine it, and make a decision in the form of an electronic administrative decision that satisfies all its legal requirements. The decision is electronically signed, becomes enforceable upon issuance, and is communicated to the concerned party via modern electronic means such as telephone, email, other applications, or published on official websites. An electronic data message containing the content of the administrative decision serves as a medium for expressing the administration's will, either fully or partially, to produce a specific legal effect. It carries legal validity as an official document when issued with a certified digital signature approved by the competent authority.

Hamamdeh, Ashraf, 2006, Electronic Administrative Decision, Al-Fikr Al-Shurti])
 .([Journal, Vol.25, Issue 99, p.65

After discussing the concept of electronic administrative decisions, we now examine the methods of implementing electronic administrative decisions in the context of .digital transformation

Subsection Two: Methods of Implementing Electronic Administrative Decisions in the Context of Digital Transformation

Administrative bodies in Jordan follow the e-government program, offering their services, or part thereof, electronically through their websites. Consequently, a new mode of government work has emerged, relying on electronics and communication technologies to operate public facilities and provide better services to beneficiaries Al-Faisal, Maher, 2020, Master's Thesis: Electronic Administrative Decision as a])
 Modern Method of Administrative Activity, Middle East University, p.39]). Through this system, government administrations can express their unilateral, binding, and final will by issuing electronic administrative decisions for the concerned parties or .service applicants

Before issuing an electronic administrative decision, the administrative authority organizes electronic fields and selects them through a pre-prepared standardized electronic form, subject to the authority's discretion, supervision, and guidance. This electronic form comprises sections aligned with the elements and requirements of an administrative decision. Each field contains pre-programmed items, which must be completed by the issuing authority for legal and technical purposes to ensure the decision's legitimacy, validity, and the legal basis on which it rests ([Hamamdeh, .([Ashraf, 2006, Electronic Administrative Decision, ibid., p.69

Government departments located in different geographic regions can collaborate through local networks or the internet to issue electronic administrative decisions, such as customs, passports, residency, and border services, simultaneously coordinating with their central authority in the capital via automated computer systems ([Hegazy, Abdel-Fattah, 2007, Legal System of E-Government, Al-Mahalla .([Al-Kubra, Dar Al-Kutub Al-Qanuniya, p.76

Electronic administrative decisions are issued through administrative procedures executed by technical staff. This highlights the importance of the validity of electronic signatures and documentation methods in proving the existence of the decision. It requires examining the legal framework governing electronic signatures and transactions to assess the legal validity of electronic administrative decisions ([Mousa, Hossam, 2024, Electronic Administrative Decision and Methods of Its .([Implementation, ibid., p.1349

There are various types of electronic signatures for administrative decisions, :including

Electronic pen signatures, which involve capturing an image of a handwritten signature, saving it on a computer, and notifying the creator to verify the stored .signature

Biometric signatures, which rely on physical characteristics such as fingerprints or iris scans ([Bouker, Rashida, 2020, Criminal Protection for Electronic Transactions, Al- .([Halabi Legal Publications, Beirut, p.93

.Digital signatures, which precisely identify parties involved

Some electronic administrative decisions are issued automatically upon completion of required documents and conditions by the issuing authority, facilitating the provision of diverse services. These decisions are issued and electronically signed by the same official authorized to issue them in paper form. It is evident that there are multiple and

diverse methods through which government administrations can issue their electronic administrative decisions to manage their operations and various activities within the framework of global digital transformation

This necessitates that competent authorities support digital transformation across all public facilities and administrative bodies—financially, technically, and in terms of human resources—to enhance the efficiency of their electronic services and governance, expand their usage, and ensure implementation for the public interest. Moreover, legislation must be aligned with this substantial technological evolution in data, technologies, and communication networks, considering the importance of administrative decisions that serve a large segment of society. Artificial intelligence and cybersecurity techniques can be leveraged to deliver innovative, creative, and secure services, optimizing the use of digital infrastructure, including software, communication networks, databases, and human cognitive skills in the process of issuing electronic administrative decisions

Section Two: Mechanisms for Enforcing Electronic Administrative Decisions

The enforceability of an electronic administrative decision implies that the decision is legally effective against its parties and produces its intended legal effects, with the possibility of invoking it. When examining the enforceability of electronic administrative decisions, it is essential to distinguish between the date of enforceability against the issuing administration and the date of enforceability against the individuals concerned. The period for filing a cancellation appeal begins 60 days from the day following notification of the administrative decision, as specified by Jordanian law

In the context of digital transformation and the flexibility and development of administrative law, the administration has adopted modern communication tools to conduct its work. Administrative decisions are now published and communicated electronically. Article (8/A) of the Jordanian Administrative Judiciary Law states that "A lawsuit may be filed with the administrative court within sixty days from the day following notification of the contested decision to the claimant, its publication in the official gazette, or any other means, including electronic methods" ([Jordanian Administrative Judiciary Law No. 27 of 2014

This provision demonstrates that Jordanian legislators allow the use of electronic means for publication and notification, provided that a legal basis permits electronic notification. Administrative and legal controls must ensure that individuals are informed of the mechanisms for enforcing electronic administrative decisions

To address this section, the mechanisms for enforcing electronic administrative decisions are divided into two subsections: the first examines the concept of electronic enforceability, and the second addresses the means of electronic enforcement

Subsection One: Concept of Electronic Enforceability

There is no legal barrier to proving the issuance of an electronic administrative decision by the competent authority, nor to proving its date, thereby applying the rules governing enforceability against the administration or individuals, provided that the decision meets the legal requirements for validity and contains the elements prescribed by law. This establishes the legal existence of the decision ([Al-Ajarmeh, Noufan, 2013, Enforceability of Electronic Administrative Decisions, Journal of Sharia and Law Studies, Vol.40, University of Jordan, p.1027]). Enforceability is effective from the moment of issuance, unless it is conditional upon a suspensive or resolute condition

Jordanian legislation does not define the concept of electronic enforceability, and few scholars have addressed it. One definition states that it involves the administrative decision entering into force from the date of issuance by the competent authority, satisfying all legal requirements and producing its legal effects. The decision cannot be invoked against individuals until they are notified through appropriate means, such as publication for regulatory decisions or personal notification for individual decisions Abdel-Hafeez, Omar, 2021, Mechanisms for Enforcing Electronic Administrative]).([Decisions, Al-Bayan Journal for Legal and Political Studies, Vol.6, Issue 1, p.14 Invoking the decision means that the electronic administrative decision can produce legal effects against concerned parties, which takes effect from the moment they become aware of it. The right can be invoked as soon as the decision is legally valid, .i.e., from the moment it is signed

:Jordanian administrative courts have followed this approach. One ruling stated The publication of a regulatory decision involving the expropriation of part of " claimants' land in the official gazette constitutes notification to concerned parties and marks the start of the appeal period. The decision acquires finality and is immune to challenge if no appeal is filed within the statutory period" ([Jordanian Supreme Court, .([Case No.176/1997, issued 28/9/1997, Adala Center Publications

It is important to note that enforceability of an electronic administrative decision differs from execution. Execution is an external aspect of the decision and an implicit result of the decision's executive authority. Enforceability also differs between positive and negative administrative decisions. The difference lies in the mechanism of issuance and the corresponding ability to invoke the decision against the administration or individuals. Negative administrative decisions become enforceable at the end of the period during which the administration must remain silent after receiving a request. Positive administrative decisions are enforceable upon signing by the issuing authority but cannot be invoked against the concerned parties until they .are notified

Enforceability of electronic administrative decisions does not differ from traditional administrative decisions; upon issuance, the decision is legally effective against the .administration and produces its legal consequences

Subsection Two: Means of Electronic Enforcement

Electronic administrative decisions are enforceable against individuals only when they are informed through an appropriate electronic method. Regulatory decisions reach individuals via electronic publication, while individual decisions are communicated electronically to the concerned parties. The Jordanian legislator has added a third method: certain knowledge, ensuring that individuals are fully aware of .the decision

Subsection One: Electronic Publication

With the development and diversification of communication means, the administration has increasingly relied on electronic tools to publish its decisions to individuals, provided that true and sufficient knowledge of the decision's content and details is ensured for the concerned parties. This enables individuals to determine their position regarding the decision. Electronic publication methods include publishing in the official gazette electronically or posting the decision on various .administrative websites over the internet

To fulfill its purpose, electronic publication must clearly convey the content of the decision so that individuals are fully informed. If the administration publishes a summary of the decision, the summary must include all elements of the administrative

decision to allow the concerned parties to assess their stance regarding it. This is particularly important for calculating the start of the appeal period for electronic administrative decisions ([Hammamdeh, Ashraf, 2016, Electronic Administrative Decisions, p.83

Electronic publication is defined as the process of issuing a written work through electronic means, either directly via a computer or through communication networks Shaheen, Sherif, 2021, Electronic Information Sources, Egyptian-Lebanese])

.[Publishing, Cairo, p.25
Jordanian administrative jurisprudence confirms this principle. The Supreme Court of Justice ruled

A decision issued by the Amman Municipality Council imposing new fees on "sacrifices, and ratified by the Council of Ministers, is a regulatory decision issued by an administrative authority, and is therefore considered an administrative decision subject to appeal before the Supreme Court. A regulatory decision cannot be enforced until its publication in the official gazette" ([Jordanian Supreme Court, Case No.40/1953, issued 1/1/2000, Bar Association Journal, 2000, p.59

:The Court also ruled

Publication of administrative decisions, whether general or individual, in the official "gazette constitutes notification to all concerned if the publication includes the content of the decision" ([Jordanian Supreme Court, Case No.132/1998, issued 6/6/1998, Judicial Magazine, Vol.6, 1998, p.779

Electronic publication has multiple applications and advantages that make it superior to paper-based methods, including speed, accuracy, lower costs, and broad dissemination in minimal time. Moreover, this method ensures resilience against physical obstacles, particularly in exceptional circumstances or situations with security control challenges ([Al-Faisal, Maher, 2020, Master Thesis on Electronic Administrative Decisions, p.55

In conclusion, there is no prohibition against publishing administrative decisions via electronic means. Consequently, such decisions are enforceable against both the administration and the individuals concerned, provided that the electronic medium used by the administration meets all the elements of the administrative decision and clearly conveys its content and details

Subsection Two: Electronic Notification

Notification or announcement of administrative decisions may be performed through various means, including delivery by hand, ordinary mail, or verbal communication. However, this study focuses on electronic notification, such as via the internet, email, fax, or other electronic means, which marks the start of the appeal period for administrative decisions once the decision meets all formal and substantive requirements

Electronic notification is defined as a programmed process undertaken by the administrative authority to send the administrative decision through available means, ensuring its receipt and possession in electronic form by the concerned party Shubeir, Mohamed, 2015, PhD Thesis on Electronic Enforceability of Administrative Decisions, Ain Shams University, p.576)). Accordingly, electronic notification involves a sequence of procedural steps: sending the decision, ensuring its receipt, and making it accessible to the concerned party in electronic, not paper, form, effectively establishing possession and awareness of its content ([Abdel-Hafeez, Omar, 2021, Mechanisms for Enforcing Electronic Administrative Decisions, p.21

Several challenges may limit electronic notification, such as the recipient being unable to access or read the email due to encryption, lack of compatible software, insufficient storage, or device limitations

Some specialists suggest solutions, including requiring the recipient to log into a website, confirm their identity, and verify receipt, while the administration sends a timestamped acknowledgment. A third party can retain a copy of this acknowledgment, containing all information about the parties, date, and time of sending and receipt, which can serve as evidence in case of legal disputes ([Mostafa, Alaa, 2020, Electronic Administrative Decisions, Conference on Electronic Transactions, p.140

True and sufficient knowledge of the administrative decision can thus be ensured for the concerned parties, making the electronic administrative decision enforceable. The burden of proving notification lies with the administration, as consistently upheld in administrative jurisprudence. The administration must establish the date of receipt; otherwise, it is impossible to determine the start of enforceability against individuals. The Egyptian Supreme Administrative Court ruled that the burden of proof for publication or notification, which marks the start of the period, lies with the administration ([Egyptian Supreme Administrative Court, Case No.201, Year 18 Q, Legal Principles Collection, Vol.2, Principle No.265, p.1201]). Similarly, Jordanian courts have held that the burden of proving the date of notification rests with the administration, stating

If the date of notification of the contested decision to the claimants is not proven, the "appeal period remains open, and the lawsuit is deemed filed within the statutory period" ([Jordanian Supreme Court, Case No.115/83, Legal Principles Collection of the Court of Cassation, Vol.2, p.951

Electronic notification does not differ in purpose from paper notification; both aim to convey the content of the administrative decision to individuals using either physical or technological means, such as computers or smartphones, without affecting the enforceability of the decision against the administration or concerned individuals

Subsection Three: Certain Knowledge

Certain knowledge is a judicial doctrine intended to ensure that individuals acquire confirmed knowledge of the complete content of the administrative decision through means other than the administration. Jordanian legislation explicitly recognizes this in Article 8(b) of the Administrative Judiciary Law

The knowledge of the appellant regarding the contested decision is deemed certain "knowledge

In the context of electronic administrative decisions, this principle is adapted through modern technological tools, limiting the traditional uncertainty associated with knowledge. Even if a decision reaches the recipient's email and they view its content without opening the document, execution of the decision serves as evidence that they had certain knowledge of the decision

Ultimately, the administration bears the burden of proving certain knowledge of the administrative decision. Judicial consensus allows for various means to establish such knowledge, whether through evidence or presumptions, provided that the proof demonstrates that the concerned party had full and certain knowledge of all content. The appeal period begins from the date this certain knowledge is established

Conclusion

After completing this study, we summarize the most important findings and recommendations:

Findings

- 1 . There is no legislation prohibiting the administration from expressing its will using technological means. Conversely, the Jordanian legislator has not defined the concept of the electronic administrative decision or the enforceability of electronic administrative decisions.
- 2 . Electronic administrative decisions and the methods of notifying concerned parties do not significantly differ from traditional administrative decisions, except in the method of issuance, which is electronic.
- 3 . The enforceability of an electronic administrative decision is only recognized once the concerned parties are informed through legally prescribed means, including electronic publication, electronic notification or announcement, and in some cases, certain knowledge.
- 4 . Electronic publication and notification offer numerous advantages, such as reducing expenditures, saving money, effort, and human resources, while enabling fast, accurate, and uninterrupted operation under all conditions and at all times.

Recommendations

- 1 . There is a need to enact a new and modern administrative law that addresses all technical and administrative issues, avoids errors that may arise during the issuance and enforceability of electronic administrative decisions, and includes regulations and instructions for applying and interpreting the law while providing legal protection. This law should benefit from the experiences of developed countries and scientific and technological advancements.
- 2 . Establish regulatory controls for electronic notification and announcement to keep pace with technological developments concerning both regulatory and individual decisions.
- 3 . Expand the application of e-government and electronic public administration, especially regarding administrative decisions. This requires training and qualifying staff, establishing the necessary electronic infrastructure, and developing and updating the public sector and its electronic programs due to their substantial benefits for the administration and its clients.
- 4 . Launch awareness campaigns to educate citizens interacting with government agencies on the use of digital transformation tools regarding electronic administrative decisions, their enforceability, and the methods of acquiring knowledge of such decisions. Promote a culture of government electronic services and how to utilize them effectively.

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