



Two Economies – One Society

Conference Chair: Prof. Eugene Kandel | Conference Director: Daphna Aviram-Nitzan

Tuesday and Wednesday, December 17–18, 2019, David Citadel Hotel, Jerusalem

Tuesday, December 17th

8:30 – 9:15 Registration

9:15 – 9:30 Opening Remarks

Yohanan Plesner, President, Israel Democracy Institute

9:30 – 13:00 Morning Session

The Next Government's Economic Strategy: Where are we Headed?

Chair: **Prof. Eugene Kandel**, Hebrew University of Jerusalem;
CEO Start-Up Nation Central

Prof. Avi Simhon, Head of the National Economic Council, and the Prime Minister's Advisor on Economic Affairs
Shaul Meridor, Director of Budgets, Ministry of Finance
Roni Hizkiyahu, Accountant General, Ministry of Finance
Anat Guetta, Chair, Israel Securities Authority
Dr. Ami Appelbaum, Chair, Israel Innovation Authority
Heliodoro Temprano Arroyo, Advisor, Directorate General for Economic and Financial Affairs, European Commission

11:00 – 11:30 Coffee Break

Opening Discussion

Prof. Karnit Flug, Vice-President for Research, the Israel Democracy Institute

Shraga Brosh, Chairman of the Directorate of Business Organizations

Michael Eisenberg, Joint Managing Partner, Aleph Venture Capital

Plenary Discussion

12:40 – 13:00 MK Benny Gantz, Chair of the Blue and White Party and former IDF Chief of Staff

13:00 – 13:20 Prof. Amir Yaron, Governor, Bank of Israel

13:20 – 14:20 Lunch

14:20 – 15:30 Afternoon Session

Easing the Regulatory Burden – Is this possible?

Chair: **Daphna Aviram-Nitzan**, Director of the Center for Governance and the Economy, Israel Democracy Institute

A Regulatory Roadmap for Investors: Implementation on the Ground

Oz Katz, Head of the Industries Administration, Ministry of Economy and Industry

Trust-based Regulation: Declarations as a Tool for Easing the Bureaucratic and Regulatory Burden

Dr. Eyal Pe'er, Israel Democracy Institute; Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Discussion:

Adv. Meir Levin, Deputy Attorney General for Fiscal and Economic Matters

Oren Cohen, Deputy Director General, Division of Governance and Social Affairs, Prime Minister's Office

Dr. Ron Tomer, Owner, Unipharm;

Dore Bloch, Budget Division, Ministry of Finance

15:50 – 18:30 Afternoon Session

"Israel 2050: Moving towards a Thriving Economy in a Sustainable Environment": A Strategic Process

Chair: **Daphna Aviram-Nitzan**, Director of the Center for Governance and the Economy, Israel Democracy Institute

The Israel 2050 Plan

Shuli Nezer, Senior Deputy Director General for Industry, Ministry of Environmental Protection

Galit Cohen, Senior Deputy Director General for Policy Planning and Strategy, Ministry of Environmental Protection

The Plan's Impact on Economic Growth

Prof. Nathan Sussman, Israel Democracy Institute; Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Dr. Rusiana Rachel Palatnik, Chair, the Max Stern Yezreel Valley College; Haifa University

The Plan's Impact on Israeli Society

Daphna Aviram-Nitzan

Director Generals in Discussion

Led by **Prof. Eugene Kandel**

Environmental Protection - **Guy Samet**, Director General, Ministry of Environmental Protection

Energy Economics - **Ehud Adiri**, Director General, Ministry of Energy

Cities and Buildings - **Dalit Zilber**, Director General, Israel Planning Administration

Industry and Waste - **Shay Rinsky**, Director General, Ministry of Economy and Industry

Minister Dr. Yuval Steinitz, the Ministry of Energy

Opening Discussion:

Sagi Dagan, Head of the Growth Division, Israel Innovation Authority

Prof. Michel Strawczynski, Director of the Research Department, Bank of Israel

Dr. Eli Abramov, Chair, Chemical, Pharmaceutical, and Environmental Protection Division, Manufacturers' Association of Israel

Victor Weis, Executive Director, Heschel Center for Sustainability

Ghalda Rinawie Zoabi, Executive Director, ACTO— Academic Center for Impact Investing & Entrepreneurship, College of Management Academic Studies

Harel Shlissel, Budget Division, Ministry of Finance

Chen Altschuler, Head of Innovation Strategy, Altschuler Shaham

Chaim Hurvitz, Economic Social Forum

Plenary Discussion

18:30 Summing up the Session and the Day

Prof. Eugene Kandel

18:45 Light Supper

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9:30 – 11:30 Morning session

Human Capital in Israel: Narrowing the Labor Productivity Gap as a Key to Reducing Income Disparities

Chair: **Prof. Karnit Flug**, Vice-President for Research, Israel Democracy Institute

Upgrading Workers' Competencies as a Tool for Reducing Social Gaps

Prof. Karnit Flug, Chairman of the Planning and Budgeting Committee of the Israel Council for Higher Education

The New Campus: The Council for Higher Education and the Planning and Budgeting Committee Prepare for a Changing Reality

Prof. Yaffa Zilbershatz

Does the Higher Education System Address the Needs of the Market?

Dr. Eitan Regev, Israel Democracy Institute

An Alternative to Higher Education?

Roel Deutsch, CEO, Jolt

Government officials' discussion

led by **Prof. Karnit Flug**

Mordechai Elisha, Director of the Labor Division, Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs and Social Services

Michal Fink, Deputy Director General for Strategy, Ministry of Economy and Industry

Itzik Daniel, Budget Division, Ministry of Finance

Opening Discussion:

MK Gila Gamliel, Minister for Social Equality

Yossi Alkovi, President of the Union of Craftsmen and Industrial Workers

Dita Bronicki, Founder, Ormat Technologies

Shlomi Yehiav, Chairman, The National Union of Israeli Students

The Labor Market and Productivity: A Look into the Future

Shira Greenberg, Chief Economist, Ministry of Finance

Plenary Discussion

11:30 – 12:00 Coffee Break

12:00 – 12:30

How Do We Adapt Our Labor Agreements to the 21st Century?

Chair: **Prof. Yotam Margalit**, Senior Fellow, Israel Democracy Institute; Tel Aviv University

Survey of Equilibrium and Flexibility in the Israeli Labor Market

Daphna Aviram-Nitzan, Director of the Center for Governance and the Economy, Israel Democracy Institute

Labor Agreements in the Public Service

Kobi Bar-Nathan, Director of Salary and Employment Agreements, Ministry of Finance

Labor Agreements in the Business Sector

Itzik Saig, Chair, Employers' Mutual Assistance Fund, Directorate of Business Organizations

Gearing up in Labor Unions

Shay Biran, CEO of Economics Division, The Histadrut (General Organization of Workers)

12:30 – 14:00 Afternoon Session

The Labor Market Prepares for an Aging Population

Chair: **Yohanan Plesner**, President, Israel Democracy Institute

Promoting Policies to Encourage Employment among Older Adults (age 50+)

Prof. Yotam Margalit, Senior Fellow, Israel Democracy Institute; Tel Aviv University

Opening Discussion:

Avi Cohen, Director General, Ministry of Social Equality

Prof. Michel Strawczynski, Director of the Research Department, Bank of Israel

Yulia Eitan, Head of the Employment Administration for Special Populations, Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs and Social Services

Yossi Heymann, Executive Director, JDC-Eshel

MK Meirav Cohen, Blue and White party

Lirit Serphos, Senior Department Head, Division of Governance and Social Affairs, Prime Minister's Office

Yael Agmon, Budget Division, Ministry of Finance

Plenary Discussion

Summary of the session: **Prof. Karnit Flug**

14:00 – 15:00 Lunch

15:00 – 16:30 Afternoon Session

The National Insurance Institute Prepares for an Aging Population

Chair: **Prof. Eugene Kandel**, Hebrew University of Jerusalem; CEO, Start-Up Nation Central

Bolstering the National Insurance Institute's Financial Resilience

Prof. Eytan Sheshinski, Israel Democracy Institute

Opening the Discussion:

Meir Shpigler, Director General, National Insurance Institute

Alon Messer, Deputy Budget Director for Welfare Matters, Ministry of Finance

Dr. Adi Brender, Head of the Macroeconomic and Policy Division, Research Department, Bank of Israel

MK Oded Forer, Yisrael Beytenu party

Prof. Leah Ahdut, Ruppin Academic Center

Prof. Daniel Gottlieb, Deputy Director General for Research and Planning, National Insurance Institute

Plenary Discussion

16:30 Conference Summary

Prof. Eugene Kandel