



President of the IDI: Yohanan Plesner | Conference Chairs: Prof. Karnit Flug and Prof. Eugene Kandel  
Conference Director: Daphna Aviram-Nitzan  
Tuesday and Wednesday, May 30–31, 2023 | Orient Hotel, Jerusalem

## Tuesday, May 30, 2023

### 9:00–9:30 Registration

#### 9:30 Opening remarks

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

**Bezalet Smotrich**, Minister of Finance

#### Greetings

**Moshe Leon**, Mayor of Jerusalem

#### 10:00

Lecture by **Prof. Amir Yaron**, Governor of  
the Bank of Israel

#### 10:20

Keynote address: **Martin Wolf**, Chief  
Economics commentator, *Financial Times*

### 10:30–1:00 PM

#### Where is the Israeli Economy Headed?

Chair: **Yohanan Plesner**

#### The Current Picture and Forecasts

**Yali Rothenberg**, Accountant General, Ministry of  
Finance

**Yogev Gradus**, Director of the Budget Division,  
Ministry of Finance

#### The Economic Ramifications of the Government Plan for Judicial Overhaul

**Prof. Itai Ater**, Senior Fellow, Israel Democracy  
Institute

**Prof. Karnit Flug**, Vice President for research and  
the William Davidson Senior Fellow for Economic  
Policy, Israel Democracy Institute; Hebrew  
University of Jerusalem; and former Governor of  
the Bank of Israel

**Prof. Zvi Eckstein**, Dean of the Tiomkin School of  
Economics and Head of the Aaron Institute for  
Economic Policy, Reichman University

**Shira Greenberg**, Chief Economist, Ministry of  
Finance

### 11:15–11:45 Break

#### Voices from the Field

**Dr. Michal Tsur Shalev**, Cofounder, Cyota;  
cofounder and president, Kaltura  
**Alan Feld**, founding partner, Vintage Fund; founder,  
Power in Diversity Israel

**Hanadi Said**, Cofounder and CEO, Sensai Networks  
**Noam Bardin**, founder, post.news, former CEO of  
Waze

**Adv. Anat Naschitz**, Founder and CEO, 9xchange  
**Alon Arvatz**, Founder, IntSights

**Dr. Ami Appelbaum**, Chairman, Israel Innovation  
Authority, and chief scientist, Ministry of the  
Economy and Industry

#### The Impact of the Judicial Overhaul Plan on Household Budgets

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

#### Open discussion

#### Summary of the Session

**Adv. Shlomi Heisler**, Director General, Ministry of  
Finance

### 1:00–2:00 PM Lunch

**Arnon Bar-David**, Chair, Histadrut Labor Federation

**Dubi Amitai**, Chair, Business Sector Presidium

**Dr. Ron Tomer**, President, Manufacturers  
Association of Israel and chair of the Organization  
of Businesses and Employers in Israel; industrialist

### 2:30–4:15

#### The Cost of Living in Israel

Chair: Prof. **Itai Ater**, Senior Fellow, Israel Democracy  
Institute

#### Presentation of the survey findings on public attitudes on the cost of living

#### Voices from the Field

**Shahar Turgeman**, Chairman of the Board, the Brill  
Group

**Uri Kilstein**, CEO, Carrefour Israel

**Adam Friedler**, Founder and CEO, Good Pharm

**Linor Deutsch**, Founding partner and CEO, Lobby 99

#### How Can the Cost of Living be Cut?

**Yoel Baris**, Chair, Regulatory Oversight Board, the  
Prime Minister's Office

**Eran Yaacov**, Director, Israel Tax Authority

**Michal Fink**, Deputy Director General for strategy,  
Ministry of the Economy and Industry

**Dr. Adi Brender**, Director of the research division, Bank  
of Israel

**Prof. Emanuel Trajtenberg**, Director, Institute for  
National Security Studies (INSS)

#### Open discussion

### 4:05

**MK Avigdor Liberman**, Yisrael Beitenu

### 4:15–4:45 Break

### 4:45–6:15

#### The Relations between the Central and Local Government: Centralization vs. Decentralization

#### Opening remarks

**Yohanan Plesner**

**MK Moshe Arbel**, Minister of the Interior

**Yossi Sheli**, Director General, the Prime Minister's  
Office

#### The Relationship between the Central Government and Local Government

**Dr. Ariel Finkelstein**, Director of the Local Government  
Project, the Israel Democracy Institute

#### Dialogue among Mayors

**Motti Sasson**, Holon

**Shimon Lankri**, Acre

**Oded Revivi**, Efrat

**Tal Ohana**, Yeroham

**Abd al-Aziz Nasasra**, Kseifa

**Galit Shaul**, Emek Hefer Regional Council

**Rotem Yadlin**, Gezer Regional Council

**Amir Kokhavi**, Hod Hasharon

**Matan Yagel**, deputy budget director for local  
authorities, Ministry of Finance

#### Civil Society Initiatives

**Idit Bar**, CEO, Bloomberg-Sagol Center

**Mordechai Cohen**, former Director General of the  
Ministry of the Interior

#### Open discussion



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## Wednesday, May 31, 2023

### 9:00–9:30 Mingling

#### 9:30

MK Benny Gantz, the National Camp

### 9:40–11:00

#### The Future of Israeli High Tech

Prof. Eugene Kandel, cochair, Start Up Nation Policy Institute (SNPI); the Hebrew University of Jerusalem

#### Lead-off speakers

**Dror Bin**, CEO, Israel Innovation Authority  
**Noam Dan**, head of the Communications, Tourism, R&D and Higher Education Team, Budget Department, Ministry of Finance

#### Voices from the field

**Dr. Yossi Vardi**, hi-tech entrepreneur  
**Yifat Oron**, managing director, Blackstone Israel  
**Gigi Levy-Weiss**, general partner, NFX  
**Ziv Kop**, managing partner, OG Venture Partners  
**Reem Younis**, owner and cofounder, Alpha Omega

#### Open Discussion

#### 11:00

MK Yair Lapid, Leader of the Opposition

### 11:10 Break

### 11:30–1:00 PM

#### The Link between Education, Mobility, and High Tech

Chair: Prof. Karnit Flug, vice president for research, the Israel Democracy Institute, the William Davidson Senior Fellow for Economic Policy, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and former governor of the Bank of Israel

#### High Tech as a Road to Economic Mobility

Prof. Karnit Flug  
Prof. Yotam Margalit, senior fellow, the Israel Democracy Institute

#### Voices from the field

**Maya Horowitz**, vice president for research, Check Point Software Technologies  
**Eli Hurvitz**, executive director, Trump Foundation  
**Amir Sabhat**, senior research fellow, Samuel Neaman Institute  
**MK Mansour Abbas**, United Arab List

#### Government representatives

**Mohana Fares**, deputy director general and director of the technological education administration, Ministry of Education  
**Hassan Tawafra**, head of the Arab Sector Economic Development Authority, the Ministry for Social Equality

12:50 Yoav Kish, Minister of Education

### 1:00–2:00 Lunch

### 2:00–3:30

#### Development of Sectors that Generate Green Employment

Chair: Daphna Aviram-Nitzan, director of the Center for Government and Economics, the Israel Democracy Institute

### Global Trends on the Road to Green Employment

Prof. Nathan Sussman, senior guest fellow, the Israel Democracy Institute  
Shay Biran, partner, Synergy Consulting, researcher, the Israel Democracy Institute

Idit Silman, Minister of Environmental Protection

Jo Tyndall, director for the Environment Directorate, OECD

Guy Samet, director general, the Ministry of Environmental Protection

Efi Malkin, commissioner of wages, Ministry of Finance

Hanan Brand, deputy director and head of the Startup Division, Israel Innovation Authority

Nitzan Mimrod, senior division head, vocational training and personnel development, Ministry of Labor

#### Voices from the field

Eli Cohen, CEO, Thermokir, chair of the Building Materials and Consumer Goods Industries, Manufacturers' Association of Israel  
Eitan Parnes, CEO, Association of Green Energy Companies in Israel  
Dr. Ran Sharon, CEO, Clariter  
Udi Adiri, CEO, Blilious Group

### 3:30–4:10

#### The Future of Vocational Training in Israel

Chair: Daphna Aviram-Nitzan

Einat Singer-Dan, CEO, BR Israel and the Forum for Economic and Social Development

Tair Ifergan, director general, Ministry of Labor

Kfir Battat, deputy budget director for employment Ministry of Finance

#### Open discussion

Yoav Ben-Tzur, Minister of Labor

### 4:10 Break

### 4:30–5:30

#### Innovation in the Civil Service

Chair: Adv. Rita Golstein-Galperin, head, Civil Service Reform Program, Center for Governance and the Economy, the Israel Democracy Institute

#### Lead-off speakers

Liron Hentz, deputy director general for government and society, the Prime Minister's Office  
Prof. Daniel Hershkowitz, Civil Service Commissioner  
Eitan T, deputy director general for planning and strategy, Ministry of Innovation, Science, and Technology

Evyatar Peretz, chief innovation and technology officer, Office of the Accountant General, Ministry of Finance

Dr. Assaf Kovo, chief economist, Israel Innovation Authority

#### Voices from the field

Lieut. Col. Michal Frankel, head of the innovation unit, Combat Methods and Innovation Section, IDF General Staff  
Itay Agus, head, Hazira Project for Innovation in Local Government  
Adv. Itzik Sabato, head of Strategy, Innovation and Digital, National Insurance Institute