



Reichman University

Aaron Institute
for Economic Policy
In the name of Aaron Dovrat z"l

THE AARON INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC POLICY CONFERENCE

At the Tiomkin School of Economics, Reichman University

2023

LOOKING AT THE CHALLENGES FACING ISRAELI ECONOMY IN TURBULENT TIMES

June 13-14, 2023

Chais Auditorium (CL05), Arazi-Ofer Building, Reichman University

The main issues to be discussed in this year's conference are:

- What are the growth scenarios for Israel over the next few years?
- How will the regime coup affect the economy in the short and long term?
- What is the impact of the global high-tech crisis on the Israeli high-tech sector?
- Will setting targets for "high-tech matriculation" promote high-tech occupations and innovation across the Israeli economy?
- Is labor productivity in Israel on the verge of a breakthrough?
- Are we heading for a smooth landing or a severe recession in Israel and worldwide?
- Will demographic trends crush the Israeli economy?
- What is the expected income trajectory of Haredi and Arab households?
- Which economic policy would close the gaps in income from work among Israelis?
- What is the government's plan for transportation access over the next two decades?

Moderated by **Prof. Omer Moav**, Annual Conference Chair; Tiomkin School of Economics, Reichman University; University of Warwick

Tuesday, June 13, 2023, 18:00

Prof. Rafi Melnick, Reichman University President

Prof. Gita Gopinath, First Deputy Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, in conversation with **Prof. Martin Eichenbaum**, Northwestern University

Prof. Amir Yaron, Bank of Israel Governor:

"The Challenges Facing the Israeli Economy"

Mr. Shlomo Dovrat, Founder and General Partner, Viola Group; Chair of Aaron Institute for Economic Policy

Lieutenant General (res.) Gabi Ashkenazi, former Minister of Foreign Affairs and the 19th Chief of the IDF General Staff

Wednesday, June 14, 2023, 8:45

8:45 Gathering and Welcome

9:30 1st Session:

Israeli Economy: Challenges in Turbulent Waters

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

"Achievements and Challenges of the Israeli Economy"

Mr. Yogev Gradus, Director-General of the Budget Department, Ministry of Finance

"The Challenges Facing Israel's Economy"

Prof Itai Ater, Tel Aviv University; The Israel Democracy Institute

"Economic Repercussions of the Regime Coup"

Comment:

Ms. Shira Greenberg, Chief Economist, Ministry of Finance

Panel discussion moderated by **Mr. Avi Hasson**, CEO of Start-Up Nation Central, former Chief Scientist at The Ministry of Economy and Chair of the Israel Innovation Authority, titled:

"The Global and Local Crisis in the High-Tech Sector"

Participants:

Mr. Dror Bin, CEO of the Israel Innovation Authority

Mr. Yoram Tietz, Senior Advisor at General Atlantic; former Managing Partner at Ernst & Young Israel

Ms. Adi Soffer Teeni, General Manager of Meta Israel

Comments:

Mr. Tomer Bar-Zeev, President of Unity Software; former CEO and co-founder of ironSource

Mr. Nir Zohar, COO and President of Wix.com

Dr. Michael Sarel, Head of Kohelet Economic Forum

Session conclusion: **Prof. Omer Moav**, Annual Conference Chair

11:10 Coffee break

11:40 2nd Session:

Will Demographic Trends Crush the Israeli Economy?

Dr. Osnat Lifshitz, Tiomkin School of Economics, Reichman University

"Household Income from Work: Challenges, Scenarios, and Policies"

Panel discussion moderated by **Mr. Yarom Ariav**, CEO of an economic consulting firm and Chair of the Future Scientists Center, titled:

"Will Demographic Trends Crush the Israeli Economy?"

Participants:

Dr. Adi Brender, Head of the Research Department, Bank of Israel

Rabbi Mordechai Karlitz, former Mayor of Bnei Brak

Dr. Marian Tehawkho, Head of The Center for Economic Policy of the Israeli Arab Society, Aaron Institute

Comments:

Mr. Kfir Battat, Deputy Director of the Budget Department, Ministry of Finance

Ms. Suzan Hasan, Deputy CEO of JDC-TEVET

Mr. Najeeb Amaria, Senior Economist at the Chief Economist Division, Ministry of Finance

Ms. Rony Schnitzer, Chief Strategy Officer, Ministry of Labor

Session conclusion: **Prof. Omer Moav**, Annual Conference Chair

12:40 3rd Session:

Is Labor Productivity in Israel on the Verge of a Breakthrough?

Dr. Sergei Sumkin, Senior Researcher at Aaron Institute

"Setting Targets for High-Tech Matriculation and Technological Occupations to Promote Innovation and Growth"

Panel discussion moderated by **Ms. Yael Andorn**, Founder and Partner at CapitalA Investments, former Director-General of the Ministry of Finance, titled:

"Implementing Innovation in Practice – Success or Stagnation?"

Participants:

Mr. Kobi Haber, CEO of I.D.I Insurance Company

Dr. Samer Haj-Yehia, Chair of the Board, Bank Leumi

Ms. Shira Lev Ami, Head of the National Digital Agency

Comments:

Ms. Noam Dan, Head Of Communications, Tourism, R&D and Higher Education Team at the Budget Department, Ministry of Finance

Mr. Eli Hurvitz, Executive Director of the Trump Foundation

Mr. Eliyahu Zohar, Mayor of Kiryat Malakhi

Mr. David (Dadi) Perlmutter, former Executive Vice President at Intel; Chair of The National Committee for Increasing Human Capital in the High-tech Industry

Session conclusion: **Prof. Omer Moav**, Annual Conference Chair

13:40 Lunch

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