

Innovation Policy Amid the Climate Crisis

University of Haifa Faculty of Law

Wednesday-Thursday, December 3-4, 2025

Wednesday, December 3

Venue: NOF Hotel, Haifa

18:30 - 19:00 | Welcome Reception & Registration

19:00 - 19:30 | Greetings & Keynote Delivery

Prof. Tal Zarsky, Dean, University of Haifa Faculty of Law

Opening Reflections: Innovation and the Science-Industry Interface

Mr. Jack Levy, Partner, MoreVC

Bridging Academia and Industry in Cleantech Innovation

19:30 | Dinner

Thursday, December 4

Venue: University of Haifa, Faculty of Law, 2nd Floor, Room 202

09:00 – 09:30 | Gathering & Greetings

Prof. Daniel Benoliel, University of Haifa Faculty of Law; Director, Haifa Center of Law and Technology (HCLT)

Commissioner Mordechai Sorek, Israeli Patents, Designs and Trademark Patent Office (ILPO)

Dr. Dalit Ken-Dror Feldman, Scientific Director, The Center for Cyber Law and Policy (CCLP), University of Haifa

09:30 – 10:40 | Session I: Plenary - Innovation Policy and the Climate Crisis: Foundational Questions

Chair: **Prof. Orit Fischman-Afori**, Strikis Faculty of Law, College of Management; President of the International Association for the Advancement of Teaching and Research in Intellectual Property (ATRIP)

Speakers:

Prof. Alon Tal, Tel Aviv University Department of Public Policy, presenting: “Effective Policies for Accelerating Climate Innovation”

Prof. Joshua D. Sarnoff, DePaul University College of Law, presenting: “Rethinking Patent Incentives for a Climate-Resilient Future”

Prof. Ofira Ayalon, School of Environmental Sciences, University of Haifa; Head of Energy and Environment Cluster, Samuel Neaman Institute, Technion - Israel Institute of Technology, presenting: “Environmental R&D as a Catalyst for Systemic Change”

Prof. Oren Perez, Head, Center of Environmental and Climate Law, Bar-Ilan University Faculty of Law, presenting: “Anti-Precaution: Rethinking Risk Governance in the Climate Era”

10:40 – 10:50 | Coffee Break

10:50 – 12:00 | Session II: Patent Law and Climate Innovation

Chair: **Prof. Moran Ofir**, University of Haifa Faculty of Law

:Speakers

Prof. Miriam Marcowitz-Bitton, Bar-Ilan University Faculty of Law, presenting:
“Green Inventions and the Challenge of Economic Inequality”

Dr. Pedro Henrique D. Batista, Max Planck Institute for Innovation and Competition, Munich, presenting: "Patent Law and Climate Change: A Matter of Market Failure"

Profs. Sacha Bourgeois-Gironde & Daniel Benoliel, Université Paris II Panthéon-Assas (Sorbonne) & University of Haifa Faculty of Law, respectively, presenting: "The Screening Function of Patents: The Case of Environmental Patents"

Commissioner Mordechai Sorek, Israeli Patents, Designs and Trademarks Patent Office (ILPO), presenting: “Balancing Innovation and Access: Green Patents, Compulsory Licensing, and the Future of Sustainable IP”

12:00 – 12:10 | Coffee Break

12:10 – 13:20 | Session III: Regulating Innovation in the Circular and Climate Economy

Chair: **Prof. David Katz**, Faculty of Social Sciences, School of Environmental Sciences, University of Haifa

Speakers:

Prof. Anat Tchetchik, Bar-Ilan University, Department of Environment, Planning and Sustainability, presenting: “Behavioral Insights into Regulating Circular Innovation”

Dr. Ori Sharon, Bar-Ilan University Faculty of Law, presenting: "Urban Sandboxes: Rethinking Property and Governance for Experimental Cities"

Prof. Itay Fischhendler, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Department of Geography, presenting: "Innovation in an Era of Conflict over Sovereignty: The Case of Renewable Energy"

Dr. Avri Eitan, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Department of Geography, presenting: "The Irreversible Execution of Renewable Energy Megaprojects: Between Innovation and Lock-In"

13:20 – 14:10 | Lunch Break

14:10 – 15:20 | Session IV: Private Law and the Climate Economy

Chair: [Dr. Lital Helman](#), Ono Academic College Faculty of Law

Speakers:

Profs. Dotan Oliar & Daniel Benoliel, University of Virginia School of Law & University of Haifa Faculty of Law, respectively, presenting: **“A Property Rule of Abstention: The Case of Environmentally Adverse Patents”**

Prof. Gabriel Eckstein, Texas A&M University School of Law, presenting: “Toward a Public-Private Law of Geothermal Energy: Balancing Public Stewardship and Private Enterprise”

Prof. Jorge L. Contreras, University of Utah S.J. Quinney College of Law, presenting: "The Prospects for Green Patent Commons"

Dr. Roy Baharad, Hebrew University of Jerusalem Faculty of Law, presenting: “Anti-Patents: A Novel Incentive Mechanism to Discourage Harmful Technologies”

15:20 – 15:30 | Coffee Break

15:30 – 16:40 | Session V: Data Governance, Cyber, Artificial Intelligence, and the Environment

Chair: **Prof. Eldar Haber**, University of Haifa Faculty of Law; Director, Haifa Center of Law and Technology (HCLT)

Speakers:

Prof. Amnon Reichman, University of Haifa Faculty of Law, presenting:
"Climate Data Regulation and Risk Analysis"

Prof. J.B. Ruhl, Vanderbilt University Law School, presenting: "Adapting Private Law for Climate Change Adaptation: Foreseeing Nonstationarity in Data Darkness"

Dr. Sharon Bar-Ziv, Sapir Academic College, School of Law; President of the Israel Internet Association (ISOC-IL), presenting: "Reflections on Access and Sharing of Climate Data"

Dr. Or Cohen-Sasson, University of Miami School of Law, Director, Miami Law & AI (MiLA) Lab, presenting: “Prompting Climate Disclosure: Toward Model-Level Transparency in AI Industry”

16:40 – 16:50 | Closing Remarks

Prof. Daniel Benoliel, University of Haifa Faculty of Law