

# THE AARON INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC POLICY ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON: **DOES THE GOVERNMENT HAVE AN ECONOMIC STRATEGY?**

**Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017, 08:30**  
L103+L104, Arison-Lauder Building  
IDC Campus, Kanfi Nesharim St., Herzliya

This year we will discuss the following issues:

- Does government efforts to encourage exports hurt the Israeli labor productivity? Can the government increase growth and labor productivity by eliminating trade barriers?
- Should the government increase investments and financing them by increasing the deficit? Can increasing taxes and government expenditure support growth?
- Are investors deterred by the burden of bureaucracy and regulation in Israel? How should the government address the high poverty rates?
- Can we enhance the skills of the Israeli worker? Is the Israeli economy ready to face the uncertainty of global markets?

Conference moderator: **Prof. Omer Moav**,  
Chairman of the annual conference at the Aaron Institute for Economic Policy, IDC Herzliya

- 8:30 Gathering
- 9:00 Opening statements: MR. Shlomo Dovrat, Chairman of the Board of Directors at the Aaron Institute; General Partner and Co-Founder, Carmel Ventures
- 9:05 **Bank of Israel Governor Dr. Karnit Flug**

## 9:25 SESSION 1: GLOBAL ECONOMY AND ITS IMPLICATIONS ON ISRAEL

**Mr. Robert Kapito**, President of BlackRock.\*  
**Mr. Craig Beaumont**, IMF Mission Chief for Israel\*  
**Mr. Rony Hizkiyahu**, Accountant General, the Finance Ministry  
**MR. Shlomo Dovrat**, Chairman of the Board of Directors at the Aaron Institute; General Partner and Co-Founder, Carmel Ventures

Responding:  
**Mrs. Anath Levin**, Executive VP, Head of Investments and Finance Division, Clal Insurance;  
**Prof. Daniel Tsiddon**, Founder and General Partner, Vilola FinTech Fund;  
**Mr. Chemi Peres**, Co-Founder, Pitango;  
**Mr. Dan Propper**, Chairman, Osem Group;  
**Mr. Avi Tiomkin**, international hedge funds adviser;  
**Mr. Sever Plocker**, Chief Economic Editor, Yedioth Ahronoth

Open discussion

- 11:25 Recess and refreshments

## 11:50 Session 2: Macroeconomic Strategy for Israel

**Prof. Zvi Eckstein**, Head of the Aaron Economic Policy Institute; Dean, Tiomkin School of Economics, IDC  
**Mr. Amir Levy**, Budget Director, Finance Ministry  
**Mr. Erez Vigodman**, former President and CEO of Teva Pharmaceutical Industries

Responses: **Mr. Shraga Brosh**, President, Manufacturers Association of Israel;  
**Mrs. Michal Halperin**, Antitrust Authority Commissioner;  
**Prof. Rafi Melnick**, Former Provost, IDC Herzliya;  
**Mr. Ori Yehudai**, President and CEO, Frutarom;  
**Mr. Koby Haber**, Head of Corporate and Commercial Division, Bank Leumi;  
**MK Manuel Trajtenberg**, Zionist Union;  
**Mrs. Meirav Arlosoroff**, senior commentator, TheMarker.

Open discussion

- 13:35 Lunch
- 14:30 **Justice Minister Mrs. Ayelet Shaked**

## 14:45 Session 3: Reforms seeking to Increase Labor Productivity

**Mr. Avi Lifshitz**, senior research fellow, the Aaron Institute for Economic Policy

Responses: **Mr. Haim Shani**, Co-Founder and General Partner, IGP;  
**Mrs. Dita Bronicki**, Co-Founder and former CEO, Ormat Industries

**Dr. Peter Jarrett**, Head of Division in the Economics Department of the OECD\*

Responses: **Mr. Yarom Ariav**, Chairman, Lavi Capital;  
**Dr. Samer Haj-Yehia**, Bank Leumi, IDC

**Mr. Pini Cohen**, Chairman, America Israel Investments; Chairman, Noy Fund –  
Interview with **Prof. Zvi Eckstein**

Response: **Mr. Uri Paz**, Managing Partner, Peninsula Fund

**Mr. Chaim Katzman**, Founder and Chairman of Gazit-Globe –  
Interview with **Mrs. Galit Chemi**, Editor-in-Chief, Calcalist

**Prof. Avi Simhon**, Head of the National Economic Council

**Prof. Nathan Sussman**, Director of the Research Department, the Bank of Israel

Response: **Mr. Aiman Saif**, Director General, the Authority for the Economic Development of the Minorities Sector, the Social Equality Ministry

- 16:45 Recess and refreshments

**MK Eitan Cable**, Chairman of the Knesset Economics Committee –  
Interview with **Mrs. Stella Korin-Lieber**, senior commentator, Globes

**MK Moshe Gafni**, Chairman of the Knesset Finance Committee -  
Interview with **Mr. Sami Peretz**, Editor in Chief, The Marker

- 18:00 Summary, **Prof. Omer Moav**, conference chairman

\* Lectures will be held in English, without simultaneous translation

All listed participants have confirmed their attendance in the conference.

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Participation by invitation only.

The event will be held in Hebrew.

For more information please contact 972-9-9602431 or laaron.economics@idc.ac.il