Known as the tech hub of the Middle East, Israel is the destination for technology companies to expand their reach and to test out new business models and areas of focus. The country has attracted well-known technology platforms and a growing list of startups in cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, ad tech, among other areas. The digital economy is a key theme to the growth of these businesses, how they are valued, and what it takes for them to succeed. With this backdrop, the ABA Antitrust Section is pleased to present its Global Seminar Series focused on High Tech in Israel – Key Competition and Privacy Considerations for this Growing Market. This program will involve a robust discussion of competition challenges in the digital economy, and the battle between competition and privacy for the tech sector in a post-GDPR world.

The program will begin with opening remarks by Michal Halperin, General Director of the Israel Antitrust Authority, on competition challenges in the digital economy, and Israel’s approach to addressing such challenges. These remarks will be followed by two panels. The first panel will address key global competition considerations for technology platforms and participants, from the US and Europe, to Israel. The second panel will discuss how Israeli tech companies are responding to differing global data protection regimes while remaining innovative.

We hope you will join us!

14:00 – 14:05 OPENING & INTRODUCTION OF MICHAL HALPERIN
Speaker: 
Alysa Z. HUTNIK, Kelley Drye & Warren LLP, Washington, DC

14:05 - 14:35 OPENING ADDRESS AND WELCOME
Speaker: 
Michal HALPERIN, General Director, Israel Antitrust Authority, Tel Aviv

14:35-15:30 SESSION I – THOU SHALT COMPETE: CURRENT COMPETITION AND POLICY ISSUES FACING THE TECH SECTOR IN ISRAEL AND BEYOND
This panel will address key competition considerations for technology platforms and startups, given varying and evolving global approaches to antitrust merger and conduct enforcement in Israel, the US, and Europe.
Moderator: 
Elai KATZ, Cahill Gordon & Reindel LLP, New York
Speaker: 
Tal EYAL-BOGER, Fischer Behar Chen Well Orion & Co, Tel Aviv
Idit FROIM, Colu Co., Tel Aviv
Mattan E. MERIDOR, Agmon & Co Rosenberg Hacohen & Co, Tel Aviv

15:30-15:45 BREAK
SESSION II – AND THEN THERE WAS PRIVACY: HOW ISRAELI START UPS ARE RESPONDING TO GLOBAL DATA PROTECTION REGIMES

Data protection frameworks around the globe require different approaches to the collection and processing of user-related data, from the EU’s GDPR, to the evolving privacy landscape in the US. This panel will discuss how Israeli start-ups are responding to privacy requirements, while also prioritizing competition and innovation needs.

Moderator:
Alysa Z. Hutnik, Kelley Drye & Warren LLP, Washington, D.C.

Speakers:
Karine Nahon, Univ. of Washington & Interdisciplinary Center (IDC) Herzliya, Tel Aviv
Eitan Israeli, Wix, Tel Aviv
Thomas Zych, Thompson Hine LLP, Columbus, Ohio

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