The Challenges of Liberal Democracy

Monday–Tuesday, December 16–17, 2019
at The Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities
Albert Einstein Square, 43 Jabotinsky St., Jerusalem

We cordially invite you to an international conference on

The Role of the Academies

Monday, December 16, 2019
08:30 Gathering
09:00 Greetings
Nili Cohen, President of the Academy; Tel Aviv University

09:15 General Introduction – Democracy, Liberalism, Rights
Chair: Avishai Margalit, Academy Member; The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Liberal Democracy: Values and Institutions
Shlomo Avineri, Academy Member; The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Representative Democracy: Vulnerabilities and Resilience
Dominique Moisi, Institut Français des Relations Internationales
Is Democracy Without Rights Possible?
Ruth Gavison, Academy Member; The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

10:45 Break

11:15 The Crisis of Liberal Democracy – I
Chair: Fania Oz-Salzberger, University of Haifa
The Crisis of Liberal Democracy: An Overview
Ze’ev Sternhell, Academy Member; The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Democracy: In Search of a Strategic Perspective
Werner Weidenfeld, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München
The Tension between Majority Rule and Equal Human Rights in Contemporary Democracy
Moshe Halbertal, Academy Member; The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
The Transformation of Israeli Democracy through the Judiciary
Yoav Dotan, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

12:15 Lunch

13:15 The Crisis of Liberal Democracy – II
Chair: Guy Stroumsa, Academy Member; The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Illiberal Populism’s Challenge to Constitutional Justice
Michel Rosenfeld, Yeshiva University
Implanting Liberal Democracy: The Arab Spring
Uzi Rabi, Tel Aviv University
Liberal Democracy and Challenges of Religion
Joseph Weiler, New York University

14:45 General Discussion

15:15 Break

16:45 The Role of the Academies
Chair and Speaker: Nili Cohen, President of the Academy; Tel Aviv University
The Role of Learned Academies in Preserving the Humanistic Tradition
Linda Greenhouse, President of the American Philosophical Society

17:30 General Discussion

Tuesday, December 17, 2019
09:00 Gathering
09:30 Democracies in an Unequal World
Chair: Benjamin Isaac, Academy Member; Tel Aviv University
Inequality in Historical Perspective
Shulamit Volkov, Academy Member; Tel Aviv University
Citizens and Subjects: Voice and Representation in a Technological Age
Sheila Jasanoff, Harvard University
Democracy in a Digital-Global Society: Technology Giants vs. the Nation State
Michael Birnbaum, Tel Aviv University

11:00 Break

11:30 Between Liberalism and Religion
Chair: Sergiu Hart, Chair, Humanities Division of the Academy; The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Between Democracy and Judaism
Izhak Englard, Academy Member; The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Open Society and Closed Religion
Guy Stroumsa, Academy Member; The Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Oxford University
Liberalism between Religion and Nationalism
Menachem Ma’oz, Tel Aviv University

13:00 General Discussion

13:30 Lunch

14:30 Challenges and Hazards
Chair: Ruth Gavison, Academy Member; The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
The Liberal Deficit in Israel’s Democracy:
A Brief Intellectual History
Fania Oz-Salzberger, University of Haifa
Rebuilding Relations among Authorities
Daniel Friedmann, Academy Member; Tel Aviv University
The Fate of Human Rights in Indifferent Societies
András Sajó, Central European University

16:30 General Discussion: How to Overcome the Crisis
Chairs: Shlomo Avineri, Academy Member; The Hebrew University of Jerusalem.
Sheila Jasanoff, Harvard University.

On-street parking is available near the Academy. The event will be recorded on video. Places are limited. Admission is subject to availability of seating.