

Professor Michael (Mikhail) Karayanni – Short Bio – July 2022

Michael Karayanni is the Bruce W. Wayne Professor of International Law at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. After obtaining his undergraduate law degree at Bar-Ilan University (LLB 1990) and being admitted to the Israeli Bar (1991), he went on to pursue graduate studies in law in the United States (George Washington University, LLM 1994, University of Pennsylvania, SJD 2003) and in Israel (Hebrew University of Jerusalem, LLD 2000).

Throughout his career at Hebrew University he has held a number of positions, among them Dean of the Faculty of Law, Academic Director of Minerva Center for Human Rights, Director of Sacher Institute for Legislative Research and Comparative Law and Founding Director of Center of the Study of Multiculturalism and Diversity. He has also held visiting positions at Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, Hague Academy of International Law, Georgetown University Law Center, Melbourne Law School, Stanford Law School, Yale Law School, University of Chicago Law School and Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton. Recently he was elected to the Institut de Droit International, and serves on the Executive Editorial Board of the American Journal of Comparative Law.

His research focuses on issues of private international law and interreligious law, civil procedure and multiculturalism. Among the topics he focused on were, choice of law and jurisdiction in the modern age, conflict of laws in the context of an international conflict, inter-religious adoption, religion and state in Israel in respect of religious minorities relative to the Jewish majority, class actions, including the private international law of class actions and various procedural topics including taking part in the major civil procedure reform of 2018.

He received a number of awards, among them the Fulbright, Rothschild and Ma'of scholarships as well as the Zeltner Award for a Young Scholar (2002); Michael Bruno Award (2007); The Rector Award for Distinction in Teaching and Research and the Zeltner Award (2021).

Michael was born in Kafr-Yasif in the Western Galilee, lives in Wahat Al Salam – Nave-Shalom, is married to Inas Bolous and father to Mousa, Jana and Eyas.