

Prof. Itzhak Fried – Bio, August 2023

Prof. Itzhak Fried is a neuroscientist and neurosurgeon. He earned MD degree from Stanford University and PhD from University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), and did neurosurgery training at Yale University where he also served on the faculty. In 1993 he joined UCLA where he has served as Director of Epilepsy Surgery Program and the Director of the Cognitive Neurophysiology Laboratory. In 2002 he was part of the surgical team that separated two Guatemalan twins conjoined at the head. He is Professor of Neurosurgery and Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences at the UCLA School of Medicine and Brain Research Institute.

Prof. Fried founded the Functional Neurosurgery Unit at Tel-Aviv Medical Center (Ichilov Hospital) and served as its director from 1998-2019. In 2000 he joined the Faculty of Medicine at Tel-Aviv University as Associate Professor and from 2007 served as Full Professor. He developed Epilepsy Surgery in Israel establishing it as a medical and research discipline and brought to Israel novel technologies such as brain monitoring with depth electrodes and Deep Brain Stimulation (DBS) for epilepsy and Parkinson's disease patients

His research centers on unique opportunities to apply recording and stimulation in the human brain to study not only mechanisms of disease but also an array of cognitive functions. He developed technology and paradigms that allow recording from large number of neurons in conscious patients. These resulted in breakthrough findings of multiple cellular substrates for cognition related to memory, spatial navigation, emotion, action and will. In recent years he used insights gained from single neuron research to study memory enhancement by electrical stimulation in the awake state and during sleep with the aim of developing memory implants for neurological patients.

Prof. Fried is an elected fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and is the recipient of multiple grants from NSF, NIH, DARPA, BSF, ISF. He is the recipient of international awards including the Cajal Award from the International Neuropsychiatric Association and the Tsubokawa Award and Munding Award from the World Society for Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery.

Prof. Fried has an active interest in the roots of mass violence and genocide and has published a hypothesis paper (Syndrome E) in *The Lancet*. As invited fellow at the Institute for Advanced Studies in Paris, he organized three international interdisciplinary conferences (2015-2017) titled: The Brains that pull the Triggers, resulting in a published book by same title.