



# BERKELEY INSTITUTE FOR JEWISH LAW AND ISRAEL STUDIES

*A hub for student, faculty, and community engagement at the University of California, Berkeley*

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH

## Israel at a Major Crossroads: Challenges and Opportunities

**Avishay Braverman**

**Former President of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev; Former  
Knesset Member (2006-2015); Former Senior Economist, World Bank**



The state of Israel is one of a complexity of paradoxes. It is a center of exciting innovations with Silicon Vadi, which is second only to Silicon Valley, while at the same time, it has regions of underdevelopment. Its ideology emphasizes equality and fairness, yet it has rising levels of inequality. It is a center of liberalism, coexisting with conservatism, and tensions between Jews and Arabs, and secular and religious forces. Prof. Braverman will identify the sources of tension and social unrest, as well as the choices Israel must make, and present alternatives, which will promote tolerance, economic development with social justice, and some day peace. The presentation will also address some concrete possibilities for enhanced collaboration between California and Israel.

Professor Avishay Braverman received his Ph.D. in Economics from Stanford University and served for 14 years as a Senior Economist and Division Chief at the World Bank. He served as President of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev for 16 years, then served nine years in the Israeli Knesset and Government, as the Minister of Minority Affairs, the Chairman of the Finance Committee, and the Chairman of the Economic Affairs Committee. Prof. Braverman is a member of the European Academy of Arts and Sciences and Commander of the French Order of Academic Palms.

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25th**

**Reception 5:30 PM, Warren Room, 295 Boalt Hall**

**Lecture 6:00 PM, Room 100, Boalt Hall**

*Please RSVP [HERE](#) or email us at [berkeley\\_institute@law.berkeley.edu](mailto:berkeley_institute@law.berkeley.edu)*

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