Regulating Disasters through Private and Public Law:
Compensation and Policy
June 16-17, 2013
University of Haifa - Faculty of Law & Department of
Geography and Environmental Studies

Sunday, June 16th, Rabin Observatory, Rabin Building
9:30-9:40  Greetings:
Ami Ayalon, Chair of the Executive Committee,
University of Haifa
Gad Barzilai, Dean, Faculty of Law, University of Haifa

9:40-9:50  Introductions:
Eli Salzberger, Faculty of Law, University of Haifa
Introducing The Minerva Center for the Rule of Law Under
Extreme Conditions
Ronen Perry, Faculty of Law, University of Haifa
Introducing the Aptowitzer Center for Risk, Liability and
Insurance

9:50-11:30  First session:
Governmental Liability for Disaster Recovery
Chair:
Ronen Perry, Faculty of Law, University of Haifa
Keynote Speaker:
Kenneth Feinberg, Feinberg Rozen, LLP, lawyer and
mediator;
Special Master of the Federal September 11th Victim
Compensation Fund (2001); Administrator of the Gulf Coast
Claims Facility (Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill: 2010);
Administrator of the One Fund Boston (Boston Marathon
bombings: 2013).
Unconventional Responses to Unique Catastrophes:
Tailoring the Law to Meet the Challenges
Discussants:
Eliezer Rivlin, Deputy President (ret), Supreme Court
of Israel
David Rotenberg, The Israeli Compensation Fund
Amnon Reichman, Faculty of Law, University of Haifa

11:30-11:45  Coffee break

11:45-13:00  Second session:
Legal Mechanisms for Coping with Disasters between
private and public law I
Chair and discussant:
Stefan Oeter, Faculty of Law, University of Hamburg
Michael Faure, Faculty of Law, Maastricht University, and
Faculty of Law, Erasmus University
Compensation to Victims of Catastrophes: Economic
and Comparative Perspectives
Ernst Kainer, Faculty of Law, University of Vienna
Tort Law and the Financial Crisis

13:00-14:00  Lunch

14:00-15:30  Third session:
Legal Mechanisms for Coping with Disasters –
Between Private and Public Law II
Chair and discussant:
Ariel Porat, Faculty of Law, University of Tel Aviv
Speakers:
Catherine Sharkey, New York University, School of Law
The Role of Classwide Punitive Damages in Mass
Disasters
Anselm Smolka, Head of Geo Risks/Corporate
Underwriting, Munich Re
The Story of Natural Disasters 2010-2012 - a Reinsurer’s View
Oren Perez, Faculty of Law, Bar Ilan University and
Nadav Davidovitch, Faculty of Health Sciences, Ben Gurion
University
From Science to Policy: Critical Reflections on the Use
of the Precautionary Principle in Environmental and
Public Health Decision-Making

15:30-15:45  Coffee break

15:45-17:45  Fourth session:
Disasters and Human Rights
Chair and discussant:
David Kretzmer, Hebrew University (emeritus) and Sapir
Academic College
Speakers:
Stefan Voigt, Faculty of Law, University of Hamburg
Emanuel Gross, Faculty of Law, University of Haifa
Gad Barzilai, Dean, Faculty of Law, University of Haifa
War, Terror Disasters

Monday, June 17th, Eshkol Observatory, 30th floor, Eshkol Building
9:30-11:30  Interactive session:
Consensus Building and Extreme Conditions
Chair and discussant:
Deborah Shimueli, Department of Geography and
Environmental Studies, University of Haifa
Lawrence Suskind, Department of Urban Planning,
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Risk Perception, Risk Management and Public
Engagement

11:30-11:45  Coffee Break

11:45-13:00  Closing session:
Rule of Law under Extreme Conditions: Litigation Ex-post
and Regulation Ex-ante
Chair:
Gad Barzilai, Dean, Faculty of Law, University of Haifa
Speakers:
Dan Meridor, Former Israeli Minister of Justice
Civilian Oversight of Military and Security Agencies in
Emergency Situations
Eli Salzberger, Faculty of Law, University of Haifa
Workshop overview

Registration:
weblaw.haifa.ac.il/lists/disaster