

Press Release

Berlin, November 22, 2016

Digital Society Institute and Tel Aviv University announce cooperation

- **Collaboration with Blavatnik Interdisciplinary Cyber Research Center (ICRC) at Tel Aviv University focuses on academic exchange between scientists**
- **Joint annual conference, research and development of cybersecurity research centers in Tel Aviv and Berlin**

The [Digital Society Institute \(DSI\)](#) at ESMT Berlin and the [Blavatnik Interdisciplinary Cyber Research Center \(ICRC\)](#) at Tel Aviv University have announced their cooperation, focusing on the scientific exchange between researchers from both institutions.

Within the framework of the collaboration, a researcher from both DSI and ICRC will spend at least one month in the corresponding country in order to stimulate scientific discussions and technological innovation in the field of cybersecurity. Furthermore, both research centers will combine high-level expertise with a joint annual conference in either Tel Aviv or Berlin. The institutions will also collaborate closely on joint project proposals regarding cybersecurity innovation, cyber threats, and their implications to society.

[Sandro Gaycken](#), Director of the DSI, commented: "Tackling cybersecurity threats is a central theme that runs through our research. Having an academic exchange with ICRC will not only lead to fruitful discussions dealing with cyber defense issues and expand our horizon on the topic but can also drive innovative approaches against sabotage and espionage in the digital age."

The ICRC was established at Tel Aviv University as a joint initiative with the National Cyber Bureau, Prime Minister's Office. The center emphasizes the importance of interdisciplinary research such as the impact on national security, society, and the business sector. Key issues including security software, attacks on hardware and software, and security of networks are among the research topics. It is led by Prof. Itzak Ben-Israel, the founding father and mentor of Israel's national cybersecurity and cyber innovation strategies.

The DSI provides research on digitalization topics, uses scientific expertise to strengthen the discourse between business, politics, and society, and develops disruptive cyber technologies in the field of high assurance technologies. The institute offers strategies and crosscutting analysis as business and society become increasingly digitalized. Supporters of the DSI include the global companies Allianz, BASF, EY, and Volkswagen.

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About ESMT Berlin

ESMT Berlin was founded by 25 leading global companies and institutions. The international business school offers a full-time MBA, an executive MBA, an executive MBA/MPA, a master's in management, as well as open enrollment and customized executive education programs. ESMT focuses on three main topics: leadership and social responsibility, European competitiveness, and managing technology. ESMT faculty publishes in top academic



journals. Additionally, the business school provides an interdisciplinary platform for discourse between politics, business, and academia. The business school is based in Berlin, Germany, with Schloss Gracht as an additional location near Cologne. ESMT is a private business school with the right to grant PhDs and is accredited by the German state, AACSB, AMBA, EQUIS, and FIBAA. www.esmt.org