YONATHAN A. ARBEL LAST UPDATE: 7. 3.25

University of Alabama, School of Law, 101 Paul Bryant Dr., Tuscaloosa, Alabama, 35401 yarbel@law.ua.edu

CURRENT APPOINTMENT

Alabama University School of Law, Tuscaloosa, AL

2017-

Rose Professor of Law, Director AI Studies

Associate Professor of Law

2020-24

Assistant Professor of Law

2017-20

Teaching: Contracts, AI & the Law, Sales, Secured Transactions,

Defamation, Contract Theory, Law, Economics, and Society

CLAIR, the Center for Law & AI Risk

Co-Director & Founder

Raised \$500,000 in philanthropic contributions to support the mission of the organization

2024-

EDUCATION

Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA

Doctoral Degree (SJD)

2015

Dissertation: The Execution and Enforcement of Private Legal Obligations

Committee: Steven Shavell, Louis Kaplow, Duncan Kennedy

Stanford Law School, Palo Alto, CA

ISM Degree in Law

2009

SPILS fellow, focus on empirical methods

Hebrew University, Faculty of Law, Jerusalem, IL

Joint LL.B. in law and the Humanities ("Amirim")

2008

Summa Cum Laude, Salutatorian

Member of a university-wide honors program, full scholarship. Various merit awards

Articles Editor, MISHPATIM LAW REVIEW

2007

JOURNAL ARTICLES & ESSAYS

Racing to Safety: Tax Policy for AI Safety-by-Design, SMU L. Rev. (Forthcoming, 2026) (With Mirit Eyal)

Governing AI Beyond the Grave, FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY LAW REVIEW (Forthcoming, 2025) (with Alberto Lopez)

The Readability of Contracts: Big Data Analysis, 21 JOURNAL OF EMPIRICAL LEGAL STUDIES 927 (2024)

• Featured in Shawn Bayern, Consumer Contracts Have Many Problems, but "Readability" May Not Be One, JOTWELL (November 18, 2024)

Generative Interpretation 99 NYU LAW REVIEW 451 (2024) (with David Hoffman)

• "A profoundly important article. . . . When I say, "Must Read," I mean that literally. Every legal scholar should read this--even if you have no interest in contract interpretation. Highly recommended. Download it while it is incandescent!" – Lawrence Solum, <u>Legal Theory Blog</u>

- Selected for review in JOTWELL: THE JOURNAL OF THINGS WE LIKE (LOTS), 2023
- Cited in Snell v. United Specialty Insurance Company, No. 22-12581 (11th Cir. 2024)

Judicial Economy in the Age of AI, invited essay, Colorado Law Review (Forthcoming, 2025)

• Legal theory blog: "Very cool. Highly recommended. Download it while it's hot!"

The False Choice in the Debate Over Artificial Intelligence Regulation, LAWFARE (2024) https://www.lawfaremedia.org/article/the-false-choice-in-the-debate-over-artificial-intelligence-regulation (With Matthew Tokson and Albert Lin)

Open Questions in Law and AI Safety: An Emerging Research Agenda, LAWFARE (2024) https://www.lawfaremedia.org/article/open-questions-in-law-and-ai-safety-an-emerging-research-agenda (multiple authors)

Systemic Regulation of AI, 56 ARIZONA STATE LAW JOURNAL 545 (2024) (With Matthew Tokson and Albert Lin)

On the Scales of Private Law: Nano Contracts, 37 HARVARD JOURNAL OF LAW & TECHNOLOGY 151 (2023)

- Selected for Stanford / Penn / Northwestern Law & Stem (2022)
- Featured GILBERT-TOBIN

A Status Theory of Defamation Law, 14 UC IRVINE LAW REVIEW 2327 (2024)

• Selected for Yale Freedom of Expression Forum

The Credibility Effect: Defamation Law and Audiences, 52 JOURNAL OF LEGAL STUDIES 417 (2023)

- Selected for Yale Freedom of Expression Conference, ALEA 2022, CLEA 2022, CELS 2022 Truth Bounties: A Market Solution to Fake News, NORTH CAROLINA LAW REVIEW (with Michael Gilbert), (Forthcoming, 2024)
 - Selected for ALEA 2022

Time and Contract Interpretation: Lessons from Machine Learning, in Research Handbook on Law and Time (forthcoming 2024, Cambridge University Press 2024, Frank Fagan & Saul Levmore Eds.)

How Smart are Smart Readers? (with Samuel Becher) in Cambridge Handbook on Emerging Issues at the Intersection of Commercial Law and Technology (Kim & Stacey-Elvy eds. 2025)

Defamation Law & Bayesian Audiences, 52 Journal of Legal Studies 445 (2023) (With Murat Mungan)

Contracts in the Age of Smart Readers, GEO. WASH. L. REV. (2021) (With Samuel Becher)

- Selected for review in <u>JOTWELL: THE JOURNAL OF THINGS WE LIKE (LOTS)</u>, 2022
- Featured essay: <u>The Regulatory Review</u>

ALL-CAPS, 17 JOURNAL OF EMPIRICAL LEGAL STUDIES 862 (2020) (With Andrew Toler)

• Reviewed in Nancy Kim, *Hidden in Plain Sight and In All-Caps*, JOTWELL: THE JOURNAL OF THINGS WE LIKE (LOTS), 2020, <u>ContractsProf Blog</u>, <u>Psych News</u>

Payday, 98 WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY LAW REVIEW I (2020)

- Winner of the American College of Consumer Financial Services' Annual Writing Competition 2021
- Reviewed in Tom C.W. Lin, <u>A New Payday(s)</u>, JOTWELL: THE JOURNAL OF THINGS WE LIKE (LOTS), 2020
- Featured: Business Law Podcast

Slicing Defamation by Contract, CHICAGO LAW REVIEW ONLINE (2020)

Theory of the Nudnik: The Future of Consumer Activism and What We Can Do to Stop It, 73 VANDERBILT LAW REVIEW, 929 (2020) (with Roy Shapira)

- Selected for the Stanford Junior Forum for Law & STEM
- Featured: Marginal Revolution; Marker; Ipse Dixit Podcast

The Case Against Expanding Defamation Laws, 71 ALABAMA LAW REVIEW 453 (2019) (with Murat Mungan)

• Selected for the Stanford/Yale/Harvard Junior Faculty Forum

Reputation Failure: Market Discipline and its Limits, 54 WAKE FOREST LAW REVIEW 1239 (2019)

Consumer Activism: From the Informed Minority to the Crusading Minority, DEPAUL LAW REVIEW (Forthcoming, 2019) (Invited symposium contribution, Rising Stars in Legal Academia) (with Roy Shapira)

Book Review: Reconsidering Civil Justice, 37 CIVIL JUSTICE QUARTERLY 509, 2018 (Invited)

Adminization: Gatekeeping Consumer Contracts, 71 VANDERBILT LAW REVIEW 121 (2018)

• Selected for the Stanford/Yale/Harvard Junior Faculty Forum

Tort Reform through the Backdoor: A Critique of Law and Apologies, 90 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA LAW REVIEW 1199 (2017) (with Yotam Kaplan)

Shielding of Assets and Lending Contracts, 48 INTERNATIONAL REVIEW OF LAW & ECONOMICS 26 (2016) (peer reviewed)

Contract Remedies in Action: Specific Performance, 118 WEST VIRGINIA LAW REVIEW 100 (2015).

• Reviewed in Caprice Roberts, <u>Studying Specific Performance</u>, JOTWELL: THE JOURNAL OF THINGS WE LIKE (LOTS), 2017.

LEGAL AND PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

Lexidale, Legal Policy Consulting, Co-Founder and Managing Partner

2009-15

Co-founded international legal policy consulting firm advising EU institutions, national governments, and top firms. Led studies covering over 28 countries worldwide. Successful exit in 2015.

Supreme Court of Israel

Clerk, Justice Ayala Procaccia
Research Assistant to Retired Chief Justice Aharon Barak

2007-08

2007

Minister of Interior, Israel, Special Anti-Corruption Unit 2005-07

HONORS

Award Winner, American College of Consumer Financial Services' Annual Writing Competition 2021 Selected for "Rising Stars in Legal Academia", 25th Annual Clifford Symposium on Civil Justice Affiliate, Google Research Innovators 2023

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Governing X-Risk (with Matthew Tokson)

Governing AGI (with Peter Salib)

The Silicon Reasonable Person

The Failed Quest for Misinformation Institutions: On Law Reviews

SELECTED MEDIA APPERANCES

Broadband Breakfast, AI Regulation	2025
ABC, 3340. Covid and contracts. Link,	2020
Financial Times, Defamation, <u>Link</u>	2023
Broadband Breakfast, Generative AI. Link	2024

TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

Contracts, AI and the Law, Commercial Law, Torts, Consumer Law Law & Economics, Empirical Methods

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Villanova School of Law, Villanova, PA	2016-17
Visiting Assistant Professor of Law, Contracts, Advanced Contracts Seminar	
Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA	
Postdoctoral Private Law Fellow	2015-2016
Teaching Fellow, Inside Government (Professor Cass Sunstein)	2015-16
Teaching Fellow, LL.M. Writer's Workshop, Private Law Section	2011,14,15
Lecturer: Byse Workshop: Debt, Contracts, and Default	2013-14
Harvard Economics Department, Cambridge, MA	
Instructor, Economic Analysis of Contract Law	2010-16
Five Distinction-in-Teaching awards	

GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS, RESEARCH, AND TEACHING

Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA	
Olin & Considine Fellow in Law and Economics	2011-15
Project on Predatory Student Lending, clinical fellowship	2012-13
Summer Public Interest Program, research fellowship	2010
Israel Democracy Institute, Jerusalem, IL	
Research fellow	2005-07
Hebrew University, Jerusalem, IL	
Teaching Fellow, Torts, Criminal Law, Jurisprudence	2004-06

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

New Private Law Blog, Contributor and Managing Editor (2016)

Asset Freezing in Israel, in Asset Freezing (2016, Kluwer, with Elad Peled)

The Execution and Enforcement of Private Legal Obligations (May 25, 2015) (SJD Dissertation, Harvard Law School)

STUDY ON THE APPLICATION OF THE CROSS BORDER MERGERS DIRECTIVE, for the European Union, Directorate-General for the Internal Market and Services (project leader, professional report, empirical analysis in 28 countries) (2012)

INFORMATION WANTS TO BE FREE (2010). Co-authored with Tehila Altshuler. (232 pp, policy paper)

REFEREE & REVIEW

Journal of Legal Studies, Northwestern University Law Review, Law & Social Inquiry, Tenure Review (Boston University; Hebrew University), Israel ISF Grant Funds, European Law and Economics Association, International Review of Law & Economics; Law, Technology, and Humans (Queensland); Journal of Empirical Legal Studies; The Theory and Practice of Legislation; CM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FAcCT); The Theory and Practice of Legislation.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Dissertation Review, Hebrew University	2025
Committee Member, Israel National Science Fund	2024-25
Director & Founder, AI Legal Safety Initiative	2023-
AI Taskforce	2024
Curriculum Committee, Chair	2022-2023
AALS, Defamation and Privacy Law, Secretary	2023-2024
AALS, Law & Economics Section Member	2022-203
Textbook Committee, Member	2020-2022
Jones Chair Search Committee, Member	2021-2022
Business Student Association, Adviser	2019-2021
Curriculum Committee, Member	2019-2022
Dissertation Committee	2018-2020
Faculty Appointments Committee	2018, 2019
Co-Organizer, MLEA Conference	2018
American Law & Economics Conference, Harvard Law School, Organizer	2016

SELECTED CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

Stanford Law School, Law & Econ Workshop	2026
Law Following AI, Cambridge, UK	2025
Inaugural Roundtable AI Safety, Alabama Law	2025
Herzog Conference on AI, Hebrew University	2025
Fifth Circuit Judge Conference, Florida	2025
Privacy Forum, George Mason Law	2025
ALAJ Winter Sumit, Birmingham, AL	2025
Faculty workshop, Arizona University Law School	2025

Future of Contracts, University of Miami Law School	2025
The Demand for BS, University of Florida Law School	2025
Judicial Conference, US Virgin Islands	2024
Faculty workshop, Florida University Law School	2024
National Appellate Judge Conference, Nashville, NCIJ	2024
Law & Technology Seminar, Tel Aviv University	2024
AI Safety: Vista Fellows	2024
Empirical Contract Law, Carey Law School	2024
AI & Innovation, Seattle Law	2024
Zoom Lectures (Ono College, Israel, Tennessee, Howard Law)	2024
Constitutional Law & Economics, Maryland Law School	2024
AI Futures Fellows, Mexico City	2024
Law & Economics Seminar, Chicago Law School	2024
Empirical Contract Law, NYU University	2023
Law & Data Science, Fordham University	2023
American Law & Economics, Boston University	2023
Future of Disinformation Panel, Harvard Law School	2023
Law & Economics Seminar, Harvard Law School	2023
AALS, San-Diego	2023
Bar-Ilan, Law & Tech Seminar	2022
MLEA, Chicago Law	2022
Stanford/Penn/Nw Law & Stem, Northwestern	2022
American Law & Economics, Columbia Law School	2022
Society New Institutional Economics, Toronto, Canada	2022
Freedom of Expression X, Yale Law School	2022
Law & Society, Lisbon, Portugal	2022
Canadian Law & Economics, Ottawa, Canada	2022
Faculty Workshop, Boston University	2022
Law & Economics Workshop, Virginia Law School	2022
Faculty Workshop, Villanova Law School	202I
Faculty Workshop, Pepperdine Law School	2021
Virtual L&E Workshop, virtual	202I
L&E Workshop, Hebrew University	202I
Faculty Workshop, Haifa University	202I
Future of Legal Education, virtual	202I
Consumer Markets, Boston University	202I
AALS, Section on Contracts	202I
Faculty Workshop, IDC	2020
Constitutional Law & Economics, Virtual	2020
Private Law Workshop, Hebrew University	2020
Society New Institutional Economics, MIT	2020
American Law & Economics, Chicago (online)	2020
Law & Economics, GMU Scalia Law	2020
Law & Economics, Tel-Aviv University	2020
Private Law Workshop, Hebrew University	2020
Faculty Workshop, SMU Law School	2020

Colloquium on Contract and Economic Organization, Columbia Law School	2020
Consumer Law Conference, Berkeley Law School	2020
KCON XIV, McGeorge University	2020
Legal Scholarship Workshop, University of Chicago	2019
Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, Claremont College	2019
Law & Stem, Stanford Law School	2019
European Law & Economics, Tel-Aviv University	2019
Lumps and Slices Book Symposium, Chicago Law School	2019
Yale/Harvard/Stanford Junior Faculty, Yale Law School	2019
Clifford Symposium, Rising Stars, DePaul University	2019
Kcon XIV, Tulane University	2019
ASIL, Washington & Lee University	2019
American Law & Economics, New York University	2019
Faculty Workshop, BIU	2018
Legal Scholarship Workshop, University of Chicago	2018
Faculty Workshop, University of Alabama	2018
European Law & Economics, University of Milano, Italy	2018
Midwestern Law & Economics, University of Alabama	2018
American Law & Economics, Boston University	2018
KCon XIII, Barry University	2018
MLEA, Marquette Law School	2017
Southeastern Senior/Junior Workshop, University of Washington, St. Louis	2017
Society for Institutional Economics (SIOE), Columbia Law School	2017
Villanova Business Colloquium, Villanova Law School	2017
Law & Religion Meets Law & Economics, Villanova Law School	2017
Private Law & IP Conference, Harvard Law School, invited panel moderator	2016
New England Junior Faculty Workshop, New England School of Law	2016
American Law & Economics Conference, Columbia Law School	2015
North American Private Law Workshop, Toronto, Canada	2015