

University of Haifa

The Senate of the University of Haifa, by virtue of the authority vested in it by the constitution of the University and in accordance with the recommendations of the President and the Executive Committee

hereby confers upon

Nili Cohen

the degree of

Doctor of Philosophy, Honoris Causa

In recognition of her academic excellence and groundbreaking research achievements in contract law, law and literature, and in private law in general; for her distinguished status among scholars in the world as evidenced by her inclusion in leading global comparative law enterprises; for her contribution to the field of law and literature by virtue of her wealth of knowledge and her gifted creativity and analytical prowess; for her work as an academic leader in the promotion of research and higher education in Israel as Rector of Tel Aviv University, as a member of the advisory boards of foundations' committees, and as the serving President of the Israel Academy for Sciences and Humanities.

Conferred on 22 Sivan 5778/June 5, 2018
Haifa, Israel



Mooly Eden
Chairman of the Executive Committee



Prof. Ron Robin
President



Prof. Gustavo Mesch
Rector



PROFESSOR NILI COHEN

Nili Cohen was born in 1947 in Kfar Saba and graduated from Ironi Dalet High School in Tel Aviv. She began her academic path in the Faculty of Law at Tel Aviv University and completed her LL.B cum laude. In 1971, she started her LL.M degree and graduated summa cum laude in 1975.

In 1978, Prof. Cohen was awarded her Ph.D. from Tel Aviv University for her thesis “The Protection of Obligation against Interference by Third Parties”, which was supervised by former Minister of Justice, Prof. Daniel Friedmann. She became a full professor at Tel Aviv University in 1989.

Her broad research and extensive list of publications deal with contract law, tort law, the law of unjust enrichment, and law and literature, a field she has developed considerably in recent years. Prof. Cohen is a leading researcher in Israel and worldwide in the field of contract law and has published many articles and books that are frequently cited in Israel’s courts. Her life’s work in this field, in partnership with Prof. Daniel Friedmann, is reflected in the four-volume series Contracts, which is a tremendous resource in Israel and considered the most comprehensive work in its field, and one of the best in the world.

Over the years, Prof. Cohen has acquired an international reputation among many academics, leading to her involvement in many leading Comparative Law enterprises around the world. She wrote (together with Prof. Daniel Friedmann) two chapters in the International Encyclopaedia of Comparative Law, whose authors are considered to be among the most esteemed jurists in the world. Prof. Nili Cohen took part in another important and multi-dimensional Comparative Law initiative that deals with the common core of European Private Law.

Prof. Cohen has won a number of prestigious awards for her academic achievements and activities, including: The Sussman Prize for her book Interference with Contractual Relations, the Zeltner Prize for her book Inducing Breach of Contract. She was again awarded the Sussman Prize for Contracts (with Prof. Daniel Friedmann), and in 2002, she was awarded the Minkoff Prize for Excellence in Law. She was awarded the Rector’s Prize at Tel Aviv University for Excellence in Teaching in 2004, 2005, and 2015.

Prof. Nili Cohen is an academic leader. In 1994, she was nominated for the position of Vice Rector at Tel Aviv University and between 1997 and 2001 she served as the University’s Rector. A member of the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities since 2004, Prof. Cohen was appointed its President in 2015. As president, Prof. Cohen promotes academic research in Israel, contributes to the development and shaping of legal and academic research in Israeli society and its dissemination to the general public.

Prof. Cohen is an Israel Prize Laureate in the field of legal research for 2017 and holds an honorary professorship from the University of Buenos Aires, as well as honorary degrees from the Netanya Academic College and the Holon Institute of Technology.