TEL AVIV SPARKS INNOVATION FESTIVAL 2026

January 26-30, 2026 // Expo Tel Aviv, Pavilion 2

TUESDAY, JAN 27

CYBERTECH 2026 (WITH SPARKS INNOVATION FESTIVAL)

14:00-15:00	**Networking Event: Innovation in the West Negev**
15:00-16:30	**Networking Event: Elite Units Alumni Association**

09:00 – 17:00
Hall A - Exhibition Floor
CYBERTECH 2026 MAIN PLENARY

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EXHIBITION

WEDNESDAY, JAN 28

HALL A - EXHIBITION FLOOR	SPECIAL SIDE EVENTS	
9:00 - 13:00 **Cybertech & Sparks Main Plenary** **Host: Dr. Yossi Vardi,** Chairman, Cybertech Global & SPARKS Innovation Festival	**Hall K |** 10:00 – 13:00 **The Era Of Quantum Innovations**	**11:00 – 17:00** **Israel's Indie Games Exhibition** **This is your chance to meet the minds behind 2026's coolest indie titles. Play dozens of new games, give direct feedback to the creators, and help shape the future!**
Greetings **Prof. Dan Blumberg,** VP for Regional and Industrial Development, Ben Gurion University of the Negev, Israel	**10:05-10:15** **Introduction to Qubit-IL** **Tami Mazel-Shahar,** Qubit IL CEO	
Intelligence and Investments **Moderator: Asaf Kochan,** Former Commander, Unit 8200, Israel **Bob Flores,** Former CTO, Central Intelligence Agency, USA **Hagai Itkin,** Former head of Cyber, Mossad and Chairman, TAU Ventures and RAMOT, Israel	**10:15-10:30** **Quantum Business 101** **Gal Bar Dea,** Qubit IL Chair of the Board	
Special Discussion: Advanced Technology and National Strategy **Moderator: Amir Rapaport,** Founder, Cybertech & Co-Author, Cybermania, Israel **Maj. Gen. (Res.) David Ivry,** First Director of the Israeli National Security Council, Israel **Prof. Uzi Arad,** Former National Security Advisor to the PM and Head of the NSC, Israel	**10:30-12:00** **Innovative Israeli Quantum Startups** **Tal David,** CEO, Quantum Art **Alon Cohen,** CEO, Quamcore **Shmuel Bachinsky,** CEO, Quantum Transistors **Prof. Emanuele Dalla Torre,** CTO, Quantymize **Prof. Hagai Eisenberg,** CSO, Heqa Security **Prof. Nir Sharon,** CEO, Quantum X Labs **Lior Gazit,** VP Product, Classiq **Samuel Goldstein,** Quantum HW Team Lead, Qarakal	
A Look Into 2030: From AI To Quantum **Guy-Philippe Goldstein,** Director, GPG Consulting, Author of Babel Minute Zero, France		
Who Controls the Algorithms Control the Future **Omri Tamianker,** General Manager International, Penlink, Israel		
Fake as a Major Global Threat **Gaby Portnoy,** Former Director General Israel National Cyber Directorate (INCD), Israel		
New Era Intelligence Challenges in the Government and Private Sectors **General (ret.) Ram Yavne,** Head of intelligence, the Mer Group Former Head of Strategic Planning Division, IDF, Israel		

Misinformation, Disinformation and the World of Fakes
Moderator: Zori Kor, Vice President, Asero Worldwide, Israel
Rachael Levy, VP of Geopolitical Risk, Alice, Israel
Melanie Garson, Associate Professor, International Security, University College London, UK
Razvan Bologa, Professor, Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania
Arjan Dyrmishi, Executive Director, Center for the Study of Democracy and Governance, Albania

Collaboration Between Government and Industry in the Time of AI and Major Cyber Threats

Led by Yosi Aviram, Director, Cybersecurity Strategy Center, Israel National Cyber Directorate, Israel
Speakers:
John Yeoh, Chief Scientific Officer, EVP, Cloud Security Alliance, USA
Anat Lewin, Senior Digital Specialist, The World Bank, USA
Shiri Dolev, Business, Growth, and Innovation Leader, Accel, Israel
Eran Schneebaum, Director of Defense, Aerospace and Government, AI21 Labs, Israel

Fake, Money, and Terrorism
Shlomit Wagman, Former Chair, Israel Financial Crime Agency, Israel
Gen. Dario Solombrino, Liaison Officer, Guardia di Finanza, Italy

Creating Innovative ecosystem: Global Perspective

Moderator: Tanya Malhotra, Director - Global Initiatives, Cybertech, UAE
Among the speakers:
Omer Yanai, InsAIghts Academy Manager, Penlink, Israel
Ezra Cohen, Ambassador of the Republic of Panama to Israel
Ethel Kornecki, Cyber Security Consultant, Cyber Security Consultant/Lugapel, Uruguay
David Marek, Managing Partner, Tachles VC, Czech Republic
Razvan Bologa, Professor, Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania
Smith Gonsalves, CEO, CyberSmith Secure, India

12:00-12:30

Academic Research Innovation in Applied Quantum Science

Several principles for quantum speedup and optimization of quantum algorithms

Prof Eli Cohen, Associate Professor at the Faculty of Engineering, Bar Ilan University

12:30-13:00

How Can You Join The Quantum Ecosystem?

Talent recruitments in Quantum companies

Moderator: Shir Peri-Lichtig, Qubit IL, Co-Founder

Saray Ben-Meir, Head of Human Resources, Quantum Art

Simon Fried, VP Corporate Communication, Classiq

Hila Manoach, Chief People Officer, Quantum Machines

Maya Benichou, Organizational Development Partner, Entrée Capital

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13:00-14:00 Lunch & Exhibition

14:00 - 14:30
The Future of AI: Where is the Revolution Heading?

Moderator: Dr. Amiram (Ami) Appelbaum, Chairman, Ofir SouthUp Ventures, Israel
Guy Azrad, Former VP Chip Design Engineering, Israel, Google
Ohad (Udi) Levin, Chief Architect of Pendo.io

14:00 - 15:00

Networking Area

Innovation from the North of Israel

Special networking event with startups from Northern Israel

14:30 - 14:40
The Next Attack Surface: When AI Becomes Autonomous
Dr. Yoni Birman, Executive Director, Founder and Head of Digital Trust Lab, Lenovo; Head of Cyber-AI Research Lab, Reichman University

15:45 - 17:30

Networking Area

Networking Event: Reserve Duty Integration in Hitech

14:40 - 14:55

AI in the Classroom

Chat: Dr. Yossi Vardi with
Michael Levin, 10-Year-Old Elementary
School Student

14:55 - 15:30

**Re-Recruitment: Integrating Reserve Duty
Soldiers Back into the Hi-Tech Workforce**
Moderator: Lior Avraham, Cyber
security leader
Ronit Benbasat, Deputy Chairperson, Israel
America chamber of commerce
Yael Aviram Rosenfeld, Director, Israel
Recruiting at NVIDIA
Miriam Ofir, R&D Director, Check Point

15:30 - 16:00

**No Longer Sci-Fi: Opportunities and
Advantages within the Israeli
Quantum Ecosystem**
Moderator: Dorit Dor, Qubit IL
Prof. Ofer Firstenberg, Weizmann
Institute of Science
Nir Minerbi, CEO, Classiq
Tal Inbar, VP, Heqa Security

16:00 - 16:15

Unleashing Videogame Tech in Healthcare
Sam Glassenberg, Founder and CEO,
Level Ex (now Relevate Health Games),
United States

16:15 - 16:50

**AI in Healthcare: The New Frontier of
Diagnostics and Personalized Medicine**

Moderator: Sam Glassenberg, Founder
and CEO, Level Ex, United States
Georges Hazan, Managing Partner,
Brothers & Partners, Canada
Yael Adam, Co founder and CPO,
Laguna Health
Anne Belkin-Amario, Chief Marketing
Officer, Navina

16:50 - 17:30

**Innovation North: Building Hi-Tech
Resilience and Ecosystems
Beyond the Center**

Moderator: Michal Zeevi-Bender,
CEO Beyon-D Innovations
Roy Goldenberg, General Manager, TOM, Israel

Michael Hauzer, Head of Innovation &
Research, Haifa and Galilee at Clalit

Annie Kaufman, CEO, NorthMed

Dr. Ramzi Halabi, Chairman, Bet Yad
Labanim to the Druze Fallen

Gil Kerbs, Chief Investment Officer, Teuza VC
fund and founder of HealthCare Bay

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THURSDAY, JAN 29	
10:00-12:00	**AI Workshop: "Vibe Coding" Anyone Can Build Apps! - Dror Gill** **Microsoft for Startups, Menakhem Begin Rd 144, Level 50, Tel Aviv-Yafo**

FRIDAY, JAN 30
Cultural tours in Tel Aviv for international visitors