

LEGALLY  
ISRAEL 100

IsraelDesks  
League Tables

2021

# IsraelDesks



# Legally Israel 100 - IsraelDesks League Tables

We are pleased to bring you the 3rd Israel Desks League Tables, showcasing those law firms that are not only involved in Israeli deals and with Israeli clients, but also with a deep understanding of market trends, of their clients' opportunities, and the challenges to overcome.

After an extensive period of meetings, data collection and analysis, and a challenging 2020 for businesses, we would like to thank more than a third of all Israel Desks around the world for submitting a range of deals in M&A, high-tech, VC and private equity, real estate, and more - all helping to showcase their immense expertise to a hungry Israeli audience with a healthy appetite for international deals. With 2020 especially challenging, international law firms remained involved in M&A transactions relating to Israeli companies than ever before, with notable examples including the USD1.4 Billion Innoviz SPAC merger.

We reviewed the firms' submissions, collected feedback and votes from the highest-profile lawyers *in* Israel, and looked at factors including visits to Israel, local representatives, and relationships with domestic firms. This allowed us to identify those **Leading**, **Prominent**, **Recognized**, and **Notable** practitioners abroad, who take a proactive, instrumental and hands-on role with respect to Israel.

Find out how the magic circle, U.S. powerhouses and other major international law firms fared in this, the 3rd edition of Israel Desks League Tables, as they battled for a greater slice of the Israel market.



# IsraelDesks

## M&A Volume

Position	Law Firm	M&A
1	White & Case	14
2	Greenberg Traurig	10
3	Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner	9
3	DLA Piper	9
4	Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer	7
4	Latham & Watkins	7
5	Allen & Overy	5
5	Goodwin	5
6	Asserson	2
6	Clifford Chance	2
6	Hogan Lovells	2
6	McDermott Will & Emery	2



# IsraelDesks

## M&A Value

Position	Law Firm	M&A	Value (\$M)
1	White & Case	14	9,900
2	Clifford Chance	2	5,950
3	Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer	7	2,754
4	DLA Piper	9	2,231
5	Latham & Watkins	7	2,169
6	Greenberg Traurig	10	2,130
7	Goodwin	5	1,436
8	Allen & Overy	5	985
9	Hogan Lovells	1	900
10	Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner	9	804



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## Real Estate

Position	Law Firm	Volume
1	Greenberg Traurig	24
1	Asserson	24
2	Herrick	14
2	Taylor Wessing	14
3	Howard Kennedy	9
4	DLA Piper	8
5	Memery Crystal	6
6	Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner	5
7	CMS	4



# IsraelDesks

## Litigation

Position	Law Firm	Volume
1	Asserson	37
2	Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer	28
3	DLA Piper	18
4	Greenberg Traurig	10
5	Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner	8
6	Kobre & Kim	7
7	Taylor Wessing	6
7	ZEK	6
8	Bersay	5
8	Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner	5
8	Fox Rothschild	5
8	McDermott Will & Emery	5
9	Allen & Overy	4
9	Charish	4
9	Cleary Gottlieb	4



# IsraelDesks

## Employment

Position	Law Firm	Volume
1	DLA Piper	63
2	Greenberg Traurig	47
3	Asserson	33
4	Squire Patton Boggs	23
5	Taylor Wessing	10
6	Bersay	8
7	Fox Rothschild	7
7	McDermott Will & Emery	7
8	CMS	6
9	Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner	5



# IsraelDesks

IP

Position	Law Firm	Volume
1	DLA Piper	23
2	Greenberg Traurig	12
3	CMS	5
3	Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer	5
3	Taylor Wessing	5
4	Bersay	4

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## Patents

Position	Law Firm	Volume
1	Gowling WLG	17
2	CMS	7
2	Fox Rothschild	7
3	Greenberg Traurig	6
4	DLA Piper	5



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## Capital Markets

Position	Law Firm	Volume
1	McDermott Will & Emery	19
2	Latham & Watkins	14
3	White & Case	10
4	Goodwin	9
5	Greenberg Traurig	8
6	Carter Ledyard & Milburn	6
7	Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer	4
8	Allen & Overy	3
8	Cleary Gottlieb	3
8	Gowling WLG	3
9	Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner	2



# IsraelDesks

## Hi-Tech

Position	Law Firm	Volume
1	DLA Piper	66
2	McDermott Will & Emery	47
3	Greenberg Traurig	39
4	Goodwin	31
5	Fox Rothschild	28
6	Taylor Wessing	26
7	Latham & Watkins	17
8	Squire Patton Boggs	16
9	Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer	15
10	Allen & Overy	8
10	Dechert	8
11	Bersay	7
12	ZEK	6



# IsraelDesks

## Banking & Finance

Position	Law Firm	Volume
1	Allen & Overy	11
1	Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer	11
2	CMS	10
3	McDermott Will & Emery	8
4	Clifford Chance	6
5	Greenberg Traurig	5
6	Fox Rothschild	3
6	Latham & Watkins	3
6	Taylor Wessing	3
7	Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner	2
7	Bersay	2
7	Cleary Gottlieb	2
7	ZEK	2

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## Energy & Infrastructure

Position	Law Firm	Volume
1	Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer	16
2	Allen & Overy	8
3	Clifford Chance	4
4	CMS	2
5	Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner	1

# Individual Rankings

## Individual Rankings

### Leading

Name	Law Firm
Lee Noyek	Allen & Overy
Jonathan Morris	Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner
Jeremy Lustman	DLA Piper
Adir Waldman	Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer
Joshua Kiernan	Latham & Watkins

### Prominent

Name	Law Firm
Jason Saltzman	Gowling WLG
Joey Shabot	Greenberg Traurig
Mark Selinger	McDermott Will & Emery
Ben Strauss	McDermott Will & Emery
Miriam Lampert	Squire Patton Boggs
Nathan Krapivensky	Taylor Wessing
Daniel Turgel	White & Case

### Recognized

Name	Law Firm
David Metzger	Clifford Chance
Louis Glass	CMS
Michael Sweet	Fox Rothschild
Robert Henoch	Kobre & Kim
Stuart Kurlander	Latham & Watkins
Gary Emmanuel	McDermott Will & Emery
Josef Fuss	Taylor Wessing
Colin Diamond	White & Case
Tali Sealman	White & Case
Daniel Rubel	ZEK

### Notable

Name	Law Firm
Steven Glusband	Carter Ledyard & Milburn
Louis Glass	CMS
Michael Sweet	Fox Rothschild
Robert Henoch	Kobre & Kim
Stuart Kurlander	Latham & Watkins
Gary Emmanuel	McDermott Will & Emery
Josef Fuss	Taylor Wessing
Colin Diamond	White & Case
Tali Sealman	White & Case
Daniel Rubel	ZEK

# Editorial

# Allen & Overy

Having been active in the Israeli market for well over two decades, Allen & Overy (“A&O”) has one of the most formidable Israeli practices, which thrives under the leadership of **Lee Noyek**. This year, the firm took top spot in banking and commanded respect for its roles in some of the most striking M&A deals in the market. Highlights included advising XIO on the USD 1.2 Billion sale of Lumenis and acting for Bridgepoint’s €5.8 Billion buyout fund on its acquisition of Qualitest - an Israel-based AI-powered provider of quality engineering and testing solutions.

A pillar of the firm’s Israeli offering is its deep experience advising across the energy and infrastructure sector. In 2020 the firm saw **Ed Moser** represent the lenders to the successful bidder for Israel’s largest desalination plant – the Sorek B desalination plant. The firm also showcased its strength in capital markets through a number of high-profile debt offerings in London and further afield, notably represented by **Peter Crossan** in the London office. A&O’s Israel offering also included litigation and arbitration - having acted for Keshet Broadcasting on its High Court victory against Black Cube, as well as on a string of arbitration matters globally.

Lee Noyek acts as the firm’s presence on the ground in Tel Aviv, bringing significant experience of corporate finance, strategic M&A, divestments, joint ventures, public takeovers, refinancings and IPOs.

# Asserson

UK-headquartered law firm Asserson continues to enjoy a strong presence in the Israeli market, with its largest office in Tel Aviv and a team comprising UK, U.S. and Israel qualified lawyers. Under the leadership of the well-known shining light, Tel Aviv-based **Trevor Asserson**, the team provides UK legal services to Israeli clients, particularly in the realm of litigation and real estate, taking pole position in both and flying high in employment law.

Jointly heading the Dispute Resolution practice is **Baruch Baigel**, whose track record includes several high profile and high value claims in the UK High Court, three of which have been listed by the Lawyer among the top 20 UK cases for the year, each of those cases for Israeli citizens, or people based in Israel. The team, which includes **Yisrael Hiller** and **Elliot Lister**, earns widespread recognition for its expertise in commercial, real estate and construction-related litigation, while Trevor Asserson has recently acted in a USD 50 million claim regarding a cyber security business.

In real estate, **David Prais** leads the Israeli Real Estate team, after setting up the practice when he joined in early 2008. The team acts in acquisitions and disposals, forward purchases and funding, bank financing, site redevelopment and leasing work for property companies, pension funds, retailers, banks, developers, and private clients. Other key lawyers include **Howard Rubinstein**, head of the Business Law group, who has been substantially growing the Israel M&A and employment practices. **Rachel Shaw**, **Oliver Harris** and **Hadie Cohen** are involved in a raft of employment agreements and ongoing advice for Israeli companies.

# Bersay

Founded in 1995, Paris-based law firm, Bersay brings together a highly qualified 26-lawyer Israel Desk, which supports French and Israeli companies in their respective jurisdictions, with comprehensive expertise addressing the legal needs of these businesses. The Tel Aviv office – open since 2008 – is headed by Israel-based partner, **Stéphanie Benmoussa-Molkhou**. A specialist in M&A, corporate law and commercial contracts, she and the team have been active on both buyer and seller side over the past 12 months. She also serves as Vice President of the Israel-France Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The team has been involved also in advising on employment contracts for Israeli companies, as well as IP, litigation, which is part of the practice of **Jérôme Bersay**, another integral figure in the team, who is also involved in corporate acquisitions, private equity, litigation and arbitration.

# Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner

With over 35 years' experience in the Israeli market, Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner ("BCLP") has one of the longest standing and most extensive practices offering a raft of services to Israeli clients and Israeli-owned businesses across multiple sectors. Since the April 2018 merger between Bryan Cave of the U.S. and Berwin Leighton Paisner of the UK, the firm has further enhanced its offering to Israeli clients, today advising more than 150 Israeli/Israel-related corporates and financial institutions (as well as family offices and their advisers) across a wide range of sectors.

London-based **Jonathan Morris** and Tel Aviv-based **Paul Miller** serve as Co-Chairs of the firm's Israel Desk, alongside **Ken Henderson** in the New York office. Partner in the firm's M&A and Corporate Finance team in London, Jonathan Morris advised Amiad Water Systems on the purchase of a controlling stake by FIMI, one of the leading private equity firms in Israel, while Paul Miller, with more than 25 years international experience, is a consultant in BCLP's Tel Aviv representative office.

They are well supported by more than 50 fee earners in the Israel Business Group, with 11 of BCLP's offices regularly working with Israeli and Israel based clients. As well as flying high in M&A, the firm is prominent in litigation involving Israeli clients, with **Oran Gelb** and **George Burn** key figures in a team that has lately been supporting Israeli tech companies on a raft of employment, contract, real estate and IP disputes.

# Carter Ledyard & Milburn

Built on the foundation of 160 years of legal service, one of New York's oldest law firms, Carter Ledyard Milburn (CLM) has been representing Israel-based companies for over 20 years in corporate, securities, M&A, as well as litigation, intellectual property, employment, real estate and more.

The Israel practice group includes key figures **Steve Glusband**, who also chairs the firm's Corporate department and Securities practice group, and Israel-born **Guy Ben-Ami**, a leader of the firm's Israeli Cross-Border practice. Both are regularly involved in a raft of commercial matters for clients, notably, over the past year, in the capital markets space – offering strategic advice in relation to a number of offerings, such as for global defense technology company, Netanya-based RADA Electronic Industries Ltd., in its USD 25 million public offering on the NASDAQ.

# Cleary Gottlieb

Headquartered in New York, international firm Cleary Gottlieb (“Cleary”) wins striking acclaim for its experience in high-profile M&A, capital markets and high-tech transactions and litigation. During the past year, the firm advised on International Flavors & Fragrances’ merger agreement with DuPont for the merger of IFF and DuPont's Nutrition & Biosciences business in a Reverse Morris Trust transaction, with **Benet O'Reilly** leading in the transaction.

A member of the firm’s Israel Group, **David Gottlieb** has represented numerous Israeli clients throughout his legal career, including: Bank Hapoalim, Bank Leumi, Retailors and Israel Chemicals, and is very involved in capital markets transactions. Together with **Pierre-Marie Boury**, he represented Bank Leumi in a USD 750 million debt offering.

The firm’s pedigree in litigation continues and was previously showcased by its representation of D.B.S. Satellite Services (1998) Ltd. (“Yes”) and certain officers in a putative securities fraud class action brought in the United States District Court for the District of New York.

# Clifford Chance

A hugely active participant in the Israeli market for many years, Clifford Chance successfully harnesses its global reach to help Israeli clients reach international markets, and international clients access Israel.

**David Metzger, Michael Sabin, Adrian Cohen** and **Sam Clinton-Davis** are big-hitters in an Israel group, which works across many practice areas to offer clients immediate access to one of the widest international professional networks around.

Co-head of Clifford Chance's US Funds & Investment Management Group, Hebrew-speaking Michael Sabin has an active Israel practice, advising Israel-based sponsors and investors on their fundraising and global investment activities. David Metzger, global head of Clifford Chance's Construction Group, has been advising bidders and lenders on light rail projects in recent years. Having set up the firm's Israel practice in the early 1990s, Adrian Cohen is a partner in Clifford Chance's international restructuring and insolvency practice and has established a roster of strong relationships with Israeli institutions, companies and firms,

With strong relationships with the world's banks and financial institutions, the team is renowned for banking and finance work, energy and infrastructure, technology – recently providing regulatory advice to clients in the tech sector, and well versed in a raft of disputes, acting on disputes relating to construction and financing during the past year.

**Bettina Steinhauer** led on the advice provided to J.P. Morgan in relation to TASE-listed ADO Properties' £3.7 billion acquisition of Adler Real Estate.

# CMS

CMS is one of the only major European-focused law firms with senior equity partners on the ground in Israel and has been instrumental for Israeli clients looking to invest or grow abroad, as well as those businesses and investors looking to enhance their business in Israel. Within the Israel group, **Andrew Besser** and **Louis Glass** are key figures in the 25+ strong team, which has been busy in the past year in a range of fields, flying high in banking and active in corporate, employment, real estate, as well as in protecting IP.

Together with Louis Glass, **María González-Gordon** has been advising the world's leading online casino and e-games provider Grupo 888 Holdings on the prosecution strategy and filing of an opposition against an application that conflicts with its iconic trademark 888. She has also advised Israel's Adama Group, in drafting the strategy for protecting their global trademark in court proceedings, while London-based **Gareth Morgan** acted for Teva in relation to an action commenced in the Patents Court in August 2020 against Sanofi.

Clients also benefit from the firm's fluent Hebrew speakers and key relationships with Israeli banks and corporates, prominent start-ups, and well-known lawyers and accountants for more than two decades.

# Dechert

Having built a global platform across 26 locations, the Philadelphia-born firm Decherts has been involved in the M&A field, notably through **Adam Levin**, who co-heads Dechert's Corporate group in London. In an extensive roster of international corporates, private equity groups and high net worth individuals, he has advised on a slew of VC investments by Israeli investors in the tech space.

# DLA Piper

The global knowhow and resources of DLA ensure that it is regularly involved in the Israeli market. From the U.S. to Latin America, Europe to Asia, the firm's Israel country group comprises more than 100 lawyers who advise global clients on M&A and other transactions in Israel and Israeli clients with their strategic objectives abroad. **Jeremy Lustman** helps lead the Israel group and spends significant time in Israel having developed a strong international network of Israeli companies, investors, entrepreneurs, bankers, accountants and local lawyers.

Nowhere has this global experience proven more valuable than in the high-tech sector, intellectual property and employment law, securing first place in all three fields, with the team advising household names in Israel on their employment needs abroad, including recruitment, terminations, policies and procedures, and much more. In the last year, DLA represented Haymaker Acquisition Corp. II., a publicly-traded special purpose acquisition company, in its USD2 Billion business combination with ARKO Holdings Ltd., an Israeli public holding, with New York partner **Stephen Alicanti** leading, while Toronto partner **Noam Goodman** acted for the lead underwriter in connection with the financing of the Israeli company, Innocan Pharma Corporation.

# Fox Rothschild

A bridge between Israel and the U.S., Fox Rothschild 's 31-strong nationwide Israel practice group is a prime destination for Israeli clients launching or expanding into U.S. markets. The group's work is driven by **Sarah Biser**, **Mark Hess** and **Michael Sweet** in the New York, Los Angeles and San Francisco offices respectively, with technology and innovation at the heart of the firm's extensive client roster.

The firm's transactional and regulatory expertise has stood out in the past year, with clients also turning to the firm's depth of resources and talent in relation to employment, intellectual property, litigation and arbitration, and real estate. Heavily involved in litigation involving Israeli parties, the firm is also involved in compliance work, with Philadelphia-based partner **Odia Kagan**, the Chair of GDPR Compliance & International Privacy group, advising Israeli clients on such key issues over the past year.

# Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer

As one of the most impressive names in the Israeli market, Freshfields' Israel group is one of the pacesetters and emerges with two top spots – in banking and energy and infrastructure. **Adir Waldman** is on the ground in Israel, leading a multijurisdictional team of Freshfields lawyers dedicated to advising Israeli clients and businesses with interests in Israel. Among the team is New York partner **Menachem Kaplan**, whose practice encompasses IP, licensing, joint ventures, and emerging technologies, and Tel Aviv based **Chaim Seligman**, who is fronting the Tel Aviv office's tech initiative and brings clients a background of Private and Public International Law.

With the Israeli banking sector undergoing a transformation, Freshfields advised U.S. private equity giant Warburg Pincus on its acquisition of Leumi Card (Max) and follow-on matters including their first milestone payment in February 2020. Both Adir Waldman and London-based **Patrick Ko** were involved. The firm's London office also advised Leumi Partners on their first investment outside of Israel, a co-investment alongside Blackstone in the Dutch bank NIBC. **Simon Orton** and **James Smethurst**, who heads the firm's financial institutions regulatory practice in London, were involved in the €1 billion investment. Freshfields is also active in providing M&A, capital markets, energy and infrastructure, regulatory advice, and much more. For example, Freshfields also provides ongoing regulatory advice to Israeli-owned and headquartered, SodaStream on its operations in key European jurisdictions.

The Group flies high in the Litigation and Arbitration table, with a successful track record in some of the highest-caliber dispute resolution matters in the Israeli market. Among a raft of matters, the team advised VW on claims brought against it by the State Prosecutor's Office of Israel in relation to the Israeli aspects of the global emissions scandal and advised Sotheby's on the L.A. Mayer Museum of Islamic Art dispute.

# Goodwin

Attorneys in Goodwin's Israel Practice have significant experience working with Israeli businesses as well as internationally-based investors in Israeli companies. The firm's position in the IsraelDesks rankings owes much to its track record in a number of areas, especially private equity, venture capital and technology.

With a successful track record in relation to emerging companies, Goodwin advised on the flagship USD 900 million acquisition of Moovit by Intel in May 2020, an acquisition that will enable Intel to develop self-driving robotaxis that could take to the streets in early 2022. Goodwin also advised on a string of investments and capital markets transactions. San Francisco-based **Brian McPeake** advised on the investment by Bain Capital into Israeli start-up BioCatch, as it raised USD 168 million of Series C venture funding; Washington DC partner **Alese Bagdol** acted as counsel to U.S. VC firm, Sequoia Capital Global Equities in its USD 267 million Series F Preferred Stock investment of Israel-founded Sentinel Labs; and Boston-based **Mitchell Bloom**, who chairs the firm's Life Sciences practice, advised on the NASDAQ public offering of Israel's Vascular Biogenics.

# Greenberg Traurig

With a multidisciplinary office in Tel Aviv, Greenberg Traurig's 100-plus Israel Practice is one of the larger gateways for outward-looking Israeli businesses and entrepreneurs, as well as for non-Israeli clients looking to expand their presence in Israel. Active for more than 15 years in the market, the team is led by Managing Shareholder of the Israel office, **Joey Shabot**, who has represented key local players, including Harel Group on the USD 250 million acquisition of a 10% interest in a building in midtown Manhattan, one of the largest real estate transactions to close in New York City this past year.

The Israel Group is packed with instrumental figures, such as Tel Aviv-based **Lawrence Sternthal**, who leads the International Real Estate department in Israel, which took top spot. The firm was also involved in M&A and advised Israeli company ARKO Holdings Ltd., on its SPAC merger with Haymaker Acquisition Corp. II. Miami-based co-chair of the firm's Corporate practice, **Alan Annex** led on the landmark transaction in 2020, one of deals for the firm that total more than USD 25 billion.

A key player in banking, regulatory, commercial litigation and employment, Greenberg Traurig's team also includes **Meira Ferziger**, who brings more than 25 years' employment law experience as it relates to Israeli companies operating in the U.S., and **Adam Snukal**, who has worked with Israel's leading start-ups, representing over 30 hi-tech clients this past year alone.

# Herrick Feinstein

New York-based law firm, Herrick boasts a vibrant Israel practice group that is an integral part of the firm's broader global experience. Connected with major Israeli law and accounting firms, the group is especially recognized by IsraelDesks rankings for a depth and diversity of experience in the real estate sector.

Co-chairing the firm's Israel practice group is Real Estate partner **Yariv Ben-Ari**, who acts for real estate lenders, trustees, servicers, owners, operators, developers and contractors on a variety of sophisticated matters. An Israeli-American, he also helps foreign developers and investors in their U.S. real estate transactions, as well as U.S. clients seeking outbound investments in Israel. He and the team advised Migdal Insurance Company Ltd. and Menora Mivtachim Insurance Ltd., two of the largest Israeli insurance companies, in the negotiation of a joint venture with Silverstein Properties to acquire the U.S. Bank Tower in downtown Los Angeles for USD 430 million. The team also represented Bank Hapoalim in the workout of multiple loans secured by assisted living and licensed nursing home facilities in the U.S., as well as in the workout and foreclosure of loans secured by unsold condominiums in the U.S.

# Hogan Lovells

Even before the official formation of the Israel Practice Group in 2012, Hogan Lovells has been involved in the Israeli market. With almost 3,000 lawyers across almost its global office network, the group comprises Israeli Bar Association members, citizens, and fluent Hebrew speakers. From life sciences and energy, technology and healthcare, Hogan Lovells helps companies to expand in Israel or Israeli companies do more business abroad. Performing well in real estate, highlights include the representation of Israel-based Fattal Hotel Group on its acquisition of four Grange hotels in central London from real estate investment firm Queensgate Investments, as well as Salesforce in its definitive agreement to acquire Bonobo.

The firm has a regulatory practitioner based in Rehovot, who is dedicated to providing local and real-time support for Israeli medical device and life sciences companies seeking U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval.

# Howard Kennedy

Howard Kennedy is recognized for its strong track record of advising Israeli clients across real estate, capital markets and private wealth. London-based **Charles Maxwell** heads the team and is supported by a network of strong connections.

The firm's Israeli clients are made up of high-net-worth individuals and families, entrepreneurs and corporates, which instruct the firm on corporate, real estate, litigation, private client and family issues.

Last year's workload includes a string of high profile commercial and residential acquisitions in the real estate sector – for a particular flagship Israeli investor client, but the firm is attracting a wider client base investing in the UK real estate market.

# Kobre & Kim

Focused exclusively on disputes and investigations, Kobre & Kim enjoys a commanding reputation for representing Israeli clients in cross-border disputes involving Israel, the U.S., Europe, Asia and other jurisdictions. As the only firm with a former U.S. federal prosecutor based full time in Israel, **Robert Heno**ch, heads the group, which specializes in assisting Israeli clients in complex international government investigations. **Michael Rosen** and **Jeremy Bressman** also feature prominently in a compact, tight-knit team, which earns significant roles in sensitive and high-profile litigation and also helped Israeli start-ups through the launch of a Litigation fund in 2018, in partnership with litigation finance firm IMF. While much of the work remains confidential, the team has been representing Israeli tech companies in a raft of commercial disputes, as well as HNWs in disputes over assets held abroad.

# Latham & Watkins

Latham & Watkins' ("Latham") Israel Practice leverages its global reach to provide strategic advice to Israeli clients on some of the highest profile and highest value M&A and capital markets transactions in the Israeli market. In 2020, few transactions matched the headlines written by Israeli-U.S. company Mellanox Technologies – represented by Latham - which was sold for USD 7 billion to NVIDIA Corporation.

In capital markets, Latham advised Vroom on its NASDAQ IPO – valued at over USD 530 million; Lemonade on its NYSE IPO – valued at over USD 360 million; and Wix on its 0% Convertible Senior Notes - valued at USD 575 million. Latham also acted for Owl Rock Capital in relation to the term loan and revolving credit facility in connection with Hellman & Friedman LLC's USD 300 million acquisition of Checkmarx Ltd., an Israel-based enterprise software development company.

**Joshua Kiernan** and **Stuart Kurlander** in the London and Washington D.C. offices are instrumental figures in the team, which regularly advises on initial public, follow-on and private offerings, as well as a string of SPAC transactions.

# McDermott Will & Emery

Backed by the multidisciplinary resources of the firm's 20 offices, McDermott Will & Emery ("McDermott") is known for extensive transactional advice, particularly capital markets transactions. In this category, the firm emerged at the head of the pack for the third year after a string of capital markets instructions and regular day-to-day work involving Israeli clients across many cutting-edge sectors, especially technology, bio-tech and life science. McDermott also showcased banking and M&A advice, as well as employment counsel for Israeli parties with regards to U.S. employment law

The Israel Desk is headed by New York corporate and securities partner **Gary Emmanuel**, who brings clients more than 20 years' experience, especially in relation to capital raising, IPOs, registered direct and follow-on offerings, private placements, and much more. Fellow New York partner **Mark Selinger** is another key figure in the team having represented Israeli companies doing business internationally since 1994. While most of his Israeli clients are NASDAQ-listed public companies, he also represents emerging private companies, primarily in the technology and life sciences sectors. Gary Emmanuel recently advised Israeli company, My Size Inc., the developer and creator of smartphone measurement solutions, on its public offering on NASDAQ, while Mark Selinger represented Israel's Check-Cap Ltd., a clinical stage medical diagnostics company, in its registered direct offering, also on NASDAQ. Delaware partner, **Ben Strauss** is another instrumental figure, often acting as special Delaware and U.S. counsel for Israeli based clients in connection with mergers and acquisitions, private placements, investment rounds and public offerings involving Delaware corporations and alternative entities.

# Memery Crystal

Founded over 40 years ago, London-based Memery Crystal is recognized as one of the UK's leading law firms in its specialist areas. Memery Crystal's Israel Desk helps Israeli businesses and entrepreneurs to the London markets, to raise capital and supports Israeli investors, especially in relation to real estate. During the past year, the team, led by partner **Daniel Tunkel**, advised on the acquisitions and sales of apartments, mixed-use developments, leases and much more.

# Charish Law Group

U.S. boutique law firm Charish Law Group specializes in representing Israeli and U.S. companies and individuals as lead counsel in complex business litigation, international arbitration, and defense of white-collar and regulatory matters. The team thrives under the first-rate experience of its founder –**Michael Charish**, in Jerusalem, who has spent 20 years handling complex litigations and investigations for clients ranging from individuals to Fortune 100 companies.

With affiliates in New York and Israel, the team is a prime choice for the full gamut of complex civil and white-collar-criminal matters, as well as particular expertise in disputes relating to contracts and business torts. Having previously advised the New York subsidiary of Gett (previously known as GetTaxi), an Israel-based, global leader in on-demand mobility in a contract/tort dispute in the New York Supreme Court, this past year has seen the firm involved for a publicly traded Israeli real-estate company in New York Supreme Court litigation and appeal regarding corporate-governance and contract issues related to investments in a New York property.

# Squire Patton Boggs

The spotlight shines brightly on the 35-strong Israel Desk at Squire Patton Boggs, which is widely recognized by Israeli clients for its comprehensive advice in the employment field. Led by London's **Miriam Lampert**, who brings clients more than 17 years' experience of working in the Israeli market and an understanding of the UK ecosystem, with her role co-leading 1,370-member, Israeli Tech Parliament, one of the main networking groups for the Israeli tech community in London.

Recognized for its expertise in the hi-tech sector, the team advises high profile Israeli corporates, particularly in the tech and financial services sectors, and showcases a wealth of experience in understanding the issues facing companies operating in the cybersecurity, fin-tech, med-tech and smart transportation sectors, recently expanding its Israeli client base and including a tech unicorn. This technology expertise is also shared by **Sungbo Shim**, one of few lawyers in China with a track record of advising Israeli companies doing business in the region, especially in corporate, commercial and labor and employment matters throughout China, Japan and South-East Asia.

# Taylor Wessing

Entering this year's rankings is the Israel Desk of international law firm Taylor Wessing, which has made an impact with its focus on dynamic sectors, including high-tech, life sciences and healthcare, real estate, and banking. The firm has made impressive strides under the guidance and experience of London-based **Josef Fuss** and Israel-based **Nathan Krapivensky**, who co-head the Israel group.

The Israel group has taken a prominent role advising on a string of investments and venture capital transactions, with its corporate technology team acting for Israeli investors, companies, entrepreneurs and management teams on all aspects of venture capital, M&A and joint ventures. While the firm is visible also in litigation, banking and IP, there are significant real estate and employment matters, with the team advising on acquisitions, sales, corporate and residential leases involving Israeli parties, as well as providing a wide array of employment, immigration, contracts and policy advice.

# White & Case

One of the most preeminent firms with a commitment to Israel spanning several decades is White & Case, which, this year, took the M&A crown, for the second successive year. Through the depth of its expertise in the firm's London and New York offices, the team is a go-to group for sophisticated and high-quality instructions and is one of the go-to law firms in Israel related M&A. The team thrives under the leadership of New York-based **Colin Diamond** – one of the lead lawyers on U.S. IPOs by Israeli issuers - and London-based **Daniel Turgel**, committed to the Israeli market for more than a decade. We also make special mention of **Tali Sealman**, who together with Daniel Turgel, represented dual-listed NICE Actimize in a definitive agreement to acquire Guardian Analytics, a leading AI, cloud-based financial crime risk management solution provider. Previously with FBC and Cooley, Tali Sealman has also acted for an Israeli related company in an extremely high value venture debt deal and another Israeli company in a public de-SPAC deal.

The wider team is regularly immersed in a broad range of industries in Israel, including high-tech, healthcare and medical devices, clean-tech, agriculture, real estate, energy and oil and gas, chemicals, consumer products and financial services. With deep roots also in capital markets, White & Case has been advising the State of Israel on its offering of USD 1 billion 2.500% bonds, due 2030, and USD 2 billion 3.375% bonds due 2050, under its U.S. registered shelf program.

# ZEK

Founded in 1980, Zeichner Ellman & Krause LLP ("ZEK") has more than 40 lawyers spread across its New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Washington DC, as well as a foreign office in Tel Aviv. In fact, ZEK was the very first law firm to be certified as a foreign attorney's office by the Israel Bar Association. **Daniel Rubel** heads the Israel Group, which has been representing Israeli clients on a wide variety of U.S. legal issues including corporate and securities matters, commercial litigation, bankruptcy, banking regulations, U.S. government investigations, as well as Israeli businesses who have opened new operations in the U.S.

Daniel Rubel handles multiple cross-border disputes for Israeli clients, including disputes over control of large U.S. assets and corporations, contractual disputes and more. He frequently acts alongside the firm's executive partner, **Stuart Krause**, who also leads cross-border litigation, while **Bruce Goodman** has worked with multiple Israeli clients who are publicly traded companies in the US in complex litigation and has also represented Israeli companies in cross-border mediations. The firm has been involved in representing a number of Israeli companies previously affiliated with prolific businessman Eliezer Fishman, whose bankruptcy became one of Israel's most landmark cases.