



Privacy&Us H2020 MSCA ITN

Ph.D. Positions at Tel Aviv University on Usable Privacy

Tel Aviv University in Israel has two open Ph.D. positions in the field of usable privacy. We are seeking excellent and motivated Ph.D. candidates to be part of the Privacy & Usability (Privacy & Us) [EU H2020 MSCA Innovative Training Network](#) (project 675730) that will train Ph.D. candidates in collaboration with top universities, private companies and government agencies in various European countries. For general information on the project, see [Privacy & Us](#).

Description of the positions:

Position 1: *Modeling Responses to Privacy-related Indications*

The Ph.D. will develop models of user responses to privacy-related indications from systems or other information sources and validate these models with empirical research to generate effective privacy notifications and information.

Supervisor: Prof. Joachim Meyer (Engineering)

Position 2: *Informed Consent in Privacy: Functionality, Usability, and Legality*

The Ph.D. will analyze legal and technological paradigms of consent in privacy, develop new models of consent that can be effectively applied to contemporary information systems, and assess how users respond and make use of these new models.

Supervisors: Dr. Eran Toch (Engineering), Prof. Michael Birnhack (Law)

Research environment:

Both Ph.D. students will conduct their Ph.Ds. in the Department of Industrial Engineering, at the Faculty of Engineering at Tel Aviv University (TAU). They will be part of the IWIT lab (Interacting with Technologies Lab) co-directed by [Prof. Joachim Meyer](#) and [Dr. Eran Toch](#). The second position will also be co-advised by [Prof. Michael Birnhack](#) from the Faculty of Law at TAU.

The program provides generous scholarships, full research funding and travel expenses for up to 3 years. During this time, students will conduct research at Tel Aviv University and will participate in several training and development activities, such as summer schools and secondments with the various partners.

Applicant's profile (for both positions):

- M.Sc. (or equivalent) in Industrial Engineering, Information Systems, Human-Computer Interaction, Cognitive Psychology, Computer Science, or related

fields. The student must have completed a research thesis as part of the M.Sc. studies.

- Strong background in behavioral research methods, statistics, and modeling of human behavior
- Candidates should have some experience in software development
- For position 2, legal background is welcomed
- Excellent knowledge of English (preferably documented through a high TOEFL score or another standardized English language proficiency test)
- Applicants cannot have resided in Israel for more than 12 months over the past 3 years, by August 2016

In addition, the second position might also be open to Ph.D. in Law, subject to meeting the following eligibility criteria:

- An LL.M. with a thesis,
- Formal background or substantial practical experience in technology,
- Formal background and proven experience in empirical research methods.

Start date: August 2016

Applications, written in English, should be submitted electronically to the contacts below. Applications should include:

- A Curriculum Vitae (including your contact address, work experience and list of publications)
- A cover letter explaining your motivation and career plans
- Transcripts of all courses and grades for your Bachelor and Master programs
- A copy of your Master's thesis
- Two letters of recommendation, at least one of which should be from the thesis supervisor, and contact information for up to five additional people that have consented to provide recommendations if asked to do so

Deadline for applications:

Evaluation of applications will begin February 15 and will continue until suitable candidates are recruited.

For further inquiries, please contact:

Prof. Joachim Meyer (jmeyer@tau.ac.il)

Dr. Eran Toch (erant@tau.ac.il)