

Prof. Avishalom Westreich

Avishalom Westreich is the President of **Herzog Academic College** (founded by Lifshitz College and Herzog College). Until his nomination (February 2026), he was an Associate Professor of Jewish Law, Family Law, and Jurisprudence at the **College of Law and Business** in Ramat Gan, Israel, and a Research Fellow at the **Shalom Hartman Institute**, Jerusalem.

Prof. Westreich was a Research Fellow at the **Katz Center for Advanced Jewish Studies** and an Israel Institute Visiting Faculty at the **University of Pennsylvania** (Spring 2023); a Visiting Scholar at the Petrie-Flom Center for Health Law Policy, Biotechnology, and Bioethics at **Harvard Law School** (Fall 2017); a Scholar-in-Residence at the **Hadassah-Brandeis Institute** (Fall 2016); and a Research Fellow at the Agunah Research Unit at the **University of Manchester** (2007–2008).

Prof. Westreich holds a Ph.D. in Talmudic Laws of Tort from Bar-Ilan University (2007), as well as degrees in Hermeneutic Studies (M.A.), Law (LL.B.), Talmud (B.A.), and Jewish History (B.A.). He studied at the hesder yeshivot of Sha'almim and Otniel and holds rabbinic ordination (*Semicha* – Yoreh Yoreh) from the Chief Rabbinate of Israel.

His research focuses on modern family law, primarily marriage and divorce (in particular, the agunah problem), and reproduction. His publications include *Assisted Reproduction in Israel: Law, Religion, and Culture* (Brill, 2018), *Talmud-Based Solutions to the Problem of the Agunah*, and more than 40 articles in leading scholarly journals. In addition to family law, Prof. Westreich also studies the Talmudic laws of tort. His book, *The Four Archetypes of Damages (Arba'ah Avot Nezokin): Law, Tradition, and Interpretation*, was published in 2023 by Carmel Publishing House.