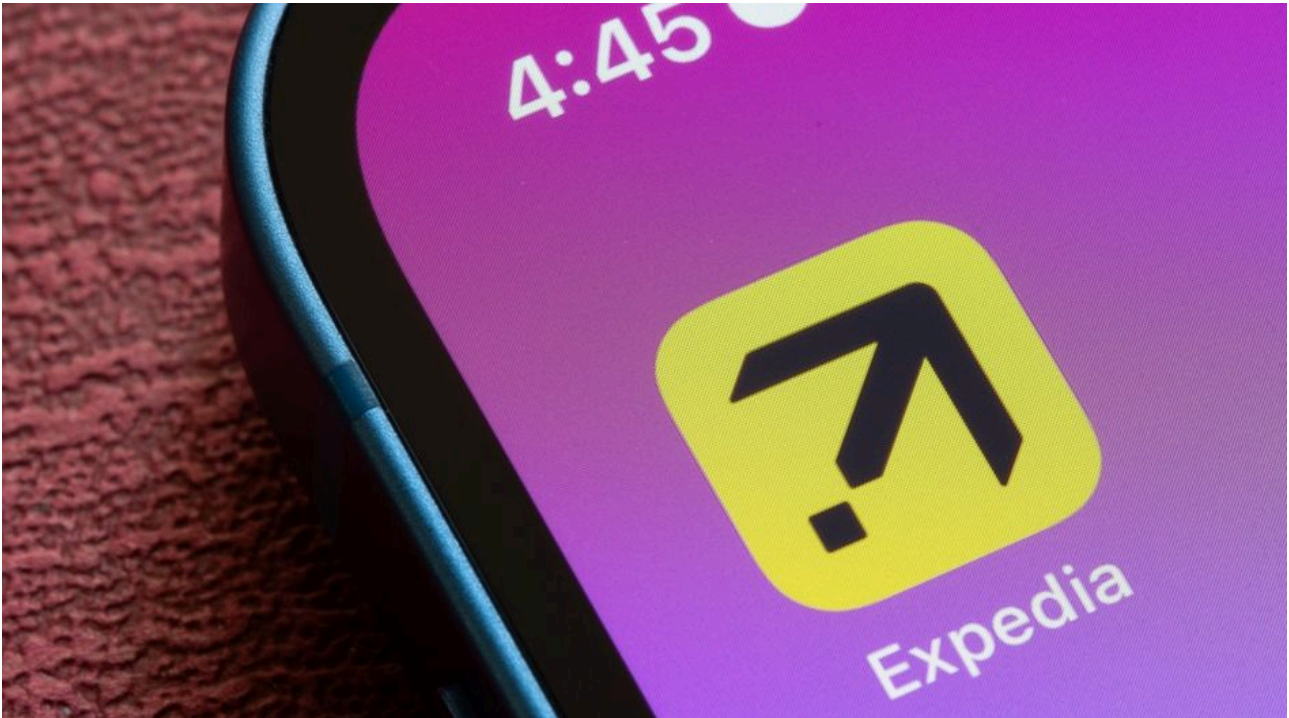




Booking and Expedia targeted in Israeli class action

3 min read | 19 May 2026

 Rashid Baxter



Shutterstock/Tada Images

A class of Israeli hotel bookers has secured certification for a damages claim worth up to €294 million against Booking and Expedia, after a local court said the companies' price parity clauses may have harmed competition in "several ways".

Certifying the class action last month, Israel's Central District Court said the accommodation booking platforms' wide most-favoured nation clauses impacted 100% of reservations across the country since 2011.

By prohibiting providers from offering better prices away from Booking.com and Expedia-owned Hotels.com, the companies may have restricted marketing channels in the industry from competing with their own services, meaning hotels, travel agents and tourism companies would be unable to undercut their prices, the court said.

This would be a "classic" harm to competition, the court said in a 32-page ruling handed down on 17 April.

An absence of intra-brand competition among rival channels for hotel reservations could also lead to higher room prices, said Judge Rami Haimovitch in the decision to

allow class representative Nir Ben Ze'ev's claim to proceed to trial.

Yossy Haezrachy, counsel to the class representative, told GCR that damages simulations suggest the claim's value could exceed 1 billion Israeli new shekels.

Millions of hotel room stays are sold each year, with nightly prices averaging €215, he said.

The claim follows on from a probe by Israel's Competition Authority, which resulted in Booking [agreeing](#) to remove its most-favoured nation clauses from its contracts with hotels in the country as part of a package of commitments in 2020.

Those price parity clauses have drawn antitrust scrutiny from competition authorities and private litigants in multiple jurisdictions.

A class action on behalf of thousands of accommodation providers in the UK was [announced](#) last July, with similar claims also ongoing in [Spain](#).

Enforcers in [Germany](#), [Switzerland](#), [Italy](#), [Sweden](#), [Denmark](#), [Hong Kong](#) and [Japan](#) are amongst those to have investigated Booking's terms.

Agencies in Hong Kong, [Japan](#), [Australia](#) and [South Korea](#) have also scrutinised Expedia's price parity clauses.

Expedia told the court prior to the certification ruling that this foreign scrutiny was neither relevant nor binding, while arguing that most of those cases targeted Booking.

The company also claimed that the class representative's damages calculations were based on irrelevant data from the EU.

Booking argued that those foreign infringement decisions are not applicable to the Israeli market. The company also emphasised that it has voluntarily abolished its parity clauses, including in Europe.

But Israel's Central District Court said in its ruling that Ben Ze'ev adequately demonstrated that those price parity clauses could have caused Israeli consumers to suffer damages up until the companies abolished those terms.

The court confirmed that the class could include purchasers of stays on Booking between 2011 and 2021 and on Expedia between 2011 and 2015.

It excluded any alleged harm caused by narrow most-favoured nation clauses that require hotels to provide Booking and Expedia with the same or better rates for rooms compared to their own websites.

The court also excluded non-Israeli citizens from the claim.

Haezrachy told GCR that the class representative will seek to extend the potential scope of damages against Expedia by including purchasers outside of the 2011 to 2015 window.

He said Ben Ze'ev intends to challenge Expedia's claims that it discontinued its most-favoured-nation clauses in 2015.

"We have strong evidence to do so," Haezrachy said.

Booking and Expedia were contacted for comment.

Counsel to Nir Ben Ze'ev

Yossy Haezrachy Law Firm

Partner Yossy Haezrachy in Tel Aviv

Cassouto & Co

Partner Shmulik Cassouto in Tel Aviv and partner Shahar Capusha in London

Counsel to Expedia

Fischer (FBC & Co)

Counsel to Booking

Arnon Tadmor-Levy

Counsel to Booking_(Israel)

Ram Dekel



Rashid Baxter

Senior news reporter, Global Competition Review

Rashid.Baxter@globalcompetitionreview.com

Copyright © 2026 LBR trading as Centellic Company Number: 03281866 VAT: GB 160 7529 10