Surveillance at Home: Privacy and condominium in the era of CCTV and residential skyscrapers

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The use of closed-circuit television (CCTV), also known as video surveillance, in residential condominiums is growing. The introduction of CCTVs parallels the shift to high-rise condominium living. This article examines the implications of installing CCTVs in the private-domestic space of Israeli condominiums. It points out to the changing relationship between privacy rights and property rights in condominiums, and to new legal challenges that arise.

The article argues that under the current legal framework, placing surveillance cameras in the condominium's common property, deriving from the owner's property right, prevails over the privacy right and reduces it. However, in the absence of adequate legal tools, reduction of privacy rights in the condominium might have adverse consequences and eventually also harm the private ownership.

The article points to new legal tensions that arise and suggests new regulation of condominium management and decision-making processes, management agents, the reasonability of the use of CCTVs, and data protection.