

# PROGRAMME

21–23 April 2026 · Thessaloniki



ΤΜΗΜΑ ΙΣΤΟΡΙΑΣ  
ΚΑΙ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ  
ΑΡΙΣΤΟΤΕΛΕΙΟ ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΘΕΣΣΑΛΟΝΙΚΗΣ



ARISTOTLE  
UNIVERSITY  
OF THESSALONIKI



Fondazione  
Centro di  
Documentazione  
Ebraica  
Contemporanea



Fortunoff Video Archive  
For Holocaust Testimonies



THESSALONIKI  
FF \* GR  
FILM FESTIVAL

Co-funded by:



SPECIAL  
ACCOUNT FOR  
RESEARCH  
FUNDS  
AUTH

## Voices of Liberation – Historical, Literary and Linguistic Approaches to Testimonies in the Context of the Second World War

### 21 April · Digital Humanities Methods Workshop

Faculty of Philosophy, room 301, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki  
University Campus, New Building of the Faculty of Philosophy, Level 3

**18:00–20:00** **Maria Dermentzi** (UVSQ – Université Paris-Saclay)  
*“Transcribing Oral Testimonies with Automatic Speech Recognition”*

The workshop offers a hands-on introduction to the use of Automatic Speech Recognition (ASR) for the transcription of oral history testimonies. Through a live demonstration in a Google Colab notebook, participants will learn how to apply OpenAI’s Whisper model (Radford et al., 2022) to automatically transcribe audio and video recordings. We will discuss how to produce transcripts that can be used for text search, subtitling, and further analysis through other Natural Language Processing methods, with particular attention to the current limitations of ASR technologies.

*\*No prior experience in artificial intelligence or programming is required.*

**20:15** **Conference Dinner**

### 22 April · Conference Day 1

Aristotle University, Research Dissemination Center (KEDEA)  
University Campus, 3rd Septemvriou Str, red building, Amphitheatre I

#### **Iakovos Michailidis- Welcome Remarks**

Vice Rector of International Relations and Outreach, Lifelong Learning and Student Care- Professor of Modern and Contemporary History

**09:00–09:15**

Opening Presentation

- 09:15–** **Giovanni Pietro Vitali & Maria Dermentzi**  
**09:45** *Lexicon of WWII Memory: Computational Approaches to the Language of Testimony in Italy and Greece · Avalanche Project*

### Session 1 · 09:45–11:35

*Liberation as a Contested Process: Jewish Testimonies from Occupied and Post-War Greece*

Chair / Moderator: Laura Brazzo

- 09:45–** **Maria Pantazi**  
**10:05** *Ruptured Worlds, Enduring Ties: Escape, Survival, and Trajectories of Salonian Jews*

- 10:05–** **Mariangela Chatzistamatiou**  
**10:25** *Liberation and the Politics of Mourning: Jewish Memory through Musical Expression*

- 10:25–** **Effrosyni Mamouni**  
**10:45** *The Experience of Greek Jewish Women as Displaced Persons, 1945–1948*

- 10:45–11:05** **Zacharias Sartzetakis**  
*Jewish Identity in Post-War Greece: A Comparative Approach between Thessaloniki and Thessaly*

- 11:05–11:45** **Discussion**

### 11:45–12:00 · Coffee Break

### Session 2 · 12:00–13:30

*Women's Voices and the Politics of Liberation: Italian Perspectives*

Chair / Moderator: Sasha Colby

- 12:00–** **Sara Delmedico**  
**12:20** *Women, Liberation and Rights in Post-War Italy: L'onorevole Angelina (1947) by Luigi Zampa*

- 12:20–** **Daniela Vitagliano**  
**12:40** *Rethinking the Liberation of Occupied Italy: A Southern Perspective through Rita Majerotti's Voice*

- 12:40–** **Barbara Meazzi**  
**13:00** *Io ho scelto di essere libera. Camilla Ravera Facing her own History*

- 13:00–** **Discussion**  
**13:30**

### 13:30–14:15 · Light Lunch

### Session 3 · 14:15–15:45

*Between Constraint and Freedom: Literary and Theatrical Testimonies of Occupation*

Chair / Moderator: Carlo Bruno

- 14:15–** **Andrea Cominetti**  
**14:35** *The Shattered Identity After WWII: Różewicz's 'The Card Index' Between Paralysis and Unfinished Liberation*
- 
- 14:35–** **Ramatu Musa** [\[online\]](#)  
**14:55** *'Achtung, Gnädiges Fräulein': Female Vulnerability and Sexual Coercion in Torborg Nedreaas' Fiction of Nazi-Occupied Norway*
- 
- 14:55–** **Tatiana Liani**  
**15:15** *Performing Survival: Gendered Experiences of Liberation in the Mordo Archive*
- 
- 15:15–** **Discussion**  
**15:45**
- 

## Film Screening

---

Thessaloniki Film Festival, Pavlos Zannas Theater, Olympion Building, 10 Aristotelous Square

---

- 17:30–** **Screening History: Photograph, Film and the Politics of Memory**  
**20:30** Round Table discussion  
**Giorgos Antoniou**- Historian  
**Chryssa Tzelepi**- Director, film producer  
**Vlassis Vlasidis**- Historian

Film Screening, *The Last Note* (2017) by Pantelis Voulgaris

---

- 21:00** **Conference Dinner**
- 

## 23 April · Conference Day 2

---

Aristotle University, Research Dissemination Center (KEDEA)  
University Campus, 3rd Septemvriou Str, red building, Amphitheatre I

---

### Session 4 · 09:30–11:00

*National Identity, Displacement and Competing Narratives of Liberation*

Chair / Moderator: Giovanni Pietro Vitali

- 09:30–** **Sasha Colby**  
**09:50** *Telling 'Liberation' Differently: Ukrainian Female Forced Labourer Oral History vs. the French POW Story in Cartier-Bresson's Le Retour*
- 
- 09:50–** **Alexios Ntetorakis Exarchou**  
**10:10** *Beyond the Prison Gates: Greek Testimonies of Liberation from Brandenburg-Görden*
- 
- 10:10–** **Charles Sabatos**  
**10:30** *Slovak Narratives of Wartime Occupation and Liberation*
- 
- 10:30–** **Discussion**  
**11:00**
-

**11:00–11:30 · Coffee Break**

**Session 5 · 11:30–13:00**

*Liberation as (meta)narrative: Judeo-Spanish Testimonies and the Afterlives of Trauma*

Chair / Moderator: Loukianos Hasiotis

**11:30–11:50** **Fani Oflidou**  
*Sephardi Women in Auschwitz – A Ladino Testimony of a Traumatic Experience*

**11:50–12:10** **Evlampia Tsireli**  
*'The Promise': Testimony and Post-Liberation Life in a Graphic Novel Metanarrative*

**12:10–12:30** **Lida-Maria Dodou - Lydia Vlasidou**  
*Against Monolingual Memory: Ladino Testimonies and Methodological Issues*

**12:30–  
13:00** **Discussion**

**13:00–14:00 · Light Lunch**

**Session 6 · 14:00–15:30**

*Peripheral and Transnational Memories: Yugoslav, Greek and Mediterranean Testimonies*

Chair / Moderator: Maria Pantazi

**14:00–  
14:20** **Luca Castiglioni**  
*Free for All: the Fragmented Liberation(s) of the Italian Dodecanese (1940–1945)*

**14:20–  
14:40** **Rosanna Rizzi**  
*Silenced Agency: the Spomen Kosturnica of Barletta as a Transnational Site of Yugoslav Testimony*

**14:40–  
15:00** **Konstantinos-Michail Foteinis**  
*Liberation as a Contested Process: Testimonies of Jewish Survivors from Northwestern Greece between Liberation and 'Second Occupation'*

**15:00–  
15:30** **Discussion**

**18:00–  
19:30** Guided tour (for participants), *Eptapyrgio* Site of Memory, by Oral History Group of Eptapyrgio (Dr. Ioanna Antoniadou)

Conference organised as part of the AVALANCHE Project · Funded by the European Union and ELKE AUTH · Hosted by the Aristotle University Research Dissemination Center (KEDEA)

*Views and opinions expressed are those of the authors only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA). Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.*

