

LATVIAN NATIONAL ORAL HISTORY ARCHIVE: FROM COLLECTING TO DISSEMINATING



Maija Krūmiņa

Institute of Philosophy and Sociology

University of Latvia

BAAC conference 2019

GLAMorous* content and access

Establishing of the National Oral History project/archive

Life-stories are present in literature, mass media, as well as in mutual relations of people, but we can also look at them as a source for new research and findings which are created by the initiative of the researcher.



- National Oral History (NOH) project was established in 1992 at the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology (University of Latvia).
- It was created and led for many years by prof. Augusts Milts (1928 – 2008).
- Preconditions – National Reawakening and the subsequent flow of memories

Main goals and research directions:

- 1) To document, generalise, and analyse life stories and make them available to a wider public;
- 2) To preserve life stories as intangible cultural heritage;
- 3) To develop and popularize oral history as a scientific, popular, and democratic instrument for knowledge.

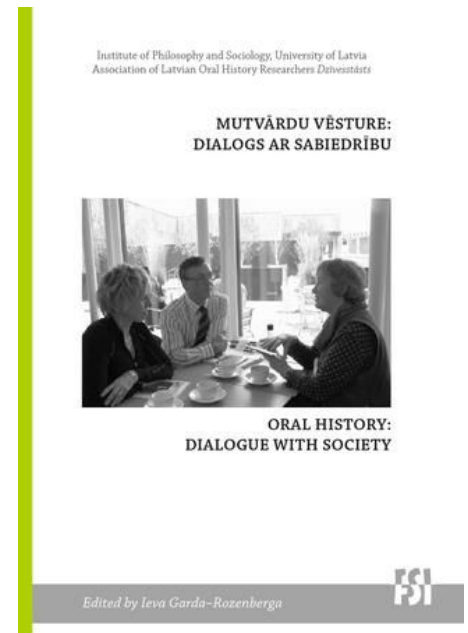
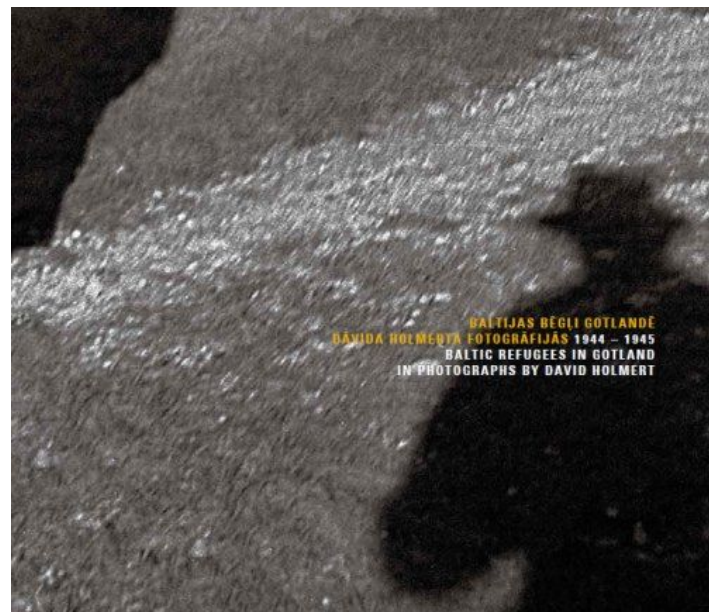
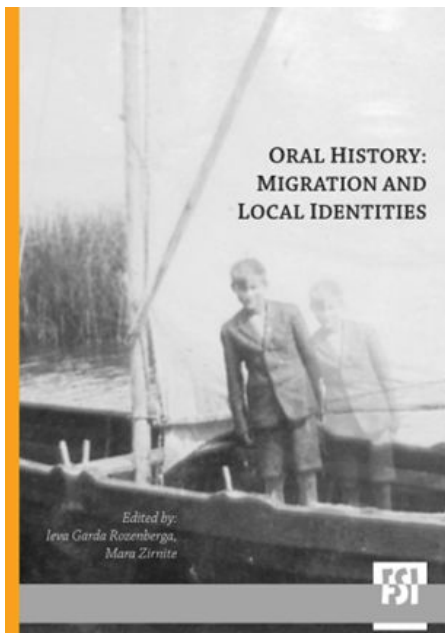
Alongside collecting (through field works and individual interviews) and storing life stories, research work is carried out constantly.

Publications of the NOH group

Currently there are more than 70 publications, which constitute the largest amount of information available in Latvian on methodological approaches and theoretical problems of biographical research.

Books in English (some freely available on the Internet):

- Oral History Sources of Latvia: A Selected Collection of Latvian Life Stories (2004)
- Oral History: Migration and Local Identities (2011)
- Oral History: Dialogue with Society (2013)
- Baltic refugees in Gotland in Photographs by David Holmert 1944-1945 (2015)



Involvement of society

- **NGO «Lifestory - Latvian Oral History Researchers Association»**
- **Guidelines for interviewers and memory writers**
«The goal of this book is to prepare new interviewers as well as inspire writers of memories, whose methodologically correctly organised work can bring greater diversity of experiences to collections of authentic biographical sources as well as to Latvian historical memory and cultural experience in general.»
- **Training seminars**



E-infrasructure

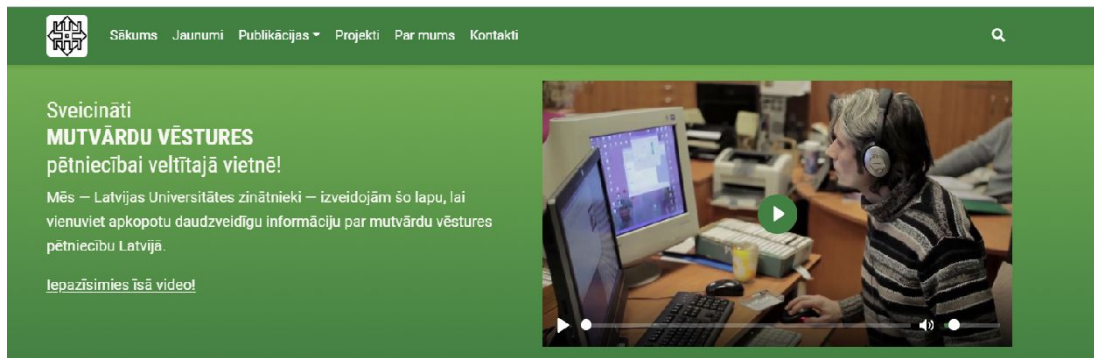
<http://www.dzivesstasts.lv> →

Creation of a new website:
mutvarduvresture.lv (LV)
oralhistory.lv (ENG)

Nav droša www.dzivesstasts.lv/en/default.htm



mutvarduvresture.netlify.com/#welcome



Ko šeit var atrast?



MV Latvija

Uzziniet par mutvārdu vēstures pētniecības centriem Latvijā



Foto un video arhīvs

Ieskatīties daudzajos pasākumos un iepazīt zinātniekus un māksliniekus. Viena bilde var pastāstīt tikpat daudz, kā tūkstoš vārdu



Apmācības

Kā veikt intervijas? Kā veikt to apstrādi un analīzi? Dalāties ar savu pieredzi un zināšanām apmācību materiālos

Facebook: Lifestory - Latvian Oral History Researchers Association

Nacionālās mutvārdu
vēstures krājumam pievienots

4500.
atmiņu stāsts!



Collections of NOH Archive

	Number of interviews	Collection
I	21	Culture Foundation interviews: 1986-1990
II	25	Latvians in the USA and Canada (Māra Zirnīte): 1990
III	72	Latvians in Great Britain (Māra Zirnīte & Edmunds Šūpulis): 1990, 1992 and 2009
IV	59	NOH interviews in Latvia: 1992-1993
V	18	Interviews in Latvia (Baiba Bela & Ginta Elksne): 1994
VI	85	Interviews of Dagmāra Vallena, correspondent of radio "Free Europe" in ASV: 1975 – 1992
VII	20	Latvians in Norway (Arta Savdona): 1993 – 1996
VIII	45	NOH interviews in Latvia: 1994 – 1995
IX	26	Field work in Skrīveri together with museum of A. Upītis: 1995
X	23	House in Riga, Latvia: 1995 – 1996
XI	55	NOH interviews in Latvia: 1994 – 1995 un 1996-1997
XII	110	Field work "Lifestory in Latvia - 1996"
XIII	27	Latvians in Sweden: 1996
XIV	43	Interviews of the students of Riga Commerce school: 1996 - 1997
XV	96	Field work: "Lifestory in Latvia – Latgale: 1997"
XVI	14	Field Work in Renda together with James Staley: 1997
XVII	146	Field Work: "Lifestory in Latvia - Latgale: 1998"
XVIII	255	American Latvian Association's project "Lifestory in Exile"
XIX	70	Field Work "Lifestory in Latvia - Vidzeme: 1999"
XX	192	Field Work "Lifestory in Latvia - Sēlija: 2000"
XXI	41	Culture in 1960-1970ies (collection of Ināra Kaija Eglīte)



Content of the Archive

- Lifestory interviews – the narrative is organized by the interviewee.
- Oral history interviews – the interviewers have guided the narrative by fixed set of questions.
- Average interviews are 2-3 hours in length.

The agreement

Author: name, surname

Place and time of birth

Address, telephone

Date and time of the interview

Length of the interview

Interviewer: name, surname

Address, telephone

I, _____, permit to use my memory story in research and to be published both in print and digital format (including Internet). I give my permission to use photos and images from my personal archive for research and publications. I allow myself to be taken pictures of or be recorded on video during the interview. I agree to include my memories in the National Oral History Archive. Restrictions for use (if any):

Signature of the author:

Signature of the interviewer:

NACIONĀLĀ MUTVĀRDU VĒSTURE: CIVĒKARHĪVS			
I - VIENOŠANĀS AR AUTORU	NR.		
Autora vārds, uzvārds _____			
Dzimšanas vieta, datums _____			
Adrese, telefons _____			

Intervijas gads [_____]	mēnesis [_____]	diena [_____]	plkst. [_____]
Intervijas apjoms [_____]	kavertes [_____]	min. [_____]	_____
Intervētāja vārds, uzvārds _____			
Adrese, telefons _____			

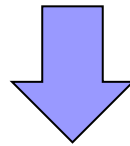
Es, _____,			
piekrītu savu atmiņu iekļaušanai Mutvārdu vēstures pētījumā un cilvēkārķīva glabāšanā. Tās drīkst			
pavairot un, ņemot kā avotu, izmantot pētījumos un publikācijās. Neiebildu, ka tās pilnīgi vai daļēji			
pieejamas interneta publikācijā.			
Ierobežojumi dokumenta izmantošanā:			

Autora paraksts: _____			
Intervētāja paraksts: _____			

Pateicamies par Jūsu atsaucību un uzticēšanos! Jūsu izstāstītā pieredze ir daļa no latviešu			
tautas dzīviesāsta. Mutvārdu vēsture apkopo dzīviesāstus, rakstītās un stāstītās atmiņas,			
dienasgrāmatu un citu personīgās vēstures dokumentu liecības, kas palīdz izprast cilvēku un			
viņu lomu kultūras nepārtrauktībā un vēsturisko norišu kopskatā.			
Jūsu atmiņu ieraksts tiks izmantots pētījumiem. Tas glabāsies Nacionālās mutvārdu vēstures			
projekta, Latvijas mutvārdu vēstures pētnieku asociācijas „Dzīviesāsts” apkopotā krājumā,			
adrese Latvijas Universitātes Filozofijas un socioloģijas institūta, Akadēmijas lauk. 1-509. kab.			
Rīgā, LV-1940. Par krājumu Maija Krūmiņa, Māra Zirniņa, tel. 67227920 E- pasts:			
mara.zirnite@gmail.com			

Documentation of the interview

For the recorded interview to become a source of research, it must be accompanied by precise information about the author and interviewer - its origins, time, place, and participants.



- **The agreement**
- **The description of the author** – nationality, religion, education, work experience, interests/membership in any organisations, information about parents, spouses, children etc.)
- **The description of the interview** – interviewer describes the conditions and pace of the interview, overall atmosphere, openness of the author, main themes, mentioned places and people etc.)

XXV	EKSPEDĪCIJA: "DZĪVESSTĀSTS LATVIJĀ - VENTSPILS: 2002"											
Nr.	Teicējs	Dzimš. g.	Dzimš. v.	Dzīvo	Ieraksts	Intervēja	Atslēgas vārds	Tautība	Ier. Gads	Atšifrēts	CD, MP3	Piezīmes
1501	Ārija Veckāgane	1932	Lonaste	Ance	1,5x90	Jānis Čakars;Baiba Bela	pad.laiki		2002		MP3, WAV	
1502	Igors Janovs	1937	Liepānas pag.	Ance	1,5x90	Jānis Čakars;Baiba Bela	kolhozs		2002		MP3, WAV	
1503	Valija Brauna	1922	Ance	Ance	1x90	Jānis Čakars;Baiba Bela	mežabrāļi		2002		MP3, WAV	
1504	Laciņa Ārneste	1935	Rēzeknes raj.	Ance	1x90	Jānis Čakars;Baiba Bela	ģimene		2002		MP3, WAV	
1505	Rihards Jaunupe	1922	Sikrags	Sikrags	0,5x90	Līga Jēgere			2002		MP3, WAV	
1506	Astrīda Emeļberga	1936	Sikrags	Sikrags		Līga Jēgere	zvejnieki		2002		MP3, WAV	
1507	Imgārde Cerbaha	1920	Sikrags	Sikrags	1x90	Līga Jēgere	lībieši	lībiete	2002		MP3, WAV	
1508	Olga Lejasmeiere	1921	Ance	Ance	1,5x90	Līga Jēgere			2002		MP3, WAV	
1509	Rihards Lejasmeiers	1921	Ance	Ance	3x90	Viola Litauniece;Jānis Čakars	Reprasijas		2002		MP3, WAV	
1510	Skaidrīte Sprūģe	1952	Ance	Ance	1x90	Viola Litauniece			2002		MP3, WAV	
1511	Lidija Sprūģe	1933	Kārsava	Ance	2x90	Viola Litauniece	Reprasijas		2002		MP3, WAV	
1512	Marta Gavare	1915	Dundaga	Ance	1x90	Viola Litauniece;Līga Jēgere			2002		MP3, WAV	
1513	Voldemārs Apse	1917	Melūži	Ance	1x90	Viola Litauniece	Litāne		2002		MP3, WAV	
1514	Marta Krauze	1918	Ance	Ance	1x90	Viola Litauniece			2002		MP3, WAV	
1515	Alberts Krauze	1923	Ance	Ance	1x90	Viola Litauniece	Reprasijas;karš		2002		MP3, WAV	
1516	Anna Krauze	1928	Ugāle	Ance	1x90	Viola Litauniece			2002		MP3, WAV	
1517	Alma Lapina	1929	Ance	Ance	1,5x90	Viola Litauniece;Jānis Čakars	lībieši		2002		MP3, WAV	
1518	Mirdza Bumeistare	1928	Ance	Ance	1x90	Viola Litauniece			2002		MP3, WAV	
1519	Mirdza Bērziņa	1932	Ventspils raj.	Ance	1x90	Viola Litauniece	lībieši;karš		2002		MP3, WAV	
1520	Elvīra Felše	1929	Ance	Ance	1x90	Viola Litauniece	karš		2002		MP3, WAV	
1521	Anna Grīnberga	1936	Daugavpils raj.	Ance	1,3x90	Viola Litauniece;Līga Jēgere			2002		MP3, WAV	
1522	Mersedēza Alksņuzare	1932	Ventspils raj.	Alsunga	2x90	Sanita Reinšone;Gunita Ģēģere;Inese Domuleva	karš		2002 A		MP3, WAV	
1523	Anna Putniņa	1906	Alsunga	Alsunga	0,5x90	Sanita Reinšone;Gunita Ģēģere;Inese Domuleva	karš		2002		MP3, WAV	
1524	Alma Zaķe	1923	Alsunga	Alsunga	1x90	Sanita Reinšone;Gunita Ģēģere;Inese Domuleva			2002		MP3, WAV	
1525	Alberts Zaķis	1918	Ēdole	Alsunga	4x90	Sanita Reinšone;Gunita Ģēģere;Inese Domuleva	folklorā		2002		MP3, WAV	
1526	Kristis Orna	1930	Alsunga	Alsunga		Sanita Reinšone;Gunita Ģēģere;Inese Domuleva	etnogrāfija		2002		MP3, WAV	
1527	(1889) Leokādija Gūtma	1939	Bērzkalce	Alsunga	2x90	Baiba Brūvele;Rita Treija	relīģija		2002		MP3, WAV	
1528	Marta Adolīne Zaķe	1937	Alsunga	Alsunga	3x90	Baiba Brūvele;Rita Treija	relīģija		2002 A		MP3, WAV	
1529	Vera Bulka	1922	Rēzeknes raj.	Alsunga	1,5x90	Baiba Brūvele;Rita Treija	relīģija		2002		MP3, WAV	
1530	Peteris Puzans	1942	Daugavpils raj.	Alsunga	1x90	Baiba Brūvele;Rita Treija	relīģija		2002		MP3, WAV	
1531	Veronika Šteinberga	1922	Alsunga	Alsunga	1x90	Baiba Brūvele;Rita Treija	relīģija		2002		MP3, WAV	
1532	Marta Mazure	1916	Liepāja	Alsunga	2x90	Līga Liepiņa;Lauris Romislovs	folklorā		2002		MP3, WAV	
1533	Teodora Vančauskaite	1937	Lietuva	Alsunga	1x90	Baiba Brūvele;Rita Treija		ketuviete	2002		MP3, WAV	

Access to the Archive

- NOH Archive's sources are used in academic research of different level (high school student scientific research work, bachelor, master and doctoral thesis, research projects) in the fields of history, sociology, social anthropology, folkloristics, linguistics etc.



- Following the fundamental ethical principles of a researchers and conditions of use as defined by the author of the interview, the archive is available at the premises of the NOH project at the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology (Kalpaka blv. 4-325, Riga)



TRANSCRIBE!



Suggestions for transcriptions

RECENT TRANSCRIPTIONS



Pirms 1 hour Santuco



Pirms 9



Sing with the Archives

15.02.2019

On 15th of February the Archives of Latvian Folklore launches a creative crowdsourcing campaign "Sing with the Archives". Its aim is to popularize the archival sound recordings and explore contemporary interpretations of traditional music. The digital platform <http://dziedi.garamantas.lv> invites to listen to the archival songs, to add their cover versions to the old recordings and to vote for the new versions. [Read more](#)



Autobiography Collection launched by the Archives of Latvian Folklore

20.06.2018

In early 2018, the Archives of Latvian Folklore launched a new initiative—the Autobiography

Welcome to the Digital Archives of Latvian folklore!

This website provides you with an opportunity to view a material collection of the Archives of Latvian Folklore - collections, illustrations and recordings. You are invited to explore folklore collections, search for persons and places, study folklore genres and help to transcribe!

The digital archive is enlarged regularly — follow the news!

[Read more](#)

TAKE PART!

Possible directions of research

A review of the NOH database reveals that life stories include the following historical experiences:

- Beginning of the 20th century, World War I, Latvian State (First Republic), War of Independence
- World War II: Soviet and German occupation; repressions; resistance; national partisans; soldiers; refugees
- Soviet period: post-war life; collectivization; everyday life; the mass deportations of 1949; professional and social history
- Exile: refugees, Latvians abroad; repatriation
- Restoration of national independence, Latvia from the 1990s to the present

Contacts:

www.dzivesstasts.lv



ifestory - Latvian Oral History Researchers
ociation

E-mail: krumina.maija@gmail.comE-mail:
krumina.maija@gmail.com, mara.zirnita@gmail.com

Address: Kalpaka blv. 4-325

Welcome!

