



Karyolemou, M. *KARMELA-Cypriot Archive of Oral Tradition of the Armenian and Latin communities.*

The KARMELA Oral Tradition Archive is a digital repository of audio-visual data with information on language, culture and history of the Armenian and Latin (Roman Catholic) communities of Cyprus, collected from 82 individual interviews with members of the two communities. The main objective of the research project by the same name financed by the Cyprus Research Centre, is to create an Oral Tradition Archive that captures the experiences of the members of the two communities during the 20th and 21st centuries. The research proposal stems from the observation that even though both the Armenian and the Latin community are established communities quite well studied from a historical point of view, there are no testimonies regarding their recent history and the personal experiences of their members.

Digitally recording and preserving the various aspects of intangible cultural heritage constitutes a priority for all countries, especially in places where religious, linguistic or ethnic minority groups exist, because it is a prerequisite for democratic societies to recognize and accept minorities' historical presence and timeless contribution to the construction of modern societies. The Archive focuses on individual narratives and personal experiences; through their thematic analysis, characteristics and aspects of the social, economic and cultural organization and activity of each community are also emerging, as well as the changes, developments and transformations shaped by the internationalization, the globalization and, the successive global humanitarian, economic and sanitary crises.

Project website <https://www.ucy.ac.cy/karmela/>