



## **Methodological challenges and innovations of a Thematic Web Oral History Project in Web.03**

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“Thematic Web Collections for Social Sciences and the Humanities: The Oral History Project *“Migrant Women in the Greek City of Thessaloniki, 1990s-2000s”* (short title-Thematic Web) envisions a thematic web collection of selected materials, mainly based in archival sources, with quality of the semantic description online access. The goal is to create a new model for thematic digital collections that will benefit the academic communities and the general public around the world. Thematic Web, is a socially-driven project with the support of state-of-the-art digital archiving technologies that allows enhanced searching, bookmarking and semantic annotation.

Within the social-driven aspect, the target is to create an archival data base by documenting the experience of migrant women of current flows in the city of Thessaloniki, Northern Greece, a city with a long multicultural history, now becoming a new home for migrants primarily from East Europe and the Balkans. As to the technical aspects of the project, a review of oral history projects and digital libraries software has led to the selection of the JeromeDL platform for the development of this thematic web collection. Current oral history sites generally provide basic search features, access to transcripts and audio files. The Thematic Web, adds value to the oral history collection not only by semantic annotations made by the social research team, but also by using the JeromeDL platform, a Social Semantic Digital Library, developed by the National University of Ireland, Digital Enterprise Research Institute (DERI) (<http://www.jeromedl.org/>). The target is to combine reusability of resources concerning the specific topic to explore the medium’s research potential by a wide spectrum of user types, ranging from the inexperienced, novice user, to the highly proficient and advanced user of digital resources.