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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR NEXT PHASE OF ISTROX

CUREC Approval Reference: R59349/RE001

As you have seen from the presentation of our project on this website, we want to understand more about the Istro-Romanian language. This Oxford University-led project (ISTROX) aims to conserve and explore a major portion of the history of the Istro-Romanian language, which has been recognized by UNESCO as severely endangered. Our main goal is to preserve a record of this disappearing language, both for the community of speakers and their descendants, and for linguistic scholarship. We will do this by working with the original audio recordings produced during the 1960s by Oxford linguist Antony Hurren, who worked with Istro-Romanian speakers from several villages in Croatia. We plan to upload this material online and invite the remaining speakers of the language to help us transcribe and translate it. Ultimately, we are aiming to write a grammar of the language, to be kept in perpetuity for the use of the researcher and the Istro-Romanian communities.

You can help us achieve this!

In the autumn 2019, we will embark on the next phase of our project, for which we will need speakers of Istro-Romanian who would like to spend some time listening to the audio material recorded by Hurren, as part of an online study for which we need the help of as many as possible people with knowledge of the language.

If you speak or at least understand Istro-Romanian and if you are aged 18 or over, and would like to support us in our attempt to learn more about your language, you can fill in the form with your name and email address at <https://istrox.ling-phil.ox.ac.uk/volunteer-recruitment>. When we will launch the next phase of our project, you will be among the first that we will contact and invite to become involved.

Our study will be based on an online platform where you will be asked to perform a number of simple tasks in order to help us understand more about the language.

It will require no other knowledge than an ability to understand the Istro-Romanian language. You do not need to speak it habitually to take part in our study. You will be presented with a manageable

number of audio recordings in Istro-Romanian and invited to tell us what you make of them and whether you would say the same thing in the same way today. We will also want to know where you are based in the world and whether you speak Istro-Romanian regularly. There will be no 'right' or 'wrong' answers. We will only want to hear your opinions about the recorded material that you will be presented with.

You will be able to take part in our online study in your own time, with no commitments with regard to the time spent online or the volume of tasks performed. Please note that your participation is voluntary.

There will be no material compensation for your time, but your participation will be acknowledged both on this website and in the published materials which will result from our project, if you are happy for us to do.

If you are interested and give us your contact information, this will be stored in a password-protected file saved in the area designated for the project on the Linguistics Faculty server at the University of Oxford. Your IP address will not be stored. We will keep your contact details for as long as necessary for the study. You will be able to withdraw your contact details and yourself from the study at any time, with no obligation, as well as to ask us to remove your details from our database.

Research data from the overall project will be stored in perpetuity.

The contact details/data that we collect from you may be transferred to, and stored or processed at, a destination outside the European Economic Area ("EEA"). By submitting your personal data, you agree to this transfer, storing or processing.

The University of Oxford is the data controller with respect to your personal data, and as such will determine how your personal data is used in the study. The University will process your personal data for the purpose of the research outlined above. Research is a task that we perform in the public interest.

This project has been reviewed by, and received ethics clearance through, the University of Oxford Central University Research Ethics Committee R59349/RE00.

If you have a concern about any aspect of this project, please speak to Prof. Martin Maiden, (martin.maiden@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk), who will do their best to answer your query. The researcher should acknowledge your concern within 10 working days and give you an indication of how they intend to deal with it. If you remain unhappy or wish to make a formal complaint, please contact the relevant Chair of the Research Ethics Committee at the University of Oxford: Chair, Social Sciences & Humanities Inter-Divisional Research Ethics Committee; Email: ethics@socsci.ox.ac.uk; Address: Research Services, University of Oxford, Wellington Square, Oxford OX1 2JD

If you are interested in becoming involved but would like more information please let us know at istrox@ling-phil.ox.ac.uk or see a full information sheet about our future study below.

If you have any friends or relatives who speak, and care about, Istro-Romanian language and who may want to help with our project, please feel free to direct them towards our website.

Thank you!

Please note that you may only participate if you are 18 years of age or over.

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**ISTROX
PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET**

Ethics Approval Reference: R59349/RE001

1. *What is the purpose of this research?*

This project (ISTROX) aims to conserve and explore a major portion of the history of the Istro-Romanian language, which has been recognized by UNESCO as severely endangered. Our main goal is to preserve a record of this disappearing language, both for the community of speakers and their descendants, and for linguistic scholarship. We will do this by working with the original audio recordings produced during the 1960s by Oxford linguist Antony Hurren, who worked with Istro-Romanian speakers from several villages in Croatia. We plan to upload this material online and invite the remaining speakers of the language to help us transcribe and translate it. Ultimately, we are aiming to write a grammar of the language, to be kept in perpetuity for the use of researchers and the Istro-Romanian communities.

2. *Why have I been invited to take part?*

You have been invited because you speak or understand the Istro-Romanian language and are aged 18 or over.

3. *Do I have to take part?*

No. You can ask questions about the research before deciding whether or not to participate. If you do agree to participate, you may withdraw from the study at any time, without giving a reason, by advising the researchers of your decision.

4. *What will happen to me if I take part in the research?*

Our study will be based on an online platform (Zooniverse) where you will be asked to perform a number of simple tasks in order to help us understand more about the Istro-Romanian language. It will require no other knowledge than understanding of this language. You do not need to speak it habitually to take part in our study.

You will be presented with a manageable number of audio recordings in Istro-Romanian and invited to tell us what you make of them and whether you would say the same thing in the same way today. We will also want to know where you are based in the world and whether you speak Istro-Romanian

regularly. There will be no 'right' or 'wrong' answers. We will only want to hear your opinions about the recorded material that you will be presented with.

If you are happy to take part in the research, you will be able to do that from your own home, in your own time, with no commitments with regard to the time spent online or the volume of tasks performed.

You will also be able to withdraw at any time, with no obligation, as well as to ask us to remove your details from our database.

5. Are there any potential risks in taking part?

There are no risks involved in taking part in our study.

6. Are there any benefits in taking part?

If you are happy for us to do so, your participation will be acknowledged both on the project website and in the published materials which will result from our project.

In addition to this, you will have the opportunity to contribute to the building of an important language resource for future scholars and speakers of Istro-Romanian.

7. What happens to the data provided?

The information you provide as part of the study is the **research data**. Any research data from which you can be identified (e.g. your name, date of birth, audio recording), is known as **personal data**. It does not include data where the identity has been removed (anonymous data).

We will minimise our use of personal data in the study as much as possible.

The **research data** will be stored securely and confidentially. Your responses will be de-identified, pseudonymized, or accompanied by your full name if you wish so. We would like your permission to use direct quotes.

Only the research team will have access to personal research data. All research data and records will be stored in perpetuity as evidence of your permission to use your contributions in our research outputs. We would like to retain and store your personal data as necessary for the purposes of the study, and for further research.

8. Will the research be published?

The research may be published in the form of journal articles and books, as well as communicated as part of papers presented at conferences worldwide.

9. Who is organising and funding the research?

ISTROX is a project of the Faculty of Linguistics, Philology, and Phonetics at the University of Oxford. The project has been funded by the John Fell Fund of the University of Oxford.

10. Who has reviewed this study?

This study has been reviewed by, and received ethics clearance through, the University of Oxford Central University Research Ethics Committee (Reference number: R59349/RE001).

11. Who do I contact if I have a concern about the study or I wish to complain?

If you have a concern about any aspect of this study, please speak to the relevant researcher [see the end of this document], who will do his best to answer your query. The researcher should acknowledge your concern within 10 working days and give you an indication of how he intends to deal with it. If you remain unhappy or wish to make a formal complaint, please contact the

relevant chair of the Research Ethics Committee at the University of Oxford who will seek to resolve the matter in a reasonably expeditious manner:

Chair, **Social Sciences & Humanities Interdivisional Research Ethics Committee**; Email: ethics@socsci.ox.ac.uk; Address: Research Services, University of Oxford, Wellington Square, Oxford OX1 2JD

12. Data Protection

The University of Oxford is the data controller with respect to your personal data, and as such will determine how your personal data is used in the study.

The University will process your personal data for the purpose of the research outlined above. Research is a task that we perform in the public interest.

Further information about your rights with respect to your personal data is available from <http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/councilsec/compliance/gdpr/individualrights/>.

13. Further Information and Contact Details

If you would like to discuss the research with someone beforehand (or if you have questions afterwards), please contact:

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