

**Workshop “Transcribing the Past:
Citizen Scientists and Automation in Historical Demography”
29 January 2026**

Programme:

- **Date & Time:** Thursday 29 January 2026, 10:00-17:00
- **Meeting-Link:**
<https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/38318406672819?p=TQtqo43YBtbbBUA4jC>

10:00 – 10:10 Welcoming Words, *Tim Riswick & Paul Puschmann*

Session 1: Automated Transcription techniques

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| 10:10 – 10:25 | Fibiger’s diphtheria serum trial – automatic transcription of patient journals using Large Language Models, <i>Mads Perner, Harris Bendel & Maarten van Wijhe</i> |
| 10:25 – 10:40 | Automated data extraction from Transylvania parish registers using AI-driven prompts in Google, <i>Angela Lumezeanu</i> |
| 10:40 – 10:55 | From Paper to Data: Automated Data Extraction of Death Register Records in Zurich, 1876–1959, <i>Katarina Matthes, Tobias Hodel & Jan Blarer</i> |
| 10:55 – 11:10 | Developing Scalable and Standardized AI Tools for Register-Based Administrative Data Collection, Organization, and Analysis, <i>Dariya Ordanovich, Diego Ramiro & Francisco Viciano</i> |
| 11:10 – 11:25 | Transcribing four nationwide Danish censuses: collaboration between the Link-Lives Project and Rooftop, <i>Bárbara Revuelta-Eugercios</i> |

Break 11:25-11:40

Session 2: Citizen Science & Crowdsourcing Experiences

- 11:40 – 11:55** **Crowdsourcing Danish archives: Experiences from the Copenhagen City Archives and the Danish National Archives**, *Bárbara Revuelta-Eugercios, S. Trolle Gronemann, M. Schunck & A. Løkke*
- 11:55 – 12:10** **The Reconstruction of Death: Insights from citizen science projects Dood in Amsterdam and Doodsoorzaken.nl**, *Tim Riswick*
- 12:10 – 12:25** **S.O.S. Antwerpen. How 750 citizen scientists and 4 researchers unravelled the cause-of-death register (1820-1946)**, *Tom Hacha, Sarah Heynssens, Sven Vrielinck & Isabelle Devos*

Lunch Break — 12:25–13:40

Session 3: Hybrid and Integrated Solutions

- 13:40 – 13:55** **Integrating Volunteer Efforts and Automated Transcription to Build Historical Demographic Databases in Catalonia (Spain)**, *Joana Maria Pujadas-Mora, Jialuo Chen, Miquel Valls-Fígols, Gabriel Brea-Martínez & Josep Lladós*
- 13:55 – 14:10** **Combining HTR and Citizen Science: The Material Culture of Wills, England 1540–1790 project**, *Harry Smith & Mark Bell*
- 14:10 – 14:25** **WAVE: Rapid Prototyping of Transcription Pipelines Using SIBs**, *Sebastian Teumert, Daniel Sami Mitwalli, Marco Krumrey, Rachel Murphy, Ciara Breathnach & Tiziana Margaria*
- 14:25 – 14:40** **A hybrid solution: combining HTR and citizen science in one project**, *Coen van Galen, Matthias Rosenbaum-Feldbrügge & Björn Quanjér*

Break — 14:40–14:55

Session 4: Round Table Discussion 14:55 – 17:00

Theme: *Future Directions and best practices in automated and collaborative transcription of historical demographic sources.*

- 14:55 – 16:30** Open discussion with all presenters and audience.
- 16:30 – 16:50** Task division for preparatory work on the best-practices manual by the in-person workshop in March.
- 16:50 - 17:00** Concluding remarks.