⊠ I offer my expertise to participate as a Partner in a Horizon Europe Project

☐ I am planning to coordinate a project and I am looking for Project Partners

TOPICS OF INTEREST

HORIZON-CL2-2021-HERITAGE-01-04: Preserving and enhancing cultural heritage with advanced digital technologies

PARTNER INFORMATION

Description of the Legal Entity

⊠ Higher Education	☐ Research Institution	☐ Public Administration
☐ Industry /SME	☐ NGO	☐ Other: ***Please specify***

Description of the (Research) Team

Expertise of the Team Leader

I am the director of the Open Media and Information Lab (OMILab), at the Open University of Israel. I joined OMILab in 2017 as a project manager and in 2018 was promoted to the director of the lab. Prior to joining the lab, I was a research fellow at the Center of Innovation and Learning Technologies at the Open University of Israel. My proficiency is linguistics and speech sciences.

In 2009 to 2013, I was a linguistic researcher at ACLP – Afeka Center for Language Processing team (a research center at the Afeka Academic College of Engineering). During the three years at ACLP I worked with speech technologies experts and participated in various applicative projects with the collaboration of leading companies in this field.

My current research interests include speech prosody, acoustic phonetics, analysis of speaker traits, including charismatic speech, and vocal accomodation analysis. My research publications appear in numerous peer-reviewed journals and conference proceedings and I've been serving as a member of program committee for numerous scholarly conferences.

During 2017-2020, I led a complex research project on Digital Collections and Cultural Heritage - Collaboration with the National Library of Israel. The project's budget was approximately three million ILS. The research team consisted of six Principal Investigators, including myself, and over ten research assistants.

In this project, we augmented three different collections of the National Library of Israel – audio/video collections, historical newspaper archives, and web archives – and increased their value to the research community coping with different computational, informational, and technological challenges. Not only we developed innovative methodologies, interfaces and best practices for these types of digital collections, but we have also contributed to theoretical research in the digital social sciences by raising questions relevant to historical and social research.

My team led the development of tools and methods to extract information from audio and video collections. These collections, although "born-digital", suffer from a "knowledge dam" in the sense that their embedded information is "locked". One of my achievements was the development of an open access automatic Hebrew transcriber < http://hebrew-transcriber.online/> (currently shut-down due to budget issues).

The other part was to identify prosodic and acoustic patterns of the interaction between the speakers and to find insights prior to transcription-based content analysis. The methods I have developed in collaboration with the industry and with academic colleagues over the world, in various research projects, have one thing in common – to support comparative analysis of conversations, including analysis over time.

In the same line of research, I am currently collaborating with an Oral History senior faculty member at the Open University in a research project that yields an automatic pipeline of linguistic and discourse feature extractions, including prosodic ones, to gain new insights of the interaction between interviewer and interviewee. Our goal is to transform oral history (and political and ideological interviews in general) into accessible multi-modal insights, using innovative tools, such as the AI-based MS Video Indexer.

Potential role in the project

☒ Research   ☐ Training

☐ Dissemination   ☐ Other: ***Please specify***

Already experience as a	Coordinator	☐ YES	☒ NO
	Partner	☐ YES	☒ NO
	Expert Evaluator	☐ YES	☒ NO

CONTACT DETAILS

Contact Person: Vered Silber-Varod
Organization: Open Media and Information Lab (OMILab)
City: Ra'anan
Country: Israel
Phone: 972-9-7781715
Email: vereds@openu.ac.il
Organization Website: https://www.openu.ac.il/en/omilab/pages/default.aspx
Contact Person Webpage: https://www.openu.ac.il/en/personalsites/VeredSilberVarod.aspx

Date: 20/5/2021

Please send this form back to: contact@net4society.eu