

Introduction

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The recent transnational political and health crises serve as a stark reminder of the need to closely scrutinize recurring information disseminated across web and social media platforms. These digital documents, both sublime and sinister, have become ubiquitous in human activity, encompassing everything from ironic memes about lockdown measures to tragic videos documenting violent actions against civilians by armed forces. The nature of web archiving systems is geared towards preserving these born-digital sources, which are crucial for studying recent phenomena. Consequently, they constitute invaluable materials that not only elucidate the history of the current context since the 1990s but also contribute to the construction of a digital heritage—a memory for future societies and an indispensable source of contemporary facts for researchers.

Nevertheless, the short timeframe during which transnational events (pandemics, political crises, etc.) have unfolded should not overshadow the profound societal changes that have characterized the period since the democratization of the web in the 1990s. This includes grappling with the

climate challenge, asserting individual fundamental rights, navigating the effects of economic liberalism, and observing shifts in religious practices. These transformations have been accompanied by far-reaching socio-technical developments and an expansion in digital cultures. The global history of these developments is a narrative yet to be fully articulated. The first web archiving initiatives, originating in the 1990s, not only provided a valuable source base but also spurred a large international following, comprised of organizations and individuals such as GLAM (Galleries, Libraries, Archives, Museums), scholars, and civil society. The aim was to collect, safeguard, and make the past web accessible to all. This archived web forms a unique resource for the study of recent phenomena, offering the means to preserve the corpora and retrieve old websites that are currently unavailable online. However, using web archives as research material demands epistemological and methodological reflection, and consequently, has emerged as a distinct field of study.

In recent years, the use of the web to investigate social, cultural, and political phenomena has experienced significant growth. This has contributed to advancements in both the history of the web and research in the social sciences and humanities. Moreover, the web and digital cultures have themselves become subjects of study, sometimes by trial and error, through the exploration of methodologies, whether they be grassroots approaches or projects rooted in the digital humanities.

Since 2012, RESAW¹, an organization established to develop a pan-European research infrastructure, has played a significant role in this dynamic focused on the study of web archives and the past web. This underscores how a deeper understanding of the web's history can assist us in facing the challenges of a world in constant flux. RESAW has also created the opportunity for epistemological and methodological reflection on the creation of web archives. It has thereby solidified its position as a major player in web archives studies—an interdisciplinary research field undergoing radical restructuring.

Eight years after the inaugural RESAW conference, which sparked groundbreaking debates on technical, scientific, and archival aspects, the conference in Marseille, organized by Aix-Marseille University, aims to assess web archives studies in relation to research conducted on the internet, social media, web archives, and reborn digital heritage. Based on the selected papers from the conference, this book examines the development of web archiving, highlighting the ways in which technical, cultural, geopolitical, social, and environmental changes are affecting the conception,

¹ Research Infrastructure for the Study of Archived Web Materials, <https://web.archive.org/web/20220824102113/http://resaw.eu/>

study, and dissemination of this reborn digital heritage²³.

The first part of the introduction describes the scientific and cultural context that fosters the development of web archiving practices by giving voice to the actors from the TELEMMe laboratory, Aix-Marseille University, and the Mucem. These partners play a significant role in advancing this research field both nationally and internationally. The second part outlines the structure of the book and the primary questions addressed by its various contributions.

1. Understanding the global challenges of web archiving from the shores of the Mediterranean

The core reflections at the RESAW 2023 conference stem from a research dynamic initiated in the 2000s within the TELEMMe laboratory and the Maison méditerranéenne des sciences de l'homme (MMSH). This initiative has expanded across Aix-Marseille University through collaborations with national partners (Mucem, BnF, INA) and international partners (RESAW).

Presenting this scientific ecosystem will help the reader grasp the unique approaches to web archive studies highlighted during the Marseille conference in June 2023. The TELEMMe laboratory—Time, Spaces, Languages, Southern Europe, Mediterranean⁴—under the leadership of Sophie Gebeil, played a crucial role in organizing the conference. Gebeil, who directs the transversal workshop on Visual Studies and Digital Humanities in the Mediterranean, explored the web as a source for cultural history in her 2015 thesis supervised by Maryline Crivello. This early exploration of web archives was part of a broader reflection on digital practices initiated by the the Image Sounds and Digital Practices pole at the MMSH in the early 2000s, in connection with the MMSH Sound and Media library⁵. Gebeil's work, in collaboration with the INA and the BnF, aligned with the RESAW collective founded by Niels Brügger in 2013. The idea of

² The book was coordinated by Sophie Gebeil and Jean-Christophe Peyssard, with assistance from Mara Bertelsen (coordination, translation, and editing). These proceedings also result from a collective work since 2012 within the framework of the Scientific Committee of the RESAW network, which includes Niels Brügger, Jane Winters, Valérie Schafer, Susan Aasman, Anne Helmond, and Sebastian Giessmann. The chapters are based on a selection of the best proposals from the RESAW 2023 international conference <https://resaw2023.sciencesconf.org> archived version: <https://web.archive.org/web/20240112135604/https://resaw2023.sciencesconf.org/>

³ All of the figures in the book can be viewed online here: Gebeil, S., & Peyssard, J.-C. (2024). *Figures. Exploring the Archived Web During a Highly Transformative Age. Proceedings*. edited by S.Gebeil & J.-C. Peyssard. Exploring the Archived Web During a Highly Transformative Age (RESAW 2023), Marseille. Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.11263165>

⁴ UMR 7303 TELEMMe (AMU-CNRS), under the direction of Xavier Daumalin from 2020 to 2024.

⁵ Image Sounds and Digital Practices in SSH pole, <https://imageson.hypotheses.org>, version 2/12/2010, <https://web.archive.org/web/20101202094753/http://imageson.hypotheses.org/>

organizing the fifth conference emerged in 2019, garnering the interest of Jean-Christophe Peyssard, who became the head of the MMSH Media Library in June 2020. With a background in Arabic studies and five years of experience in the Middle East, Peyssard specialized in collecting digital traces from Arab and Muslim societies, contributing notably to the *Lexique vivant de la révolution et de la guerre en Syrie*⁶ project and co-organizing an international conference on digital archives in Lebanon⁷. The conference also aimed to develop web archiving practices and raise awareness within the Aix-Marseille academic communities, leading to the creation of the WebLab at the MMSH Media Library. The WebLab is hub for reflection and practice in studying archived web content and new media⁸. It will facilitate the development and sharing of knowledge on web archiving, including best practices for collection and preservation tools and methodologies, exploratory approaches to corpus analysis, ethical and legal considerations, and the use of the archived web in academia among students, researchers, and support staff in the social sciences and humanities.

The conference is thus the result of these multiple encounters, from Aarhus to Beirut via Paris, but would not have been possible without the decisive support of the TELEMMe laboratory, Aix-Marseille University, and the Mucem, all interested in the interdisciplinary and innovative nature of web archive studies. We wanted to give a voice to the individuals and institutions that contributed to the collective reflection and successful organization of the conference, culminating in this publication.

1.1 Prof. Xavier Daumalin, Directory of the TELEMMe research laboratory

The TELEMMe laboratory is particularly pleased to contribute to the opening of this conference, especially in partnership with the Mucem, a museum celebrating its 10th anniversary and long-time collaborator in the laboratory's activities. This collaboration goes beyond hosting to a co-constructive approach, as seen in the foresight day on urban geography organized with the CNRS's National Institute of Humanities and Social Sciences in collaboration with the MMSH. Another example is the day focused on creating colonial imaginaries in Naples and Marseille, based on the MARS IMPERIUM project. This project, fully integrated with the Mucem, includes digital deliverables such as a website, web documentary with nearly 90 videos exploring as many imperial themes, digital showcases

⁶ <https://web.archive.org/web/20231014024837/https://syria-lexicon.pubpub.org/>

⁷ New Digital Archives in the Near East, <https://nanpo.sciencesconf.org/>

⁸ WebLab, Bibliothèques et Archives à la Maison méditerranéenne des sciences de l'homme, https://pba.mmsh.fr/?page_id=1465

analyzing collection and exhibition methods, and the journey of objects that belonged to the *Institut colonial de Marseille*, a critical film on the 1922 colonial exhibition, digital urban walks, and a documentary platform gathering all the archives used in the project for public access, which requires rigorous referencing and rights management⁹.

The conference theme, “Exploring Archived Web in a Highly Transformative Age”, reflects the innovative capacity of the TELEMMe laboratory. From the initial avenues opened by Maryline Crivello to the creation of a transversal axis on Visual Studies and Digital Humanities in the Mediterranean—and soon an advisory cell for Open Science—and including the first French history thesis on web archives defended by Sophie Gebeil in 2016, this research field has flourished and gained prominence within the unit. TELEMMe has been reflecting deeply on how these new tools transform our professions, both methodologically and in terms of research valorization¹⁰.

The issue of archiving digital information disseminated on the web has become crucial, establishing itself as a key observatory for contemporary knowledge creation and transmission. It raises numerous issues: ethical, legal, heritage, technical, environmental, political, accessibility, training, public use, and the sustainability of digital creations. For researchers engaged in producing digital deliverables disseminated via the web, it is essential to integrate these considerations from the project’s inception and budget for them. The creation, dissemination, and sustainability of digital objects have costs that extend beyond project durations, engaging laboratory finances for decades. Ensuring the longevity of deliverables in a fragile and evolving technical and institutional environment is challenging. Additionally, rights for disseminating documents must be renewed every five, ten, or fifteen years, complicating financial planning in a context of short-term resource visibility and increasing commodification of documentary resources. The field of web archiving thus contributes to a broader reflection on the sustainability of digital documents produced by research laboratories in the humanities and social sciences.

1.2 Charles Riondet, Mucem

Hosting the RESAW conference provided a superb opportunity for the Mucem to delve into the wealth of research on web archives and explore a

⁹ MARSIMPERIUM, Imperial Marseille: History and (Post)Colonial Memories, 19th–20th Centuries, TELEMMe, <https://marsimperium.hypotheses.org>

¹⁰ The laboratory thanks the organizers—Sophie Gebeil, Maryline Crivello, and Jean-Christophe Peyssard—as well as the MUCEM, and the entire TELEMMe research support team—Maja, Agnès, Delphine, Caroline, and Mireille—who have been working for several months to ensure the success of this event.

less-charted segment of its history, opening new avenues for collaboration.

As successor of the *Musée national des arts et traditions populaires* (MNATP), founded in 1937 and closed in 2005, the Mucem houses ethnographic collections compiled since the late 19th century and enriched through field surveys and collections known as *enquêtes-collectes*. This approach allows for the preservation of the context in which objects are produced and used, enriching the collections through extensive documentation such as interviews, sound and video recordings. From the 1960s to 2005, the MNATP maintained close connections with the world of research and was envisioned by its creators and managers as a museum-laboratory. Today, the principle of *enquêtes-collectes* is still central to the Mucem's acquisition process, albeit with a new focus on the Mediterranean. The Mucem's collections comprise:

- Museum collections, with acquisitions validated by a Ministry-approved committee
- Public and private archives
- Library collections, serving as documentation for the museum and former laboratory, as well as a heritage library and a public reading library

The Mucem has a long history of information and digital technology, dating back to the MNATP's pioneering efforts in digital museographic management. The impetus provided by Georges-Henri Rivière and later Jean Cuisenier led to the development of exacting standards for collection management, subsequently incorporating the use of information technology to document collections and manage vocabularies, with initial efforts commencing in the late 1960s. The advent of the World Wide Web in the 1990s did not go unnoticed, leading to the creation mid-decade of the MNATP's first websites, both institutional and corpus oriented.

Between 2005 and 2012, the closure of the MNATP and the establishment of the Mucem marked a turning point for documentation, mediation, and digital promotion policy. Alongside extensive efforts to review inventories, complete records, conduct conservation operations, and acquire photographs, the Ministry of Culture facilitated the online publication of certain MNATP databases, notably those pertaining to postcards or photograph collections.

However, due to the limitations of physically showcasing the collections at that time, digital technology became the primary means of public access to the collections. Over ten thematic websites presented corpora linked to the new scientific project (centered on the Mediterranean and European civilizations), highlighting field surveys related to the Mediterranean area (such as the olive tree, glass craft, industry and trade, Armenian diaspora, etc.), as well as more 'traditional' MNATP themes adapted to the Mucem

program, such as ethnomusicology with the website dedicated to bagpipes of Europe and the Mediterranean.

The inauguration of the Mucem in 2013 posed a significant challenge for the online presentation of collections. A federated search engine was designed to amalgamate the various document types mentioned above, providing a unified search experience and aligning vocabularies across museum, archive, and library collections.

With the commemoration of the Mucem's ten-year anniversary in 2023, there is renewed contemplation on how to develop its digital productions and online access, aligning with contemporary constraints and opportunities such as linked data, artificial intelligence, and digital sobriety. Within the array of new challenges to be addressed, some are specifically related to web archives: As a civilization museum, is it the museum's role and responsibility to collect, document, and preserve digital practices? How should the museum handle the digital output created by itself and its predecessors, particularly the oldest, and what role does it play in safeguarding, curating, and promoting it?

Addressing these questions, raised during the opening of the RESAW conference at the MucemLab in Marseille in June 2023, has led to the initiation of a collaborative research project with Sophie Gebeil (AMU) and Alexandre Faye (web archive curator at the BnF). The project aims to preserve, analyze, and present archived thematic websites from the MNATP and the Mucem, contributing to web archive research and serving as a reciprocal benefit to the field.

1.3 Prof. Maryline Crivello, Vice President of the Board of Directors, in charge of developing the interdisciplinarity mission, Aix-Marseille University

Hosting this international conference on the archived web is a tremendous honor, marking the first of its kind in France, made possible through the collaboration of long-standing partners Aix-Marseille University (AMU) and the Mucem.

AMU, the largest Francophone multidisciplinary university, boasts a community of 80,000 students and nearly 8,000 staff members across multiple campuses, notably in Marseille and Aix-en-Provence. Recognized as a 'research-intensive university', AMU hosts 122 research structures affiliated with major national research organizations. Embracing interdisciplinarity, AMU established a dedicated Interdisciplinarity Mission in late 2020. Unique in its positioning and ambitions within the French university landscape, its purpose is to facilitate an integrated, crosscutting approach to support interdisciplinary projects and communities.

Naturally, the AMU Mission has lent its support to this conference, developed with the aim of fostering vital dialogue across disciplines. The program exemplifies this collaboration, uniting fields such as communication sciences, sociology, and history, as well as computer, archival, and library science. These fields and professions converge to advance tools and methodologies crucial for understanding the web, following the lead established by its pioneer, Niels Brügger. Moreover, this conference holds particular significance to us as it resonates with the scientific heritage cultivated by AMU researchers in the humanities and social sciences since the 1980s. Initial research focused on television media, their archival methods by the INA, and the importance of preservation within Legal Deposit frameworks. Today's exploration of archived web materials aligns with the questions raised by earlier studies on these communication platforms. A notable milestone was the colloquium organized by MMSH researchers in 2005, titled “Screen Writings: History, Practices, and Spaces on the Web”, which anticipated the emergence of web archiving as an internationally recognized field of study.

Taking place symbolically on the shores of the Mediterranean, this conference evokes the spirit of the 2011 Tunisian Revolution, which utilized social networks as crucial mobilization tools. Because, as we know well, websites and the web serve as digital conduits for human experiences and sensitivities, fundamentally shaping our perception of the world.

Thank you to the organizers for seizing the opportunity to convene us around these invaluable reflections. And special acknowledgement is due to Sophie Gebeil, whose dedication over the years has been instrumental in making this project a reality.

1.4 Fabien Borget, Open Science officer, Aix-Marseille University

Aix-Marseille University is hosting this year's RESAW conference, which will foster rich exchanges on web archiving, its questions, tools, and methods.

Web archiving involves capturing a snapshot of the web at a specific moment and preserving it. However, for these archives to be easily findable, accessible, interoperable, and reusable—in other words, FAIR—all the methods used must facilitate these qualities.

Making research data FAIR is a cornerstone of Open Science, a movement initiated a number of years ago and now widely adopted in the institutional policies at national¹¹ and international¹² levels. Open access

¹¹ 2nd French Plan for Open Science, available on <https://www.ouvrirelascience.fr/deuxieme-plan-national-pour-la-science-ouverte/>, viewed 16 April 2024

¹² UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science available on

allows research resources to be freely accessible online, promoting the unrestricted flow of knowledge and information. The link between web archiving and Open Science is thus evident.

Web archiving also presents an opportunity to diversify academic dissemination models, which are currently undergoing significant changes. When editorialized, we must ensure bibliodiversity, crucial for maintaining the scientific integrity of scholarly output.

Ensuring the sustainability of the infrastructures hosting this diversity is also a challenge, necessitating policies that account for this aspect.

Open Science policies currently revolve around four main points:

1. Generalizing open access.
2. Structuring, sharing, and opening research data. To some extent, web archiving falls under this point: how can archived web content be considered ‘research data’? What does FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable) mean for web archives?
3. Opening and promoting source codes, research software, and algorithms.
4. Transforming research practices to make Open Science a default principle.

One of the key challenges of the RESAW conference is to share web archiving practices to ensure that web archives can indeed be considered ‘research data’. Another challenge is to recognize that web archiving checks all the boxes of open science while retaining its unique nature as data that will (in the future) become research data.

One of our ambitions at Aix-Marseille University is to make research data FAIR¹³. To achieve this, we offer support to colleagues producing data through the Data Desk of Aix-Marseille (GDsAM), a network of experts in research data present on-site. This initiative, qualified by the ministry as a Data Workshop, involves key university actors such as our Common Documentation Service (SCD) and the Center for Research Data Support and Training (CEDRE)¹⁴. We provide specialized training on research data management and support operational implementation in data storage, visualization, analysis, and more, leveraging local and national infrastructures such as our Data Center, our mesocenter, and HumaNum.

Recognizing its strengths, our university is organizing itself around research data, which includes archived web data. This structuring involves synergizing existing strengths and competencies covering all aspects of the research data lifecycle.

In the research data lifecycle, it is legitimate to ask where web archiving fits in. These digital traces are intended to be the digital footprints for future

<https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000379949>, viewed 16 April 2024

¹³ Aix-Marseille University Open Science charter, https://www.univ-amu.fr/system/files/2021-09/Politique_Science_Ouverte_AMU.pdf, viewed 16 April 2024

¹⁴ Part of the IDEAL (Integration and Development at Aix-Marseille through Learning) project, France 2030

researchers and are thus fully-fledged research data. Legitimate questions about their FAIRness arise; but beyond the very concept of ‘data’, the issues surrounding digital tools, which are growing day by day but remain extremely fragile, are also becoming clearer. How can we ensure the conservation, preservation, and quality of these digital traces over time?

The expertise of participants in the RESAW conference is invaluable in stabilizing knowledge around these questions. We probably also need to develop new tools, methodologies and, potentially, technologies, to consider web archiving as research data. These questions will undoubtedly be central to the discussions at the RESAW meeting. These digital traces will serve as evidence for understanding the societal impact of the digital revolution we are experiencing. Ultimately, isn't transparency in research data also a means to rebuild society's trust in science?

Therefore, this book is the result of a collective effort driven by researchers from various disciplines, librarians, and archivists who have contributed to the development of practices and studies related to web archiving.

2. Exploring the archived web in a highly transformative age

Through 20 chapters written by a collective of authors from diverse backgrounds—students, researchers, archivists, and librarians—supported by a wide variety of disciplines ranging from history to media studies and computer science, the book is organized into seven sections that address the main challenges associated with web archiving amidst a significant period of transformation, as underscored during the June 2023 conference in Marseille.

The first part of the book proposes examining the Mediterranean region as a crucial laboratory for studying the challenges confronting web archiving within a context of crisis, particularly migration and political upheaval. It serves as a platform for stimulating discussions based on approaches employed across different cultural spheres and at various levels to reflect on web archiving within the Mediterranean and its environs. The book opens with the testimony of Professor Raja Ben Slama, former director-general of the National Library of Tunisia (BnT) from 2015 to 2023. A university professor, psychoanalyst, and a key intellectual figure of the Jasmine Revolution of 2011, she shows how the BnT collaborated with public institutions, associations, and volunteer researchers to gather and archive documents dispersed on the web and mobile phones of citizens involved in the popular uprisings between December 17, 2010, and January 14, 2011. From the northern shore, this contribution is juxtaposed with a chapter by Dana Diminescu, addressing the issue of migration. Indeed, the

Mediterranean served as both a transit route and a graveyard for migrants desperately attempting to reach European shores. A pioneer in the field of digital diasporas through the e-diasporas project, which employed web archiving and data analysis tools like Gephi as early as 2004, Dana Diminescu examines digital traces that reveal notions of hospitality and probes the role of emotions in our research based on born-digital sources.

The second part of the book presents two initiatives aimed at tackling the challenge of inclusivity in web archiving. Alice Austin highlights the obstacles encountered by the team of the project “The Archive of Tomorrow” (AoT), particularly in capturing UK trans health discourse, while Beatrice Cannelli offers a brief overview of representation issues in the social media archiving landscape based on the geographical distribution of social media archiving initiatives, highlighting under-represented areas and emerging trends in content collection from social platforms.

The third part sheds light on the creation of collections that absolutely must be documented. Collection organizations are faced with new challenges posed by web developments, as illustrated by Camilla Penzo, Gilles Tredan, Lucas Verney, and Erwan Le Merrer through the case of the personalized web. The following contributions highlight the dedication of archiving institutions to recent dynamics. Nicola Bingham delineates the varied landscape of Covid-19 web collections in European GLAM (Galleries, Libraries, Archives, Museums) institutions. Comprising Emmanuelle Bermes, Laurence Favier, Audrey Baneyx, Benjamin Ooghe Tabanou, Sara Aubry, Alexandre Faye, and Marie-Madeleine G eroudet, the ResPaDon project (Network of Partners for the analysis and exploration of digital data) shows how the BnF’s efforts to foster usage among students, primarily from Paris and Lille.

The fourth part offers several case studies that demonstrate the importance of web archives as sources for studying the history of the internet and digital cultures. Julie Mommeja delves into the origins of archiving history in the 1990s, comparing projects and imaginaries carried by the Internet Archive and the Long Now Foundation. The question of representation is also addressed by Nathalie Fridzema, Susan Aasman, Tom Slootweg, and Rik Smit through the study of the Dutch web and the importance of analyzing socio-technical narratives to understand more recent developments. Tanja Svarre and Mette Skov focus on the development of the Danish government’s web services in the late 1990s and shows the role played by websites’ labels. Beyond representations and service development, the web is also the site of new sociabilities and cultural practices, as recalled by Carmen Noguera’s chapter illustrating how the hybrid model of the Luxusbuerg site, combining online chat with offline events, influenced the evolution of flirting.

The fifth part delves into the methods and practices used by researchers

exploring archived web data, offering insights into future perspectives. Research methodologies utilize archived web data in various dimensions, including URLs, visual organization of pages, and text. Niels Brügger and Katherina Sølling Dahlman investigate how the holdings of a national web archive can be used to shed light on the hyperlinks related to one individual website. They complement Quentin Lobbé's application of actor-network theory through a corpus on the history of the First Tuesday community. Johannes Paßmann, Paul Heinicker, and Martina Schories discuss the advances of the "Technograph", a tool the authors are developing for visualizing and analyzing web archive data, applied in an online press study. These approaches emphasize interdisciplinary, as illustrated by Davide Rendina, Mathieu Génois, Patrice Bellot, and Sophie Gebeil's chapter on analyzing text from web pages archived by the INA (Institut National de l'Audiovisuel) on the March for Equality and against Racism, blending computer science and cultural history.

The final two parts address more specific themes emerging as significant issues in studies on web archives within a context of globalized mutations. Part 6 focuses on questions of representation of the body and health within born-digital heritage. Christian Bonah, Solène Lellinger, and Caroline Sala explore how audiovisuals shape eating habits and their connection to individual health concerns and healthy eating. For this, they propose a study on food, cooking, and health in a selected corpus of French websites and connected YouTube channels, in relation to the BnF's web archives. Meanwhile, Alice Austin and Leontien Talboom focus on a singular British initiative among the many collections dedicated to the Covid-19 crisis, aimed at increasing representation and diversity within the UK Web Archive. The pandemic has heightened awareness of the digital nature of traces produced by contemporary societies, necessitating an inquiry into the processes of preserving this digital heritage. Memory concerns are not new in digital studies, as illustrated by the vitality of memory studies that focus on multiple online past narratives and to which Part 7 of the book will be dedicated. Memory discourses are often a clear concern for historians of the contemporary period. Christine Mussard, a historian of the Algerian War, illustrates how she found websites of children educated in Algeria during the colonial period and transformed them into a genuine object of questioning about the relationship to the past, transcending their role as mere access points to contacts serving historical inquiry. Exploring a different cultural and memorial boundary, Costis Dallas, Ingrida Kelpšienė plunge us into Lithuanian social media, revealing how memory practices on Lithuanian social network sites mediated by contested heritage shape cultural identities at transnational, national, and intersectional levels, while building on digital curation approaches to archive Lithuanian social digital memory and save it from future obsolescence.

This dynamic panorama shows the essential role of studies on and using web archiving in understanding contemporary phenomena and addressing future challenges. With its significant impact extending beyond researchers and GLAMs, web archiving also has a significant impact on civil society as a whole, particularly through amateur archiving initiatives in countries lacking established collection systems. The conclusion offers a forward-looking vision by four major figures in the transformation of the web archives landscape 30 years after the first initiatives. Exploring the extent to which web archives participate in and are influenced by this highly transformative age, Nicola Bingham, Valérie Schafer, Jane Winters, and Anat Ben-David propose future challenges for the web archiving community to address.