



MEMORIES OF THE STALINIST REPRESSION

***Memories of the Stalinist repression* project (2021–2022) records the history of the victims of the Stalinist repression and their descendants' experiences on the persecution involving their families and incorporates the stories as part of Finnish cultural heritage. This project is conducted by the Finnish Literature Society (SKS).**

BACKGROUND

The project is a continuation to the *Memories of the Stalinist repression* collection of oral history organised by SKS from 27 January to 31 May 2020. The collection produced a lot of material focusing on the life stories of the victims of the Stalinist repression – people who died, disappeared or survived it. The stories shed light on the destinies of Ingrians and other Finns living in the Murmansk and St. Petersburg regions in the Soviet Union, as well as of Finnish people who moved to the Soviet Union from Finland, Canada and the United States.

WHAT ARE WE RECORDING?

The Memories of the Stalinist repression project is carried out in 2021–2022, and it aims to supplement the materials gathered by performing oral history interviews. In the interviews, more information is gathered about the destinies of those who have experienced the Stalinist repression and about how the persecution that impacted many families has affected later generations. The interviews will focus on what is known about the lives of the victims, how the topic has been discussed among family members, how the information has been transferred from generation to generation, or how people have tried to find out about the lives of the victims later on.

The project will also include gathering original material that the descendants of the victims of the Stalinist repression have at their disposal. We hope to obtain letters, diaries and photographs for our archives.

WHY ARE WE RECORDING?

The goal of oral history interviews and recording original material is to preserve as diverse a sample as possible of the lives of the victims of the Soviet repression and of their descendants' experiences for future generations and researchers. The interviews and original materials will be archived in the archive collections of the Finnish Literature Society (SKS), where their use and preservation is safeguarded. The materials will be available to everyone interested in them.

If you want to donate material, be interviewed or know someone who could be interviewed, do contact us:

- Project Coordinator Meeri Siukonen: meeri.siukonen@finlit.fi, tel. +358 (0)50 470 4938.
- SKS archive: arkisto@finlit.fi, tel. +358 (0)201 131 240.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR DONORS OF MATERIAL

- Material may be donated by any private individual or an association.
- Please always arrange beforehand with the staff of the archive regarding delivery or collection of material.
- Unless otherwise agreed, you as the donor are responsible for the transport of the material.
- The archive reserves the right to screen the material. We offer to return screened material to the donor.
- We draw up donation agreements for donated material, where such things as the terms of donation and any possible restrictions in its use are specified.
- The use of the material is governed by legislation, which includes provisions on publication, data protection and copyright, as well as SKS archive guidelines (<https://www.finlit.fi/fi/arkisto/asioi-arkistossa/kayta-aineistoja/sksn-arkiston-kayttosaanto>).

Examples of material

Texts

- Private documents, correspondence, diaries, manuscripts, drafts, speeches, presentations, drawings, and articles and newspaper cuttings describing activities.

Photographs, audio and video recordings

- Material you have recorded yourself or that has remained in your family. Please attach information on when the recording was made, the situation and the subjects (people, places, etc.)

More information regarding the donation of material to the SKS archive:

www.finlit.fi/fi/arkisto/luovuta-aineistoa/luovutukset



Photo:
Finns at the Svirstroy labour camp in 1934.
"Memories of the Stalinist repression" collection, SKS KRA.