FAILURE: Reversing the Genealogies of Unsuccess, 16th-19th centuries

Fact Sheet

Project Information

REVFAIL
Grant agreement ID: 823998

Funded under
EXCELLENT SCIENCE - Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

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10.3030/823998

Total cost
€ 1 416 800

EU contribution
€ 1 301 800

Start date
1 May 2019

End date
31 October 2024

Coordinated by
UNIVERSIDAD AUTONOMA DE MADRID
Spain

Project description

The temporary nature of failure

Failure in public debate is a stigmatising notion, often connected with stereotypes about individuals, communities, gender, race and other factors, used to explain the differentiation of paths in development. It has also been used to justify and perpetuate colonialism and inequalities. But it remains ill-defined. Today, in front of challenges posed by migrations, the need for inclusiveness and integration calls for urgent reassessing of the criteria to identify the failure. The EU-funded REVFAIL project will explore the positive aspects of failure and recovery and promote understanding of the temporary nature of failure, as well as reversing and challenging failures, based on positive psychology, engineering and philosophy.
Objective

Failure is almost everywhere, and unsuccess is deeply embedded into stereotypes about regions, nations, business, gender and race. Failure to embrace crucial philosophical ideas and scientific breakthroughs is often considered a key factor to explain differential paths of development. And historical, long-term narratives add an additional layer to notions of failure. But while failure is conspicuously referred to in public debate, and in local and global politics, it nevertheless remains an obscure and elusive notion. How is it possible that a concept often used to relegate and marginalize individuals and whole communities is so ill defined?

The dynamics between inclusiveness and the failure to integrate is a key social problem of our present, one with deep historical and philosophical roots. Discourses on failure are also present in many other aspects of contemporary societies, from the individual entrepreneur to ideas on international leadership. But quantitative approaches to development and integration need to be supplemented with critical awareness of the consequences of attributing failure to groups, individuals or even nations. Inclusiveness, and integration in all social institutions are challenges that demand reassessing the criteria used to identify failure. At the same time, it is necessary to promote a clear understanding of the temporary nature of failure and the possibilities of reversing and challenging failures. While failure is a heavy and paralyzing category, a concept crafted to perpetuate colonial dominion and legitimize inequalities, positive psychology, engineering and philosophy among other disciplines have pointed to several positive aspects of failure and recovery. REVFAIL project aims to foster widespread reflection on the topic and to provide critical tools for schools, associations and community structures to analyse and revert (auto)imposed and external narratives of failure.

Fields of science

- social sciences > sociology > governance
- social sciences > economics and business > business and management > entrepreneurship
- social sciences > sociology > social issues
- social sciences > psychology
- humanities > philosophy, ethics and religion > philosophy

Programme(s)

- H2020-EU.1.3. - EXCELLENT SCIENCE - Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
- H2020-EU.1.3.3. - Stimulating innovation by means of cross-fertilisation of knowledge
Topic(s)

MSCA-RISE-2018 - Research and Innovation Staff Exchange

Call for proposal

H2020-MSeca-RISE-2018

See other projects for this call

Funding Scheme

MSCA-RISE - Marie Skłodowska-Curie Research and Innovation Staff Exchange (RISE)

Coordinator

UNIVERSIDAD AUTONOMA DE MADRID

Net EU contribution

€ 340 400,00

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Calle Einstein 3 Ciudad Univ Cantoblanco Rectorado

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Comunidad de Madrid > Comunidad de Madrid > Madrid

Activity type

Higher or Secondary Education Establishments

Links

Contact the organisation

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Participation in EU R&I programmes

HORIZON collaboration network

Other funding

€ 340 400,00

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Net EU contribution

€ 326 600,00

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Activity type

Research Organisations

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€ 326 600,00


UNIVERSIDADE NOVA DE LISBOA

Portugal

Net EU contribution

€ 202 400,00

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Activity type

Higher or Secondary Education Establishments

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Other funding

€ 202 400,00
ECOLE DES HAUTES ETUDES EN SCIENCES SOCIALES

France
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€ 170 200,00

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€ 170 200,00

LUDWIG-MAXIMILIANS-UNIVERSITAET MUEENCHEN

Germany
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€ 5 520,00

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Other funding:
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Partners (9)
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Activity type

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€ 0,00

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Other funding

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Activity type

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€ 0.00

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JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

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Other funding
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THE ADMINISTRATORS OF THE TULANE EDUCATIONAL FUND

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