

## FASoS Valorization Prize

Jury report – 4 May 2021

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The FASoS Valorization Prize jury received two submissions for consideration in 2021.

- **Mosa Historia:** a community driven blog launched by the History Department at FASoS, which provides a structural platform for researchers to share ideas, challenges, findings and anything else related to their projects. The blog aims to reach out to a wider, non-academic audience, and is therefore written in an accessible manner.
- **Finding Your Voice:** a selection of outputs (booklet/ebook [in three languages], podcasts and audio interviews) about a 3-day creative storytelling workshop as part of the ERC project MO-TRAYL, which studies the mobility that young people of migrant background continue to engage in after they or their parents have migrated and how this mobility impacts their lives. In this workshop, young people produced stories about growing up transnationally and learning skills. Finding Your Voice tries to 'give back' to hard-to-reach research populations by valorising their voices and bringing them to a wider public.

The jury met on April 20<sup>th</sup> to consider these submissions and arrive at a joint conclusion.

### **Mosa Historia**

The jury very much appreciates the initiative to start this blog. In particular, it is noteworthy that this blog was instigated by relatively junior staff members. More generally, it constitutes a community-driven, bottom-up initiative that provides a platform for scholars to share their work and ideas. The jury found it especially interesting that this blog opens up and shares details about the research process. As such, it is not simply an add-on to existing research, but really provides new insights that would not have been available otherwise. Moreover, rather than deriving valorisation solely from research output, this initiative empowers others by facilitating the dissemination of insights and ideas more broadly. It therefore has the potential for significant impact. Indeed, this was reflected in several blog posts being picked up both domestically and internationally, for instance by the *Network in Canadian History & Environment* and *Historici.nl*.

Given the value and potential of this initiative that can also work as a model for other colleagues in FASoS and beyond, the jury would encourage those behind this initiative to further develop its design and layout, and devise a plan that would make this a sustainable communication platform. Moreover, developing ways to more actively reach relevant audiences is also encouraged.

### **Finding Your Voice**

The jury is impressed by this initiative. It is clear that considerable thought has gone into the development of this workshop and its associated outputs, which successfully paint a powerful and moving picture of the respondents and researchers alike. It shares some features with the Mosa Historia blog; for instance, it serves as a framework through which narratives are shared. The effect is amplified by the striking art-science collaboration. The net result are carefully crafted products which not only give the respondents a voice, but also give the reader a unique perspective on their stories which they would not have enjoyed through traditional channels. As such, it offers valorisation from a variety of angles.

The jury recognizes that the Finding Your Voice submission has the financial backing of an ERC grant. However, while this certainly facilitates implementing one's ideas, such resources by no means

necessarily translate into effective valorisation. It is clear that this initiative required time, effort and careful consideration, and would not have been possible if the researchers had not made an explicit effort to pursue valorisation in this way.

### **Conclusions**

With these considerations, the jury concludes unanimously that Finding Your Voice is the winner of the 2021 FASoS Valorisation Prize. It is a unique, creative and effective piece that serves as an inspirational example of the variety of ways in which valorisation can be reached. However, the jury also believes that Mosa Historia has a lot of potential, and would benefit significantly from some funding to further develop the execution and sustainability of this blog. The jury therefore awards Mosa Historia a second prize and splits the prize money between both submissions (a 1,000 euros each).