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**Manchester, 13<sup>th</sup> November 2025**

To:

Dr Ben Stanley  
Centre for the Study of Democracy  
SWPS University

**Subject: Invitation for Research Visit to the University of Manchester**

Dear Dr Stanley,

I hope this letter finds you well.

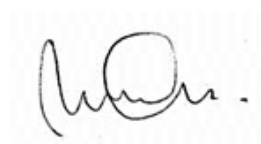
I am writing to formally invite you and Dr Andrés Bernstein, from the University of the Balearic Islands in Spain, to visit the Department of Politics at the University of Manchester to collaborate on our joint research project on democratic backsliding and affective polarisation and in the digital age.

I would be delighted to host you for three days on **December 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> 2025**. This period would allow us to conduct intensive working sessions, review our progress, and plan the next critical stages of our research and publication strategy. I can arrange for necessary facilities and access to departmental resources to ensure your visit is as productive as possible.

Please confirm whether these dates are suitable for you at your earliest convenience. Once confirmed, I will provide you with further practical details regarding arrangements here in Manchester.

I look forward to welcoming you and Andrés in Manchester next month.

Sincerely,



Dr Marta Cantijoch