

Certificate of Appreciation

To whom it may concern,

We would like to recognize the outstanding contribution, effort, and dedication of Marco Waldbauer to our team as a volunteer Expert research assistant for the CoronaNet Research Project. Marco Waldbauer has been active with our project since 2021-01-06 and, in that time, coded and updated policy information for Barbados, Cuba, Grenada, Liechtenstein, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago. Without the support of our dedicated RAs, such as Marco Waldbauer, we would not be able to sustain our pace of policy documentation which, to date, counts over 70 thousand policies from virtually every country in the world.

The CoronaNet Research Project is working to gather comprehensive and global data on government responses to the COVID-19 crisis. This work includes gathering information about which governments are responding to the coronavirus, toward whom policies are targeted (e.g. other countries), the types of policies enacted (e.g. travel restrictions, banning exports of masks) and their timing and duration. For more information, see www.coronanet-project.org.

Marco Waldbauer has been a country expert for Barbados, Cuba, Grenada, Liechtenstein, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago. This role involves researching and creating a comprehensive overview of government policies enacted in Barbados, Cuba, Grenada, Liechtenstein, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago as well as collecting and entering new and updated policy information related to COVID-19. Becoming a country expert requires passing a series of trainings on how to code data in the CoronaNet database, which uses a custom Qualtrics survey instrument, keeping up with policy coding on a weekly basis, and attending weekly country- or regional coordination meetings as well as project-wide meetings.

Based on their performance, RAs are promoted to Advanced and then to Expert RAs, which is the position held by Marco Waldbauer. This role involves coding an outstanding number of 250 policies or more and being engaged as a research assistant for at least 6 months. Expert research assistants have gained extensive knowledge of PHSM data and the CoronaNet dataset. They are actively involved in the development of the taxonomy and the project structure, and guide other research assistants. With their profound expertise, they play a fundamental role in the success of the project.

In addition to being a country expert, Marco Waldbauer took on the following additional roles within CoronaNet:

- **Data Science Analyst:** The work of data scientists at CoronaNet consists of the technical management of the rapidly evolving policy dataset as well as managing the technical infrastructure needed to keep CoronaNet running smoothly. The data science team further works to identify opportunities for leveraging the data for research and analysis by both internal and external parties. Membership requirements for the data science team include prior coding or analytics experience, having strong problem-solving skills, creativity, and the ability to work with different data architectures.
- **Project Study:** Marco Waldbauer has participated in a practical experience 'Project Study' module at the Hochschule für Politik at the Technical University of Munich. Through this module,

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students receive 18 ECTS for 500 hours of practical employment with CoronaNet. Project Study students are incorporated into every aspect of the project—such as coding, validation, cleaning, and managing of data—and also gain significant management experience through leading other RAs as country/regional managers or through managing special projects.

In conclusion, we would like to reiterate our thanks to Marco Waldbauer for supporting these important and time-sensitive collection efforts and for being part of the CoronaNet community.



Luca Messerschmidt, Principal Investigator

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CoronaNet Research Team

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