

Certificate of Appreciation

To whom it may concern,

We would like to recognize the outstanding contribution, effort, and dedication of Bengunur Baş to our team as a volunteer research assistant for the CoronaNet Research Project. Bengunur was active with our project from 2020-09-14 to 2021-12-10 and, in that time, coded and updated policy information for Turkey and Italy. Without the support of our dedicated RAs, such as Bengunur Baş, we would not be able to sustain our pace of policy documentation which, to date, counts more than 100 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.

Bengunur has been a country expert for Turkey and Italy. This role involves researching and creating a comprehensive overview of government policies enacted in Turkey and Italy 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.

In addition to being a country expert, Bengunur 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.
- Bengunur participated in a credit-bearing internship through Nazarbayev University (Kazakhstan), earning 6 ECTS credits. Through an internship, Research Assistants get an insight into, and contribute to, special projects and managerial aspects of CoronaNet, working closely with members of the international team. Interns are expected to contribute 120-140 hours of independent work towards CoronaNet activities and to show initiative in taking on new tasks and projects.

In conclusion, we would like to reiterate our thanks to Bengunur Baş 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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