

Motivation Letter – Travel Grant

Dear Members of the Committee,

I appreciate the opportunity to present my work entitled “Digital Development and Open Government: Evidence from Chilean Local Governments” at the next Digital Democracy Workshop in October in Zurich. I am completing my DPhil (PhD) dissertation in the Department of Politics and International Relations and St Hilda’s College at the University of Oxford, UK.

The paper analyses digital development and open government in 345 Chilean local governments between 2019 and 2021. We elaborated a novel electronic and open government index based on the local provision of digital services and FOI requests. The empirical strategy relies on geospatial analysis to measure determinants such as infrastructure, socioeconomic indicators, and administrative capacity.

My participation in this workshop is an outstanding opportunity, on the one hand, to communicate my research to a specialised audience and broaden my academic networks. On the other hand, this shall allow me to update my overview of cutting-edge scholarly debates on topics in which I am interested. In addition, I am confident that this workshop shall offer me the opportunity to receive constructive comments and suggestions to improve and strengthen my work.

Although I was awarded a scholarship for pursuing my DPhil at the University of Oxford by the Chilean Agency for Research and Development and have received several grants from institutions in the UK for fieldwork, my conference participation funding has already been exhausted. Therefore, your support could help me to secure my participation in your workshop, which, as I mentioned before, is a fantastic opportunity to communicate and improve my research.

I look forward to attending your workshop. From my perspective, my participation also could be an opportunity to consolidate further academic collaborations. I am convinced that I am a good candidate for your travel grant. This motivates me to present this application with the depth of desire to be well evaluated and considered. I wish to thank you for the time you devoted to reading my motivation letter.

Yours faithfully,



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