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Dear Rector of the University of Turku,

I am writing to apply for the title of Docent at the Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of Turku. Currently, I am a [Senior Researcher](#) at the INVEST Flagship Centre at the University of Turku. I also serve as the Research Director of the [INVEST-Hub](#), an interdisciplinary center about experimental and quantitative social research. I obtained my B.A. in Political Science at Catholic University of Chile. After receiving my PhD in Political Science from Rutgers University-New Brunswick, NJ, U.S. in May 2017, I spent one year as a post-doctoral fellow at Tulane University-New Orleans, LA, U.S. Before coming to the University of Turku, I was an Assistant Professor (tenure-track) at O'Higgins University, in Chile for two years. My long-term plan is to settle in Turku, and to build an academic career at the University of Turku, hopefully securing a tenure-track position in my field. Thus, the title of Docent, to me, is a stepping stone in my long-term development plan. In this statement I will summarize my accomplishments and future research and teaching plans.

Research and scientific activities. Within Political Science, my primary subfield is the political economy of inequality, democratic development and clientelism. In simple, I am interested in how economic conditions—for example, inequality, economic growth, poverty, economic losses and gains, among others—affect democracy itself and people's attitudes toward democracy. Research methods are an important part of my research. In every piece I publish I pay considerable attention to my identification strategy, as well as the methods I employ. For example, in [Bahamonde and Trasberg \(2021\)](#)

More information is available on my website: www.HectorBahamonde.com. Thank you for considering my application. I look forward to hearing from you.

Hector Bahamonde, PhD
