

12th June 2024

To Comisión de Evaluación Académica
Facultad de Ciencias Sociales
Universidad de Chile.

Dear Members of the Comisión de Evaluación Académica,

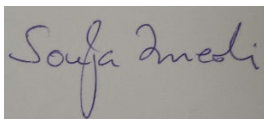
I am pleased to write this letter of recommendation for Dr. Juan Carlos Castillo, who is applying for promotion to Full Professor at the Universidad de Chile. I have had the pleasure of knowing and collaborating with Dr. Castillo for over ten years, and I can attest to his exceptional contributions to the field of sociology.

Dr. Castillo and I first met at a Political Psychology Conference in Istanbul in 2011, where we both presented papers in the area of political trust research and then decided to start a research collaboration in this field. In 2014, I invited Dr. Castillo to an authors' workshop at the Goethe University Frankfurt (Germany), during which he contributed significantly to an edited handbook on political trust, authoring a chapter on Latin America. Afterwards, I made an academic visit to Chile organized by him in 2015. This collaboration was highly productive and laid the groundwork for our academic partnership. Our joint research further materialized in an article on political trust in Latin America, published in the prestigious journal *Social Science Research*. This publication has garnered considerable attention and has been highly cited within the academic community.

Dr. Castillo's commitment to research excellence, his collaborative spirit, and his dedication to advancing sociological knowledge make him an outstanding candidate for promotion to Full Professor. I am confident that he will continue to make significant contributions to the Universidad de Chile and the broader sociological community.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require further information.

Sincerely,



Sonja Zmerli

Professor of Political Science
Sciences Po Grenoble - UGA
sonja.zmerli@iepg.fr