Universitat Pompeu Fabra *Barcelona*

Political and Social Sciences Academic Coordination Unit

Name of the student:	Valentin Christoph Zanon
Title of the thesis:	EU Public Attitudes Toward North-South Climate Finance
Reviewer:	Toni Rodon

1. KNOWLEDGE AND CONNECTION TO THE FIELD

(relevance of the research question, research objective, literature review):

This MA dissertation is both academically relevant and timely. It investigates whether and why individuals are willing to support transfers to the Global South to help them in tackling the challenges associated with climate change. Thus, the research question is clear. The MA dissertation also performs very well in identifying the gap in the literature, namely that most previous works have examined support for climate policies or even differences across countries, but we know less about the determinants of support from the rich Global North to the poor Global South. This focus undoubtedly enriches our understanding of people's willingness to support climate policies.

Having said that, and although the research question is clear, the research objective is often confusing. The focus to study whether affinity towards climate justice moderates or mediates the relationship between a country's ability to design a just green transition and the endorsement of climate finance allocation to the Global South is relevant theoretically, but it oddly situates the paper in-between an attempt to make a theoretical or an empirical contribution. On this point, the paper claims that it "argues that climate justice attitudes are both mediating and moderating", a claim that is theoretically difficult to substantiate. One factor can indeed be both, but this is not properly developed in the dissertation. Finally, the analysis on cross-country differences is interesting, but it is not theoretically substantiated.

2. ANALYSIS

(methodology, argument, theoretical backing, appropriate work with sources):

The MA dissertation relies on observational data (surveys), which is appropriate. There are however some points that can be better developed or substantiated:

- The idea that multilevel logistic models are not appropriate because the focus is on the individual-level relationships is not correct.
- In the methods section some variables, such as the outcome, are not fully explained. For instance, the reader is not aware of the operationalisation of the variable until the results section.
- Descriptive graphs could have provided more information. Since the analysis relies on EU countries, it is not strictly necessary to see a comparison between the EU and other countries—the comparison is in itself a bit odd. In contrast, the MA dissertation could have provided the distribution of the outcome, standard deviation, distribution by country, etc that is, a battery of descriptive so that the reader could gauge the variation that the models are trying to explain.
- There is some confusion in some parts between marginal effects, predicted probabilities and effects on predicted probabilities.
- Does the subgroup analysis include controls?

3. CONCLUSIONS

(persuasiveness, link between data and conclusions, achievement of research objectives):

4. FORMAL ASPECTS AND LANGUAGE

(appropriate language, adherence to academic standards, citation style, layout):

Formal aspects are largely correct. The text misses a summary of the findings in the introduction and the discussion, policy implications and conclusions could be more parsimonious, and there are some minor inconsistences in the reference section (i.e. with and without DOI).

5. SUMMARY ASSESSMENT

(strong and weak point of the dissertation, other issues)

Grade (0-10):	8.5
Date:	Signature: