Cover Letter

**I) Names and affiliations of authors:**

Emil O. W. Kirkegaard; Ulster Institute for Social Research

Noah Carl; Independent researcher

Jonatan Pallesen; Independent researcher

Emil Elgaard; Independent researcher

**II) Corresponding author:**

Emil O. W. Kirkegaard; emil@emilkirkegaard.dk

**III) A brief description of the novelty and importance of the findings detailed in the paper:**

Our paper quantifies the political views of Western journalists by matching surveys of journalists to outcomes from national elections. Using a variety of statistical methods, we find that the Western media has a left-liberal skew. Ours is the first paper to quantify the political views of Western journalists by analysing data from a large number of countries. We believe it will be of interest to political psychologists, media scholars and comparative sociologists.

**VI) Informed Consent:**

Most of our data was taken from secondary sources (polls, surveys and Wikipedia). The individuals we recruited to rate the parties were given clear instructions, but were not made aware of the purpose of the study. Each individual was given a small monetary payment for participating.

**VII) Ethical Approval:**

No ethical approval was required as we simply analysed survey data.

**IX) Contributorship:**

Emil O. W. Kirkegaard: Data gathering; database management; analysis; writing the original draft; writing and editing

Noah Carl: Data gathering; database management; writing the original draft; writing and editing

Jonatan Pallesen: Data gathering; writing and editing

Emil Elgaard: Data gathering; database management

Each credited author has made a significant contribution to the article