

11 October 2021

Re: Letter of Recommendation for Mr Sergei Starodumov

To whom it may concern

As professor at the Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg and head of the department Agricultural Policy of the Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Transition Economies (IAMO) I met Mr Sergei Starodumov first while he applied for a position as a student assistant with my department in 2020. He is now working at IAMO for almost two years. His studies of *Business Economics* (B.Sc. 2021) and *Economics: Data Science and Policy* (M.Sc., currently) as well as his high-level language knowledges in Russian (native) and English enable him to fulfil all his tasks very successfully.

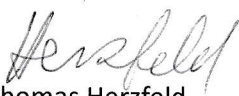
Mr Starodumov's activities mainly range from exploring data bases over the entry of data to up to first preparatory work for analysis (e.g. data cleaning). He is well experienced with different types of online statistical platforms such as <https://rosstat.gov.ru/> up to work with household survey data. His excellent command of advanced and complex data management functions in MS Excel, Python or the econometric software package Stata are crucial for an efficient and timely execution of tasks assigned.

Further tasks include the establishment and maintenance of bibliographic databases by using either EndNote or Citavi. Furthermore, Mr Starodumov has been engaged in assisting the organisers of the "Gewisola conference 2020".

Mr. Starodumov perfectly mastered all obligations he has been asked so far. He has consistently demonstrated a strong work ethic and a dedication to success. He is able to perform in an international environment and to work routinely even under time pressure.

For these reasons, I highly recommend Mr Sergei Starodumov for an internship in your organisation. I am sure you will find him to be highly motivated, competent and committed student. If you have any questions regarding Mr Starodumov or this recommendation, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,


Thomas Herzfeld