1. Title
Market Reactions to the Arrival and Containment of COVID-19: An Event Study


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3. Abstract
We study the short-term market reactions of US and European stocks during the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. Employing an event study, we document that stocks react significantly negative to the announcement of the first death in a given country. While our results suggest that the announcements of country-specific fiscal policy measures negatively affect stock returns, monetary policy measures have the potential to calm markets. These reactions are either intensified or lessened by firm-specific characteristics such as tangible assets, liquidity, and institutional holdings.

4. Data description
Stock returns and firm-level characteristics of US and European listed companies

5. JEL codes for the project
G14, G18, E50

6. Keywords