

September 30, 2020

## Diego Alburez-Gutierrez

Konrad-Zuse-Straße 1, 18057 Rostock, Germany  
[alburezgutierrez@demogr.mpg.de](mailto:alburezgutierrez@demogr.mpg.de); [www.alburez.me](http://www.alburez.me)

I am a social scientist specialising in inter-generational demography. My work has used mathematical modeling, micro-simulation techniques, and empirical analysis to explore changes in the experience of life events such as kin availability, family bereavement, and caring responsibilities across demographic regimes.

## AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2019 [Otto Hahn Medal](#) (2020) awarded by the Max Planck Society for ‘outstanding achievement from the initial creative period of young scientists’, in particular ‘for methodological innovations for studying the long-term consequences of mass killings on local populations’
- LSE PhD Academy Prize (2018) awarded by the London School of Economics for research on state-sponsored massacres in Guatemala
- LSE PhD Studentship (2014-2018) awarded by the London School of Economics

## EDUCATION

### The London School of Economics and Political Science, UK

PhD, Demography and Population Studies

2014 - 2018

- Summary: Effects of mass violence and genocide on population dynamics.
- Data collection: Genealogical surveys and in-depth interviews (1 year fieldwork)
- Mixed methods research design:
  - Quantitative analysis: Descriptive demographic, regression and survival models, network analysis
  - Qualitative analysis: Thematic and framework analysis
- Supervisors: Arjan Gjonca, Tiziana Leone, Ernestina Coast, and Michael Murphy

MSc, Social Research Methods (Distinction)

2013-2014

Practical approach with emphasis on quantitative and qualitative data analysis

### Del Valle University, Guatemala

BA, Anthropology (First class)

2008-2012

Thesis on evaluation methodologies for Conditional Cash Transfer Programmes

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

### Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research (MPIDR), Germany

Research Scientist (post-doc) and Research Area Chair (Aging and Generational Processes), Lab of Digital and Computational Demography

Since 2018

Leading role in projects using innovative data and approaches to understand demographic change in the context of global population aging.

### United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Denmark

Statistics Team Intern, Field Information and Coordination Support Section (FICSS)

2018

Central role in implementing UNHCR’s Demographic Projection Tool.

**The London School of Economics and Political Science, UK**

*Research Assistant, Law Department*

2017

Leading qualitative research on low student satisfaction

*Research Assistant, Social Policy Department*

2016-2017

Quantitative analysis of maternal and child health outcomes in Palestine

*Research Assistant, Sociology Department*

2014-2015

Qualitative coding and analysis of methodological practices in sociology of work

*Research Assistant, Methodology Department*

2013-2014

Survey of grey literature to identify common qualitative methods in International Development

**Public Opinion Program, Universidad Rafael Landívar, Guatemala**

*Lead researcher*

2013

Designing and implementing qualitative research for the Media Monitoring Project

**The Population Council, Guatemala**

*Research Sub Coordinator*

2012

- Design and implementation of qualitative research on conditional cash transfer programmes
- Led team of four ethnographers during six months of data collection in rural Guatemala

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**European Doctoral School of Demography (EDSD), Barcelona**

*Class Teacher for course “Digital Demography”*

2020

Online due to COVID-19; materials and recorded lectures available [on GitHub](#)

**The London School of Economics and Political Science, UK**

*Class Teacher, Social Policy Department*

2016-2017

- Leading seminars for the course “Introduction to Global Population Change”
- Weekly office hours, updated course website, homework and exam marking

*Class Teacher, LSE Methods Summer School*

2015

- Leading seminars for the “Qualitative Research Methods” strand
- Homework and exam marking

**Del Valle University, Guatemala**

*Class teacher, Anthropology and Sociology Department*

2013

- Leading seminars for the course “Advanced qualitative data analysis”
- Course design, wrote NVivo course pack (Spanish), homework and exam marking

*Class teacher, Anthropology and Sociology Department*

2011

Leading seminars for the course “History of Anthropology 1”

**OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Plaza Pública Newspaper, Universidad Rafael Landívar, Guatemala**

*Data journalist*

2013

In charge of database management for data journalism focusing on local politics. Co-authored several publications.

## **iDISC Information Technologies, Spain/Guatemala**

*Language moderator* for translation of Microsoft Office 2013 to K'iche' Mayan

2012-2013

- In charge of recruitment, linguistics, and project management
- Led team of six translating the MS Office Language Interface Pack 2013 — K'iche'

## **PUBLICATIONS IN PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS**

Nepomuceno, M., Acosta, E., **Alburez-Gutierrez, D.**, Aburto, J.M., Gagnon, A., and Turra, C. (2020). "Besides population age-structure, health and other demographic factors can contribute to understanding the COVID-19 burden." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 117(25). doi:[10.1073/pnas.2008760117](https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2008760117).

**Alburez-Gutierrez, D.**, Chandrasekharan, E., Chunara, R., Gil-Clavel, S., Hannak, A., Interdonato, R., Joseph, K., Kalimeri, K., Malik, M., Mayer, K., Mejova, Y., Paolotti, D., and Zagheni, E. (2019). "Reports of the Workshops Held at the 2019 International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media." *AI Magazine*, 40(4), 78-82. doi:[10.1609/aimag.v40i4.5287](https://doi.org/10.1609/aimag.v40i4.5287).

Leone, T., **Alburez-Gutierrez, D.**, Gandour, R., Coast, E., and Giacaman, R. (2019). "Maternal and child access to care and intensity of conflict in the occupied Palestinian territory: a pseudo-longitudinal analysis (2000–2014)." *Conflict and Health* 13(36). doi:[10.1186/s13031-019-0220-2](https://doi.org/10.1186/s13031-019-0220-2).

**Alburez-Gutierrez, D.** (2019). Blood is thicker than bloodshed: A genealogical approach to reconstruct populations after armed conflicts. *Demographic Research*, 40(23): 627-656. doi:[10.4054/DemRes.2019.40.23](https://doi.org/10.4054/DemRes.2019.40.23).

McGovern, P., and **D. Alburez-Gutierrez**. (2017) "Who takes workplace case-study methods seriously? The influence of gender, academic rank and PhD training." *Industrial Relations Journal* 48(2):98-114, doi:[10.1111/irj.12171](https://doi.org/10.1111/irj.12171).

## **BOOK CHAPTERS**

**Alburez-Gutierrez, D.**, S. Aref, S. Gil-Clavel, A. Grow, D.V. Negraia, E. Zagheni. (2019). "Demography in the Digital Era: New Data Sources for Population Research." *Proceedings of the 2019 Conference of the Italian Statistical Society*. doi: [10.31235/osf.io/24jp7](https://doi.org/10.31235/osf.io/24jp7).

## **TECHNICAL REPORTS**

**Alburez-Gutierrez, D.** and Segura Garcia, C. (2018). "The UNHCR Demographic Projection Tool: estimating the future size and composition of forcibly displaced populations." *UNHCR Statistics Technical Series*, [2018/1](https://doi.org/10.29025/2018/1).

## **WORKING PAPERS AND PAPERS IN PROGRESS**

Riffe, T., Acosta, E., Aburto, J. M., **Alburez-Gutierrez, D.**, et al. (2020) "COVERAGE-DB: a database of age-structured COVID-19 cases and deaths ". MPIDR Working Paper. Rostock: Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research. doi: [10.4054/MPIDR-WP-2020-032](https://doi.org/10.4054/MPIDR-WP-2020-032).

**Alburez-Gutierrez, D.**, E. Zagheni and M. Kolk. (November 2019) “Women’s experience of child death: a global demographic perspective”. SocArxiv. doi: [10.31235/osf.io/s69fz](https://doi.org/10.31235/osf.io/s69fz).

Smith-Greenway, E., **Alburez-Gutierrez, D.**, Zagheni, E. and Trinitapoli, J. (in progress) “Global Burden of Maternal Bereavement: A Worldwide Analysis of Maternal Cumulative Prevalence of Child Mortality”.

Williams, I. and **D. Alburez-Gutierrez** (in progress) “A formal demographic approach to child survival from a mother’s perspective: mortality change and related measures”.

**Alburez-Gutierrez, D.** (April 2020). “Mass killings, family support, and survival: evidence from Guatemala”.

**Alburez-Gutierrez, D.** (January 2020). “Fertility and pronatalism among massacre survivors in Mayan Guatemala”.

### INVITED PRESENTATIONS (SELECTED)

**Alburez-Gutierrez, D.** (27 May 2020, postponed due to Covid-19 lockdown) “Die demografischen Auswirkungen von Massengewalt in Guatemala [The demographic consequences of Genocide in Guatemala].” Berlin, Germany (Ibero-American Institute).

**Alburez-Gutierrez, D.** (27 Nov 2019) “Women’s experience of child death: a global demographic perspective.” [ISER External Seminar](#), Colchester, UK (Institute for Social and Economic Research, University of Essex).

**Alburez-Gutierrez, D.** (23 May 2019) “The Demographic Foundations of the Lived Experience of Kin Death: A Genealogical Reconstruction.” [SUDA Demographic Colloquium Series](#), Stockholm, Sweden (Stockholm University).

**Alburez-Gutierrez, D.** (25 April 2019) “Ciencias Sociales Computacionales: Retos y oportunidades en la era digital [Computational Social Sciences: challenges and opportunities in the Digital Age]”. Guatemala City, Guatemala (Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences).

**Alburez-Gutierrez, D.** (8 February 2018) “Mass killings, family support, and survival: evidence from Guatemala.” [SUDA Demographic Colloquium Series](#), Stockholm, Sweden (Stockholm University).

### OUTREACH AND SCIENCE COMMUNICATION

- Academic video: ‘How Can We Quantify the Immediate and Lingering Impact of Genocide on Local Populations?’ ([Latest Thinking](#), Apr 2020)
- Opinion piece: ‘Coronavirus: a warning to Latin America and the Caribbean to dramatically increase COVID-19 testing’ ([The Conversation](#), UK, Apr 2020)
- Blog post: ‘Genocide is the tip of the iceberg: Reviewing the Guatemalan case’ ([LSE Human Rights Blog](#), Feb 2016)

### SKILLS

- Statistical programming: R (`base`, `tidyverse`, `data.table`, `parallel`, `shiny`), Stata, Excel
- Text processing and web:  $\text{\LaTeX}$ , MS Office, (r)markdown, HTML, JavaScript, Tesseract
- Other programming: Git, Python 3, SQL, Hadoop
- Demographic microsimulation: SOCSIM with applications in R
- Qualitative data analysis: NVivo, Atlas.ti
- Experience in qualitative, quantitative, and online data collection

## LANGUAGES

- International: **Spanish** (native), **English** (full professional C2), **German** (full professional C1), **Swedish** (beginner A1)
- Guatemalan/Mexican: **K'iche'** (full professional C1), **Achi** (full professional C1), **Kaqchikel** (professional B1), **Q'eqchi'** (limited working A2)

## ORGANISER OF INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC EVENTS

- *Organiser*: [Rostock Open Science Workshop](#), Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research (MPIDR), Rostock 2019
- *Organiser*: [Workshop on Demographic Research with Web and Social Media Data](#), 13<sup>th</sup> International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM), Munich 2019

## SERVICE TO THE DISCIPLINE

- *Reviewer* for academic journals: Demography; Population and Development Review; Journal of Marriage and Family; PLOS ONE; Demographic Research; Revue Quetelet/Quetelet Journal; 11<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Social Informatics (SocInfo '19)
- *Organiser* of the 'Social Policy Qualitative Research Group', London School of Economics 2017-2018
- *President* of the 'Methodology Student Union', London School of Economics 2013-2014
- *President* of the 'Social Sciences Student Union', Del Valle University (Guatemala) 2011-2012

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- International Union for the Scientific Study of Population ([IUSSP](#))
- British Society for Population Studies ([BSPS](#))
- Population Association of America ([PAA](#))
- Latin American Studies Association ([LASA](#))
- Households in Conflict Network ([HiCN](#))
- International Science, Technology, and Innovation Network of Guatemala ([REDCTI](#))