

October 10, 2023

## Diego Alburez-Gutierrez

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**Research interests:** population · kinship · generational processes · inequality · modelling

### EMPLOYMENT

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

*Independent Group Leader, [Kinship Inequalities Research Group](#)*

May 2022 - May 2027

*Post-Doctoral Researcher, [Lab of Digital and Computational Demography](#)*

Jan 2019 - Apr 2022

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

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

Mar - Jun 2018

Leading role in implementing [UNHCR's Demographic Projection Tool](#).

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

*Research Assistant, Law Department*

Apr - Jul 2017

Leading qualitative research on low student satisfaction

*Research Assistant, Social Policy Department*

Mar 2016- Jun 2017

Quantitative analysis of maternal and child health outcomes in Palestine

*Research Assistant, Sociology Department*

Sep 2014 - Sep 2015

Qualitative coding and analysis of methodological practices in sociology of work

*Research Assistant, Methodology Department*

Oct 2013 - Jan 2014

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

#### **Universidad Rafael Landívar, Guatemala**

*Analyst, Public Opinion Program*

Jul - Nov 2013

Designing and implementing qualitative research for the Media Monitoring Project

### RESEARCH GRANTS

- [Kinship Inequalities Independent Research Group](#) (2022), grant awarded by the Max Planck Society (ca. €1.9 million [ca. \$2,05 million] for the 2022-2027 period)
- [LSE PhD Studentship](#) (2014-2018) awarded by the London School of Economics (ca. £145,000 [ca. \$180,000])

## AWARDS

- [European Demographer Award](#) (2023), given by Population Europe to one promising and upcoming researcher who has obtained their Ph.D. within the last five years (€1,000 [ca. \$1,000])
- [BSPS Early Career Award](#) (2022), given by the British Society for Population Studies to one promising early career demographer
- Poster award (2022), British Society for Population Studies. Poster title: “Who Will Remember COVID-19? Kinship Memory after a Global Pandemic.” (Snyder, M., Alburez-Gutierrez, D., Verdery, A., and Zagheni, E.)
- [Günther Beyer Award](#) (2022), given by the European Association for Population Studies to the best paper by an early career scholar at a European Population Conference (€400 [ca. \$430], awarded jointly with Ugofilippo Basellini)
- Poster award (2021), Population Association of America Annual Meeting. Poster title: “Linking excess mortality to Google mobility data during the COVID-19 pandemic in England and Wales.” (Basellini, U., Alburez-Gutierrez, D., Del Fava, E., Perrotta, D., Bonetti, M., Camarda, C., and Zagheni, E.)
- [Otto Hahn Medal](#) (2019) given by the Max Planck Society for outstanding achievement from the initial creative period of young scientists (€7,000 [ca. \$7,600])

## EDUCATION

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

*PhD*, Demography and Population Studies

2014 - 2018

*MSc*, Social Research Methods (Distinction)

2013-2014

### **Universidad del Valle de Guatemala, Guatemala**

*BA*, Anthropology (First class/Summa Cum Laude)

2008-2012

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### **European Doctoral School of Demography (EDSD)**

*Lecturer for course “The Demography of Kinship”*

2023 - present

*Lecturer for course “Digital Demography”*

2020 - 2022

### **International Max Planck Research School for Population, Health and Data Science**

*Course coordinator and lecturer for “Matrix Approaches to Modelling Kinship: Theory and Applications”*

May 2023

*Lecturer for course “Topics in Digital and Computational Demography”*

2020 - 2022

### **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”

*Lecturer*, LSE Methods Summer School

2015

Leading seminars for the “Qualitative Research Methods” strand

### **Del Valle University, Guatemala**

*Class teacher*, Anthropology and Sociology Department

2013

Leading seminars for the course “Advanced qualitative data analysis”

*Class teacher*, Anthropology and Sociology Department

2011

Leading seminars for the course “History of Anthropology 1”

## RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION

*Independent Research Group Leader, [Kinship Inequalities Research Group](#)* May 2022 - May 2027  
Academic supervision of PhDs and postdocs; budget planning and execution; coordination of hiring processes; collaboration with local administration; research activities reporting; committee participation.

*Organiser and Mentor, [Population and Social Data Science Summer Incubator Program](#)* Jun - Aug 2023  
Coordinating and supervising a team of four graduate students for the ‘Crowdsourced Data’ incubator team.

*Research Area Chair, [Lab of Digital and Computational Demography](#)* Sep 2019 - Sep 2021  
Leading a group of four researchers in the ‘Aging and Generational Processes’ Research Area.

## GRADUATE STUDENT SUPERVISION

<sup>†</sup> Ongoing

- <sup>†</sup> Amanda Martins de Almeida. *PhD supervisor*. Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research (MPIDR, Germany)
- <sup>†</sup> Andrea Colasurdo. *PhD supervisor*. MPIDR and University of Groningen (Netherlands)
- <sup>†</sup> Liliana Calderón. *PhD mentor*. MPIDR and Stockholm University (Sweden)
- <sup>†</sup> Michael Lachanski. *PhD mentor*. MPIDR and University of Pennsylvania (US)
- <sup>†</sup> Yongxin Shang. *Ad Hoc PhD Special Committee Member*. Cornell University (US)

## PUBLICATIONS

Student co-authors in **bold**  
(conventionally, the first author is the lead author in social sciences)

### PUBLICATIONS IN PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS

**Snyder, M.**, Alburez-Gutierrez, D., **Williams, I.**, and Zagheni, E. (2022). “Estimates from 31 countries show the significant impact of COVID-19 excess mortality on the incidence of family bereavement.” *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. 119 (26): e2202686119. doi:[10.1073/pnas.2202686119](https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2202686119).

Alburez-Gutierrez, D. (2022). “The demographic drivers of grief and memory after genocide in Guatemala.” *Demography*. 59 (3): 1173–1194. doi:[10.1215/00703370-9975747](https://doi.org/10.1215/00703370-9975747).

Stelter, R. and Alburez-Gutierrez, D. (2022). “Representativeness is crucial for inferring demographic processes from online genealogies: Evidence from lifespan dynamics.” *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. 119(10): e2120455119. doi:[10.1073/pnas.2120455119](https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2120455119).

Castro, A. and Alburez-Gutierrez, D. (2022). “North and South: Naming practices and the hidden dimension of global disparities in knowledge production.” *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. 119(10): e2119373119. doi:[10.1073/pnas.2119373119](https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2119373119).

Alburez-Gutierrez, D., Mason, C., and Zagheni, E. (2021). “The ‘Sandwich Generation’ Revisited: Global Demographic Drivers of Care Time Demands.” *Population and Development Review*, 47(4): 997–1023. doi: [10.1111/padr.12436](https://doi.org/10.1111/padr.12436).

Alburez-Gutierrez, D., Kolk, M., and Zagheni, E. (2021) “Women’s experience of child death: A global demographic perspective.” *Demography*, 58 (5): 1715–1735. doi: [10.1215/00703370-9420770](https://doi.org/10.1215/00703370-9420770).

- Smith-Greenaway, E., Alburez-Gutierrez, D., Trinitapoli, J., and Zagheni, E. (2021) “The Global Burden of Maternal Bereavement: Indicators of the Cumulative Prevalence of Child Loss.” *BMJ Global Health*, 6:e004837. doi: [bmjgh-2020-004837](https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjgh-2020-004837)
- Martinez-Folgar, K., Alburez-Gutierrez, D., Paniagua-Avila, A., Ramirez-Zea, M., Bilal, U. (2021). “Excess Mortality during the COVID-19 Pandemic in Guatemala”. *American Journal of Public Health*, 0:e1-e8. doi:[10.2105/AJPH.2021.306452](https://doi.org/10.2105/AJPH.2021.306452).
- Basellini, U., Alburez-Gutierrez, D., Del Fava, E., Perrotta, D., Bonetti, M., Camarda, C. and Zagheni, E. (2021). “Linking excess mortality to Google mobility data during the COVID-19 pandemic in England and Wales.” *SSM - Population Health*, 14. doi: [j.ssmph.2021.100799](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ssmph.2021.100799).
- Riffe, T., Acosta E., Alburez-Gutierrez, D., the COVerAGE-DB team. (2021) “Data Resource Profile: COVerAGE-DB: a global demographic database of COVID-19 cases and deaths.” *International Journal of Epidemiology*, 50(2): 390-390f. doi: [10.1093/ije/dyab027](https://doi.org/10.1093/ije/dyab027).
- Alburez-Gutierrez, D. (2021). “Vivir para contarla: un análisis demográfico de las masacres de Río Negro en Guatemala (1980-1982) [Living to tell the tale: A demographic analysis of the Rio Negro massacres in Guatemala (1980-1982)].” *Análisis de la Realidad Nacional*, 208:91–104. ISSN:[2227-9113](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.anr.2021.100799).
- Nepomuceno, M., Acosta, E., Alburez-Gutierrez, D., Aburto, J.M., Gagnon, A., and C. Turra (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. (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).
- 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).
- McGovern, P., and Alburez-Gutierrez, D (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 AND CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS**

- Coimbra, C.**, Alburez-Gutierrez, D., Nepomuceno, M., and T. Theile. (2022) “Desaparecidos: characterizing the population of missing children using Twitter.” In *14th ACM Web Science Conference 2022 (WebSci '22)*. Association for Computing Machinery, New York, NY, USA, 185–190. doi:[10.1145/3501247.3531589](https://doi.org/10.1145/3501247.3531589).
- Kashyap, R., Rinderknecht, R. G., Akbaritabar, A, Alburez-Gutierrez, D., Gil-Clavel, S., Grow, A., et al. (forthcoming). “Digital and Computational Demography.” In J. Skopek (Ed.). *Research Handbook of Digital Sociology*. Preprint: doi:[10.31235/osf.io/7bvpt](https://doi.org/10.31235/osf.io/7bvpt).
- Alburez-Gutierrez, D., Aref, S. **Gil-Clavel, S.**, Grow, A., Negraia, D.V., and Zagheni, E. (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](#). Copenhagen: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

## WORKING PAPERS

**Calderón Bernal, L. P.**, Alburez-Gutierrez, D., and Zagheni, E. (2023). “Analyzing biases in genealogies using demographic microsimulation.” MPIDR Working Paper WP-2023-034. Rostock: Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research. doi: [10.4054/MPIDR-WP-2023-034](#).

Alburez-Gutierrez, D., **Williams, I.**, and Caswell, H. (2023). “Projections of human kinship for all countries.” SocArxiv. doi: [10.31235/osf.io/hn3zm](#).

Alburez-Gutierrez, D., Barban, N., Caswell, H., Kolk, M., Margolis, R., Smith-Greenaway, E., Song, X., Verdery, A., and Zagheni, E. (2022). “Kinship Approaches in Demography: Review and Key Areas for Future Development.” SocArxiv. doi: [10.31235/osf.io/fk7x9](#).

Alburez-Gutierrez, D., Basellini, U., and Zagheni, E. (2022) “When do parents bury a child? Uncertainty of offspring loss across the demographic transition.” MPIDR Working Paper WP-2022-016. Rostock: Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research. doi: [10.4054/MPIDR-WP-2022-016](#).

**Chong, M.**, Alburez-Gutierrez, D., Del Fava, E., Alexander, M., and Zagheni, E. (2022). “Identifying and correcting bias in big crowd-sourced online genealogies.” MPIDR Working Paper WP-2022-005. Rostock: Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research. doi: [10.4054/MPIDR-WP-2022-005](#).

**Williams, I.** and Alburez-Gutierrez, D. (2021). “Mortality change and its impact on child survival.” MPIDR Working Paper WP-2021-001. Rostock: Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research. doi:[10.4054/MPIDR-WP-2021-001](#).

## WORK IN PROGRESS

Hünteler, B. and Alburez-Gutierrez, D. (in preparation). “Generational Placement Trajectories in Norway: Combining Empirical and Simulated Data.”

Van Damme, M., Castro, A., and Alburez-Gutierrez, D. (in preparation). “The pros and cons of studying kinship size of older adults with models and surveys: The case of Europe.”

Hexel, O., Alburez-Gutierrez, D., and Zagheni, E. (in preparation). “Kinship structure and bequest inequalities between black and white households in the United States, 1989-2019.”

**Colasurdo, A.**, and Alburez-Gutierrez, D. (in preparation). “Transnational kin networks over time: An analysis based on crowdsourced online genealogies.”

**Pojman, E., Mwedzi, D., Olaya Bucaro, O., Zhang, S., Chong, M.**, Alexander, M., and Alburez-Gutierrez, D. (in preparation). “Leaving for life: Using online crowd-sourced genealogies to estimate the migrant mortality advantage for the United Kingdom and Ireland.”

**Polizzi, A.**, and Alburez-Gutierrez, D. (in preparation). “Kin loss due to violent death in Mexico: a subnational microsimulation approach.”

**Snyder, M.**, Alburez-Gutierrez, D., Verdery, A., and Zagheni, E. (in preparation) Who Will Remember COVID-19? Kinship Memory after a Global Pandemic.”

## SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT

Theile, T., Alburez-Gutierrez, D., Snyder, M., Calderón-Bernal L. P., and E. Zagheni. (2022). “rsocsim: An R package to run demographic microsimulations using SOCSIM.” <https://github.com/MPIDR/rsocsim>.



Williams, I., Alburez-Gutierrez, D., Song, X., and H. Caswell. (2021). “DemoKin: An R package to implement demographic matrix kinship models.” <https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/DemoKin/>.



## INVITED TALKS (SELECTED)

“Projections of human kinship for the entire world.” [Department of Human Behavior, Ecology and Culture](#). Leipzig, Germany (Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, June 28, 2023).

“Demographic rates cast long shadows: The case for a demography of kinship.” [Centre for Family and Population Research](#). Singapore (National University of Singapore, 31 March 2023, online).

“A practical introduction to kinship demography using the DemoKin R package.” [CEDEPLAR](#). Belo Horizonte, Brazil (Federal University of Minas Gerais [UFMG], 22 December 2022).

“Death is not the end: Model-based studies of kin loss” [Centre for Economic Demography](#). Lund, Sweden (Lund University, 22 November 2022).

“Inferring demographic processes from non-representative online genealogies.” [GENPOP/POPCLIMA Seminar Series](#). Bologna, Italy (University of Bologna, 20 October 2022).

“North and South: Naming practices and the hidden dimension of global disparities in knowledge production.” [Summer Institute in Computational Social Science](#). Ogun State, Nigeria (Covenant University, 21 June 2022, online).

“Kinequality: Studies at the intersection of demography, kinship, and inequality.” [CEDEPLAR](#). Belo Horizonte, Brazil (Federal University of Minas Gerais [UFMG], 15 June 2022, online).

“Formal demography of kinship: theory and applications.” [Formal Demography Working Group](#) (25 February 2022, online, co-presentation with Hal Caswell) [[recording](#)] [[code](#)].

“Kinship inequalities and the persistence of memory after genocide.” [Center for Demography and Ecology](#), Wisconsin, USA (University of Wisconsin–Madison, 01 February 2022, online)

“The Demographic Drivers of Grief and Memory After Genocide in Guatemala.” [UW Seminar Series](#). Seattle, USA (University of Washington, 20 April 2021, online).

“Linking excess mortality to Google mobility data during the COVID-19 pandemic.” Mexico City, Mexico (El Colegio de Mexico, 16 April 2021, online).

“The ‘Sandwich Generation’ Revisited: Global Demographic Drivers of Care Time Demands.” Population and Health Research Group Seminar Series, St Andrews, Scotland (University of St Andrews, 08 Dec

2020).

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

“The Demographic Foundations of the Lived Experience of Kin Death: A Genealogical Reconstruction.” [SUDA Demographic Colloquium Series](#), Stockholm, Sweden (Stockholm University, 23 May 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, 25 April 2019).

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

### MEDIA, OUTREACH, AND SCIENCE COMMUNICATION

- Newspaper coverage: “[The glory of grandparents](#)” and “[The age of the grandparent has arrived](#)” (The Economist, 14 Jan 2023)
- News magazine: “Generational overlap places a heavy burden on parents in the global South” (News magazine of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population, [n-IUSSP](#), Jan 2022)
- News magazine: “Global trends in child loss: less and later” (News magazine of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population, [n-IUSSP](#), Nov 2021)
- Podcast episode: “Demografía y la experiencia de muerte [Demography and the experience of death]” ([Divulga Podcast](#), [episode 31](#), May 2021)
- 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)

### ORGANISER OF INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC EVENTS

- *Organiser*: [Workshop: Demographic microsimulations in R using SOCSIM: Modelling population and kinship dynamics](#), Annual Congress of the Population Association of America (PAA), New Orleans, USA Apr 2023
- *Organiser*: [Workshop: Demografía del Parentesco: Introducción a Temas y Métodos](#), X Congress of the Latin American Population Association (ALAP), Valparaíso, Chile 2022
- *Organiser*: [Workshop: The Formal Demography of Kinship: Theory and Application](#), Dutch Demography Day, Utrecht, Netherlands (with Hal Caswell) 2022
- Coordinator of the [Seminar Series of the Lab of Digital and Computational Demography](#), Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research. 2020-2021
- *Organiser and moderator*: [Panel Discussion on Digital and Computational Demography](#), IX Conference of the Latin American Association for Population Studies, Santiago, Chile (online) 2020
- *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



## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- *Associate Editor* for journal Demographic Research (Apr 2022 - Apr 2025)
- *Reviewer* for academic journals: BMC Public Health; Demographic Research; Demography; Dialogues in Health; EPJ Data Science; European Journal of Population; Frontiers in Research Metrics and Analytics; Genus; International Migration Review; Journal of Marriage and Family; Journal of Population Ageing; Journal of the Royal Society Interface; Nature Human Behavior; PLOS ONE; Population and Development Review; Population Research and Policy Review; Population Studies; Review of Economics of the Household; Revue Quetelet/Quetelet Journal; Scientific Reports; and Social Forces
- *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](#))
- IUSSP Panel on Digital and Computational Demography ([link](#))
- British Society for Population Studies ([BSPS](#))
- Population Association of America ([PAA](#))
- European Association for Population Studies ([EAPS](#))
- Latin American Association for Population Studies ([ALAP](#))
- Latin American Studies Association ([LASA](#))
- Households in Conflict Network ([HiCN](#))
- Population Health and Armed Conflict Network (PHAAC)
- International Science, Technology, and Innovation Network of Guatemala ([REDCTI](#))

## SKILLS

- Statistical programming: R (`base`, `tidyverse`, `data.table`, `parallel`, `shiny`), Stata, Excel
- Text processing and web:  $\text{\LaTeX}$ , MS Office, (r)markdown, HTML, JavaScript
- Other programming: Git, Python 3, SQL
- Experience in qualitative, quantitative, and online data collection

## LANGUAGES

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