

MR. JOSÉ MARÍA ÁLVAREZ-PALLETE LÓPEZ
Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors of Telefónica, S.A.

Born in Madrid, in 1963.

Mr. Álvarez-Pallete has a degree in Economics from the Complutense University of Madrid. He also studied Economics at the Université Libre of Brussels (Belgium), holds an International Management Programme (IMP) from IPADE Business School and an Advance Research Degree from the Department of Financial Economics and Accounting of Complutense University of Madrid.

In February 1999 he joined the Telefónica Group as Chief Financial Officer of Telefónica Internacional, S.A.U. In September of that same year, he became Chief Financial Officer of Telefónica, S.A. In July 2002, he was appointed Executive Chairman of Telefónica Internacional, S.A.U.; in July 2006, General Manager of Telefónica Latinoamérica; and in March 2009, Chairman of Telefónica Latinoamérica. In September 2011, he was named Chairman of Telefónica Europe. And in September 2012 he was appointed Chief Operating Officer of Telefónica, S.A.

Since April 8, 2016, he is Executive Chairman of Telefónica S.A. and member of the Board of Telefónica S.A., position he holds since July 2006.

He began his professional career at Arthur Young Auditors in 1987 before he joined Benito & Monjardín/Kidder, Peabody & Co. in 1988. In 1995 he joined Compañía Valenciana de Cementos Portland CEMEX as head of the Investor Relations and Analysis department. In 1996 he was promoted to Chief Financial Officer in Spain, and in 1998 to Chief Administration and Finance Officer of the CEMEX Group in Indonesia and member of the Board of Directors of CEMEX Asia Ltd.

In 2001, he was granted with “CFO Europe Best Practices” award in the Mergers & Acquisitions 2000 by CFO Europe Magazine. In April 2003, he was appointed Member of Merit at the Ibero-American Forum of the Fundación Carlos III, and in 2007 he was awarded with the Gold Master of the Executive Management Forum. In 2011 he received the Personality of the year in Economics Award, granted by the Spanish newspaper “El Economista” and in 2013 the Telecommunication Engineers Association awarded him with the Excellence Award of that same year, for his contribution to the development of telecommunications. In 2014, Mr. José María Álvarez-Pallete received Medalla Sorolla by the Hispanic Society of America and he was named “Innovative Corporate Leader of the Year” by the Latin Trade magazine. In 2016 he was named “Best CEO” in Spain by Forbes Magazine and in 2019 he received the “Manager of the Year” award in the Large Corporations category granted by the Asociación Española de Directivos.