



THE SPAIN-U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IS HONORED TO PRESENT

José María Álvarez-Pallete

Chairman and CEO

Telefonica

WITHTHE

2019

**BUSINESS LEADER OF THE YEAR** 

Award



### JOSÉ MARÍA ÁLVAREZ-PALLETE chairman & ceo of telefónica s.a.

#### LEADING THE MOST AMBITIOUS TRANSFORMATION PROCESS IN THE TELECOM SECTOR

José María Álvarez-Pallete was appointed Chairman & CEO of Telefónica S.A. in April 2016. He joined the Board of Telefónica S.A. in July 2006.

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 Complutense University of Madrid.

He joined Telefónica in 1999 and has held a variety of very senior roles that combine international operational leadership with financial expertise, including Telefónica CFO, CEO of the Latin American and European operations and Telefónica COO.

During his 9 years in Latin America, Álvarez-Pallete led the reinvention of the fixed line operations, the merger of the fixed and mobile businesses and the closing of the acquisition of Vivo, currently the most admired telecom brand and number one mobile operator in Brazil. He helped drive the huge transformation of the telecoms industry in the region, underpinned by the fast growth of mobile, fixed broadband and DSL.

Under his tenure as CEO of the European operations and COO of the Group, O2 ratified its leadership in the United Kingdom, Telefónica Deutschland became number one in terms of mobile customers and the business in Spain pioneered investment in next generation networks.

#### BUILDING ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL AND ADVANCED DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURES IN THE WORLD

With operations in 14 countries and more than 345 million customers, Telefónica is one of the largest telecommunications companies in the world. It offers world class fixed and mobile connectivity, as well as an innovative wide range of digital and data services.

As Chairman and CEO of the Group, José María Álvarez-Pallete is tackling one of the greatest challenges in the company's history: its transformation into a technology company delivering the best experience to its customers.

Innovation has always been part of Telefónica's DNA. With a clear digitalization strategy, under Álvarez-Pallete's leadership Telefonica has reorganized itself as a data-driven platform company with a layer of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to enhance customer experience and become more efficient.

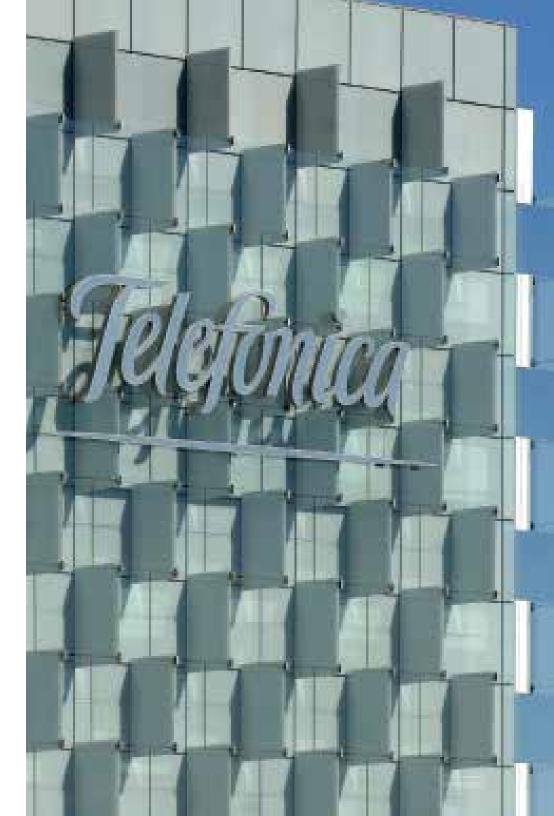
Telefónica is recognized as having undertaken one of the biggest and more profound transformation processes within the sector. In the last eight years, it has invested almost 90 billion euros –including acquisitions– in its global infrastructure platform to guarantee excellent connectivity for its customers. Telefónica owns the largest fiber network in Europe and Latin America and leads the deployment of this technology in both regions.

In 2019, the company was selected as the most admired European telecoms operator for three consecutive years, according to Fortune magazine.

#### TIME FOR A NEW DIGITAL BILL OF RIGHTS

As a firm advocate of a human-centric digitalization, Álvarez-Pallete is leading the debate on the safe and ethical use of both data and AI in an economy where data should be treated as a new factor of production. He has called for a new digital bill of rights to ensure nobody is left behind in the transition to the digital economy.

Throughout his career, José María Álvarez-Pallete has received numerous awards. Among others, in 2014 he was awarded the Medalla Sorolla by The Hispanic Society of America; 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 Spanish Executives Association (AED).





#### MESSAGE from THE CHAIRMAN



Dear Friends of the Spain-U.S. Chamber of Commerce:

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the 2019 Annual Gala of the Spain-U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the largest annual gathering of business and institutional leaders from the United States and Spain.

This is a commemorative event as 2019 marks the 60th Anniversary of the creation of the Spain-U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Tonight's special occasion gives added significance to the 2019 Business Leader of the Year Award which will be presented to José María Álvarez-Pallete, Chairman and CEO of Telefónica.

He will receive this award in recognition of his exceptional vision, drive and leadership at the helm of Telefónica. We will also applaud his ability to face the great challenges of continuous technological innovation, by leading the digital evolution of the company that has gone from a telecommunications firm to a technological group. With a great deal of business excellence, commitment to customer engagement, and a crucial understanding of the value of strategic partnerships, he has been able to oversee this transformation.

We are honored to have Mr. Álvarez-Pallete accept our yearly recognition. We see him as the most deserving recipient of this award during such a special year for the Chamber.

On behalf of my fellow Board members, sincere thanks to all those that have made this 60th anniversary possible. Special mention needs to be made of our past chairmen and presidents for all their hard work and dedication. I am excited for what the Spain-U.S. Chamber of Commerce will continue to accomplish in the years to come, and I thank you for joining us on what will surely be a momentous evening.

Ambassador Alan D. Solomont (Retired)

Chairman Spain-U.S. Chamber of Commerce

#### FORMER CHAIRMEN

**Andrew Whist** 1993-1997

David Schneider

**Raymond E.C. Surguy** 1998-2000

Emilio Álvarez-Recio 2000-2003

**Mario Díaz-Cruz, III** 2003-2007 / 2008-2009

Ignacio Garijo-Garde 2007-2008

Margarita Oliva 2009-2010

**Xavier Ruiz** 2010-2014

Alan D. Solomont

FORMER PRESIDENTS

Manuel Rodríguez 1959-1961

**Robert T. Simpson** 

William R. Sugg

1962-1964

**R.D.** Carter

1964-1966

**George Dietz** 

Fernando Aleu

Harry Pangburn

1966-1969

1971-1973

1973-1975

1961-1962 / 1969-1971

Francisco Alcón 1993-1997

Fernando Lario 1997-1998

Blake Davies

**Mario Díaz-Cruz, III** 2001-2002

Antonio Camuñas 2008-2010

**Carlos Pujol** 2010-2014

Brian Dunning 2014-Present

Maurice Cusack

Felipe Proper de Callejón 1977-1980

Frederick E. Tetzeli 1980-1982

**Ricardo Jové** 1982-1984 / 1989-1993

Joseph R. Sánchez 1984-1987

Luis Benítez de Lugo 1987-1989

# A TRIBUTE TO THE FOUNDERS

#### A "FOUNDING FATHER" RECALLS HOW IT ALL STARTED

Extract from an article published in the 15th Anniversary Gala Program By John E. Codina

May 2, 1974

During the late 1950's, Spain was going through a dynamic economic transformation, with an awareness of vast and untapped resources. New thoughts and tools were being forged to cope with the new technical age and exploit these resources. At the same time, there was a general lack of understanding among American firms, except for those actively engaged in Spain-U.S. trade, as to what the Spanish market could offer to them and what it could absorb from the American market.

Our Chamber was officially created at a luncheon presided over by our first elected president, Mr. Manuel Rodriguez, at the Traffic Club of New York in the Baltimore Hotel on February 9th, 1959; and it was incorporated in the State of New York on April 2nd, 1959.

The Spain-U.S. Chamber of Commerce consisted originally of a group of eighteen influential businessmen of the United States who did business with Spain; they were known as the "Founding Fathers". These men were aware of the new circumstances and changes in the Spanish economic structure. The purpose of the Chamber was to facilitate commercial relations between the two countries. Its establishment came about in response to demands of this country for a clearing house where factual data on trade opportunities and related matters between the U.S and Spain could be quickly, freely and accurately obtained by individuals and firms interested in this area of commerce. It might be noted that since World War II there had not existed in the United States a non-profit organization devoted to the exclusive function for which the Chamber was founded.



From left to right (standing)

T.A. Kennedy; Mario García; D.B. Donald; Eugene Smith; a legal advisor; Juan Gallego; J.P. Jackson; Frank Unanue; John E. Codina; Angel Zuniga (correspondent of LaVanguardia, Barcelona). From left to right (sitting) Alexander García; Manuel Rodríguez; Admiral J.J. Clark; Robert B. Craig and H.J. Joseph. *Not shown: Jesus Azcarreta; Rodolfo Gonzáles* 

One of the first functions of the Chamber was to act as a cooperating unit in the formation of a New York committee designed to handle inquiries regarding the investment of foreign capital funds in Spain. The Chamber provided, upon specific request of its members, contacts for firms in either country; market reports on stated commodities; introductions to private firms, officials and others; tariff and credit data, etc. The problems of arbitration and immigration were also tackled that year. A reference library was also started from donations of books from various concerns.

In subsequent years, the Chamber sponsored numerous luncheons in honor of visiting Spanish officials and dignitaries, who have spoken on various sectors of the Spanish economy. It published a Chamber bulletin, monitored bills pending in Congress which would affect Spanish-American trade, and has grown to what it is today- a smooth and efficient organization dedicated to the furtherance of business between our two counties.

As one of the "Founding Fathers," on the Silver Anniversary of its founding, I extend my sincere best wishes to the Spain-U.S. Chamber of Commerce for many more years of continued successful cooperation with the business communities of the United States of America and Spain.

#### 2019 BOARD of DIRECTORS

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Brian C. Dunning
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**Jordi Graells** Fernández & Roche

**Daniel Ilundain** Palladium Equity Partners Aris de Juan Clear Channel Outdoor

Maurici Lladó Sabadell Bank

**José Antonio Morán** Baker McKenzie

Neir Nogueiras Newark Motor and Export Corp.

Luis Palazzi ACCIONA Infrastructure

**Joseph Pérez** Goya Foods

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#### **Ricardo Jove**

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**Honorary Vice President** 

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**Executive Director** 

Gemma Cortijo

**Daniel Landaluce** UiPath

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**Javier Tortuero** Uría Menéndez

Ramón Trénor Garrigues

**Begoña Vizcaino Martínez** PricewaterhouseCoopers



#### GOVERNOR of NY STATE LETTER



It is a pleasure to send greetings to everyone gathered for the Annual Gala Dinner and Award Ceremony of the Spain-U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

We recognize than an international chamber of commerce is an invaluable resource and forum for the worldwide exchange of commercial information and business. Since 1959, the Spain-U.S. Chamber of Commerce has provided financial services and expertise that promotes free trade between our two countries and, by extension, enhances the global marketplace.

We gratefully acknowledge the unique and integral role that the Spain-U.S. Chamber has had in facilitating economic growth in both Spain and New York for the past 60 years. Tonight, you gather to pay tribute to those who further your mission and I join in congratulating your distinguished honoree – José María Álvarez-Pallete. I commend everyone affiliated with this dynamic and innovative Chamber for their unwavering commitment to the vitality of the Spanish American business community.

With warmest regards and best wishes for much continued success ahead.

Sincerely,

Andrew M. Cuomo



Dear Friends:

I am delighted to welcome everyone as the Spain-U.S. Chamber of Commerce hosts its Annual Gala Dinner and 60th Anniversary Celebration.

New York is renowned as a place of great promise where people from around the world can come to start careers and grow enterprises. For the past six decades, the Chamber has advanced this proud tradition by promoting international trade and investment, connecting business professionals in the five boroughs and beyond, and empowering them through career development programs. On the occasion of its milestone anniversary, I am pleased to commend this wonderful organization for its commitment to strengthen our vital business sector, reinforce the bonds between New York and Spain, and uplift our diverse entrepreneurs and industry leaders. I look forward to the continued contributions of everyone gathered here tonight as we work together to fortify our city's status as global hub of innovation and opportunity for all New Yorkers.

On behalf of the City of New York, congratulations to tonight's honoree, José María Álvarez-Pallete. Please accept my best wishes for a festive evening and continued success.

Sincerely,

Bill de Blasio Mayor

#### MAYOR of NYC LETTER



DLA Piper congratulates the Spain-U.S. Chamber of Commerce for honoring the Chairman and CEO of Telefónica. Congratulations, José María, on this well-deserved honor.

Your lifelong commitment to Telefónica is well-known to all of us at DLA Piper.

J.P. Morgan's presence in Spain dates as early as 1869.

We are proud to support Spanish corporates.



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## CONGRATULATIONS JOSÉ MARÍA ÁLVAREZ-PALLETE

AT&T celebrates José María Álvarez-Pallete, Chairman and CEO at Telefónica, for winning the Business Leader of the Year Award.



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Dorsey & Whitney LLP joins the Spain-U.S. Chamber of Commerce in honoring José María Álvarez-Pallete, Chairman and CEO, Telefonica, as the recipient of the 2019 Business Leader of the Year Award.

Dorsey lawyers across North America, Europe and Asia are always focused on what's possible to help clients thrive. We provide local clients a global reach and global clients with local resources and relationships-delivering the law of unlimited possibilities.

Mark S. Sullivan

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Dunning Rievman & Davies LLP 434 West 33rd Street, New York, NY 10001 www.drdllplaw.com Palladium Equity Partners is proud to support the 2019 Spain-U.S. Chamber of Commerce Annual Gala



Founded in 1997, Palladium Equity Partners, LLC is a New York based, middle market private equity firm with approximately \$3 billion of assets under management.

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SuárezBaldomero proudly joins the Spain-U.S. Chamber of Commerce in honoring José María Álvarez-Pallete as recipient of the 2019 Business Leader of the Year Award.

We also congratulate the Spain-U.S. Chamber of Commerce on celebrating their 60th Anniversary.

Congratulations from

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More info at Viva.Broadway

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