

Pablo Álvarez-Aragón

<https://www.pabloalvarezaragon.com>

Contact Information

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Department of Economics, Piazza Scaravilli 2, Bologna

Personal Information

Citizenship: Spanish

Born in 1997

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Primary: Development Economics

Secondary: Economic History, Economics of Religion, Family Economics

CURRENT POSITION

2025-, Department of Economics, University of Bologna

Postdoctoral Fellow

Advisor: Elisabetta de Cao

DOCTORAL STUDIES

September 2021- September 2025, University of Namur (CRED)

Ph.D Development Economics

Advisor: Catherine Guirkinger

Dissertation jury: Jean-Marie Baland, Augustin Bergeron, Pauline Rossi

September 2023 - March 2024, Paris School of Economics

Visiting Scholar

Supervisor: Denis Cogneau

March 2025, Vancouver School of Economics

Visiting Scholar

Supervisors: Siwan Anderson and Nathan Nunn

PRE-DOCTORAL STUDIES

2019-2021 – MSc in Economics, UCLouvain. *Summa Cum Laude*

2015-2019 – BA in Economics, University of Valladolid.

2016-2019 – BA in Economics, University of Lille.

RESEARCH WORK

Publications

- **Measuring Norms and Enumerator Effects: Survey Method Matters**
(With H. Champeaux)
The World Bank Economic Review, 2026
AEA RCT Registry: AEARCTR-0011696

Working Papers

- **Paths to the Rainforests: Ancestral Beliefs and Fertility in Sub-Saharan Africa**
- **School Clustering and Religious Competition: Persistence of Educational Inequality in Colonial and Post-Colonial D.R. Congo**
(With P. Villar and C. Guirkingner)
- **Shaking the Traditional Order: Women's Conversion to New Christian Churches in Sub-Saharan Africa**
(With J-P. Platteau and C. Guirkingner)
- **It Takes a Lineage: Kinship Structure and Fertility in Sub-Saharan Africa**
(With L. Angelini and A. Jolivet)
Draft available upon request

Selected Work in Progress

- Husbands in the Room: The Impact of Joint vs. Women-Only Training on Household Dynamics in Benin
(With C. Guirkingner, A. Jolivet and A. Lulle)
AEA RCT Registry: AEARCTR-0008898
- The Invisible Leash: Belief Systems and the Perpetuation of Gender Inequality

Other writings

- Robustness and Replicability in Development Economics (in progress)
(PI: Jorg Ankel-Peters, co-PI: Anna Dreber and Magnus Johannesson)
- Álvarez-Aragón, P., Baland, J.M., Guirkingner, C., Villar, P. (2025). "L'héritage des Soeurs Catholiques Missionnaires : Effets sur le Capital Humain des Femmes en République Démocratique du Congo". **Revue d'Économie du Développement**.
- Álvarez-Aragón, P. (2022). "Lucas Chancel; Unsustainable Inequalities: Social Justice and the Environment". **Revista Papeles de Relaciones Ecosociales y Cambio Global**.
- Álvarez-Aragón, P. (2021). "Sobre Los Premios Nobel De Economía". **Revista De Economía Crítica**.
- Álvarez-Aragón, P. (2021). "Slobodian, Quinn; Globalists. The End of Empire and the Birth of Neoliberalism". **Revista De Economía Crítica**.

SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

2025-2026 – III Spanish Workshop in Development Economics, Fundacin Ramn Areces; Internal Seminar, University of Bologna; ASREC Annual Conference, Chapman University (scheduled); CSAE 2026 Conference, Oxford University (Scheduled); Bristol Applied Economics Meeting (Scheduled); NOVAFRICA Annual conference (Scheduled)

2024-2025 – ASREC Conference, University of Macedonia; CRED Workshop, UNamur; Job Market Training, CERDI; II Spanish Workshop in Development Economics, Navarra Center for International Development, IRES Lunch seminar, UCLouvain; Doctoral Workshop UCLouvain, Namur, USaint Louis (x2); Vodoun School of Economics, Ouidah; CSAE 2025 Conference, Oxford University; Workshop on Cultural Transmission and Persistence, Queen’s University Belfast; International Conference in Development Economics (ICDE), Paris Nanterre University

2023-2024 – International Conference in Development Economics (ICDE), Aix Marseille School of Economics; University of Santiago de Compostela, AFEPOP2024, EHESS; Casual Friday Development Seminar, Paris School of Economics; Annual Conference of the Spanish Economic Association, University of Salamanca; Atelier Simiand, Paris School of Economics; UCLouvain, UNamur and U. Saint Louis Doctoral Workshop (x2); Institutions, Culture, and Long-Term Development: Lessons from sub-Saharan Africa Conference, CRED; Center for Research in the Economics of Development (CRED) Workshop, UNamur; Development Economics Workshop, Universitat de Barcelona School of Economics

2022-2023 – University of Valladolid Internal Seminar; ASREC Conference, Harvard University; UCLouvain, UNamur and U. Saint Louis Doctoral Workshop; PARSC Conference, African School of Economics; Center for Research in the Economics of Development (CRED) Workshop, UNamur

2021-2022 – University of Castilla-La-Mancha; CRED Workshop, UNamur; UCLouvain, UNamur and U. Saint Louis Doctoral Workshop

TEACHING AND RELEVANT ACTIVITIES

Teaching

- **2022** – Applied Econometrics (graduate), University of Namur
Teaching Assistant to Prof. Wouter Gelade, National Bank of Belgium (12h)
Contents: Linear regression, Non-linear models, Panel data, Experimental and quasi-experimental methods
- **2024** – Economic Tools to Solve Global Challenges (graduate), UCLouvain and U. Namur
Teaching Assistant to Prof. Guilhem Cassan, University of Namur and to Prof. Amma Panin (UCLouvain)
Contents: Replication, causal inference

International experience

- **2020-2021** – Research Assistant to Marcus Biermann, Bielefeld University
- **2018-2019** – Research Assistant to Oscar Carpintero, University of Valladolid

Fieldwork and data entry

- Fieldwork Benin (2025, x2; 2024, x2; 2023, 2021)
- Fieldwork Zambia (2026)

– RA supervision (2026, 2022)

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

2026-2030: FNRS WELCHANGE 2025 (co-PI) – Women and Religious Conversion, 223125€

2025-: Postdoctoral fellowship – European Research Council, ERC 2024 - COG 101170376

2025: Scientific Stay Grant – Special Research Fund (FSR), 2500€

2024: Robustness and Replicability in Economics (R2E) – German Science Foundation (DFG) Priority Programme Meta-Rep

2023: Scientific Stay Grant (FSR-FNRS), 2500€

2023-2025: Doctoral fellowship – Fonds National de la Recherche Scientifique (FNRS)

2022-2023: Doctoral fellowship – Special Research Fund (FSR)

2021-2022: Doctoral fellowship – European Research Council, H2020/ERC - StG 759294

2018-2019: Collaboration Fellowship – MINECO, Spanish Government

2017-2018: Erasmus+ Mobility Scholarship – European Union

TECHNICAL STRENGTHS AND LANGUAGES

Languages: Spanish (Native), English (Fluent), French (Advanced)

Software & Tools: Stata, SurveyCTO, QGIS, L^AT_EX, KoboToolBox, MS Office

REFEREEING

Journal of Development Economics, Review of Development Economics

OTHER ACTIVITIES

2023 – Organizer Doctoral Workshop in Economics - UNamur, UCLouvain and USaint-Louis

REFERENCES

Catherine Guirkinger

Full Professor of Economics
University of Namur
catherine.guirkinger@unamur.be

Jean-Philippe Platteau

Emeritus Professor of Economics
University of Namur
jean-philippe.platteau@unamur.be

Jean-Marie Baland

Full Professor of Economics
University of Namur
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