

The BBVA Foundation and the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC)  
are pleased to invite you to the lecture:

## *Echoes from the Past and the Evolution of Human Mortality: The Role of Early Conditions and Their Influence on the Future of Adult Health and Mortality*

**Prof. Alberto Palloni**

Researcher at the Institute of Economy, Geography and Demography of CSIC (ERC Advanced Grant), Spain,  
and S.H. Preston Emeritus Professor of Population, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA

### Summary:

The decline of human mortality is a unique phenomenon that distinguishes the evolution of *Homo sapiens* from that of other species. In the short span of two hundred or so years, human life expectancy at birth increased from roughly 30 years to values exceeding 85 years, well past the ages of reproduction. Although there is substantial diversity, most human populations have shared in this progress, largely attributable to a scientific revolution and a cascade of technological breakthroughs that the explosive growth of scientific knowledge has made possible. Will past gains in survival continue to accrue, even if at substantially reduced rates? Barring natural disasters, wars or epidemics, will universal improvements in human life expectancy continue in the short and medium run?

### Biography:

Alberto Palloni holds a PhD from the University of Washington, Department of Sociology. Currently, he is a researcher at the Institute of Economy, Geography and Demography of the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC), where he is Principal Investigator on the ERC Advanced Grant "ECHO" project, and S.H. Preston Emeritus Professor of Population, University of Wisconsin-Madison. Previously, he has been a Professor of Sociology and Demography in several US universities. He served on the PAA board of directors from 1996 to 1999, was vice president in 2004 and president in 2006. In 2019 he received the IUSSP Laureate Award. He is known for his research contributions in the areas of health, morbidity and mortality, indirect techniques for demographic estimation, demographic models for HIV/AIDS, ageing in developing countries in general and Latin American in particular, fertility and family demography and, more recently, the relation between early childhood health and adult health, mortality and social stratification.

The **Demography Today** lecture series aims to **promote and communicate** scientific work on demography through the dissemination of research and the **training of specialists** in issues related to demography, Big Data, longitudinal records and health, while informing society, in an accessible way, about issues currently in the foreground of scientific and political debate, such as the limits to longevity, pension systems, ageing, emerging diseases, migration and low fertility.

This lecture series enjoys the exclusive support of the BBVA Foundation and has been co-organized with the Spanish National Research Council and the LONGPOP project (Methodologies and Data Mining Techniques for the Analysis of Big Data based on Longitudinal Population and Epidemiological Registers). The LONGPOP project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under a Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant.

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The lecture series also forms part of the Postgraduate Courses run by the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC).

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**Wednesday, June 19 at 19:00**  
**Fundación BBVA**  
Paseo de Recoletos, 10  
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**REQUEST ATTENDANCE**

**Please confirm attendance. Limited seating**  
e-mail: [confirmaciones@bbva.es](mailto:confirmaciones@bbva.es)

**The lecture will be delivered in English without translation**