

Fundación Alternativas is an independent Think Tank with more than twenty-five years of experience. Based in Madrid, it is a forum of debate and deliberation which has built an extensive network of academics, experts, and policymakers who exchange ideas on the social, political, economic, and cultural issues affecting Spain and the EU. These ideas are based on a shared vision of a fairer, more peaceful, and more just world.

As Spain's leading progressive Think Tank, it aims to produce quality research and enact policy proposals that are transmitted to political parties so they can be incorporated into the policy-making process. Through active involvement in the national media, the organisation of events open to the public, and the publication of research reports, it shares its work with all kinds of audiences. Fundación Alternativas has collaborated with many Think Tanks and organisations around the world.

The purpose of the Alternativas Foundation is the elaboration and development of thought and culture from progressive positions in Spain, Europe, and South America.

Its primary purposes are:

- Prepare proposals on problems that affect citizens
- Promote meetings, seminars, or public debates on social, cultural, or political interests.
- Contribute to take the progressive theoretical and cultural initiative within Spanish society.
- Participate in the debate of ideas at the European level.
- Establish bridges for dialogue and collaboration between different ideas and progressive trends.
- Prepare studies, documents, books

We have a team of 20 people and an extensive network of collaborators from academia, cultural, industry, and public policy sectors for reaching this purpose. The work is distributed in 4 different working lines:

- Laboratory of ideas. Led by Jesús Ruíz-Huerta. The Laboratory is set up as a place for academics, researchers, public decision-makers, and other people interested in improving our social and collective life. Its mission is to subject public policies to permanent scrutiny and determine how they are adapted to the construction of an advanced society.
- Foreign policy observatory (OPEX). Led by Vicente Palacio, the objective is to serve as a center for study, debate, and dissemination of Spanish foreign policy issues from a perspective of progress, in the different geographical and thematic areas, bilateral and multilateral, in the context of globalisation.
- Observatory of Culture and Communication. Led by Inmaculada Ballesteros. Analyse new phenomena and trends in a global economy's cultural practices and communication models. Based on a critical analysis, proposing changes and innovations in cultural and public communication policies in Spain and Europe

to help build a society with better access to culture, facilitating the transfer of knowledge and innovation and cultural cooperation.

- Sustainability department. Lead Jose Luis de la Cruz, analyses the situation of the country's most important sectors from the point of view of sustainability, considering economic indicators and environmental and social indicators. To influence the political agenda to achieve progress towards a more sustainable country model, creating open and multidisciplinary spaces for debate that contribute to reflection and broadening society's involvement in sustainability.


Fundación Alternativas also have the Progress Study program aimed at young researchers, organised twice a year to enable them to contribute new ideas and alternatives to contemporary problems. The call is aimed at young researchers from Spain, Europe and Latin America who wish to develop innovative proposals or proposals inspired by comparative models of public policy.

Fundación Alternativas has an extensive editorial activity. With more than 1,000 books, documents and reports elaborated by a thousand authors in more than 20 years of history of the Foundation. Some of the most known reports are:

- The report of the State of Democracy in Spain. Published yearly since 2007, it analyses the health of democracy in Spain and the most important event of the year.
- The report on the State of the European Union in coordination with the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung to study yearly the political situation within the EU
- The report of the state of Culture in Spain. Since 2011, analysing the situation of the cultural sector in Spain
- The Report on Sustainability in Spain. It's a yearly publication on accelerating the ecological transition with the lessons learnt in the last years.

Also, Fundación Alternativas organises debates, round tables, and presentations on current affairs. The Media regularly require the experts from Fundación to express their opinions on the most up to date political and social issues events.

Once published, all Working Papers, Annual Reports and collections of current affairs analyses are made publicly available on the Foundation's Website. Along with the debates and presentations accessible on the social media of the Fundación Alternativas.



Diego López Garrido
Executive Vice-President