

Professor Alvaro Mendez serves as the Director of the Global South Unit at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), where he is also a Senior Fellow and the Academic Director at IDEAS, LSE's Foreign Policy think tank. Additionally, he participates as a research professor at Universidad Rey Juan Carlos in Madrid, where he is involved in a multi-year research project on sustainable banking, financed by the Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation. Prof. Mendez is affiliated with the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP) as an Associate Fellow and holds positions as a Foreign Expert and Adjunct Professor at Fudan University. He teaches at LSE, Sciences Po, and Fudan, and has authored numerous books and articles, including his latest book co-authored with Chris Alden, titled 'China and Latin America: Development, Agency, and Geopolitics' (Bloomsbury, 2023). His work has been published in high-impact journals such as Geopolitics, Global Policy, Asia Business and Management, Sustainability, Journal of Business Research, The China Journal, Asia Pacific Business Review, Finance Research Letters, and Foreign Policy Analysis.

Beyond his academic roles, Professor Mendez has been actively engaged in consultancy and advisory capacities, contributing his expertise to both governmental and international organizations. His portfolio includes projects for national ministries such as the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) in the UK, the United States Department of Defense (DoD), and the French Ministère des Armées. Additionally, he has collaborated with international bodies like the United States Institute of Peace (USIP) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) among others. In the sphere of international development, he has also been involved in research projects with emerging multilateral financial institutions, including the Development Bank of Latin America (CAF), the New Development Bank (NDB), and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB).