

Access to Experts



César Alierta Izuel
Executive Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
Telefónica

César Alierta is executive chairman and chief executive officer of Telefónica, a member of the NY Dow Jones Global Titans Index. Telefónica is the first Spanish company, and one of a few European companies, to be part of this elite group. Alierta has been a member of Telefonica's board of directors since 1997 and was appointed chairman in 2000.

Prior to Telefónica, Alierta was chairman of Altadis, a multinational company formed after the merger of Tabacalera, S.A. and Seita. Between 1970 and 1985, he was general manager of the Capital Markets division at Banco Urquijo. Subsequently, he served as chairman and founder of Beta Capital and as chairman of the Spanish Financial Analysts' Association.

Alierta is a member of the board of directors of China Unicom and Telecom Italia. He is also an independent board member and chairman of the Remuneration Committee and a member of the Nominations Committee of the Board of Directors of International Consolidated Airlines Group (IAG), the company resulting from the merger of Iberia and British Airways.

A recipient of numerous awards, Alierta received two distinguished tributes in New York. He received *The Global Spanish Entrepreneur* award from the Spanish-U.S. Chamber of Commerce in 2007 and the *Americas Society Gold* award in recognition of his important contribution to the growth and development of Latin America.

Alierta holds a law degree from the University of Zaragoza and an MBA from Columbia University.

Contact Carol Courter, Manager, Corporate Communications, +1 212 339 0232, courter@conferenceboard.org

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