



Alejandro David Rodarte Castrejon

Nationality: German, Mexican

WORK EXPERIENCE

FoodDrinkEurope – Brussels, Belgium

Address: Av. des Nerviens 9/31, 1040 Brussels (Belgium)

Director of Food Safety

[01/04/2025 – Current]

Leading **FoodDrinkEurope's department of Food Safety**, regulatory advocacy activities, and its Working Groups in the areas of contaminants in food (agricultural, environmental and industrial, food hygiene and official controls, food contact materials, food improvement agents, and novel foods; as well as related task forces to dossiers of current regulatory relevance to FoodDrinkEurope's members.

Also part of the Stakeholder Advisory Boards of the Horizon Europe projects FoodSafeR and FoodSafety4EU Platform; and as project partner in the project CATALYSE. All of these deal with the areas food safety, risk assessment and risk management.

FoodDrinkEurope is the organisation of Europe's food and drink industry, the largest manufacturing sector in Europe, a leading employer and a key contributor to the economy (300,000+ companies, 99% SMEs, 4.7 million employees).

FoodDrinkEurope – Brussels, Belgium

Address: Av. des Nerviens 9/31, 1040 Brussels (Belgium)

Senior Manager Food Safety, Research & Innovation

[01/02/2019 – 31/03/2025]

Regulatory affairs and advocacy for the European Food Industries in the areas of contaminants, process contaminants, food contact materials, and novel foods. Responsible for the respective working groups, monitoring and communicating on regulatory developments, and developing strategies to drive regulatory change for improved food safety in the path of sustainable food systems in the EU.

Contributed as Food Contact Material expert to the Research & Innovation project FoodSafety4EU and authored the multi-actor Policy Brief [Exploring the Relationship between Risk Assessors and Risk Managers: Current and Future Perspectives](#)

German Horticultural Association - Zentralverband Gartenbau e.V. (ZVG) – Brussels, Belgium

Address: Bornheimer Str. 37, 53111, Bonn, Germany Brussels (Belgium)

European Affairs Manager

[01/03/2018 – 31/01/2019]

Representative of the German Horticultural Association in Brussels. As European Affairs manager, I monitored European policy initiatives, market developments, and identified issues impacting the horticultural sector of fruit & vegetables, ornamental plants, flowers, tree nurseries, gardening and landscaping. Activities included: Position papers | Lobbying activities | Creating relevant networks for the sector in Brussels | Collaboration with EU institutions and external partners on the dossiers relevant for the wider horticultural sector.

<https://www.derdeutschegartenbau.de/>

European Snacks Association (ESA Snacks) – Brussels, Belgium

Address: Rue des Deux Églises 26, 1000 Brussels (Belgium)

Regulatory & Scientific Affairs Manager

[01/06/2017 – 28/02/2018]

Communication, evaluation, and realisation of regulatory strategies in issues related to process contaminants, labelling, food additives, flavourings, general food law, nutrient profiles, plant protection products, novel foods, and official controls for the European savoury snack sector. Contact partner between members and internal working groups, and European agri-food associations and institutions.

Self-employed – Berlin, Germany

City: Berlin | Country: Germany

Consultant

[01/03/2016 – 30/04/2017]

Marley Spoon GmbH- Fresh produce quality training and consultancy on food safety | Development of a Storage and handling implementation strategy | Development of product passports for fresh fruit and vegetables | Supplier and quality management documentation.

Hylobates Consulting Srl- Labelling and food claims | Technical translations | Registration and labelling of food supplements.

FTWK GmbH & Co. KG, Berlin – Berlin, Germany

Address: Gürtelstraße 25, 10247 Berlin (Germany)

Strategic Project Manager

[01/03/2015 – 28/02/2016]

Management and realisations of digital projects on open innovation platforms for clients of the pharmacy and agri-food industries | Service design thinking workshops | Content management | Performed User research and interviews for the digital platform projects.

Self employed – Berlin , Germany

City: Berlin | Country: Germany

Agri-Food Science Consultancy

[01/11/2013 – 28/02/2015]

Freelance data evaluator for the plant composition database ePlantLIBRA developed by the Institute of Food Research, Norwich, UK. *ePlantLIBRA* is a database containing information about plant- and plant-food supplements specifically bioactive compounds in botanicals and herbal extracts.

Article: [The PlantLIBRA Project: How we intend to innovate the science of botanicals](#)

Hylobates Consulting Srl. – Rome, Italy

City: Rome | Country: Italy

Scientific Project Manager

[01/04/2011 – 31/10/2013]

As part of the project consortium lead, I monitored within the different work packages the fulfillment of the scientific and communication deliverables within the EU-funded R&D project on Risk and Benefit Assessment for Botanicals [PantLIBRA](#) (Plant food supplements: Levels of Intake, Benefit and Risk Assessment). Coordinated as well the work within the project [BRAMA](#) (Botanical Risk Assessment Training in the Mediterranean Area) |

Overall tasks included coordination of policy and interest groups, and the organisation of project annual meetings and workshops.

Agricultural Engineering section, Georg-August- University Göttingen – Göttingen, Germany

City: Göttingen | Country: Germany

Scientific Assistant

[07/2010 – 31/10/2010]

Research on the application of RFID technology for traceability of bulk cereal grain.

 **Institute of Agricultural and Urban Ecological Projects Humboldt University of Berlin – Berlin, Germany**

City: Berlin | Country: Germany

Scientific Assistant

[01/10/2007 – 28/02/2010]

EU-funded research on traceability of food chains (Traceback) and nutritional design (Healthy Structuring) | Various research projects on reutilisation of by-products from agri-food chains | Coordination of the European-Latin American Network (CELALE).

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Master in International Agricultural Sciences

Humboldt University of Berlin [01/10/2002 – 30/09/2006]

City: Berlin | Country: Germany | Website: <https://www.hu-berlin.de/en> | Field(s) of study: Agriculture, forestry, fisheries and veterinary: • Agriculture not further defined | Level in EQF: EQF level 7

Degree in Food Chemistry

National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) [01/08/1996 – 30/06/2002]

City: Mexico City | Country: Mexico | Website: <http://english.unam.mx/> | Level in EQF: EQF level 7

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Mother tongue(s): Spanish

Other language(s):

English

LISTENING C2 READING C2 WRITING C2

SPOKEN PRODUCTION C2 SPOKEN INTERACTION C2

Italian

LISTENING B2 READING B2 WRITING B2

SPOKEN PRODUCTION C1 SPOKEN INTERACTION C1

Dutch

LISTENING A1 READING A1 WRITING A1

SPOKEN PRODUCTION A1 SPOKEN INTERACTION A1

German

LISTENING C2 READING C2 WRITING C2

SPOKEN PRODUCTION C2 SPOKEN INTERACTION C2

French

LISTENING A2 READING A2 WRITING A2

SPOKEN PRODUCTION A2 SPOKEN INTERACTION A2

Levels: A1 and A2: Basic user; B1 and B2: Independent user; C1 and C2: Proficient user

SKILLS

Food quality and safety / Biomass utilization for energy / Storage & Handling of fruit & vegetables / Sustainable agri-food chains and its by-products / EU funded R&I programmes / Risk Management