



# Planetary Health: the Response to the Challenges of the Anthropocene



~Open and free activity  
~18:00h  
~Miramar Palace, San Sebastián or online

Lecture by Cristina O'Callaghan Gordo, Director of the Master's Degree in Planetary Health at UOC-UPF-ISGlobal and leader of the Barcelona InTerdisciplinary research group on plAnetary heaLth.

**23.Jan 2025**

**Cod. W02-25**

**Mod.:**  
Streaming Face-to-face

**Edition**  
2025

**Activity type**  
Open activity

**Date**  
23.Jan 2025

**Location**  
Miramar Palace

**Languages**  
Spanish

**Organising Committee**



## Description

The talk explores the deep connection between human health and natural systems in the context of the global environmental and climate crisis.

Planetary health is an emerging discipline that studies how human wellbeing depends directly on the integrity and resilience of the Earth's ecosystems. It has emerged in the context of the Anthropocene, the current geological epoch defined by the unprecedented impact of human activities on the planet, where phenomena such as climate change, loss of biodiversity and pollution threaten human health and the stability of the natural systems alike.

Planetary health goes beyond scientific research; it analyses how changes in ecosystems impact on essential aspects of human wellbeing, such as access to clean water, food security, and disease regulation. Furthermore, it seeks to give impetus to innovative and holistic solution involving multiple disciplines -- from medicine and ecology to the economy and social sciences -- to protect and restore the natural systems, thus ensuring the health and wellbeing of current and future generations.

The main purpose of this talk is to define the concept of planetary health, set it in the global context and highlight its current importance. The presentation will therefore be organised in three main points: The first will review the relationship between the environment and human health. The emphasis will be on a healthy environment being a precondition for human health, and how its degradation threatens global wellbeing. The second will look at historical events and the trends that have led to the current environmental deterioration. This context will be crucial to undertaking the pressing need to adopt a planetary health perspective. The third point will present specific cases to illustrate how planetary health can guide real solutions. Furthermore, the challenges facing the rolling out of these solutions -- such as the lack of global cooperation, economic barriers and political interests -- will be discussed.

The talk will end with a call to actions, stressing the need to rethink our relationships with nature. This will imply shifting to a development model that respects planetary limits, fosters the sustainable use of resources and guarantees a fair and healthy future for all life forms on the planet. The importance of interdisciplinary cooperation and collective action to face the challenges of the Anthropocene and to build a sustainable and resilient future will be stressed.

# Program

**23-01-2025**

18:00 - 19:15

“Conferencia “

**Cristina O'Callaghan Gordo** | Directora del master en Salud Planetaria de la UOC-UPF-  
ISGlobal y líder del Barcelona InTerdisciplinary research group on plAnetary heaLth

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**Eva Caballero kazetariak hizlariarekin elkarriketa izango du hitzaldia  
amaitutakoan / La periodista Eva Caballero mantendrá un diálogo con la  
ponente una vez finalizada la conferencia**

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## Teachers



### **Cristina O'Callaghan Gordo**

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Cristina O'Callaghan Gordo (<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4229-2991>) is an assistant lecturer at the Open University of Catalonia (UOC) and a research associate at the Barcelona Institute of Global Health (ISGlobal). She graduated in Biology from Barcelona University (UB), has a Master's Degree in Epidemiology from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), and a PhD in Medicine from UB. Since February 2020, Cristina has been an assistant lecturer in Health Science Studies at the UOC, where she has set up and co-directs the Inter-university Master's Degree in Planetary Health; she leads the BITAL (Barcelona InTerdisciplinary research group on plAnetary heaLth) research group, which focuses on studying the effects of human health that are the result of the anthropogenic alterations to the Earth's natural systems, in order to propose solutions to improve people's health worldwide within the planet's limits.

# Registration fees

REGISTRATION - FACE-TO-FACE	UNTIL 23-01-2025
<a href="#">Free registration</a>	0 EUR

REGISTRATION - LIVE ONLINE	UNTIL 23-01-2025
<a href="#">Free registration</a>	0 EUR

## **Place**

### **Miramar Palace**

Pº de Miraconcha nº 48. Donostia / San Sebastián

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