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The Minister of Economy Sergio Massa with Kristalina Georgieva, Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund.

MINISTER SERGIO MASSA PARTICIPATED IN THE ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE IMF AND THE WORLD BANK

The Minister of Economy Sergio Massa participated in the annual meetings of the IMF and the World Bank that took place the week of October 10 in Washington, DC.

As it happened every year before the pandemic, the annual meetings were held in person, with the participation of the ministers of economy and the presidents of the central banks of the main economies of the world. The meetings of the Monetary and Financial Committee (October 13-

14) and the Development Committee (October 14) are the forums for discussion in which the governors of the member countries of the IMF and the World Bank make their voices heard on the issues on the agenda of the multilateral lending organizations and their governance. The G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors meeting (October 12/13), numerous bilateral meetings and side events were also held with the presence of the countries' authorities.



Once again, I share with you the latest edition of our Embassy Newsletter. This edition includes an article about the participation of the Minister of Economy Sergio Massa in the annual meetings of the IMF and the World Bank that took place the week of October 10, in the city of Washington.

In this edition we also include an article on the inauguration of the ESMA Memory Site Museum at the Consular Section of the Embassy as part of the government's efforts to include it in UNESCO's World Heritage List.

Finally, an article about the celebration of Argentine Student's Day, which coincided with the 65th Anniversary of Fulbright Argentina in which participated scholarship recipients who are currently studying in the United States.

Jorge Argüello
Ambassador to the United States

IN THE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, MINISTER MASSA ADVOCATED FOR THE CAPITALIZATION OF DEVELOPMENT BANKS IN A STRONG DEFENSE OF THEIR COUNTER-CYCLICAL ROLE IN TIMES OF AN UNPRECEDENTED CRISIS.

In the Development Committee, Minister Massa advocated for the capitalization of development banks in a strong defense of their counter-cyclical role in times of unprecedented crisis. He also called for the opening and transparency of food trade to enable greater production and thus contribute to food security. Massa discussed the role of development banking in transforming energy resources into wealth in developing countries, particularly natural gas, which is key to energy transition and energy security on a global scale.

In a busy three-day visit, Minister Massa also had the opportunity to address issues specific to our region and participated together with José Antonio Ocampo, Minister of Finance and Public Credit of Colombia, Rogelio Ramírez de la O, Minister of Finance and Public Credit of Mexico, Azucena Arbeleche, Minister of Economy and Finance of Uruguay and Nigel Clarke, Minister of Finance and Public Service of Jamaica, among others, at a meeting of Finance Ministers organized by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), within the framework of the 56th meeting of the Network of Central Banks and Finance Ministries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

During his presentation, Massa referred to the challenge

that the war in Ukraine represents for Argentina, stating that it implied “having to double efforts to meet the objectives of the program of accumulation of reserves and fiscal goals of 2.5% for this year, basically due to the impact of the increase in energy”. In this sense, Massa assured that “the war poses a challenge for our region, but also an opportunity”, due to the fact that the continent is the producer of 80% of the proteins consumed by the world and has vast energy resources. “There is a challenge for the IDB and the multilaterals to look at regional infrastructures so that the resources we have can be transformed into wealth for our region”, he added.

Likewise, the Minister of Economy assured that the continent “has the opportunity to bet on one hand on infrastructures so as not to be suppliers of raw materials but of raw materials with added value”.

In another sense, Massa called on multilateral organizations not to count the investment necessary for development as a deficit. In this sense, the Minister pointed out that it is essential that what we invest in development from our public accounts be counted as development investment and not simply as a requirement to meet a fiscal goal.

The visit to the IDB allowed Minister Massa, on Friday, October 14, to sign with his signature and that of Reina Mejía Chacón, Interim President of the IDB, a loan for 700 million dollars to support the Treasury with the purpose of strengthening reserves, promoting stability and growth with inclusion. ■

ARGENTINE EMBASSY INAUGURATES SPACE FOR REFLECTION: ESMA MEMORY SITE MUSEUM

As part of the actions being carried out by the Argentine government to achieve the inclusion of the ESMA Museum and Site of Memory in UNESCO's World Heritage List, Ambassador Jorge Argüello led a ceremony, together with the Undersecretary for Civilian Security, Democracy and Human Rights, Uzra Zeya, during which an allusive space was inaugurated in the Sarmiento Building, headquarters of the Consular Section of the Argentine Embassy.

The opening of the space was attended by special guests such as National Security Council officials Ellen Knight and John Powers, who played an active role in the declassification project of documents on the last civil-military dictatorship, Ms. Julie Harris, daughter of the late U.S. diplomat F. Allen "Tex" Harris, who tirelessly promoted

the defense of human rights since his arrival to Buenos Aires in 1977, and other State Department officials.

While the main objective of the space is to promote the nomination of the ESMA Museum and Site of Memory to be part of the World Heritage List, it also seeks to encourage both local authorities and visitors in general to reflect on the crimes against humanity committed in our country between 1976 and 1983, as well as on the process of Memory, Truth and Justice as the founding consensus of Argentine democracy since its recovery.

Regarding the nomination, the Argentine government developed a Work Plan whose implementation began in October 2015 and gained particular momentum in

Ambassador Jorge Argüello with the Undersecretary for Civilian Security, Democracy and Human Rights of the Department of State, Uzra Zeya.



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2019, when the Museum's team made decisive progress in meeting the technical, social, diplomatic and political requirements asked by UNESCO to access the List. In that sense, and as Ambassador Argüello pointed out in his speech, the museum is a place of undeniable relevance for Argentine and regional history, as well as a contribution to the world`s cultural heritage, as it constitutes a place that denounces State terrorism and transmits memory, all of which makes it a unique and outstanding testimony of crimes against humanity and a symbol of the value social consensus carries as a means for justice.

Ambassador Argüello also stressed that the presence of Undersecretary Zeya at the inauguration undoubtedly reflects both countries' shared commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights. He also underlined that the creation of the ESMA Museum is a central element of the effort made by the Argentine democracy to oppose memory to oblivion, truth to falsehood, and justice to impunity, as attested by the thousands of sentences handed down by the Argentine justice against those who committed human rights violations during those dark years.

After appreciating that the process of confronting the past is painful, but also essential for justice and reconciliation,

Undersecretary Uzra Zeya valued the cooperation developed by the Argentine government and civil society organizations such as Abuelas de Plaza de Mayo, which allowed the creation of the ESMA Museum and Site of Memory. She also referred to the close work and coincidences that unite Argentina and the United States at the multilateral level on issues such as the human rights of LGBTIQ+ people, workers' rights, global supply chains, the fight against anti-Semitism, racial equity, transitional justice and accountability, among others, which she described as extremely important, not only for our countries, but also for the rest of the world.

The space for reflection and promotion of the nomination of the ESMA Museum and Site of Memory to UNESCO's World Heritage List, where thematic material on the institution and the nomination can be accessed, is open to all those who wish to visit it. ■



Michael Trager, member of the Council of Fulbright Scholarships for Abroad with Adrián Nador, Deputy Chief of Mission at the Argentine Embassy.

FULBRIGHT ARGENTINA: 65 YEARS BUILDING BRIDGES

Every year, the Argentine Embassy celebrates Argentine Student Day with students who are studying in the United States. This year was a special occasion as it was also the 65th Anniversary of Fulbright Argentina. Since its inception, this program has built bridges between Argentina and the United States through cultural and educational exchange and, thanks to the awarding of more than 10,000 grants, it has helped young students in the pursuit of their professional goals.

Michael Trager, member of the Council of Fulbright Scholarships for Abroad; Kerri Hannan, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Diplomacy, Policy, Planning and Coordination; Gary Thomas, Director of Fulbright-Hays Overseas Programs, among other prominent officials, and Dorothea Antonio, Deputy Executive Director of NAFSA participated in the meeting.

As part of the event, Fulbrighters Joaquín Tomé and Teagan Faran held a conversation about scholarships and the student experience in the United States, moderated by the executive director of the Fulbright Commission Argentina, Norma González. This dialogue was followed by a performance by Fulbrighter and violinist Teagan Faran, who delighted the audience with her tango interpretations learned during her stay as a Fulbrighter in Argentina.

Fulbright's mission to train students and professors from diverse disciplines, through a transparent and open selection method, has given Argentine and U.S. students the opportunity to continue their studies in the United States or Argentina, respectively. Violinist Teagan Faran is an example of such U.S. students to whom Fulbright offers a variety of programs for undergraduate and graduate studies at different universities in Argentina.

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With its grants, Fulbright recognizes talented university graduates who value academic excellence and are able to excel in demanding and competitive academic environments, making it possible for them to study at prestigious U.S. universities. In addition, it offers opportunities for English teachers who want to undertake work experience in a Spanish-speaking country.

“Education is a very important part of the close bilateral relationship that Argentina maintains with the United States. At the Embassy, we are constantly working to strengthen cooperation in this field and the Fulbright Commission of Argentina is a key partner,” said Ambassador Jorge Argüello in his message to the attendees. Studying abroad not only improves professional opportunities but also contributes to the development of each country. It is also an experience that broadens the understanding of the world and gives those who participate in it the opportunity to meet friends and colleagues that will often last a lifetime.

Argentina maintains a clear commitment to the program.

Every year, in addition to the funds it receives from the Department of State, the Fulbright Argentine Commission receives funds from several Argentine public and private institutions, such as the Argentine Ministry of Education, the National Council of Scientific and Technical Research, the National Institute of Agricultural Technology, the Council of the Judiciary of the City of Buenos Aires, among many other public and private organizations. In this regard, it is worth mentioning the recent agreement signed between the Fulbright Commission and the Federal Investment Council.

The Fulbright Commission selects students from Argentina’s 23 provinces and the city of Buenos Aires, reflecting the importance given to a federal approach when it comes to high quality education throughout the country. Ambassador Mark Stanley made reference to this: “One of my favorite things about Argentina is meeting Fulbrighters all over the country. In my travels throughout this beautiful country, it is a priority for me to meet with Argentine and U.S. Fulbrighters in every province I visit. I am always impressed. They represent how important person-to-person connections and exchanges of ideas are to our two countries.”

Ambassador Argüello recognized all the sacrifice and work that is needed to be selected as a Fulbright scholar; congratulated all the Argentine and North American students, professors and researchers who have been selected over these 65 years to be part of the Fulbright community, and concluded by thanking the authorities of the Fulbright Commission for investing in our country and believing in our people. ■