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EMBASSY OF ARGENTINA, WASHINGTON, D.C.

ARGENTINA IN FOCUS

JANUARY 2023 // NEWSLETTER 131



VII Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States in Buenos Aires. Photo Credit: MRECIIC.

VII CELAC SUMMIT IN BUENOS AIRES

Under the Pro Tempore Presidency of Argentina, the VII Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) took place in Buenos Aires on January 24. This is an intergovernmental organization for integration, dialogue and political agreement created in 2010 which comprises all the countries of our region without exclusions.

The Heads of State and Government and special guests

were welcomed by the Argentine President, Alberto Fernández, who gave the opening speech at the Summit, in which he stated that “the time has come to integrate the Caribbean and Latin America into a single region that defends the same interests for the growth of our people.”

Accompanying President Fernández, Foreign Minister Santiago Cafiero recalled that last year’s action plan included 15 core topics and more than 70 activities that



Once again, I share with you the latest edition of our Embassy Newsletter. This issue includes an article about the VII Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), that took place in Buenos Aires, under the Pro Tempore Presidency of Argentina.

In this edition we also include an article on the President Alberto Fernández’s meeting with the US Special Presidential Advisor for the Americas, Christopher Dodd, within the framework of the 200th anniversary of the establishment of the bilateral relationship.

Finally, an article on the launch of Latin American Graduate Public Policy Student Network in the US, organized by the Latin American and Caribbean Policy Association of the McCourt School of Public Policy at Georgetown University.

Jorge Argüello
Ambassador to the United States

THE BUENOS AIRES
DECLARATION HIGHLIGHTS
THE INTEGRATION PROCESS,
PROMOTES UNITY AND THE
POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, SOCIAL
AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY OF
OUR PEOPLE.

president welcomed the President of Brazil to relaunch their countries' strategic alliance, in what was the first trip abroad by President Lula da Silva in his new mandate. ■

advanced thanks to the consensus and the participation of the working groups.

The five fundamental themes were the post-pandemic social, economic and productive recovery; science, technology and innovation for development and inclusion; environmental cooperation and disaster risk management; culture and education for our people; and the empowerment of women and actions on gender issues.

As a result, the Buenos Aires Declaration was signed, which consists of a 100-point consensus and 11 special declarations, and highlights CELAC members' commitment to "press ahead determinedly in the integration process, promoting unity and the political, economic, social and cultural diversity of our people," stressing that "the Proclamation of Latin America and the Caribbean as a Zone of Peace remains fully in force."

On the other hand, the summit was an ideal opportunity for holding multiple bilateral meetings. President Fernández met with the prime ministers of Haiti, Barbados and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the head of the European Council, and the presidents of Cuba and Honduras, among others.

Likewise, the day before the Summit, the Argentine

PRESIDENT FERNÁNDEZ MET WITH CHRISTOPHER DODD AT PALACIO SAN MARTÍN

On January 25, President Alberto Fernández held a working meeting at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Argentina with the US Special Presidential Adviser for the Americas, Christopher Dodd, with the aim of deepening and expanding the link that unites both countries within the framework of the 200th anniversary of the establishment of the bilateral relationship celebrated this year.

The Argentine president appreciated the US Presidential Adviser's participation in the CELAC VII Summit of Heads of State and Government and highlighted the objective of strengthening this regional body "as a multilateral forum for Inter-American and global dialogue based on solidarity, cooperation and the peaceful solution of conflicts,"

with two key pillars: the region as a zone of peace, and unity in diversity.

In this regard, Alberto Fernández highlighted the "long-standing ties that characterize the bilateral relationship and the frank and ongoing dialogue" between the two governments on many issues, such as the consolidation of democracy, the promotion and protection of human rights and gender, food security and health protection, climate change, the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, and the fight against terrorism and drug trafficking, among others.

The Head of State pointed out that "the United States is a key partner" and stressed the importance of continuing

(From L. to R.) Mark Stanley, Christopher Dodd, Alberto Fernández, Santiago Cafiero and Jorge Argüello.



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to work together to enhance investment opportunities in the country and exports from Argentina. In this regard, he stated that in view of the consequences triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine, Argentina “presents itself as a reliable partner capable of supplying US consumers’ needs and contributing to food security and energy worldwide.”

Also participating in the meeting were the Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship, Santiago Cafiero, and the ambassador to the United States, Jorge Argüello.

Also present representing the US were the Chief of Staff of the Presidential Adviser, Marcos Christian Mandojana; the Director for the Western Hemisphere at the National Security Council, Ramón Escobar; and the US Ambassador in Argentina, Mark Stanley. ■



Minister Adrián Nador (Left) and members of Latin American Graduate Public Policy Student Network in the US (OMNIA).

LAUNCH OF THE OMNIA NETWORK OF LATIN AMERICAN GRADUATE PUBLIC POLICY STUDENTS

On Friday, January 20th, the Argentine Embassy hosted a networking event for the launch of Latin American Graduate Public Policy Student Network in the US (OMNIA), organized by the Latin American and Caribbean Policy Association (LAPA) of the McCourt School of Public Policy at Georgetown University.

The OMNIA Network will be a meeting point for past, present, and future Latin Americans graduate students that are pursuing a master's degree in Public Policy in the United States, to promote future regional links. Likewise, it will serve as a vehicle to connect the centers of Latin American studies at universities.

In its first edition, the OMNIA Conference 2023 was attended by students from Georgetown's McCourt School

of Public Policy, Harvard Kennedy School, Columbia SIPA, Princeton SPIA, Yale Jackson School of Global Affairs, the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy and Cornell's Brooks School of Public Policy.

During the Conference, the participants had the opportunity to visit the Capitol and the Inter-American Development Bank. They also participated in panel discussions on "Democracy and Government" and "Social Challenges and Opportunities" with prominent players in the field of public policies, including the Director of the Wilson Center's Latin America Program, Benjamin Gedan; the former president of the Inter-American Dialogue, Michael Shifter; the Director of the CSIS Americas Program, Ryan C. Berg, and officials from the International Republican

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Institute (IRI) and the National Democratic Institute (NDI). They also met with the Assistant Administrator of the Latin American and Caribbean Bureau at USAID, Marcela Escobari.

This OMNIA launch and networking event at the Embassy was attended by more than 100 students, and the following addressed the attendees: the Dean of the McCourt School of Public Policy at Georgetown University, María Cancián; the president of the Latin American and Caribbean Policy Association (LAPA), David Guzmán Fonseca; and the Deputy Chief of Mission of the Argentine Embassy, Adrián Nador.

Dean Cancián highlighted that "At McCourt, through our faculty and student organizations like LAPA, we believe in the importance of promoting research, understanding, and recognition of all Latin Americans. OMNIA is another undisputable proof of this." In turn, David Guzmán Fonseca stated "At OMNIA we understood the importance

of working together and supporting each other. And this is partly what brings us here today: our need as Latin American students studying in the United States to have a network that provides support and promotes working together. This is what the creation of the OMNIA Network means to us... it goes beyond holding an annual event that brings us together, today we are taking the first step in creating a platform that allows us to connect, interact, learn, discuss and supports us as Latin American students."

Lastly, Minister Nador highlighted the excellence and tradition of the Public Policy Schools that make up the new network and pointed out that the Latin American students members of OMNIA have been trained over the years, acquired knowledge and experiences, established networks, and learned a set of interdisciplinary tools that will enable them to become agents in the implementation of public policies for development in diverse sectors of their national realities. ■