



Anniversary

INTERFAITH
DIALOGUE AT THE
EMBASSY, MARKING
TEN YEARS OF
POPE FRANCIS'S
PONTIFICATE

Investment

INVESTMENT
OPPORTUNITIES
WERE PRESENTED
TO THE MINERALS
SECURITY
PARTNERSHIP

Labor

ANNUAL HIGH-
LEVEL LABOR
DIALOGUE
BETWEEN
ARGENTINA AND
THE UNITED STATES

EMBASSY OF ARGENTINA, WASHINGTON, D.C.

ARGENTINA IN FOCUS

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Imam Dr. Talib Shareef, Cardinal Wilton Gregory, Ambassador Jorge Argüello, Rabbi Abraham Skorka, "Lee" Bachu, and Allyson Chard.

INTERFAITH DIALOGUE AT THE EMBASSY, MARKING TEN YEARS OF POPE FRANCIS´S PONTIFICATE

On the afternoon of May 17th, an interfaith meeting was held at the Argentine Embassy in Washington DC to celebrate 10 years of Pope Francis´ pontificate. It was attended by local prominent individuals, including more than a dozen ambassadors accredited in the capital.

After the recent publication by Argentina´s Secretariat of Worship of "Fraternal Dialogues", the conversation

between representatives of diverse religions was inspired by the Frattelli Tutti encyclical, around fraternity and social friendship.

The event began with introductory remarks by the U.S. Ambassador-at-Large for international religious freedom, Rashad Hussain, and the Apostolic Nuncio to the United States, Christophe Pierre.



Once again, I share with you the latest edition of our Embassy Newsletter. This edition includes an article about the interreligious dialogue in commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the Pontificate of Pope Francis, which took place on May 17 at our Embassy.

In this edition we also include an article on Argentina's participation in a working meeting with the Minerals Security Partnership, a group of 13 countries with the aim of promoting public and private investment in critical minerals supply chains worldwide.

Finally, an article on the first meeting of the Argentina-U.S. Labor Dialogue, which took place on May 9 and 10 in Buenos Aires and that will be held once a year.

Jorge Argüello
Ambassador to the United States

THE CONVERSATION BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF DIVERSE RELIGIONS WAS INSPIRED BY THE FRATTELLI TUTTI ENCYCLICAL: FRATERNITY AND SOCIAL FRIENDSHIP.

Next, Ambassador Jorge Argüello opened and moderated the conversation among the distinguished participants: Cardinal Wilton Gregory, Archbishop of Washington DC; Rabbi Abraham Skorka, rector emeritus of the Latin American Rabbinical Seminary and co-author with his friend Pope Francis of the book "On Heaven and Earth"; Imam Talib M. Shareef, President and Imam of the Nation's Mosque in Washington DC; Mythili "Lee" Bachu, Chair of the Washington Interfaith Council and Hindu-Jain; and Allyson Chard, a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Amb. Jorge Argüello quoting excerpt from "Fraternal Dialogues".



Salón Oval, Embassy of Argentina.

Ambassador Argüello called for friendship and dialogue. "It is not a coincidence that Pope Francis has made interfaith dialogue an essential part of his pontificate. In Argentina we have a rich history of intercultural and interfaith integration; our religious leaders have been key players in achieving this objective and without a doubt, Pope Francis has been a point of reference in this regard".

The religious leaders shared ideas in a conversational format, and from their own perspectives, spoke about Pope Francis' contributions and the importance of the "culture of encounter" and building bridges between different religions. At the end of the dialogue, Cardinal Gregory stated: "There is hope."

Lastly, Ambassador Argüello thanked the participants for their inspiration and called on them to work together to make what is set out in the Fratelli Tutti encyclical becomes a reality: to inhabit a world in which we are all brothers and sisters. ■

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES WERE PRESENTED TO THE MINERALS SECURITY PARTNERSHIP

Argentina participated in a working meeting with the Minerals Security Partnership (MSP), a group of 13 countries that aims to promote public and private investment in critical mineral supply chains worldwide. The objective of this participation was to present an overview of mining in Argentina and encourage investment opportunities in this sector.

The Department of State's Under Secretary for Economic Growth, Energy and the Environment, José Fernández, opened the event, along with the United States Ambassador to Argentina, Marc Stanley, and the Argentine Ambassador to the United States, Jorge Argüello.

During the meeting, the Secretary of Mining, Fernanda

Avila, gave an overall presentation on the critical minerals sector, followed by detailed information on priority projects potentially attractive to investors in the framework of the Minerals Security Partnership, especially in the areas of lithium and copper.

The event was attended by officials from the United Kingdom, Japan, France, Australia, Canada and the United States. Representatives of the private sector were also present, including companies such as Delphos, First Quantum Minerals, Freeport McMoRan, Galvanize Climate Solutions, Panasonic USA, Rio Tinto and Tesla, among others.

MSP partners and the private sector learned more about

Proyecto Caucharí – Olaroz (Photo credit: SALES DE JUJUY S.A.).



SECRETARY AVILA GAVE A
PRESENTATION ON THE CRITICAL
MINERALS SECTOR, FOLLOWED
BY DETAILED INFORMATION ON
PRIORITY PROJECTS, ESPECIALLY
IN THE AREAS OF LITHIUM AND
COPPER

the critical mineral industry in Argentina, as well as about projects of potential interest for investors.

During the question and answer session, participants expressed interest in the regulatory framework, the role played by the provinces, and the situation created by provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act, which could have a negative impact on the supply of lithium to the United States market. ■



From left to right: Amb. Jorge Arguello, Secretary of International Relations at CGT Gerardo Martinez, Min. Raquel Kisper de Olmos, Deputy Undersecretary Thea Lee, President of UIA Daniel Funes de Rioja, and Amb. Marc Stanley.

ANNUAL HIGH-LEVEL LABOR DIALOGUE BETWEEN ARGENTINA AND THE UNITED STATES

Last week, on May 9 and 10, Argentina and the United States met in the framework of the Argentina-United States Labor Dialogue. This event, which will take place once a year with the venue alternating between both countries, held its first meeting at the Argentine Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Security in Buenos Aires.

From Washington, D.C., the Department of Labor's Deputy Undersecretary for International Affairs Thea Lee led the US delegation, and the Special Representative for International Labor Affairs at the Department of State, Kelly Fay Rodríguez, also traveled to Buenos Aires.

The opening ceremony was chaired by the Minister of Labor, Employment and Social Security, Kelly Olmos, who highlighted the importance of holding the first edition of

this Labor Dialogue while celebrating 200 years of bilateral relations, and emphasized the importance of labor rights and the right to unionize. She also reaffirmed our country's commitment to adhere to the Multilateral Partnership for Organizing, Worker Empowerment and Rights (M-POWER), a global initiative launched by President Biden in 2021, to "elevate the role of trade unions and organized workers as essential to advancing democracy."

Deputy Undersecretary Lee reaffirmed the joint commitment of both countries to strengthen unions, considering them cornerstones of democracy. She stated that "Although M-Power originated in the U.S., it now belongs to all its partners. As a country with a long history of strong democratic unions and its status as an M-POWER founder, Argentina will be an invaluable and active partner

DEPUTY UNDERSECRETARY
LEE REAFFIRMED THE JOINT
COMMITMENT OF BOTH
COUNTRIES TO STRENGTHEN
UNIONS, CONSIDERING
THEM CORNERSTONES OF
DEMOCRACY.

in the partnership's work, especially in those countries where workers' rights to organize and bargain collectively are at risk."

Also participating in the opening were the Ambassador of Argentina in Washington, Jorge Argüello, the Ambassador of the United States in Buenos Aires, Marc Stanley, the CGT Foreign Affairs Secretary, Gerardo Martínez, and the UIA President, Daniel Funes de Rioja.

In his speech at the opening panel, Ambassador Argüello highlighted that for Argentina the M-POWER initiative is very important because it consolidates the rights of workers and the existence of trade unions, which represent workers' interests. In this regard, he remarked that "Argentina has a lot to contribute on this issue," and emphasized that the trade union sector and the business sector were both represented in the bilateral dialogue, which shows how our country understands the labor issue.

The event included four sessions on Inclusive economic recovery, Tripartite Dialogue, Combating child labor, forced labor and human trafficking, and the Presentation

of M-Power-Argentine Chapter.

In addition to participating in meetings with their Argentine counterparts, the US delegation, visited the province of Buenos Aires to learn about the application of the Responsible Agricultural Production (PAR) program financed by the Ministry of Labor to combat child labor. He also met with the International Labor Organization representative in Argentina, Yukiko Arai, and also held a meeting with women leaders of the Argentine trade union movement.

The launch of the High Level Dialogue, and Argentina's participation in the M-POWER initiative, demonstrate our country's experience in the training and capacity-building of trade unions as institutions that promote the defense of workers' rights, and are pillars of democratic institutions.

A key element in the implementation of the Biden-Harris Administration's "Democracy Summit", the M-POWER Initiative brings together labor stakeholders in a global partnership to offer support for reforms that uphold workers' rights, with independent trade unions endowed with freedom of association and collective bargaining, to benefit all actors in the real economy, particularly the most vulnerable. The aim is to improve their working conditions and wages and promote inclusion and gender equity to ensure the full respect for democratic values and the freedoms that sustain these rights.

Argentina was invited to participate due to the importance of its trajectory in labor rights and the strength of its trade union organizations. The partners also include Spain, Germany, Canada, the United States and South Africa and the idea is to foster the entry of new partners, in line with the values of this global initiative. ■