

Bilateral Relations

ARGENTINA JOINS MERIDIAN FOR ITS 12TH GLOBAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT ARGENTINA
IN FOCUS

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Sergio Massa (left) | Javier Milei (right) (Photo: TELAM).

## SERGIO MASSA AND JAVIER MILEI WILL FACE OFF IN A SECOND-ROUND ON NOVEMBER 19

In accordance with the predefined electoral calendar, on Sunday, October 22, general elections were held in Argentina to elect the President and Vice President, national representatives and senators, among other elected officials.

This marks the tenth consecutive opportunity in which Argentines elect their President and Vice President since the return of democracy in December 1983, when Dr. Raúl Alfonsín became President, after a very dark period in our national history, when a civic-military dictatorship illegally governed the country between 1976 and 1983.

Sunday represented a model civic day in Argentina, as events unfolded in a climate of peace and normality in all electoral districts, honoring the 40 uninterrupted years of



Once again, I share with you the latest edition of our Embassy Newsletter. This edition includes an article about the Argentine national elections held on Sunday, October 22, to elect president and vice-president, among other elective offices, and whose most voted presidential candidates, Sergio Massa and Javier Milei, must compete for the presidency on November 19 in a run-off election.

In this edition we also include an article on the visit I made together with Embassy officials to NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center.

Finally, an article on the dinner hosted with Meridian at the Embassy the night of the 12th Annual Meridian Global Leadership Summit.

Jorge Argüello

Ambassador to the United States

THERE WILL BE A RUN-OFF
BETWEEN THE TWO MOST
VOTED CANDIDATES SINCE
NONE OF THE PARTICIPANTS
EXCEEDED THE PERCENTAGE
OF VOTES REQUIRED BY THE
ARGENTINE CONSTITUTION TO
BECOME HEAD OF STATE IN THE
FIRST ROUND OF ELECTIONS.

As none of the candidates participating in the general elections exceeded the percentage of votes provided for in the Argentine Constitution to become Head of State in the first electoral round (the most voted formula must obtain at least 45% of the vote validly cast, or a minimum of 40% with a difference greater than 10% regarding the party in second place), a second round must be held between the two candidates with the most votes, which will take place on Sunday, 19 November.

democratic continuity in the country.

According to data provided by the National Electoral Chamber, the highest authority in the country's political-electoral regulations, more than 35 million citizens were authorized to vote at the different polling stations throughout the twenty-three Provinces and the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires. On the other hand, nearly half a million people were included in the lists of Argentines registered abroad, who, if they so desired, could cast their vote at the consulate or consular section in the country where they reside.

After 98.5% of votes had been counted at the polling stations, with an estimated participation of 77.6% of the official register, the provisional count of the 2023 general elections indicated that the candidate with the most votes for President was the current Minister of Economy, Sergio Massa, who represents the *Unión por la Patria* party, and was chosen by 36.6% of the voters. He was followed, respectively, by Javier Milei from *La Libertad Avanza* with 29.9% of the votes; Patricia Bullrich of *Juntos por el Cambio* with 23.8%; the governor of Córdoba Juan Schiaretti from *Hacemos por Nuestro País* with 6.7% and, finally deputy Myriam Bregman, for the *Frente de Izquierda*, with 2.7%.

## AMBASSADOR ARGUELLO'S VISIT TO THE NASA GODDARD SPACE FLIGHT CENTER

Within the framework of deepening cooperation between Argentina and the United States in space activities, on Monday, October 23, Ambassador Jorge Argüello, together with Argentine Embassy officials, visited the Goddard Space Flight Center, under the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), and met with Cynthia Simmons, its Deputy Center Director. This was a follow up to the visit made by NASA Administrator Bill Nelson to our country in July 2023, during which Argentina signed the Artemisa Accords.

The Goddard Center, established in 1959, is the first dedicated entirely to space flight. Named after Robert H. Goddard, considered the father of modern rocketry, it is located in Greenbelt, Maryland, and has more than

10,000 employees and contractors. It is the world's largest concentration of scientists and engineers dedicated to the study of Earth and space sciences.

Argentina is part of a limited list of countries with which NASA has developed joint satellite missions. Cooperation between both nations has led to several joint projects, ranging from cooperation for sending geostationary satellites, to the exchange of scientists from both countries, and the development of space weather programs. In particular, the relationship between NASA and the Argentine National Commission on Space Activities (CONAE) has been strengthened through a program in which CONAE provides the satellite platform and the Argentine instruments ,and NASA is in charge of the North

Ambassador Jorge Argüello and Deputy Director Cynthia Simmons.



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American instruments and the launch of the missions.

The visit included a presentation of the research and work carried out by the Earth Sciences Center by the Mid-Atlantic Noble Gas Research Laboratory and by the Center that makes robots that carry out missions on Mars. Specialized personnel explained the importance of research on that planet and the challenges it faces. Finally, the delegation toured the Earth Sciences Operations Center, which is responsible for the maintenance and security of missions related to the study of the Earth.

This visit contributes to exploring new possibilities of cooperation between Argentina and NASA. Currently, together with CONAE, that agency works on the SABIA-Mar mission, whose objective is monitoring ocean surfaces and coastal and oceanic biosphere. ■



Ms. Reta Jo Lewis, the President and Chair of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, and Ambassador Jorge Argüello.

## ARGENTINA JOINS MERIDIAN FOR ITS 12TH GLOBAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

Last October 20th, in the context of the 12th Annual Meridian Global Leadership Summit and 55th Meridian Ball, Ambassador Jorge Argüello joined other 29 Ambassadors in hosting US public officials, members of the U.S. Congress, prominent media figures and representatives from international business and cultural communities.

The Embassy Hosts were, together with Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Belgium, Brazil, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Switzerland, Tunisia and Turkey.

Meridian is a non-partisan, non-profit diplomatic center

founded 60 years ago and headquartered in Washington, focused on developing programs to strengthen engagement between the United States by partnering with governments, business, and the diplomatic community to develop the next generation of global leaders, connect people through culture and promote non-partisan collaboration to address global challenges.

This year's Global Leadership Summit theme was "Global Cooperation in an era of strategic economic competition". Leadership from the U.S. Department of State, Inter-American Development Bank, U.S. Development Finance Corporation and U.S. Trade and Development Agency joined Members of Congress, corporate executives, NGO CEOs and a range of international to explore ways in which the U.S. public and private sectors can serve as a better

MERIDIAN'S PROGRAMS ARE
A GREAT CONTRIBUTION TO
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STATES AND COUNTRIES LIKE
ARGENTINA.

partner to developing nations.

The President and Chair of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, Ms. Reta Jo Lewis co-chaired the event at the Argentine Embassy together with Ambassador Argüello. The guests included the Global Policy Lead for International Relations and Human Rights at Airbnb, Ms. Nayana RenuKumar; the Head of US Public Sector Public Policy of Amazon Web Services, Mrs. Alla Seiffert; the Policy Advisor of Amazon Web Services, Ms. Emily Susman; the Director of Governement Policy of Delta, Ms. Jana Lozano; the Vice President, Head of International Government Affairs and Public Policy of Standard & Poor, Mr. John Phipps; the former President of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, David Bohigian; and Visa's Senior Manager Enrique Benavides, among others.

Ambassador Argüello expressed his satisfaction at being able to contribute in this way to Meridian's programs, which are a great contribution to strengthening engagement between the United States and countries like Argentina. ■