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EMBASSY OF ARGENTINA, WASHINGTON, D.C.

ARGENTINA IN FOCUS

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President Javier Milei (center) surrounded by his Ministers.

PRESIDENT JAVIER MILEI ANNOUNCED A BROAD PROGRAM TO DEREGULATE ARGENTINA'S ECONOMY

On Wednesday, December 20, President Javier Milei signed a "Decree of Urgency and Necessity" called "Foundations for the Reconstruction of the Argentine Economy."

In his message to the Argentine population, the President highlighted the measures undertaken by his administration in just eight business days, which he described as "a shock stabilization plan that includes a fiscal adjustment program, an exchange rate policy that adjusts the exchange rate to the market value, and a monetary policy that includes an overhaul of the Central Bank."

Milei emphasized a complete turnaround regarding ideas that he described as collectivist, which led to the downturn of the economy, and excessive interference by the state in the lives of individuals, in what he summarized is a "tragedy

product of an economic and political model that threatens freedom".

In his message broadcast nationally, the president highlighted the following 30 measures, included in a set of more than 300 reforms in the Decree:

1. Repeal of the rental law;
2. Repeal of the supply law;
3. Repeal of the supermarket shelves ("gondola") law;
4. Repeal of the national purchase law ("Compre Nacional" or Buy only Argentine products);
5. Repeal of the price monitoring system of the Ministry of Economy;
6. Repeal of the industrial promotion law;
7. Repeal of the trade promotion law;

THE PRESIDENT HIGHLIGHTED THE MEASURES UNDERTAKEN BY HIS ADMINISTRATION, WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS “A SHOCK STABILIZATION PLAN”.

8. Repeal of the regulations that prevent the privatization of public companies;
9. Repeal of the state companies regime;
10. Transformation of all state companies into public limited companies for their subsequent privatization;
11. Modernization of the labor regime to facilitate the process of generating genuine employment;
12. Reform of the customs code to facilitate international trade;
13. Repeal of the land law;
14. Modification of the fire law;
15. Repeal of the obligations of sugar mills as regards their production;
16. Liberation of the legal regime applicable to the wine sector;
17. Repeal of the national mining trade system and mining information bank;
18. Authorization for the partial or total transfer of the shares of Aerolíneas Argentinas;
19. Implementation of the open skies policy;
20. Modification of the civil and commercial code to reinforce the principle of contractual freedom between parties;
21. Modification of the civil and commercial code to guarantee that obligations contracted in foreign currency must be paid in the agreed currency;
22. Modification of the regulatory framework for prepaid medicine and social security;
23. Elimination of price restrictions on the health insurance industry;
24. Incorporation of health insurance providers into the

social security regime;

25. Reestablishment of digital prescriptions to streamline service and minimize costs;
26. Modifications to the pharmaceutical companies regime to promote competition and reduce costs;
27. Modification of the corporate law so that football clubs can become public limited companies if they wish to do so;
28. Deregulation of satellite internet services;
29. Deregulation of the tourism sector by eliminating the monopoly of tourism agencies;
30. Incorporation of digital tools for automotive registration procedures.

Likewise, President Milei notified the population that this was a first step in a process of economic deregulation and that in the coming days he would send a package of laws to Congress to be discussed in an extraordinary session. ■

20 ARGENTINE ARTISTS PARTICIPATED IN THE ANNUAL CHARITY AUCTION AND EXHIBITION OF TRANSFORMER 'THE INVINCIBLE VISIBLE' AT THE KATZEN ARTS

Last November, 20 Argentine artists participated in the Annual Transformer's Exhibition and Benefit Auction, "The invincible visible", at the American University's Katzen Arts Center, which brought together more than 150 artists. The Argentine Embassy was the Diplomatic Chair of the 19th iteration of the exhibition, after the Embassies of Germany, Greece, Denmark, Italy, France, Sweden, Colombia, Spain, Australia and Mexico had previously played this role.

Transformer is a non-profit organization whose mission is to connect and promote local, national and international artists through exhibitions and programming with artists, curators, commercial galleries, art spaces, as well as larger cultural and educational institutions. For 20 years, this

gallery has provided a platform for emerging visual artists to explore and present experimental ideas to enable them to generate an audience for their works, thereby advancing their careers.

This exhibition, silent auction and benefit gala promote the works of the participating artists among a broad audience of more than 850 collectors. The Argentine artists that participated were Alexandra Arata, María Bouquet, Lorena Cabrera, Adriana Carambia, Claire Dunn, Claudio Debenedetti, Lao Gabrielli, Christina Ghetti, Carolina Gutiérrez, Silvia Levenson, Susana Mendaro, Victoria Muniagurria, Gladys Nistor, Fernando Poggio, Ana Rendich, Anahí Roitman, Marina Soria, and Claudia Tordini.

19th edition of the Transformer gala "The Invincible Visible", at the Katzen Arts.



THIS EXHIBITION, SILENT AUCTION AND BENEFIT GALA PROMOTE THE WORKS OF THE PARTICIPATING ARTISTS AMONG A BROAD AUDIENCE OF MORE THAN 850 COLLECTORS.

Also exhibited for the auction was a work by Argentine Julio Le Parc and, by special invitation, an installation by artist Marcelo Toledo.

Other activities included a VIP Reception at the Argentine Embassy for members of the Gallery's Board and invited collectors, to celebrate the collaboration with Transformer and support artists from both countries. Works by

Argentine artists Claire Dunn, Anahí Roitman and the artist Marcelo Toledo were exhibited.

Likewise, at the opening of the exhibition at the Katzen Arts Center, a special tour was held for VIP guests focused on Argentine artists' artworks, with a walk-through with gallerists Gaby Mizes and Gabriela Rosso. In this framework, artists Claudia Tordini and Alexandra Arata participated in a dialogue with the public about their work.

Since its conception, this project has been carried out in collaboration with cultural institutions such as the Katzen Arts Center at American University, the Corcoran College of the Arts and Design at George Washington University, the Mexican Cultural Institute, Halcyon House and Pepco Edison Place Gallery.

The Argentine artists exhibited were selected by Transformer curators among the winners of the call



for the 2023/2024 exhibition season at the Argentine Embassy, as well as Argentine artists represented by Roffa Projects and Gaby Mizes Fine Art galleries. This was done with the collaboration of Carlos Basualdo (the Keith L. and Katherine Sachs Curator of Contemporary Art at the Philadelphia Museum of Art and Curator at Large at MAXXI-Museo Nazionale delle Arti del XXI Secolo in Rome, Italy); Aimé Iglesias Lukin (Director and Chief Curator of Visual Arts at the Americas Society); and Maria Bonta de la Pezuela (Deputy Director of Development at the National Gallery). ■

TRANSFORMER IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION WHOSE MISSION IS TO CONNECT AND PROMOTE LOCAL, NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ARTISTS.

Argentine art at the Transformer Gala.





Argentine participation in the panel “How Space Industry Innovation is Driving the Fourth Industrial Revolution”.

THE ARGENTINE SPACE INDUSTRY AT THE GLOBAL SPACE SUMMIT

The Argentine Embassy participated in the Space Enterprise Council’s Global Space Summit event that brought together officials from the United States Government, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), as well as representatives from diverse countries and entrepreneurs in this sector. At the meeting, among the topics discussed were cybersecurity, artificial intelligence and opportunities around cislunar space.

The Argentine Embassy, represented by the Head of Trade Promotion in the Economic and Commercial Section, Carlos Múscari, was part of the panel Space Industry Innovation and Its Impact On the Fourth Industrial Revolution, together with representatives from the Italian Space Agency, the German Aerospace Center and the Australian Embassy. The Argentine official highlighted the role of the Argentine space industry in a wide range of

areas, from the management of climate emergencies, land use and environmental preservation, to the protection of public health.

In addition, Múscari highlighted the positive public-private dialogue that is taking place within the sector, as well as the leading role played by the National Commission for Space Activities (CONAE). “Argentina implements a State policy that, on the one hand, promotes the private sector— for example, by generating satellite information useful for mining companies— and, on the other hand, provides governments with the necessary tools to protect the environment,” he explained.

Likewise, the diplomat referred to the spillovers from the space industry on other sectors based on three concepts: strong, light and fast. “At present there are calls not only

“AT PRESENT THERE ARE CALLS NOT ONLY FOR PRODUCTION TO BE INCREASINGLY LIGHTER AND TO USE MORE RESISTANT MATERIALS, BUT TO ALSO GENERATE MASS-PRODUCED PRODUCTS, SO AS TO BE ABLE TO KEEP UP WITH THE GROWING INTEREST IN LAUNCHING SATELLITES INTO SPACE”.

for production to be increasingly lighter and to use more resistant materials, but to also generate mass-produced products, so as to be able to keep up with the growing interest in launching satellites into space,” he explained. Regarding the technological advances in the satellite sector, he highlighted that Argentina has the capacity to make a contribution in areas such as agriculture, soil protection and protection of glaciers and waters.

In her presentation as a keynote speaker, Karen Feldstein, an official from NASA's International and Interagency Relations, highlighted the role of space diplomacy. She welcomed the news that Argentina had signed the Artemis Agreements, an international treaty that establishes a set of practical principles to guide cooperation in space exploration.

This event, which was held at the Italian Embassy, was organized by the Space Enterprise Council, an affiliate

member of the most relevant global tech trade association, the Information Technology Industry Council (ITI).

The Argentine Embassy's participation in this event is part of a series of actions aimed at positioning the country's aerospace sector in the North American market. Within this framework, the next step includes the participation of a trade mission in the most important fair in this sector, the Satellite 2024 Conference and Exhibition, to be held from March 18 to 24 in Washington DC. ■