

Economy

PRESIDENT JAVIER MILEI TOURED TESLA'S AUSTIN PLANT AND MET WITH ELON MUSK

Bilateral Relations

FOREIGN MINISTER DIANA MONDINO MET IN BUENOS AIRES WITH OFFICIALS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Tourism

SECRETARY OF TOURISM DANIEL SCIOLI ATTENDED THE SEATRADE CRUISE GLOBAL CONFERENCE IN MIAMI

EMBASSY OF ARGENTINA, WASHINGTON, D.C.

ARGENTINA IN FOCUS

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President Javier Milei and Elon Musk.

PRESIDENT JAVIER MILEI TOURED TESLA'S AUSTIN PLANT AND MET WITH ELON MUSK

During his recent trip to the United States, President Javier Milei held a working meeting with entrepreneur Elon Musk in Austin, Texas.

The President was accompanied by the Secretary General of the Presidency, Karina Milei, the Ambassador-designate to the United States, Gerardo Werthein, the Ambassador-designate to Israel, Simo Wahnish, and Argentine businessman Patricio Fucks.

The meeting took place at the Tesla electric vehicle plant, a model plant in this industry in terms of technology and production scale.

In a meeting that lasted 80 minutes, the Argentine President and Mr. Musk exchanged views on the important role that Argentina can play in the field of e-mobility, based on its vast

reserves of critical minerals, such as lithium and copper.

In a meeting characterized by personal affinity and convergent points of view, the President and the head of Tesla discussed the reform process taking place in Argentina, which generates investment opportunities in strategic sectors such as mining, energy and the knowledge-based services sector, among others.

The Argentine President also highlighted the incentives the government is promoting to increase the flow of foreign investment to the country, and extended a cordial invitation to Musk for him to visit Argentina and participate in an event that addresses issues related to demographics, technology and investment opportunities there. ■

FOREIGN MINISTER DIANA MONDINO MET IN BUENOS AIRES WITH OFFICIALS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Foreign Minister Diana Mondino received a delegation from the United States made up of the Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade of the Department of Commerce, Marisa Lago, and the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Brazil, Southern Cone and Andean Affairs of the Department of State, Ambassador Kevin Sullivan.

The visit of the delegation is part of the agenda of meetings with high-level officials, both from the Executive Branch and the Congress of the United States, in order to promote the intensification of bilateral ties.

In this context, the Foreign Minister referred to the main challenges faced by Argentina as well as the priorities and

vision on foreign policy and international trade, both at regional and global levels. Mondino highlighted that the United States is a key partner in investment and trade, key areas for the recovery of our country, which seeks reintegration into the world in an efficient and competitive manner.

Likewise, it was highlighted that Argentina seeks to position itself as a reliable supplier in the supply chain of critical minerals and energy, among other goods and services of interest to both countries.

The need to continue working on a greater opening of the US market for Argentine exports was also raised, as

(From L. to R.) Ambassador Marc Stanley, Foreign Minister Diana Mondino, Under Secretary Marisa Lago and Secretary Marcelo Cima.



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that would allow expanding the base of bilateral trade and leveling the trade balance. The United States is Argentina's third trading partner, and the main foreign investor, with a stock of investments of more than US\$26 billion (as of June 2023).

Among other topics, both delegations also discussed Argentina's entry into the OECD and its willingness to participate in the Americas Partnership for Economic Prosperity (APEP), as well as cooperation on nuclear and space issues, security, defense and human rights. Viewpoints were also exchanged on the regional and global situation.

The US officials reiterated that the United States wishes to work together with Argentina, which they considered a friendly and ally country, both at the bilateral level as well as in the coordination of positions at the multilateral level.

Finally, both parties agreed on the importance of maintaining a strategic partnership that further deepens, expands and diversifies the long-standing relationship between the two countries. ■



Argentina represented at the Seatrade Cruise Global Conference.

SECRETARY OF TOURISM DANIEL SCIOLI ATTENDED THE SEATRADE CRUISE GLOBAL CONFERENCE IN MIAMI

The Secretary of Tourism, Environment and Sports, Daniel Scioli participated in the Seatrade Cruise Global Conference in Miami, along with the President of the Argentine Chamber of Tourism, Gustavo Hani. The Argentine delegation also included Valentín Díaz Gilligan, president of the Tourism Board of the City of Buenos Aires; Dante Querciali, president of the Tierra del Fuego Tourism Institute; authorities from the port of Puerto Madryn, Ushuaia Buenos Aires, and the General Administration of Ports and Harbors.

The Seatrade Cruise Global Conference is a globally important annual event. In the 2024 edition, 120 countries were represented, there were 10,000 attendees, 600 exhibitors and 80 cruise line brands. The participation of Secretary Scioli and the Argentine delegation sought to

boost the arrival of passengers to the ports of Buenos Aires, Puerto Madryn and Ushuaia, which in the 2023-24 season reached more than 700,000.

In this regard, Royal Caribbean's vice-president, Christopher Allen, confirmed that the Celebrity cruise ship will return to Argentina, and this will add 45,000 more passengers for the 2025-26 season.

Gustavo Hani said, "The cruise industry generates more than \$200 million of economic activity and 25,000 jobs in our country. Argentina's participation in international fairs and congresses is vital to continue promoting tourism, one of the engines of growth of the local economy."

"Boosting this important industry is very important to

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ensure more tourism, more jobs, more foreign currency,”
noted Scioli.

It should be recalled that after the extra-long Holy Week
Easter weekend, in which a total of 3.2 million tourists
toured the country, the Argentine Chamber of Tourism
and its member entities accepted Scioli’s call to “work
together and make the necessary joint effort to boost our
sector’s low season and continue to strengthen tourism,
which is the great engine of development in every town in
our Argentina”. ■