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ARGENTINA IN FOCUS

JANUARY 2021 // NEWSLETTER

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BILATERAL RELATIONS | ARG IN FOCUS



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A NEW ERA, FULL OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR COUNTRIES

By Jorge Argüello, Ambassdor of Argentina in the U.S.

On this January 20th, on behalf of the Argentine Republic, I had the privilege of attending a ceremony in Washington D.C. that has been repeated in the United States for more than two centuries and which since then has been identified as a paradigm for all democracies: the inauguration of a new president freely chosen by its people. Respect for the will of the people, exercised in its many peaceful and democratic variants, is an essential principle of political sovereignty in all our nations. In these turbulent times, in a world anxious by the pandemic, this respect proved once again that it is the best antidote to any attack against fundamental freedoms.



Once again, I share with you the latest edition of our Embassy Newsletter. This edition ncludes an Editorial about the Inauguration of the 46th President of the United States that, on behalf of the Argentine Republic, I had the privilege of attending to.

This issue also includes an article written by our Minister of Defense, Agustín Rossi, about the cooperation agenda between Argentina and the United States.

Finally, an article on gastrodiplomacy, a a series of promotional to learn and cook with us some of the most typical and delicious Argentine recipes.

Jorge Argüello Ambassador to the United States THE TIME AHEAD WILL CONTINUE TO BE DETERMINED BY THE NEED FOR ALL STATES TO COOPERATE AMONG THEMSELVES, USING ALL THEIR CAPABILITIES, IN ALL MULTILATERAL SETTINGS AND FORUMS.

The value of the democratic cause for our peoples -threatened by unfortunate events such as the one recently experienced in Washington D.C.- was made clear in President Joseph R. Biden Jr.'s inaugural address: "We have learned again that democracy is precious. Democracy is fragile. And at this hour, my friends, democracy has prevailed". Overcoming these challenges, as the President said wisely, "requires much more than words. It requires that most elusive of things in a democracy: unity."

As happens when embarking on a new phase, a new Administration in Washington D.C. opens up a wide range of renewed possibilities for relations, exchanges, and cooperation with the rest of the world, even more so with the countries with which it shares the hemisphere and, especially, with our Latin America.

The region looks forward with expectations for a positive development in its relations with the United States. All of the Americas, from Tierra del Fuego to Alaska, needs stability that allows it to navigate in waters that are more uncertain than ever before, overcome institutional crises, recover the path of sustainable development, and heal the wounds that this time of exclusion and inequality is leaving behind.

The United States was the driver of postwar multilateralism, from its origins more than seven decades ago. Currently, at this time of health, economic and humanitarian crises in our planet, it has an historic opportunity to contribute all its energy and experience to a global governance framework based on cooperation, dialogue, and an active role by all its players.

The time ahead will continue to be determined by the need for all States, large and small, developed and developing, to cooperate among themselves, using all their capabilities, in all multilateral settings and forums. This will allow the world to better cope with the pandemic and its economic and social consequences, from the fair distribution of vaccines to the channeling of funds towards the productive potential of the current technological revolution.

The current situation challenges us all, without exception. We are sure that the United States, driven by its institutional, intellectual, and moral reserves, will play a very positive global role guided by its new Administration, as it has at other times throughout history.

For its part, our country will always be willing to strengthen bilateral ties to contribute to the development of our two peoples, promote the stability of the region, and promote the adequate global governance that this crucial hour of the 21st century demands.

AN OVERVIEW OF ARGENTINA'S BILATERAL DEFENSE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES

By Agustín Rossi, Minister of Defense of the Argentine Republic

Throughout its history, the United States of America has demonstrated a significant social appreciation of its armed forces. At present, it is the country that has made the most progress in developing its defense capabilities. It has a unique capacity to wage war, along with a high technological development for military equipment that showcase astonishing innovations and transformations. Its defense doctrine has also spread to other areas of the world and is used by diverse armed forces.

Regarding defense policy, a mature and honest bilateral relationship unites us, one that is institutionalized through the ties that the Argentine Ministry of Defense maintains with the U.S. Department of Defense; the Joint Chiefs of Staff and our three armed forces. We share a cooperation agenda that includes military equipment and logistic support, military education and training, joint exercises and interoperability, the Global Peace Operations Initiative (GPOI) for maintaining the peace, cyber defense, science, technology, and research and production for defense purposes.

In December 2019, President Alberto Fernández asked me to serve as Minister of Defense, and I once again took up this post. I have maintained a good communication with the Department of Defense, especially with former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Western Hemisphere





WE SHARE A COOPERATION AGENDA THAT INCLUDES MILITARY EQUIPMENT AND LOGISTIC SUPPORT, EDUCATION AND TRAINING, AND THE GLOBAL PEACE OPERATIONS INITIATIVE, AMONG OTHERS.

Affairs, Sergio de la Peña. I have also met with the current US ambassador, Edward Prado, and maintain an ongoing working relationship with the Argentine diplomatic mission in Washington DC, headed by Ambassador Jorge Argüello.

Although a year subsumed by the impact of the Sars-Cov2 pandemic has just ended, which substantially modified the agendas and requirements, the work carried out and the progress achieved in our bilateral relationship was very valuable.

The XVIII meeting of the Bilateral Working Group on Defense was held virtually due to pandemic restrictions. At this meeting, the advancement of gender policies in the armed forces was discussed, a working subgroup in charge of science and technology issues was set up, progress was made regarding cooperation on cyber defense, and a fruitful exchange was held about experiences related to community support by the armed forces to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

It is worth noting that as to multilateral defense mechanisms with the United States and other countries in the region, we participated in the Conference of Defense Ministers of the Americas, which is currently the most important defense forum in the region. Regarding the Sars-Cov2 pandemic, I want to emphasize the important exchange of good practices, experiences, and discussions between political officials and military authorities from both countries. At the same time, I wish to thank the US Department of Defense for their solidarity in donating essential medical provisions to the Argentine Armed Forces so that our military personnel can address and mitigate the effects of the virus.

A new year begins with high hopes placed on the arrival of the vaccine to end the COVID-19 virus. It demands from us the highest sense of responsibility in contributing to the planning and development of the most important vaccination campaign in the history of our country, in which the Armed Forces play a decisive role.

In short, in 2021 we aspire to redouble efforts to maintain the cooperation already outlined and to deepen other areas of work that may be of mutual interest. We look forward to working with respect and constructive momentum with the new authorities in the Department of Defense under the Government of President Joseph R. Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris. Argentina shares an agenda of opportunities and challenges in the defense relationship with the United States. Likewise, this will be the first year of effective rollout of the National Defense Fund (FONDEF). We are certain that the United States can be a strategic partner in a mutually beneficial framework, especially with a view to generating investment, transfer of technology, and research to help promote the development of our national defense industry.



Argentine Chef Fernando Navas, from Balvanera NYC

A JOURNEY INTO THE HEART OF ARGENTINE CUISINE

It's an irrefutable fact that the pandemic has impacted our lives and work in multiple ways; diplomacy, traditional or digital, is not an exception. With more people working from home this has presented an exceptional opportunity to reach wider audiences and deliver new digital content regarding what our country has to offer, in this particular case, to the U.S. market.

Approaching the end of 2020 and thinking about ways to be closer to the U.S. consumer, the Embassy of Argentina launched a series of promotional content #ArgentineGastrodiplomacy, in partnership with the Argentine Consulate of New York City, the Argentine restaurant Balvanera and with the support of Wines of Argentina. This in an invitation to learn and cook with us some of the most typical and delicious Argentine recipes through a series of short promotional videos found on our Facebook page and YouTube Channel (@ARGinUSA).

The four-part series offers recipes, such as Patagonian shrimp with corn lime humita, beef tartare entrée, Grass-fed Prime rib eye, Hen of the woods, potatoes & black garlic, and the traditional flan with dulce de leche. These dishes pair exquisitely with different wines from the most diverse regions to create a unique palate experience.

To create this series, we worked with the Argentine Chef Fernando Navas, from Balvanera NYC, and U.S. importers that are our "Argentine

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product champions" in the market. In this edition of Argentina in Focus, we want to share their views on the products and their unique elements to the U.S. consumers.

In the case of Argentine Red Shrimp –it is recognized as a beautiful, wild caught species with a good foundation of sustainability, making it one of the most "natural and unique" shrimp species in the world. Matt Fass, President of Maritime Products International and importer of Argentine products, talked with Argentine in Focus about the quality of the Argentine Red Shrimp.

He said: "We actually buy 100% of our product from one exclusive supply chain in Argentina -a multi-generation, family-owned and operated company (as are we!), committed who has been dedicated to producing this shrimp in Argentina. They even operate a facility that still hand-builds some of the boats used in harvesting. We give tremendous credit to our supply chain partners down there who take on this species with a passion and create the absolute highest end specification in the market. It is unique in its appearance, taste and texture compared to most other global shrimp species -lobster-like in certain ways- so can really serve as a wonderful complimentary choice for consumers, rather a substitute for any other species. We are very passionate about the story behind on the supply chain for this product and are trying to create

some brand loyalty as we believe it will only help chefs and consumers further embrace this species across the U.S. market."

In late 2018, Argentine beef was re-introduced to the U.S. market. In 2019, the exports grew timidly, but in 2020, amid the pandemic, exports to the U.S. market grew exponentially. Argentine highgrade beef differentiates from other high/grade beef, for its tenderness, juiciness, delicious aroma, and indisputable flavor.

Carlos Naselli, an importer from New York City who works with local distributor SurDC, mentioned to Argentina in Focus, "Argentine Beef has many attributes that attract U.S. consumers: low cholesterol, sustainability, animal welfare are some of them. We position the product in the market not as a competitor of U.S. beef but as a complement for the U.S. consumer, as it delivers a good story with grass-fed cattle and long extension of lands."

Argentine wines are another central piece in the gastronomic offering our country brings to the U.S. consumer. As part of the series of Gastrodiplomacy, Chef Fernando created a unique pairing of flavors for the consumer palate. Veronica Kathuria, Wines of Argentina US Trade Manager states: "Argentine wines are naturally natural. We course towards sustainable and innovative viniculture, and this shows ups in our wines. The passionate and disruptive nature of the Argentine personality transfers to its wines and each label's story. It's more than just wine; it is a story."

Chef Fernando Navas, the gastronomic architect who constructed this fantastic journey into the heart of Argentine cuisine, shared with us: "As a Chef, I am constantly in contact with the public looking for information to cater new ideas and recipes. Argentinean ingredients deliver natural flavors, I believe it is like getting food for your local farmers. Instead, your local farmer is on the Southern Hemisphere, with the irreplaceable flavor that comes to the land of the Gauchos".

If you want to see our short promotional videos visit our Facebook page: Embassy of Argentina in the United States and for the full videos, visit our YouTube channel: ArginUSA.

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