

*Multilateral*

FOREIGN MINISTER  
SANTIAGO CAFIERO  
ADDRESSED THE  
UN HUMAN RIGHTS  
COUNCIL

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*Business*

SMEs: RECORD  
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EXPANDING ENTRY  
OF THE ARGENTINE  
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IN THE US MARKET

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EMBASSY OF ARGENTINA, WASHINGTON, D.C.

# ARGENTINA IN FOCUS

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Foreign Minister Santiago Cafiero addressed the forty-ninth session of the United Nations Human Rights Council.

## FOREIGN MINISTER SANTIAGO CAFIERO ADDRESSED THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

On February 28th, Foreign Minister Santiago Cafiero addressed the forty-ninth session of the United Nations Human Rights Council, a body that the Argentine Republic will chair throughout the current year, after the consensus among its 47 members for it to occupy that position.

In his speech, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship of Argentina condemned the invasion

of Ukraine and reaffirmed to the Russian Federation that it must immediately cease the use of force and stop the military operations it is carrying out in that country. He also called on the major powers to interrupt an escalation that would have unforeseeable consequences.

In his speech, Foreign Minister Cafiero highlighted the significance of multilateralism for Argentina, which he



Once again, I share with you the latest edition of our Embassy Newsletter. This edition includes an article about Foreign Minister Santiago Cafiero's speech at the forty-ninth session of the UN Human Rights Council, a body that the Argentine Republic will chair this year.

In this edition we also include an article on the meeting between the Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship, Santiago Cafiero, and representatives of SMEs that export to the United States.

Finally, an article on the virtual event of the Export to the United States Program carried out by our Embassy that focused on the Argentine satellite industry.

Jorge Argüello  
Ambassador to the United States

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described as the natural environment of his diplomatic exercise, given his attachment to negotiations and dialogue as a form of international coexistence. This is a tradition that allows our country to chair two important forums: the Human Rights Council in Geneva and the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States.

On the other hand, after pointing out that the concerns of the States regarding security, or possible complaints for the alleged breach of pre-existing agreements, must be discussed at a negotiating table or in the relevant forum. The Argentine Foreign Minister was clear as to the illegitimate recourse of the use of force and the violation of territorial integrity - a principle our country fervently adheres to - as a way to resolve a conflict. He added that preventive wars are reprehensible precisely because they are unlawful.

In this regard, the Foreign Minister mentioned that under democratically elected governments, Argentina never sought to define border disputes by force and that South America is a zone of lasting peace, as it learned from past experience that international security is not a mere sum of self-perceptions about the national security of each country, but rather a collective construction that must take root in solid regional agreements. He illustrated this point by referring to the Treaty of Peace and Friendship

signed in 1984 with the Republic of Chile, and the example of peaceful coexistence with the Federative Republic of Brazil.

Likewise, the Minister made reference to Argentina's difficult learning experience after the tragic State terrorism it was subject to in the 70s, which enabled it to achieve a perfectible but stable democracy, and to always keep in mind the great value of memory. The government fostered the recognition of the Naval Mechanics School - a place where people were tortured before being thrown alive from military planes - as a cultural heritage of humanity, so as not to forget the horror of death, as the Mothers and Grandmothers of Plaza de Mayo continue to teach us by their example.

Finally, the Minister emphasized that human rights are an essential pillar of Argentina's foreign policy, which is why our country firmly defends the universal human rights system and supports the work of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. It set as a core objective of its presidency the strengthening of the multilateral agenda in a constructive and balanced manner, by supporting a frank and transparent dialogue between all States with the active participation of civil society, and increasing the Council's capacity to act effectively in emergency situations of human rights violations. ■

## SMEs: RECORD EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES IN THE LAST 10 YEARS

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship, Santiago Cafiero, led a working meeting with SMEs that export to the United States, together with the Argentine Ambassador, Jorge Argüello, the Secretary of Small and Medium Enterprises, Guillermo Merediz, and small and medium-sized exporting companies.

The meeting took place two days after the Ministry of Productive Development announced that in 2021 SMEs that export to the United States registered US\$ 1,193 million in exports, a record amount during the last 10 years, which represents an increase of 28.3% compared to 2020, and 13.7% compared to 2019.

In this regard, Foreign Minister Santiago Cafiero stated:

“The record in Argentine exports in January showed they were the highest since 2008, and this is the path that we must follow: increasing the Argentine export platform based on the work carried out by the different Ministries and the companies”.

He added: “The challenge for Argentina is to export high-quality products with our national label, incorporating added value to the export of goods and services. SME entrepreneurs are very creative, and by working together with them, we can expand our access and potential for entry into new markets; this will allow us to enhance our country’s exportable supply”.

The meeting was held within the framework of the

Ambassador Jorge Argüello (Left). Minister Santiago Cafiero (Ctr.) and representatives of SMEs.



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“Export Plan for Development 2022” aimed at improving all the productive, design and innovation capacity of our businesspeople, and expanding our markets and export volumes. Another issue addressed was the high value-added exportable supply of domestic SMEs that have a background in exporting to the North American market, promoting productive transformation and improving their global competitiveness.

For his part, Ambassador Jorge Argüello stated: “We are ready to provide tools to assist the SMEs, through the Embassy and the six consulates general in Atlanta, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami and New York. This entire network is at the disposal of our SMEs to reinforce and ensure their advantageous insertion in the United States”. And he added: “The growth and diversification of the SME’s exports of goods and services is part of our government’s initiatives. We know that companies that export are better employers, pay higher wages, formalize their operations, and improve their production processes. Our embassy wishes to continue contributing to achieve this objective”.

The Secretary of Small and Medium Enterprises and Entrepreneurs, Guillermo Merediz, indicated that “Strengthening the exporting program is a key challenge, and can address it through all the financing and training tools available for Argentine SMEs. Here at the Ministry of

Productive Development, we are working together with the Foreign Ministry to sustain this leap in the export sector”. The companies that participated in the meeting are mostly national industrial SMEs that had either average annual exports of US\$ 1,500,000 or more, or US\$ 500,000 or more, in the last 5 years, with an average annual growth of over 25% in the last three years.

In addition, the meeting made progress in designing an agenda coordinated between the Ministry of Productive Development, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship and the Argentine Embassy in the US, to increase the insertion and exportable offer of high added value of national SMEs that have a background in exporting to the North American market, promoting productive transformation and improving their global competitiveness.

The following companies participated in person: Vetacano (laboratory); Establecimientos San Ignacio (food); Taller Baigorria (auto parts); MMJ, Productos Ñuke (appliances and IT); and ILVA (Glass and ceramics). The following participated virtually: Argencrops, (vegetable products in the foreign market); Carlos Mainero y Cia (agricultural machinery and parts); Agrometal S.A.I (agricultural machinery and parts); Akron S.A. (agricultural machinery and parts); Sohipren S. A. (agricultural machinery and parts); Basso S.A. (Auto parts); Motor Parts S.A. (Auto parts); Wiener Laboratorios S.A.I.C. (pharmaceutical); Tassaroli S.A. (BK and parts); Los Haroldos S.A. (wines); and Minera Santa Rita S.R.L. (chemical products). ■



Virtual meeting of the Export to the United States Program of the Argentine Embassy in Washington DC focused on the Argentine satellite industry.

## EXPANDING ENTRY OF THE ARGENTINE SATELLITE SECTOR IN THE US MARKET

A new chapter of the Export to the United States Program of the Argentine Embassy in Washington DC focused on the Argentine satellite industry and its strategy of fostering linkages and insertion in the US market. This virtual meeting took place a few weeks before the Satellite 2022 Fair, in which Argentina will have a national pavilion and a trade mission of companies in the sector will attend for the first time.

The meeting was attended by Ambassador Jorge Argüello, the Knowledge Economy Undersecretary, María Apólitu; the Undersecretary for Trade Strategy and Investment Promotion, Pablo Sívori; the Executive and Technical Director of the National Commission for Space Activities (CONAE), Raúl Kulichevsky; the adviser to the Ministry of Science and Technology, Guillermo Salvatierra, and the

Director of International Trade at the Agency for Export and Investment Promotion, José Bekinschtein, among other officials.

On behalf of the companies in this sector, the CEO of Innova Space, Alejandro Cordero, the CTO of Ascentio Technologies, Cristian Snyk, and the Commercial Manager of Veng, Natalia Varela, made presentations. Firms such as Arsat, Invap and Tlon, among other companies, also participated.

When opening the meeting, Ambassador Argüello stated that the public and private sectors share the same objectives: promoting trade, attracting investments, and creating partnerships between companies from both countries. Opportunities in the US satellite market for

## OPPORTUNITIES IN THE US SATELLITE MARKET FOR LARGE, SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ARGENTINE COMPANIES ARE ENORMOUS, AS TALENTED PROFESSIONALS ARE HIGHLY VALUED

large, small and medium-sized Argentine companies are enormous, as talented professionals are highly valued. Undersecretary Sívori emphasized that having a national pavilion constitutes a quantum leap in quality in the satellite industry's participation. Likewise, he stressed that the mission will demonstrate the quality and diversity of the Argentine satellite industry.

The companies presented their profiles, products, strategies and business plans for their insertion in the local market. In particular, the Argentina's potential to manufacture satellites in the United States, provide "ground segment" services based on the information provided by Earth observation through Argentine satellites, and training of human resources were some of the capabilities highlighted, among others.

The Embassy is programming related activities at its headquarters in Washington DC, to enhance and complement Argentina's participation in the fair. Together with CompTIA, an association that brings together some of the most important companies of this industry, the Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2020 will be reviewed, and its participation will be expanded by adding

the Argentine company Tlon Space, thereby joining the Argentine Aeronautical and Space Chamber of Commerce (CARAE) and firms Invap, Veng, DTA and Arsultra.

The Memorandum signed with CompTIA became a positive framework to develop businesses, integrate stakeholders, and maximize visibility of the current and potential role of the Argentine satellite industry in the growth process taking place in the United States.

This agreement addresses issues such as the exchange of industrial information, joint promotion of both industries, organization of trade missions, training of human resources, and undertaking joint research, among others. ■