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EMBASSY OF ARGENTINA, WASHINGTON, D.C.

ARGENTINA IN FOCUS

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Photo Credit: @Martin_M_Guzman.

THE ARGENTINE CONGRESS APPROVED THE AGREEMENT WITH THE IMF BY WIDE MARGIN AND WITH STRONG BIPARTISAN SUPPORT

On Thursday, March 17, with the affirmative vote of 56 senators, 13 votes against the bill and 3 abstentions, the Honorable Senate of the Nation approved with force of law the agreement reached by the Executive Branch with the International Monetary Fund to refinance the debt of \$44.5 billion with that body, taken by the previous administration, in 2018.

The Upper House repeated a pattern of votes similar to the one that had occurred a week ago in the Lower Chamber, when the bill received half sanction, with the affirmative vote of 202 deputies, 37 votes against and 13 abstentions.

In this way, the agreement with the IMF received broad support in Congress, both from legislators from the



Once again, I share with you the latest edition of our Embassy Newsletter. This edition includes an article about the approval with force of law of the agreement reached by the Executive Branch with the International Monetary Fund to refinance the debt of \$44.5 billion.

In this edition we also include an article on the shipment of humanitarian aid destined for Ukrainian refugees carried out by the Argentine government jointly between Aerolíneas Argentinas and LOT, a Polish airline.

Finally, an article on the meeting with the Democratic representative of the State of Florida, Ted Deutch, with whom I had a productive meeting in which various issues related to the bilateral relationship between the Argentine Republic and the United States were discussed.

Jorge Argüello
Ambassador to the United States

FOUR OUT OF FIVE
LEGISLATORS FROM BOTH
THE RULING COALITION AND
THE OPPOSITION GAVE THEIR
SUPPORT.

ruling coalition and from the opposition: four out of five legislators gave their support.

The Argentine government valued the result and the process as a firm step forward for the Republic and also highlighted the support of unions, the private sector, universities, social movements and civil society.

“Our responsibility was to build a solution,” explained Economy Minister Martin Guzmán, indicating that failure to reach an agreement would have affected production and employment with destabilizing effects on the economy.

Finally, the Minister stated that “in this context of geopolitical conflicts that raise international inflation in food and energy, it is of particular importance to provide certainty instead of increasing uncertainty”. “With the leadership of President Alberto Fernández, we worked for it and massive support was obtained,” he concluded.

As the closing step of a negotiation process that has been going on for two years, on March 25 the IMF Board will consider the final approval of the extended facilities program agreed between the Argentine government and the IMF staff. ■

ARGENTINA SENDS HUMANITARIAN AID TO UKRAINIAN REFUGEES

On March 11, the the Argentine Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship announced the shipment of humanitarian aid destined for Ukrainian refugees, as well as procedures related to the logistical to send this cargo. The operation is carried out jointly between Aerolíneas Argentinas and LOT, a Polish airline, which will be in charge of sending the shipment from Miami to Poland.

In accordance with instructions issued by Minister Santiago Cafiero, these donations will be received by the Polish Government Agency for Strategic Reserves and the White Helmets mission recently deployed on the border between Poland and Ukraine, for its distribution among the refugees. This mission is made up of Argentine civil volunteer personnel with experience in humanitarian aid, and two diplomatic officials with knowledge of the Polish

language, who created a mobile consulate in the area, which is already working full time.

The White Helmets Commission, an organization under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship chaired by Sabina Frederic, is in charge of designing and implementing the Argentine Government's humanitarian assistance efforts. It currently maintains a permanent dialogue with the Chargé d'Affaires of the Embassy of Ukraine in Buenos Aires, Sergey Nebraska.

On the other hand, in response to the call made by international organizations regarding the humanitarian crisis affecting Ukrainians, and convinced that the prevailing situation calls for the maximum possible commitment by all countries, the Argentine Republic will grant Ukrainian

Sending humanitarian aid to Ukraine. Photo Credit: White Helmets. Courtesy: Argentine Foreign Ministry.

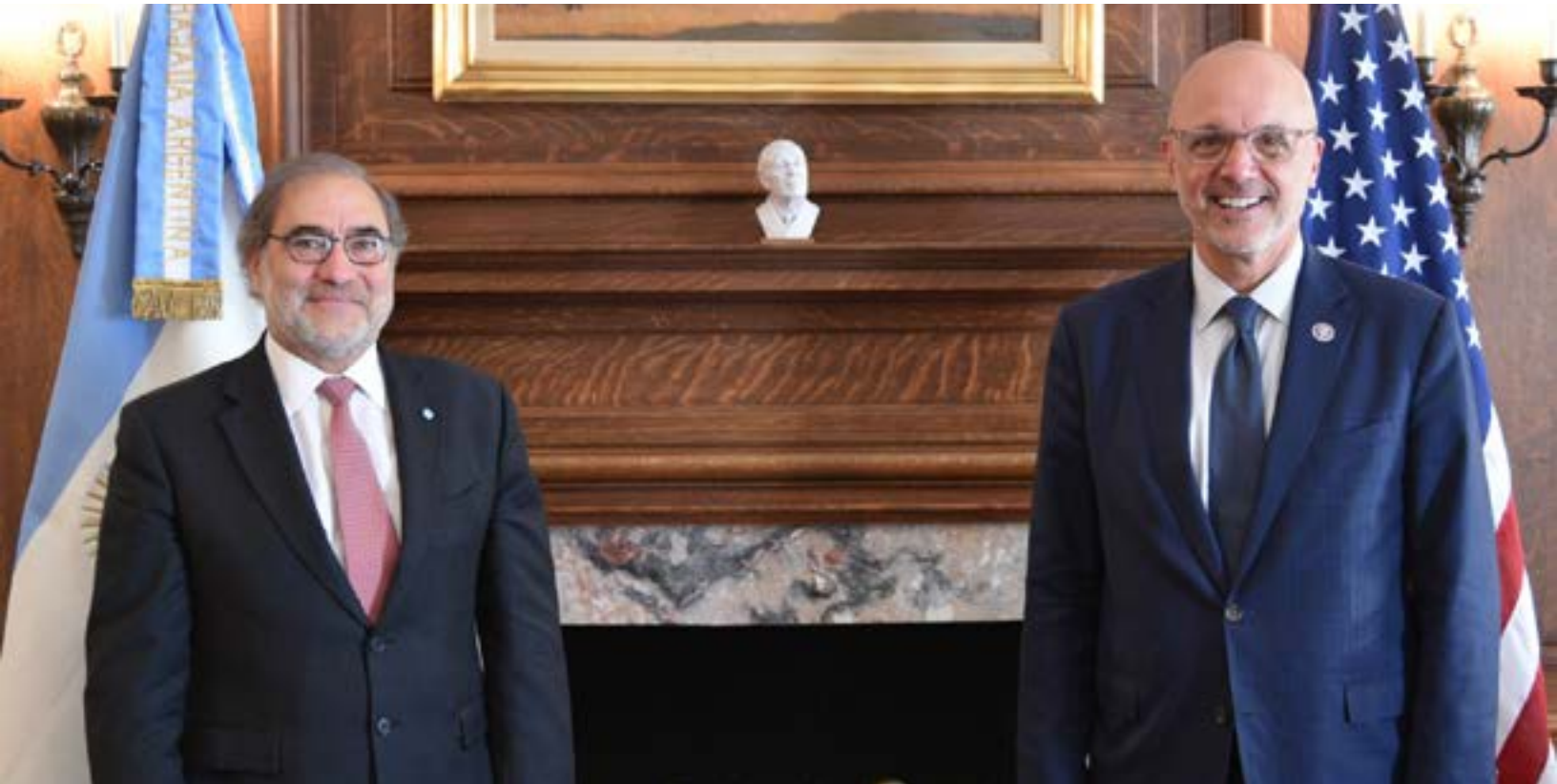


THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC WILL
GRANT UKRAINIAN CITIZENS
AFFECTED BY THE CONFLICT
THE STATUS OF TEMPORARY
RESIDENT FOR HUMANITARIAN
REASONS.

citizens affected by the conflict the status of temporary resident for humanitarian reasons.

This decision, based on the restrictions and difficulties faced by Ukrainians to obtain the relevant documents required to enter our country, allows Argentine consulates abroad to issue temporary visas to Ukrainians. It applies both to those that are still in their country, and to those that have managed to flee to neighboring countries and cannot return, and enables their entry and permanence in Argentina.

This measure will be implemented by the National Direction of Migration, and is in force after its publication in the Official Gazette, is part of the human rights protection policies traditionally supported by Argentina in the international area; in this case, to facilitate and ensure the protection and family reunification of Ukrainian citizens. ■



Ambassador Jorge Argüello (Left) and representative Ted Deutch (Right).

WORKING MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVE TED DEUTCH

On March 15th, Ambassador Jorge Argüello received the Democratic representative from Florida, Ted Deutch, at the Argentine Embassy. They held a productive working meeting in which diverse issues related to the bilateral relationship between the Argentine Republic and the United States were discussed.

The Congressman, who is in his seventh term and represents Florida's 22nd electoral district, is a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, where he heads the Subcommittee on the Middle East, North Africa and Global Counterterrorism. His legislative work in the 117th Congress also includes the House Judiciary Affairs Committee and the House Ethics Committee, which he chairs.

During the meeting, in which the professional adviser

for the Subcommittee on Middle East, North Africa, and Global Counterterrorism, Sophie Mirviss, also participated, Ambassador Argüello congratulated Congressman Deutch for his recent appointment as the new CEO of the American Jewish Committee, after he was unanimously selected by the 28 members of the Executive Council of that organization. Deutch will replace the institution's current CEO, David Harris, who has led it since 1990.

In this context, after referring to the activities organized by the Embassy throughout 2021, in particular those linked to the cooperation agreement between the United States Holocaust Museum and the General Archives of Argentina, as well as the exhibition "Ese Día", which portrays the survivors of the terrorist attack perpetrated against the headquarters of the Asociación Mutual Israelita Argentina (AMIA) in 1994 (which has toured several Argentine

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MUTUAL INTEREST.

consulates throughout the country and will soon be exhibited at the Embassy), the head of mission highlighted the importance of the Argentine Jewish community, and made a call to join forces to explore new areas of collaboration with the American Jewish Committee on issues of mutual interest.

Due to the new duties he will assume in the American Jewish Committee, Deutch will not be running next November to represent Florida in a new term in the legislative elections. However, in the meeting with Ambassador Argüello, Representative Deutch mentioned his expectations and priorities regarding the pending issues for his remaining months in Congress. ■