



Embassy of the  
**Argentine Republic**  
Malaysia



## MALVINAS ISLANDS

an unresolved colonial situation



H.E. Ambassador of Argentina  
Manuel Balaguer Salas



14 December 2022  
09 : 30 a.m



Centre of Latin American Studies,  
Level 19, Wisma R & D  
Jalan Lembah Pantai  
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### ABSTRACT

This presentation seeks to synthetically address the so-called "Question of the Malvinas Islands" from four different perspectives: geographical, historical, international law, and diplomatic. This issue is understood as the sovereignty dispute between the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland over the Malvinas, South Georgias, and South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas. In addition, the main arguments supporting the legitimate claim of the Argentine Republic over the Malvinas Islands will be presented. The current status of the Malvinas Question will also be analyzed through the United Nations resolutions, which defined it as a special and unique case of decolonization with an underlying sovereignty dispute.

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## Argentina ending 2022 with the highest investment rate since 1993

With the current figure at 22,3% of the GDP, Argentina will end 2022 with the highest investment rate since 1993.

The increase goes side by side with a steady expansion of our exports, which in October grew by 15% on a year-to-year basis in terms of value and 8% in terms of quantities, with a high participation of industrial goods, such as automobiles, and services.

Within this framework, the Undersecretary for International Economic Relations of the Argentine Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Cecilia Todesca, highlighted that "the OECD has recently updated its forecasts and the growth forecast was raised for Argentina while lowered for the rest of the world. For us, to be able to continue growing, and this year it will be above 4%, means a lot in the current international context".

## Celebration of the Religious Freedom Day



With the participation of representatives of the Muslim community in Argentina, our country celebrated in November the Religious Freedom Day under the motto "Argentina united for the construction of a lasting peace". The ceremony was headed by the Undersecretary of Worship of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Guillermo Oliveri (photo), and the Argentine Nobel Peace Prize laureate, Adolfo Pérez Esquivel.

The Declaration for Religious Freedom affirms that religions have a great potential to contribute to peace and, for this reason, religious freedom is an essential condition for the realization of peace as a multicultural value and a principle that unites all human beings regardless of their beliefs or religion.

## UN Human Rights Council, the Argentine presidency presents annual report



The President of the UN Human Rights Council, Argentine Ambassador Federico Villegas, presented the Council's annual report to the UN General Assembly in New York during November.

The annual report makes visible all the actions carried out by the said body during a year crossed by three transformative events on a global scale: the pandemic, climate change and the escalation of armed conflicts. "All of these events have strong implications in terms of Human Rights and, at the same time, they demand solutions with a Human Rights perspective," said Villegas.

In his presentation, the Argentine representative highlighted the growing relevance of the Council within the UN structure based on the work that it has been carrying out through its three distinctive roles: consideration of urgent crises that require immediate attention -such as Ukraine, Ethiopia and Afghanistan-; review of the Human Rights situation of all countries through the universal periodic review; and progressive development of international Human Rights law with the inclusion of new issues in the agenda such as cyberbullying and neurotechnology.

## Successful openings of the Latin American Film Festival in KL and Penang

With a full attendance, the opening event of the 20th Latin American Film Festival took place at GSC cinema in 1 Utama, Kuala Lumpur, on November 17.



After a reception offered to the attendees with typical Latin American delicacies and beverages and following the opening speeches from the CEO of Golden Screen Cinemas (GSC), Ms. Koh Mei Lee, and the Argentine Ambassador and Dean of the Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC), Mr. Manuel Balaguer Salas, the audience enjoyed the Argentine movie *The Weasel's Tale* (Spanish, *El cuento de las comadrejas*), a 2019 dark comedy featuring four aged people living in an old mansion, all of them professionally related to the showbiz (lead actress, bit-part actor, screenwriter and director), and how they deal with the arrival of two real estate developers wanting to purchase the land.

After four days of projections, with a fine selection of movies from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Mexico and Peru, the Festival later moved to GSC Gurney Plaza in George Town, Penang, where our Ambassador travelled for the official opening on November 24.

Organized by the Latin American embassies in Kuala Lumpur, the Latin American Film Festival takes place every year under a free admission policy, so that everyone can enjoy the best of the Latin American cinema industry.

## Ambassador strengthens political and cultural ties with Malaysia



During November and on the occasion of participating in the celebrations of the birth anniversary of Kelantan Sultan, Mohamed V, the Argentine Ambassador Manuel Balaguer Salas entertained different meetings with members of the Royal Family and other local authorities of the State, which maintains active ties with Argentina.

Over the course of the month, Ambassador also took part, together with his colleagues from the Spanish speaking Embassies in KL, in a meeting with Professor Yatimah binti Alias, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic & International affairs) of Universiti Malaya (UM), in order to establish cooperation mechanisms to promote the learning of Spanish in Malaysia.

Finally, our Head of Mission held a meeting with the Director General of the National Visual Art Gallery (NAG), Amerrudin bin Ahmad, with the purpose of increasing the presence of Argentine pieces of art and artists in Malaysia.

## Argentina promotes global food security and energy transition at G20, Bali

As part of his intervention in the 17th G20 Leaders Summit held in November in Bali, Indonesia, the Argentine Minister of Foreign Affairs, Santiago Cafiero, assured that "Argentina wants to be part of the construction of a more cooperative world that guarantees food security".



In this context, Cafiero recalled that "Latin America and the Caribbean faced the worst economic contraction in its history in 2020 and now we must face the effects of the war". He then reiterated the proposal of the Argentine President, Alberto Fernández, on the occasion of the last Summit of the Americas "to organize continentally not only food production, but also the development of our enormous energy and mineral resources to support the global energy transition".

In this regard, the Minister explained that "just in Argentina, we have the second biggest unconventional gas reserves in the world. With Chile and Bolivia, we form the 'lithium triangle' in which more than 60% of the world's reserves of this mineral are concentrated, and we are developing the production of green hydrogen as well".

## Presentation of the Argentine Antarctic Annual Plan

Minister of Foreign Affairs, Santiago Cafiero, and Minister of Defense, Jorge Taiana, jointly presented in November the general guidelines of the Argentine Antarctic Annual Plan 2022-2023, which comprises all the activities expected to be carried out in the Argentine Antarctic Sector during the campaign which is taking place between November 1, 2022, and October 31, 2023.

Minister Cafiero explained that the works being deployed are an articulated effort between three ministries -Foreign Affairs, Defense and Science, Technology and Innovation- and, in this line, stated that: "The main purpose, what unifies us and moves us to sustain this work in Antarctica, is the defense of our interests in this area in cooperation with the international community".

The Annual Antarctic Plan includes scientific-technical activities, logistical support tasks and environmental management and services, which, in turn, comprise tasks related to meteorological, hydrographic and cartographic services.



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