

*Elena Leticia MIKUSINSKI,
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
of the Argentine Republic to Ukraine*

ACTIVITIES OF THE EMBASSY OF THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC IN UKRAINE

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The Argentine Republic has steadfastly condemned the aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine, voting against it in all relevant international organisations, including the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) and the Human Rights Council.

The Argentine Republic voted in favour of all of the following resolutions of the UN General Assembly:

- ES-11/1 ‘Aggression against Ukraine’ on 2 March 2022;
- ES-11/2 ‘Humanitarian consequences of the aggression against Ukraine’ on 24 March 2022;
- ES-11/3 ‘Suspension of the rights of membership of the Russian Federation in the Human Rights Council’ on 7 April 2022;
- ES-11/4 ‘Territorial integrity of Ukraine: defending the principles of the Charter of the United Nations’ on 12 October 2022;
- ES-11/5 ‘Furtherance of remedy and reparation for aggression against Ukraine’ on 14 November 2022;
- 77/229 ‘Situation of human rights in the temporarily occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine’, on 15 December 2022;
- ES-11/6 ‘Principles of the Charter of the United Nations underlying a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in Ukraine’ on 23 February 2023;
- 77/284 ‘Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe’, on 26 April 2023.

It is worth noting that Argentina, when presiding over the Human Rights Council in Geneva, voted in favour of suspending the Russian Federation from the body and against aggression in other international fora, such as Vienna, Paris, and UNESCO.

Argentina also emphasises international law principles that are crucial to us. State sovereignty comes first, followed by peaceful conflict resolutions, and, finally and most importantly for us, the notion of territorial integrity.

For Argentina, the principle of territorial integrity is universal, and there are no double standards; it is applied in Ukraine, Georgia, Kosovo, Gibraltar, and the South Atlantic.

Moreover, to be coherent, this principle and others, such as sovereignty and pacific solutions to controversies, are the most important principles of the United Nations Charter.

Argentina is part of the Global South but has privileged ties with the European Union, both political and historical. Furthermore, due to these connections, issues in the European Union frequently affect Argentina.

Middle-power nations like Argentina may be able to enjoy independence while still becoming interdependent in this multipolar framework.

Argentina belongs to Mercosur as a commercial bloc, is a member of the G20, has special relations with some countries of the European Union, and has signed a treaty as part of Mercosur with the European Union (currently partially under discussion in order to put into effect this important agreement for both blocs).

Argentina also has enormous potential for deepening commercial ties with other partners like India and China. In the case of the European Union, it is true that we have a partnership that goes beyond the commercial field because it is part of our history and our shared values, such as the defence of human rights and democracy, to name some.

In this new context, Argentina understands, as it did thirty years ago, that some institutions must be changed, such as the United Nations Security Council. We are against the veto and permanent members; we are in favour of a more transparent and democratic Security Council.

The war in Ukraine also reflects the need to change this post-World War II order that does not reflect the current multipolar world situation and the multilateral system.

Last but not least, Argentina, a middle-power nation, is and will continue to be a significant player in the energy sector; we have a large lithium and green hydrogen reserve, and we also play a significant role as a provider of food, aiding in the resolution of issues related to food security. These two industries – energy and food – will be crucial to our position in the world.

Events held from June 2022 to June 2023

- **30 June 2023.** Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Elena Leticia Mikusinski took part in a meeting convened by Andrii Yermak, the Head of the Office of the President of Ukraine. Denmark, Germany, Indonesia, Japan, Mexico, South Korea, the United Kingdom, and the United States were among the countries represented, with their respective mission heads in attendance. Furthermore, Dmytro Lubinet, Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights, joined the conversation.

- **29 June 2023.** Ambassador Elena Leticia Mikusinski participated in the conference Under Siege: The Riveting Story of Ukraine's Resilience, chaired by

His Excellency Ihor Prokopchuk, the Ambassador of Ukraine to Romania, and co-organised by the Euro-Atlantic Resilience Centre in Bucharest.

- **29 June 2023.** A unique musical event titled *Grand Astor* took place at the Music Salon of the National Philharmonic of Ukraine as part of the event programme celebrating the 30th anniversary of the opening of the Embassy of the Argentine Republic in Ukraine.

Grand Astor concert programme featured Astor Piazzolla's musical pieces performed by the Mykola Rizol Accordion Quartet: *Primavera Porteña*, arrangement by Oleh Shyian; *Violentango*, arrangement by Viacheslav Samofalov; *S'il vous plait*, arranged by V. Samofalov; *Verano Porteño*, arrangement by Vitalii Kozytskyi; *Fracanapa*, arrangement by V. Samofalov; *La Muerte del Angel*, arrangement by Ihor Saienko; *Otoño Porteño*, arrangement by O. Shyian; *Fuga y misterio*, arrangement by I. Saienko; *Milonga sin palabras*, arrangement by V. Samofalov; *Inverno Porteño*, arrangement by Andrii Hirkyi; *Libertango*, arrangement by V. Samofalov.

- **26 June 2023.** The Sunny Bunny LGBTQIA+ Film Festival shone a spotlight on the cinematic artistry of the renowned Argentine director Marco Berger as his film *Horseplay* took the stage with its captivating screening. It is worth noting that the Embassy of the Argentine Republic in Ukraine offered sponsorship for the festival. During the film's presentation, organisers shared a message from Ambassador Elena Leticia Mikusinski.

- **22 June 2023.** The Embassy of the Argentine Republic in Kyiv celebrated its 30th anniversary since its establishment. As part of the commemorative festivities, the Argentine Embassy organised a number of events, the most prominent among which was the already mentioned *Grand Astor* concert. The Argentine Embassy staff joined this heartwarming event, with Ambassador Elena Leticia Mikusinski and Embassy Secretary Jorge Martín Quaranta who watched the concert online.

On the occasion of the 30th anniversary, the Argentine Embassy has established a memorial hall as a tribute to the dedication and contributions of mission heads, diplomatic officers, administrative attachés, and local staff who have shaped the Embassy's journey since 22 June 1993. The official unveiling of the hall is forthcoming.

- **12 April 2023.** Santiago Cafiero, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Argentine Republic, held a phone conversation with Dmytro Kuleba, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.

- **28 March 2023.** Santiago Cafiero, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Argentine Republic, joined an online meeting A Just and Lasting Peace in Ukraine convened by Antony Blinken, the Secretary of State of the United States. The focal point of this meeting was to deliberate upon a range of initiatives geared towards the cessation of the war between Russia and Ukraine and establishing

sustainable and lasting peace in Ukraine following the principles outlined in the UN Charter. The event commenced with introductory remarks from Volodymyr Zelenskyy, the President of Ukraine.

- **24 February 2023.** One year following the commencement of the war in Ukraine, Argentina reiterates its condemnation of the Russian invasion and urges for an immediate cessation of hostilities. The same day, Santiago Cafiero, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Argentine Republic, received copies of credentials from Yurii Klymenko, the newly appointed Ambassador of Ukraine.

- **23 February 2023.** Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Argentina Elena Leticia Mikusinski met Yurii Klymenko, the newly appointed Ambassador of Ukraine to Argentina, in Warsaw. Mr Klymenko expressed his gratitude for the support extended and conveyed high regard for Argentina's position regarding the war in Ukraine, especially its support of the six resolutions in favour of Ukraine at the United Nations General Assembly.

- **18 February 2023.** Almost one year after the outbreak of the war, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Argentina, through the Argentine Agency for International Cooperation and Humanitarian Assistance – The White Helmets Commission, approved a new humanitarian aid donation to Ukraine. This donation, the twelfth shipment since the beginning of the invasion, included 45 packages weighing 214 kilograms, primarily medical supplies. The facilitation of this delivery was a result of joint endeavours with Ukrainian community organisations in Argentina, overseen by Dr Pedro Lylyk, President of the Ukrainian National Central Representation in the Argentine Republic, architect Jorge Danylyszyn, President of the Prosvita Ukrainian Cultural Society, Enrique Piñeyro, Argentine entrepreneur and philanthropist, Aerolíneas Argentinas company, and the Embassy of Ukraine in Buenos Aires.

- **14 January 2023.** The Embassy has welcomed a new diplomat, Secretary Jorge Martín Quaranta, who previously fulfilled duties as Secretary at the Embassy of the Argentine Republic in Indonesia.

- **11 January 2023.** Pablo Tettamanti, the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Argentina, held a video conference with Andrii Melnyk, the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.

- **14 December 2022.** Ambassador Elena Leticia Mikusinski and Executive President of the Argentine-Ukrainian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CAUCI) Mr Oleh Jachno co-organised a video conference Landscape of Romanian Support for Ukraine chaired by the Ambassador of Romania to Ukraine, Mr Alexandru-Victor Micula.

- **14 December 2022.** A special concert, supported by the Embassy of Argentina, took place at the National Philharmonic of Ukraine. The second part of the programme was dedicated to Astor Piazzolla.

- **14 December 2022.** The same day, the GDIP Media Center presented the 23rd issue of the scientific yearbook *Diplomatic Ukraine*, circulated throughout all Ukrainian embassies abroad as well as accredited diplomatic missions in Ukraine. Among the participants were Yevhen Perebyinis, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine; Volodymyr Ohryzko, Former Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine (2007–9); Dr Serhii Pyrozhkov, Vice-President of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine; members of the Ukrainian diplomatic corps; representatives of the international community; and members of the academic and scientific community. Ms Elena Leticia Mikusinski was invited to partake in the presentation as mentioned above online.

- **19 August 2022.** Pablo Tettamanti, the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Argentina, had a phone conversation with Emine Dzhaparova, the First Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.

- **1 July 2022.** The President of Argentina, Alberto Fernández, and the President of Ukraine, Volodymyr Zelenskyy, had a telephone conversation.

After the Embassy of the Argentine Republic in Ukraine was temporarily relocated to Bucharest on 4 March 2022, the mission continues to provide support to Argentinians in Ukraine who require services, including document processing, local administrative procedures, and logistical needs. This effort has prompted Ambassador Elena Mikusinski and Embassy staff to undertake regular trips to Chernivtsi, ensuring the issuance of passports for repatriation.

Additionally, Ambassador Elena Mikusinski paid a courtesy visit to the Mayor of Chernivtsi Roman Klichuk, expressing gratitude for his unwavering willingness to cooperate with the Embassy and to assist Argentine citizens in Ukraine.