

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 18

Reaffirming the United States-Argentina partnership and recognizing
Argentina's economic reforms.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 23, 2017

Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. Kaine, and Mr. Lankford) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

RESOLUTION

Reaffirming the United States-Argentina partnership and
recognizing Argentina's economic reforms.

Whereas, on November 22, 2015, the citizens of the Argentine Republic elected Mauricio Macri as their President;

Whereas President Macri has pledged to promote greater national unity, rebuild the economy, combat domestic corruption, strengthen freedom of the press, defend human rights abroad, attract foreign direct investment, return to international credit markets, and reassert Argentina's leadership globally;

Whereas President Macri has emphasized his intention to seek closer ties with the United States and restore the bilateral partnership previously enjoyed by both countries;

Whereas the Argentine Republic is a major non-NATO ally of the United States;

Whereas United States-Argentina relations are historically characterized by comprehensive commercial ties and strong bilateral cooperation on human rights, peacekeeping, science and technology, non-proliferation, and education, as well as on regional and global issues;

Whereas President Obama traveled to Argentina in March 2016 to strengthen engagement on issues of bilateral interest, such as trade, investment, energy, security, and peacekeeping

Whereas, in an appearance with President Macri at the Casa Rosada in Buenos Aires, President Obama said that “our countries share profound values in common—respect for human rights, for individual freedoms, for democracy, for justice, and for peace”;

Whereas the United States Department of the Treasury no longer opposes multilateral development banks lending to Argentina because of the Government of Argentina’s “progress on key issues and positive economic policy trajectory”;

Whereas President Macri prioritized Argentina resolving its 15-year standoff with private creditors stemming from the 2001–2002 economic crisis;

Whereas the Macri Administration lifted controls on trade, currency, and poultry, enhanced the quality and transparency of government data, and eliminated subsidies on electricity, water, and gas;

Whereas, in April 2016, the Government of Argentina issued \$16,500,000,000 in new government bonds and paid \$9,300,000,000 to holdout creditors to resolve its default

settlements, which facilitated Argentina’s return to international financial markets;

Whereas Argentina is Latin America’s third largest economy and the International Monetary Fund, in April 2016, claimed the Macri Administration “embarked on an ambitious, much needed transition to remove domestic imbalances and distortions and correct relative prices”;

Whereas Secretary of State John Kerry visited Argentina in August 2016 to launch a High-Level Dialogue to develop and sustain cooperation on bilateral, regional, and global challenges, including democratic development and protection of human rights in Latin America; and

Whereas Secretary Kerry, during his visit, stated that “the United States strongly supports President Macri’s effort to deepen Argentina’s integration with the global economy” and that “our governments will be supporting policies that are aimed at strong, sustainable, and balanced economic growth”: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) upholds its commitment to the partnership
3 between the United States and Argentina and reaffirms that the Argentine Republic is a major non-
4 NATO ally of the United States;

5 (2) encourages the Department of State to coordinate an interagency strategy to increase cooperation with the Government of Argentina on areas of
6 bilateral, regional, and global concern;

7 (3) commends President Mauricio Macri and
8 his Administration for making far-reaching economic
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1 reforms that will benefit the people of Argentina,
2 stimulate economic growth, and deepen Argentina's
3 integration with the global economy;

4 (4) praises the Government of Argentina for re-
5 solving its dispute with international creditors;

6 (5) encourages the Government of Argentina to
7 continue to investigate and prosecute those respon-
8 sible for the 1994 bombing of the Argentine-Israeli
9 Mutual Association (AMIA) in Buenos Aires, as well
10 as the January 2015 death of AMIA special pros-
11 ecutor Alberto Nisman; and

12 (6) expresses its desire that the growing part-
13 nership between the United States and Argentina
14 will result in greater cooperation at multilateral in-
15 stitutions, such as the United Nations.

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