



May 3, 2024

The Honorable Jorge Argüello  
Ambassador of the Argentine Republic to the United States  
Embassy of the Argentine Republic  
1600 New Hampshire Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20009

Dear Ambassador,

On behalf of the 1.7 million members of the AFT, I am writing to express my deep concern about the current state of public education in Argentina. As an advocate for education and social progress, I am alarmed by the severe austerity measures imposed by President Milei's government, which threaten the very existence of public universities.

The recent massive protests in Buenos Aires and other cities, joined by hundreds of thousands of students, professors, and citizens, demonstrate the widespread opposition to these cuts. The University of Buenos Aires, a venerable institution and symbol of Argentine intellectual tradition, is on the brink of financial collapse, struggling under a 61% annual budget cut.

I urge the Argentine government to prioritize education and increase funding for public universities. Education is a fundamental right, and it is essential to ensure that future generations have access to quality education.

I join the voices of our partners in Argentina -- Confederación de Educadores Argentinos (CEA), Confederación de Trabajadores de la Educación de la República Argentina (CTERA), and Federación Nacional de Docentes Universitarios (CONADU), and Asociación del Personal de la Universidad de Buenos Aires (APUBA) -- in demanding that the government:

- Increase funding for public universities to prevent their closure
- Prioritize education as a fundamental right and a cornerstone of social progress
- Reverse the austerity measures that are devastating the education sector

I hope that your government will listen to the voices of its citizens and take immediate action to address this crisis.

Sincerely,

Randi Weingarten  
President

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The AFT is a union of professionals that champions fairness; democracy; economic opportunity; and high-quality public education, healthcare and public services for our students, their families and our communities. We are committed to advancing these principles through community engagement, organizing, collective bargaining and political activism, and especially through the work our members do.

**AFT, AFL-CIO**

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