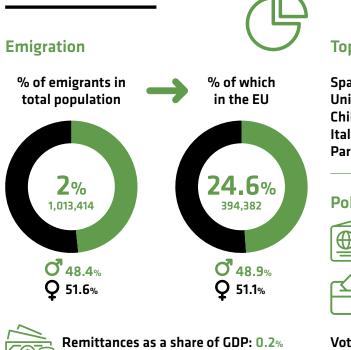


# Diaspora engagement mapping **ARGENTINA**

# Facts & figures



Remittances inflow (USD million): 1,258

# Top countries of destination

Spain United States Chile	259,946 215,239 72,813
Italy	71,880
Paraguay	58,535

# Political rights

Dual citizenship <sup>1</sup>	V
Right to vote in national elections for citizens residing abroad <sup>2</sup>	8

# Voting from abroad

At embassies/consulates

Terminology: The government uses the terms "Argentinos en el exterior"<sup>3</sup> and "Argentinos en el mundo"<sup>4</sup> to refer to Argentinians living or traveling in another country.

# Argentina does not have a diaspora engagement policy.

1 https://www.argentina.gob.ar/interior/migraciones/doble-nacionalidad

2 Codigo electoral nacional: https://pdba.georgetown.edu/ElecSys/Argentina/argentina.html

3 https://www.argentina.gob.ar/interior/migraciones/argentinos-en-el-exterior

4 https://www.argentina.gob.ar/argentinosenelmundo

#### Overview of the policy and legislative framework



**Law on Migration (Law No. 25871) – Ley de Migraciones (Ley No. 25871)**: provides that the government may subscribe international agreements to guarantee labor and social security rights to Argentinians abroad and the possibility to send remittances to their families in Argentina. It also provides fiscal incentives to those Argentinians abroad who decide to return to the country (tax exemptions on professional tools, household goods and vehicles) and obliges embassies and consulates to provide all the necessary services to Argentinians abroad in order to keep them informed about fiscal incentives for their return.

### Trends & achievements

The government of Argentina has a very welcoming policy for citizen naturalization, which offers any Argentinian parent the ability to apply for citizenship for their child. Additionally, the government makes finding diaspora communities anywhere around the world relatively easy by maintaining a detailed website that includes groups in over 100 countries across six continents. While the government makes locating diaspora communities a fairly simple task, there are no official diaspora policies and it is not clear whether the government is interested in strengthening its diaspora engagement or not.

Additionally, efforts have been done by the Argentinian Goverment to develop a registry of their nationals abroad through the Matricular Registry (Libro de Matrícula) in each consultate. Registration is free and voluntary, and it is mainly encouraged to facilitate administrative procedures and to create a communication channel with the diaspora.<sup>5</sup>

#### **Obstacles**



- **Low remittance assistance:** Although 2% of Argentinians live abroad and the value of remittances is relatively low, diasporas from more advanced economies tend to be more active in other ways than via remittances, e.g. via philanthropy.
- Lack of policy framework: There is no policy framework informing government outreach to the diaspora or guiding activities. For example, although the Argentine government provides efficient and easily accessible government information and regional community programs to its citizens abroad through their website "Argentinos en el mundo", the activity is primarily an effort of the foreign affairs office to fulfil its administrative work of informing its citizens, rather than an attempt to drive engagement.

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# SPOTLIGHT: effective practices

# Naturalization Efficiency

The government of Argentina makes citizenship through naturalization very accessible. <sup>6</sup> Children born abroad to Argentines are able to apply for citizenship at their embassy or consulate. The child must have at least one Argentine parent. The cost of obtaining citizenship is free. However, in order to obtain the National Document of Identification (DNI), which is necessary for all citizens, the fee is 300 pesos in the currency of the country you live in.

### Recognition of Active Argentinians Abroad 2018

In 2018, the Foreign Minister, Jorge Faurie, granted special recognition and signed diplomas to Argentinians abroad who demonstrated outstanding work in the social or business sector or in the strengthening of bilateral relations. Argentinian representatives were prompted to identify citizens in their jurisdiction that matched the criteria; the main one being the positive contribution the citizen had made for the image and visibility of Argentina abroad and/or their contribution to the development and strengthening of ties between the members of the Argentine community in their country of residence. The awards were presented at a formal event with the winners' family and friends.

### Comunidades Argentinas en el Mundo

The government of Argentina has an extensive list of local Argentinian community groups in 21 countries and 6 continents. The government website provides users with the type of group, the country and city it is located in, the name of the organization, an email contact, and the website link. New community groups can be submitted by email to argentinosenelmundo@mrecic.gov.ar The list is intended to be useful to Argentinians abroad, who can access information about organizations where they can meet and interact with other Argentinian citizens.

#### RAICES, Red de Argentinos Investigadores y Científicos en el Exterior/Network of Argentine Researchers and Scientists Abroad

The main objective of this programme, created by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation, is to develop networks with Argentine researchers and scientists living abroad and increasing the links with researchers living in Argentina. RAICES seeks to disseminate the country's scientific and technological activities abroad. Likewise, the programme seeks to encourage the return of scientists and researchers from the Argentinean diaspora and facilitate their integration to continue their professional activity in Argentinean institutions.

# Distance Education Service (SEAD)

The SEAD is a programme that offers the possibility to teach primary and secondary education students who are temporarily living abroad. In this way, they are given the opportunity to continue practising the national language, maintain the feeling of belonging to their country of origin and facilitate their reincorporation into the Argentine education system upon their return to the country.



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ARGENTINA



**EDUCATION** 

# Annex: List of Actors

# **Diaspora related institutions**

- At regional level
- National institutions
  - o At ministerial level

#### Ministerio Relaciones Exteriores, Comercio Internacional y Culto Argentina 1853

The Ministry of Foreign Relations, International Business, and Argentinian Culture oversees the embassies and consulates abroad. It also provides individuals with information on visas. The ministry's website promotes international relations and shows users different events that have been hosted between diaspora populations across the globe.

#### **Embassies and Consulates**

The Argentinian embassies and consulates serve as political and economic representations of Argentina. They provide assistance, support, and guidance and containment to Argentinian citizens abroad. There are over 100 counties with Argentinian embassies and consulates. A complete list of locations and contact information is available here.

# **Diaspora organisations in Europe**

Asociación de Residentes Argentinos en Bélgica y Luxemburgo 1999 Belgium

- Development activities
- Integration activities

The Brussels-based organisation helps medical and educational programs in Argentina through donations and promotes cultural events.

#### Centro Agentino de Franken 1992 Gernmany

#### Integration activities

The Erlangen based organisation aims to promote integration of Argentinians in Germany, as well as cultural exchange between the two countries and to maintain Argentinian cultural heritage.

#### Círculo Argentino de Señoras de Berlín Germany

#### Integration activities

The Berlin-based organization aims to nurture Argentinian culture by promoting cultural exchanges through film screenings, dances and other cultural expressions and events.





#### Observatorio Hispano Argentino Spain

Development activities

#### ☑ Integration activities

The observatory is based in Madrid, from whence it promotes studies and analysis on both Argentinian and Spanish realities and aims to promote, defend, and spread migrants' rights, social development projects and cultural events.

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