



NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Suite 605, 1717 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036 (202) 328-3136 • Telex 5106015068 NDHIA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
KENNETH WOLLACK 202/328-3136

NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTE TO SPONSOR INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN ARGENTINA

WASHINGTON, DC, APRIL 16, 1987 -- The National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI) will sponsor a major international conference on constitutional and legislative reform in Argentina. The conference, to be held in Buenos Aires from April 23-25, will include political leaders and constitutional scholars from North America, Europe, Latin America, and the Far East.

Former Vice President Walter Mondale, chairman of NDI and leader of the U.S. delegation, said, "The hope of NDI and our Argentine hosts is that this conference will encourage agreement on constitutional reforms by sharing the experiences of key practitioners and scholars from other democratic nations."

Mondale added that the conference will also "demonstrate international support for Argentina's efforts to strengthen the country's democratic institutions."

Argentine President Raul Alfonsin, who will preside over the opening session of the conference, has cited constitutional reform as a major factor in bringing greater

-more-

stability to Argentina's democracy. He has appointed a presidential commission to review the constitution and the governmental system.

NDI was asked by the two major parties of Argentina -- the Union Civica Radical and Partido Justicialista -- to sponsor the conference entitled "Consolidating Democracy through Constitutional Reform", to help analyze the issues under review and improve public understanding of the options for reform. West Germany's Friedrich Naumann Foundation is co-sponsoring the event.

"The conference is a two-way street," said NDI President Brian Atwood. "The Argentine participants can gain valuable insights from representatives of nations that have resolved issues similar to those now facing Argentina and the international panel can gain a more profound understanding of the complexities, difficulties, and realities of the Argentine national experience."

Among the panel topics for the three-day conference are Constitutional Reform: Developing an Accord for National Unity; Legislative Organization and Functions; Individual Rights, Social Rights, and Constitutional Guarantees; and Strengthening Political Representation and Participation: Constitutional Recognition of the Roles of Political Parties, Non-governmental Organizations, and Civic Associations.

International invitees include Uruguayan Vice President Enrique Tarigo; former Venezuelan presidents Rafael Caldera, Luis Herrera Campins, and Carlos Andres Perez; former Swedish prime minister Ola Ullsten; former Costa Rican vice president Carlos Manuel Castillo, Canadian Senate Opposition leader and former foreign minister Alan MacEachen; Counselor to the President of France, Michel Charasse; and chairman of the Philippines National Movement for Free Elections (NAMFREL), Christian Monsod. (Complete list attached)

In addition to Mondale, the U.S. delegation will include former Senator Thomas Eagleton (D-MO), U.S. Court of Appeals Judge Abner Mikva, and former Congressman Berkley Bedell (D-IA).

These participants will be joined by a counterpart group of 30 leading political figures and scholars from Argentina, drawn from the country's two major political parties. (List attached)

Affiliated with the Democratic Party, the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs conducts nonpartisan political development programs overseas. By working with political parties and other institutions, NDI seeks to strengthen democratic institutions and pluralistic values in new and emerging democracies.

-more-

NDI received bipartisan acclaim last year for organizing along with its Republican counterpart, the international observer delegation to the Philippines elections. NDI has also conducted a series of democratic development programs in nearly 30 countries, including Barbados, Brazil, Chile, Haiti, Northern Ireland, Senegal, South Korea, Taiwan, and Uruguay.

#

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM
BUENOS AIRES, APRIL 23-25, 1987

ARGENTINE PARTICIPANTS

UCR = Union Civica Radical

PJ = Partido Justicialista (Peronists)

Oswaldo Alvarez Guerrero, UCR
Governor
Rio Negro

Raul Eduardo Baglini, UCR
Chairman, Finance Committee
Chamber of Deputies
Mendoza

Ricardo Barrios Arrechea, UCR
Governor
Misiones

Antonio Cafiero, PJ
Candidate for Governor, Buenos
Aires Province
National Deputy
Buenos Aires Province

Juan Manuel Casella, UCR
Candidate for Governor, Buenos
Aires Province
UCR President,
Buenos Aires Province

Horacio Costa, UCR
Undersecretary
Office of President Alfonsin

Fernando De La Rúa, UCR
Chairman
Constitutional Affairs Committee
National Senator
Buenos Aires City

Juan M. de la Sota, PJ
National Deputy
Cordoba

Francisco Delich, UCR
Director, FUCADE
Former President,
University of Buenos Aires

Carlos Dromi, PJ
Professor of Law
University of Mendoza

Oscar Fappiano, PJ
National Deputy
Formosa

Francisco Figuerola, PJ
Former Secretary General
Office of former President Peron

Alberto Garcia Lema, PJ
Vice President, FUNCRE
Professor of Constitutional Law
University of Buenos Aires

Dante Giadone, UCR
President,
Arturo Illia Foundation

Carlos Grosso, PJ
National Deputy
Buenos Aires City

Diego Ramiro Guelar, PJ
President, FUNCRE
National Deputy
Buenos Aires City

Italo Argentino Luder, PJ
Former Vice President
Former President of the Senate

Jose Luis Manzano, PJ
National Deputy
Mendoza

Jorge Matzkin, PJ
Secretary
Finance Committee
Chamber of Deputies
La Pampa

Argentine Participants cont'd

Carlos Saul Menem, PJ
Governor
La Rioja

Eduardo Menem, PJ
Chairman
Administrative and Municipal
Affairs Committee
National Senator
La Rioja

Leopoldo Moreau, UCR
Chairman
Communications Committee
Chamber of Deputies
Buenos Aires Province

Carlos Santiago Nino, UCR
Coordinator, Council for the
Consolidation of Democracy
Office of President Alfonsin

Carlos Pugliese, UCR
President, Chamber of Deputies
National Deputy
Buenos Aires Province

Jesus Rodriguez, UCR
Chairman
Budget and Treasury Committee
Chamber of Deputies
Buenos Aires City

Luis Rubeo, PJ
National Senator
Santa Fe

Marcelo Stubrin, UCR
National Deputy
Buenos Aires City

Jorge Vanossi, UCR
Chairman
Constitutional Affairs Committee
Chamber of Deputies
Buenos Aires City

INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPANTS

Brazil

Bolivar Lamounier
Director, Institute for Economic,
Social and Political Studies of
Sao Paulo
Former Member
Constitutional Commission

Leonel Brizola
Chairman,
Democratic Labor Party - PDT
Former Governor,
Rio de Janeiro

Canada

Alan MacEachen
Senate Opposition Leader
Former Foreign Minister
(Liberal Party - LP)

Chile

Eduardo Frei Ruiz Tagle
President, Frei Foundation
(Christian Democratic Party - PDC)

Eduardo Jara Miranda
Attorney
Member of the Group of 24
Radical Party

Julio Suberseaux
Attorney
Vice President of the Group of 24

Costa Rica

Carlos Manuel Castillo
Governor, Central Bank
Former Vice President of the
Republic
(National Liberation Party - PLN)

International Participants cont'd

France

Michel Charasse
Counselor to President Mitterrand
Senator
(Socialist Party - PS)

Michel D'Ornano
Chairman, National Assembly
Finance Committee
Former Minister of Justice
(Democratic Union Party - UDF)

Germany, Federal Republic of

Erhard Denninger
Professor of Civil Rights and
Legal Philosophy
Johann Wolfgang Goethe University
Frankfurt

Hans Jurgen Puhle
Professor of Law
University of Bielefeld
Bielefeld

Peru

Romualdo G. Biaggi Rodriguez
Senator
(American Popular Revolutionary
Alliance - APRA)

Felipe Osterling Parodi
Senator
(Popular Christian Party - PPC)

The Philippines

Christian Monsod, Chairman,
National Citizens Movement for
Free Elections (NAMFREL)
Former Member, Constituent
Assembly

Portugal

Rui Machete, President,
Oliveira Martins Foundation
Member of Parliament
Former Minister of Justice
(Social Democratic Party - PSD)

Socialist International

Pentti Vaananen
General Secretary
(Finland)

Spain

Manuel Fraga Iribane
Member of Parliament
Former President,
Popular Alliance Party - AP
Deputy Chairman, European
Democratic Union (EDU)

Antonio Garrigues Walker
Vice President, Liberal Int'l
President,
(Democratic Reform Party - PRD)

Antonio Sotillo
Undersecretary of Government for
Judicial-Executive Relations
Member of Parliament
Former Chairman, Parliamentary
Constitutional Committee
(Socialist Workers Party - PSOE)

Sweden

Ola Ullsten
Ambassador to Canada
Former Prime Minister of the
Republic
(Folkpartiet - People's Party)

International Participants, cont'd

United States

Brian Atwood, President
National Democratic Institute for
International Affairs
Former Ass't Secretary of State
for Congressional Relations

Berkley Bedell
Former Congressman, Iowa

Thomas F. Eagleton, Board Member
National Democratic Institute for
International Affairs
Former Senator, Missouri

Judge Abner Mikva
U.S. Court of Appeals
Former Congressman, Illinois

Walter F. Mondale, Chairman
National Democratic Institute for
International Affairs
Former Vice President of the
United States

Richard Thurman
Deputy Program Director
National Democratic Institute for
International Affairs
Project Director

Uruguay

Wilson Ferreira Aldunate
President, Partido Nacional
Blancos - (Whites)
(National Party - PN)

Enrique Ernesto Tarigo Vasquez,
Vice President of the Republic
(Partido Colorado - PC)

Venezuela

Rafael Caldera
Former President of the Republic
(Social Christian Party - COPEI)

Luis Herrera Campins
Former President of the Republic
Vice President, Christian
Democratic International
(Social Christian Party - COPEI)

Carlos Andres Perez
Former President of the Republic
Vice President, Socialist Int'l
(Democratic Action Party - AD)

Enrique Tejera Paris
Former Ambassador to the U.S.
International Secretary,
(Democratic Action Party - AD)