

## **B20 Handover**

Passing on the B20 Presidency to B20 Argentina

Wednesday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 – Buenos Aires

**“We can be proud of what we all have accomplished as B20 Germany together. We wish B20 Argentina all the best.”**

Jürgen Heraeus, B20 Germany Chair

**“It is with much honour that Argentinian business leaders receive today the B20 leadership”**

Daniel Funes de Rioja, B20 Argentina Chair



Daniel Funes de Rioja, B20 Argentina Chair, and Jürgen Heraeus, B20 Germany Chair

## B20 Germany is passing on the B20 Presidency to B20 Argentina

In 2016, the German government had mandated the leading German business associations, the Federation of German Industries (BDI), the German Employers' Associations (BDA) and the Association of German Chambers of Commerce and Industry (DIHK), to organize Business20 (B20) Germany. More than 700 high-level representatives from business, government, civil society, and international organizations engaged in B20 Germany under the motto "Resilience, Responsibility, Responsiveness – Towards a Future-oriented, Sustainable World Economy". 1 year, 7 taskforces and 20 policy recommendations later, B20 Germany has come to an end. On November 1, 2017, B20 Chair Jürgen Heraeus and B20 Sherpa Stormy-Annika Mildner officially handed over the B20 Presidency to Daniel Funes de Rioja, Chair of B20 Argentina. B20 Argentina is now officially in the driver's seat.

### Business – A Strong and Reliable Partner to the G20

The handover ceremony was hosted by the designated G20 Sherpa Ambassador Pedro Villagra Delgado who emphasized the utmost importance of the G20 in international cooperation. This view is reflected by the B20. The G20 is a major actor in global cooperation and holds the necessary weight and legitimacy for global governance. The world is becoming more complex and economic and social challenges remain unsolved. In an increasingly uncertain world, the G20 needs strong partners. B20 Germany Chair Jürgen Heraeus and B20 Argentina Chair Daniel Funes de Rioja both stressed the role of business in international cooperation during the handover ceremony and emphasized that the B20 is a strong and reliable partner to the G20. "The B20 has proven to be a responsible voice for innovative and clear views on how today's challenges may be approached," stated Funes de Rioja. The B20 provides the necessary expertise to find answers to the most pressing global economic challenges of our times and supports the G20 with consolidated policy recommendations. "Our voice is vital in finding solutions to today's problems," emphasized Heraeus. "Let us dream together", Funes de Rioja added, "But let us also take action. Only if we join forces, we will be able to have a lasting impact".



Top: Fernando Landa, B20 Argentina Sherpa, Carolina Castro, B20 Argentina Executive Sherpa, Jürgen Heraeus B20 Germany Chair, Stormy-Annika Mildner, B20 Germany Sherpa

Middle: Jürgen Heraeus, B20 Germany Chair

Bottom: Daniel Funes de Rioja, B20 Argentina Chair

## Inclusiveness a Key Goal under B20 Argentina

With more than 700 members from all economic sectors, B20 Germany developed actionable policy recommendations for the G20 on trade, climate and energy, digitalization, finance and infrastructure, employment and education, and responsible business conduct. B20 Argentina announced at the handover ceremony that inclusiveness will be one of its main themes. “Inclusiveness must be a key factor considered every time we debate and propose new ideas,” stated Funes de Rioja. The taskforce work of B20 Germany will be continued under the Argentine presidency. “We will ensure continuity because we believe those issues are still of key relevance for the promotion of global prosperity,” confirmed Funes de Rioja. B20 Argentina will add one new topic to the B20 agenda: sustainable, accessible, and global nourishment for all. “This has been a blind spot for too long on the B20 and G20 agenda,” Heraeus conceded. “We very much support the efforts of B20 Argentina to strengthen the voice of the agricultural sector in the B20,” he lauded the initiative of B20 Argentina.

Besides the designated G20 Sherpa Ambassador Pedro Villagra Delgado, representatives from Argentine government as well as diplomats attended the handover ceremony along with the presidents of the main business organizations in Argentina, who have been appointed as B20 Argentina Co-Chair, namely the Argentina Industrial Employers Chamber (UIA), the Argentine Bankers Association (ADEBA), the Buenos Aires Stock Exchange (BCBA), the Argentine Chamber of Construction (CAMARCO), the Argentine Chamber of Commerce and Services (CACS), and the Argentine Rural Society (SRA). “I am convinced that the work of B20 Argentina will contribute to strong, sustainable, and balanced growth of the world economy,” said B20 Germany Chair Heraeus when handing over the presidency to Funes de Rioja and his B20 Argentina team. In addition to the B20 Argentina Co-Chairs, Funes de Rioja will be supported by the two B20 Sherpas Carolina Castro, B20 Executive Sherpa, and Fernando Landa, B20 Policy Sherpa, and their project team.



Top: B20 Argentina Chair Daniel Funes de Rioja and B20 Germany Chair Jürgen Heraeus  
Middle: B20 Argentina Team  
Bottom: B20 Handover Ceremony

## B20 Argentina: Strengthening the Voice of Latin America in the G20

With the official handover, the first South-American B20 Presidency began. Funes de Rioja wants to strongly embed the B20 in the region. “B20 Argentina is not only important for our country, but for the whole region,” said Funes de Rioja. Thus, B20 Argentina hopes to substantially increase the participation of Latin American members in the B20 taskforces. During the networking lunch hosted by the German-Argentinian Chamber of Industry and Commerce (AHK), a first exchange between B20 Germany, B20 Argentina, and the Argentine Business Community was initiated. The lunch event was an excellent opportunity to initiate a dialogue on future challenges and expectations regarding the B20.

This exchange was deepened during the first B20 Argentina Event “On the way to the G20 Argentina 2018. Argentine Business Leaders Forum” on November 2nd in Rosario, Argentina. During this event B20 Argentina called upon the B20 Argentina activities, and initiating the call for applications to the taskforce

This high-level event was attended by G20 Argentina Sherpa Ambassador Pedro Villagra Delgado and Francisco Cabrera, Argentine Minister of Production, as well as many high-level members of the Argentine business community. B20 Germany Chair Heraeus and B20 Argentina Chair Daniel Funes de Rio jointly introduced the Business Forum to the B20. Heraeus reemphasized the commitment of B20 Germany to support B20 Argentina as part of the so-called B20 troika: “B20 is a journey. And the start of a journey can be daunting. As other B20 presidencies before us, we, B20 Germany, stand ready to assist you, to make this journey as smooth and effective as possible,” promised Heraeus.

For more information kindly visit B20 on Facebook and twitter.



B20 Germany Chair Jürgen Heraeus and B20 Argentina Chair Daniel Funes at the Argentine Business Leaders Forum



Fernando Landa, B20 Argentina Policy Sherpa, Carolina Castor, B20 Argentina Executive Sherpa, Daniel Funes de Rioja, B20 Argentina Chair, Jürgen Heraeus, B20 Germany Chair, Stormy-Annika Mildner, B20 Germany Sherpa and Barbara Konner, Managing Director AHK Argentina