



# Center for Argentine Political Economy

June 2025



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## ¿Who we are?

The Center for Argentine Political Economy (CEPA) was created in 2012 with the objective of producing knowledge from a heterodox perspective to participate actively in the debate on the development model for our country. For this, we produce reports, communication pieces and academic papers with a high level of technical rigor and language accessible to the general public. It is composed of 90 professionals from different parts of Argentina.

## Mission and Objectives:

- Elaborate and disseminate reports, dossiers and audiovisual pieces on topics related to the Argentine economy;
- Generate interdisciplinary spaces for study, research and advice on political reality, economic and social development at national, regional and global levels;
- Organizing meetings, courses, seminars, congresses and scientific, technical and/or cultural events;
- Stimulate and encourage economic training at all educational levels;
- Establish cooperation, exchange and understanding agreements with trade unions, governmental, non-governmental, international organizations, universities and companies to problematize Argentina's development model and its profile of international insertion;
- Disseminate economic content in the media and social networks.

## Our plan of action:

Currently, we develop reports and academic work in different areas of knowledge. We continuously monitor labor and business variables (employment and wages and social and labor conflict), the fiscal situation, compliance with the agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the reserves of the Central Bank, public debt, the level of economic activity, the budgetary execution of the National Public Administration, national resources transferred to the provinces, the incidence of poverty and indigence, among others. In turn, we carry out periodic price surveys of mass consumer goods: in particular fruits and vegetables, meat and medicines.

We also participate in the public discussion on economic policy measures taken by the National Executive or bills under discussion in Congress. In addition, we organize monthly in-depth analysis meetings where we discuss among the members of CEPA about the evolution of the Argentine economic situation and exchange ideas from the sectors or areas where each one works to enrich the group discussion.

In addition, the Gender Observatory monitors indicators of the gender gap, such as the wage gap and the wealth gap. We also committed ourselves to the eradication of gender-based violence, through our internal action protocol, and to the gender-responsive budget (PPG), advising provincial governments for its implementation, and participating in the federal table where the methodology for its application was discussed.

At the same time, we promote our own academic offer in partnership with National Universities, in line with the economic challenges of Argentina and the region. We carried out two 8-month Diploma in Political Economy at the Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of Buenos Aires (UBA) and the Faculty of Political Science and International Relations of the National University of Rosario (UNR), whose main objective is to provide training aimed at deepening theoretical approaches and debates regarding economic discipline and the world of work, and to provide practical elements for the professional exercise of economic analysis.

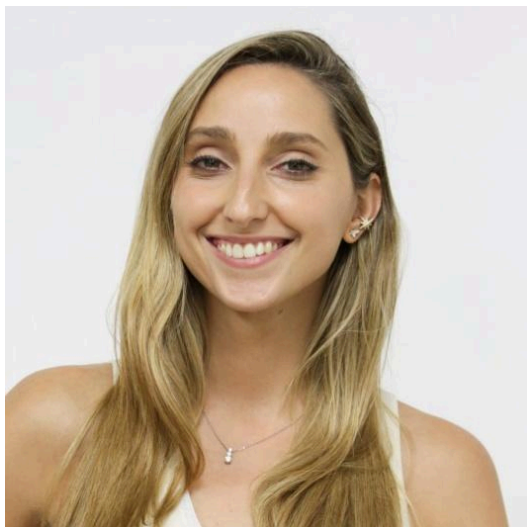
We work articulately, for the production of information and diagnostics on specific topics, with unions such as La Bancaria, Unión Obrera Metalúrgica (UOM), Federación de

Telecomunicaciones (FOETRA) and Federación de Trabajadores de la Industria de la Alimentación (FTIA).

We also build alliances with organizations such as the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Argentina Foundation (FES), the SES Foundation and the French Association for Development (AFD). We address the issues at the national level but with a federal perspective: we have local support in provinces such as Santa Fe, Entre Ríos, Buenos Aires, Mendoza and the City of Buenos Aires, with research focused on local issues.

In an era characterized by individualism and misinformation, we have committed to collaboratively developing a vision of economic reality that emphasizes social inclusion within our nation, framed by principles of federalism and sovereignty. This vision is supported by accurate data, well-founded arguments, and clear, accessible language for the public.

## Members



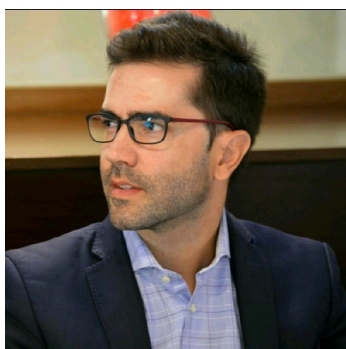
### **Julia Strada**

Argentine Representative for the Province of Buenos Aires (2023–2027). Director of the Center for Argentine Political Economy (since 2013) and economic analyst in television and radio. Former Director of the National Bank (2021–2023). Holds a PhD in Economic Development.



### **Hernán Letcher**

Director and researcher at CEPA (since 2013). Professor at the University of Buenos Aires, University of Rosario, and National University of Avellaneda (since 2015). Economic analyst in media. Former Vice President of YPF Litio (2021–2022). Holds a Master's in Political Economy and a Bachelor's in Public Accounting.



**Germán Muño**

Lawyer (University of Buenos Aires – UBA). Specialist in Customs Law (ECAE) and Banking Law (UBA). University professor at UBA and UEAN (undergraduate), and at UNLP and UNR (postgraduate). Former Deputy Director General of Argentine Customs (2020–2022). Advisor to the President (2022–2023) and to the Board of Directors (2015) of the Central Bank of Argentina (BCRA). Author and director of specialization theses in the legal field. Researcher at the Center for Argentine Political Economy (CEPA).



**Francisco Nercesian**

Industrial Engineer (UBA) and Specialist in Political Economy (FLACSO). Over 17 years of experience in Argentina's hydrocarbon sector, including work in projects, reservoirs, and production in both conventional and unconventional fields. Former professor at UNAJ (2016–2018), where he contributed to the Petroleum Engineering curriculum. Researcher at the Center for Argentine Political Economy (CEPA) since 2013, with a focus on energy issues.



**Alejandra Fernández Scarano**

Public Accountant (UBA). Director and researcher at the Center for Argentine Political Economy (CEPA). Master's candidate in Political Economy (FLACSO) and in Social Security Management (OISS). Professor of public finance at UBA, UNR, and UNDAV. Specialized in public policy, economic analysis, and social security systems.



**Nicolás Gonzalez Roa**

Sociologist (UBA). Holds a Master's in Economic Sociology and is currently pursuing a Master's in Finance. Board Member at the National Commission of Foreign Trade (since 2021). Former Director at the National Institute of Associativism and Social Economy (2014–2021). Professor at UBA, UNMA, and IUNMa. Researcher at the Center for Argentine Political Economy (CEPA) since 2016.



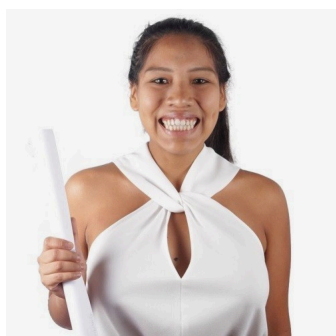
**Mayra Blanco**

Economist. Master's in Political Economy. Independent Financial Advisor. Former President of the National Commission on Foreign Trade. Professor of Economics at UBA, UNMI, and UNR. Researcher at the Center for Argentine Political Economy (CEPA).



**Tomás Castagnino**

Political Scientist (National University of Rosario – UNR). Specialized in Development and Public Policy (Federal Investment Council). Professor at UNR. Researcher at the Center for Argentine Political Economy (CEPA).



**María Victoria Agnes**

Political Scientist (University of Buenos Aires- UBA). Lawyer (University of Buenos Aires – UBA).



## **Postgraduate Diploma in Political Economy and Labor Relations**

Argentina has not yet reached a consensus on what the country's economic development profile and its integration into the international market should be. In the quest to build that consensus, in 2020 the Center for Argentine Political Economy (CEPA) set out to create a training and study space in macroeconomics, public finance and productive development, which would serve also as a forum for the debate on all the challenges our country is facing.

In order to do so, in 2021, we launched the first cohort of the Postgraduate Diploma in Political Economy and Labor Relations in collaboration with the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Buenos Aires (UBA). Led by a distinguished group of professors with different academic and professional backgrounds, this educational initiative was brought to life.

The remarkable reception of our very own academic offer is a reflection of CEPA's 12 year established trajectory. The first year, more than 200 students signed up and only 40 were selected after a thorough interview process that was also based on criteria of federal representation and interdisciplinarity.

Our Postgraduate Diploma is aligned in this trajectory aiming to develop a comprehensive view on economy and society while strengthening both theoretical and practical skills. It seeks to reinforce theoretical approaches and debates of the economic discipline and the labor world. At the same time, practical skills for professional growth (such as case study or situational analysis) are developed.

In 2022, we expanded the program in collaboration with the Faculty of Political Science and International Relations of the National University of Rosario (UNR) seeking to broaden our reach and to answer to the growing interest that our Diploma has generated nationwide.

## Diploma in numbers

Four years later, our Postgraduate Diploma has successfully completed seven cohorts. Over 1.000 students applied, of whom 300 were selected and over 150 have graduated.

## Program features

The program spans one year (200 hours) and includes the following core topics:

- History of economic thought
- Macroeconomics
- Public finance
- Argentina's economic and labor history in the 20th century
- Using sources for constructing economic indicators
- Economic challenges Argentina faces in areas such as finance, monetary policy, exchange rates, production, energy, and inclusive economic development.

Participants must complete a final project to graduate, analyzing the evolution of specific economic variables through the application of data sources and tools.

The program is delivered online, with classes held twice a week in sessions lasting 2.5 hours each. Additionally, there are at least two optional in-person meetings to connect students with the production and labor sectors. For example, we have visited companies like Y-TEC, Acindar, and Toyota; unions like the UOM; and worker cooperatives such as 7 de Mayo in Villa Constitución.

The Diploma is organized into seven subjects:

1. Brief Introduction to the History of Economic Thought and Basic Macroeconomics.
2. Introduction to Patterns of Accumulation in 20th-Century Argentina
3. Elements of Public Finance, Monetary Policy, and Financial Economics
4. Methodology and Sources for Working with Applied Economic Indicators.
5. Economic Policies in Recent Argentina (2002–2019).
6. History of the Working Class in the 20th Century and Labor Relations in Contemporary Argentina.
7. Final Project Workshop.



## CONTACTANOS



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