



CONSEJO ARGENTINO PARA LAS
RELACIONES INTERNACIONALES

CARI /

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"CARI is not only an institution for the present but, above all, it is an institution for the future that must remain in expert hands because the country needs to rely on the contribution of experts, particularly in a competitive world where success is achieved through continual effort and deep commitment to servicing the country."

CARI's Mission



The Argentine Council for International Relations (also known as CARI) is a civil society, partisan-free, non-profit organization, with a long-standing track record that has made it a flagship institution in the field of international relations in Argentina.

CARI's proposal consists in deeply studying the main global challenges and the road that Argentina must take in order to face them. For such purpose, major players in the various public and private sectors have the opportunity to establish dialogue with their peers domestically and worldwide on the most relevant internatio-

nal issues for Argentina. CARI produces reliable papers, supplies updated information, conducts pluralistic debates, and provides a forum of discussion to the Argentine society in order to exchange views on the latest developments in the international arena with outstanding personalities both from Argentina and foreign countries.

In its capacity as a private association, CARI finances its activities by resorting to a great variety of public and private sources, individual and institutional members, domestic and foreign funds, mainly NGOs, political foundations, and international organizations.

Core Principles

- > **Pluralism** in the ideas and activities of its members;
- > **Freedom of speech** for its members and study committees;
- > **Objectivity** in the conduct of the institution which, in every case, shall refrain from issuing opinions;
- > **Cooperation** with public agencies and private institutions by contributing research papers and discussions to be used for decision making.

A Brief History



CARI was established on June 15, 1978 by Carlos Manuel Muñiz and a group of distinguished international affairs professionals. Dr. Muñiz, who was a former Argentine Minister of Foreign Affairs and Ambassador to Bolivia, Brazil, USA, and the United Nations, came up with the idea to bring together foreign policy experts with a view to creating a think tank and a national dialogue forum on Argentina's international insertion.

As it happens with almost every non-profit organization, CARI made its first steps with great effort and scanty resources. Slowly but forcefully, the Institution succeeded in mustering support from individuals and corporations, domestic and foreign foundations; all of whom relied on the vision of CARI's members and bet on the institutional proposal; namely, to offer a meeting point where different sectors can co-exist in the spirit of political pluralism and share informed opinion on world affairs.

Ever since its inception, CARI has organized approximately 1200 lectures, 300 seminars, 2200 meetings with local and foreign experts in every area of international studies, including the publication of books, speeches and working papers. Today, CARI consists of more than 1000

members from Argentina and other countries worldwide. Membership includes individuals seeking to keep abreast of global affairs and meet regional and world leaders; young professionals wishing to convene with people with similar interests; as well as businessmen looking for the latest world market research studies and/or faculty members searching for the type of knowledge that students need to acquire. All members share a common denominator: trust in CARI to achieve their goals regarding issues of mutual concern.

However, it is not only figures that give an account of CARI's track record. Several awards and honors are also landmarks on our pathway. In 1989, the then U.N. Secretary-General Javier Pérez de Cuellar designated CARI "Messenger of Peace". In 1988, CARI was granted the Kohn Award, with a Special Mention focusing on Institutions – Community – Enterprise. Very recently, a survey conducted by the Foreign Policy Research Institute of Philadelphia, USA, included CARI among the top 200 world think tanks, from a list of 5000 organizations, and ranked it among the top 5 in Latin America.





Chatham House Rule

- > The Chatham House Rule provides anonymity to speakers and encourages openness and the sharing of information. It allows people to speak as individuals, and to express views that may not be those of their organizations. This simple but effective rule ensures greater confidence to anyone wishing to provide information without making it public knowledge.

Activities



CARI conducts two types of activities. On the one hand, it holds academic sessions in the form of lectures, seminars, or round tables. These events are announced on our website and participation is open and free of charge.

On the other hand, CARI organizes private activities in the form of Committee meetings or Workshops where participation is restricted to CARI's members or local and foreign guests who are invited to attend because of their expert knowledge or positions of responsibility. Such type of private events are held under the so-called "non-attribution" rule, best known as Chatham House Rule.

These two local activities are supplemented by several international initiatives of a different kind.

CARI has carried out bilateral dialogue forums with countries such as Germany, Brazil, Chile, Great Britain, Italy, and Uruguay. Although meeting formats may be different, the underlying idea consists in convening representatives of Argentina's various sectors involved in the bilateral relation with the relevant country and provide them with a space for informal,

off-the-record, and constructive dialogue that may be useful to enhance official relations at government level.

Furthermore, CARI is permanently seeking to strengthen bonds with similar institutions worldwide, which are in charge of studying international affairs from their own national viewpoints. Particularly, CARI, together with other institutions, takes part in the Hemispheric Network of Councils on International Relations. This network convenes once a year and brings together the different Western Hemisphere councils that share the same spirit of dialogue and objectivity in the study of international affairs. This Network members are CARI (Argentine Council on International Relations), CEBRI (Brazilian Council on International Relations), CIC (Canadian International Council), CCEI (Chilean Council on International Studies), CFR (Council on Foreign Relations), COMEXI (Mexican Council on International Affairs), CEPEI (Paraguayan Center for International Studies), CEPEI (Peruvian Center for International Studies), and CURI (Uruguayan Council on International Relations).

Agenda

CARI's agenda is the global and international relations agenda. Today, the dividing line between local and foreign affairs is becoming increasingly blurred. Although there is an international agenda relating to peace and war, international security, international law, or international economics, today the topics included therein are as diverse as energy, climate change, food, or education. This is the reason why CARI's agenda does not consist of a list of international issues but, instead, it comprises a follow-up of global processes affecting even the smallest of all local affairs.

How is CARI governed and organized?

Cari's governance rests on an Executive Committee (EC), consisting of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary-General, Treasurer and EC Members, for a 3-year term, and they shall be eligible for reelection. CARI's management is driven by a democratic and pluralistic spirit, where decision making is based on consensus.

The ordinary affairs of CARI are conducted by a working team that organizes the general operation of this Institution. The core component of this organizational scheme is the Academic Secretary's Office, which manages the Council's agenda and coordinates the tasks performed by the various institutes, committees, and working groups. These bodies conduct their activities by covering different issues and regions, and they consist of experts who cooperate pro bono with the Council. The task pursued by such institutes, committees, and groups is extensive in relation to issues and regions, as well as diverse with respect to their ways of working. They play a key role in the Council's activities, by organizing publications, seminars and public conferences, or consultative meetings with public officials and civil society experts.

Publications



CARI's members seek to procure information not only through academic public activities, but also by means of a variety of publications, such as books, working papers or texts available at the Institution's webpage. Publications also disclose the findings of research conducted by the various institutes, committees or focus groups, as well as the presentations made at CARI's forum by different guest speakers.

Books

CARI has three main book collections: (i) International Studies, which deals with a wide range of core topics for Argentina's international insertion; (ii) Malvinas; and (iii) Diplomats.

Working Papers

A series of in-depth research papers that have been published since 1993, in line with the evolving international agenda.

Articles and Reviews

A publication of brief information texts including a status report, or reviewing presentations made at CARI's forum.

Forum Chronicles

CARI's webpage periodically posts a summary of academic sessions, including main ideas stated by guest speakers and a further analysis of major topics.

Why supporting CARI?

- > CARI follows up world events and it helps understand them through up-to-date discussions;
- > CARI gives the possibility to listen to and directly talk with major players involved in the management of international issues;
- > CARI provides a space for voicing different opinions so that its Members may build their own views;
- > CARI is the Institution where Argentina's position in the world scenario is best scrutinized and discussed.

Membership



CARI has three types of membership. On the one hand, Individual Affiliate Members, who voluntarily approach the Institution for membership purposes and contribute to financially support the Council. On the other hand, CARI appoints designated members on the basis of their interest in international issues, solidarity with the Council, and generously shared experience at the various forums of discussion held at CARI's premises. The different member categories within this group are as follows:

Honorary Members

Chiefs of State or Government of foreign countries.

Correspondent Members

Ministers and Cabinet Members, Presidents of International Organizations, and other international personalities.

Counselors and Consultants

These are local members, with academic and/or public background, who participate in CARI's activities and are entrusted with the Institution's administrative oversight and control.

Finally, there are Institutional Members who support the job performed by CARI. They play a key role in following Argentina's international insertion by proposing issues for discussion at domestic and international forums and sponsoring specific activities –such as seminars and conferences– that are of interest for civil society.

How to become a member?

Becoming a member is easy. You only have to fill out a form and pay an annual fee to become an Affiliate Member. Joining CARI in this way does not imply to have special privileges because CARI conducts open activities free of charge. Supporting CARI Membership is a generous way of cooperating with the Council so that we can continue to perform our job, which consists in telling the country about the world, and telling the world about the country.

Luiz Felipe Lampreia

Former Brazilian Minister of
Foreign Affairs

"CARI has already become a benchmark institution for all those who, either living in Argentina or visiting the country, give thoughtful consideration to issues concerning international relations, foreign policy, and the present and future of our region."

John E. Reily

Former President of the Chicago
Council on Global Affairs

"The Argentine Council for International Relations continues to be held in high regard in the United States, and nowhere is that more true than at the Chicago Council on Global Affairs."

Kofi Annan

Former United Nations
Secretary-General

"CARI has informed and educated Argentineans on the importance of their nation for the world, and the significance of the world for their nation."

Raúl Alfonsín

Former President of Argentina

"There can be no independent country without an independent policy and, for an independent policy to exist, such policy should be reliable; for reliability to exist there should be thoughtful consideration; and CARI helps develop such thoughtfulness. On behalf of the Executive Branch - and I dare say that I also speak on behalf of the Argentine people - many thanks for all these years of extraordinary activity."

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