Argentina · Nestor & Christina Krichner Situation Report No. 10

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### I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- Nestor Kirchner was Argentina's former president, he ruled over Argentina during 2003-2007, and was a political leader during 2008-2009 until he passed away 2010.
- Nestor Kirchner was a very stubborn political leader, who wouldn't bend for other people's opinions. He made sure Argentina got out of the economical crisis in the early 21st century
- Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner is Argentina's current president and the first female president who was elected by the people.
- Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner was elected by the people of Argentina; the fact that her husband was the former president helped her reputation during her campaigning.

### **II. Situation Overview**

Nestor Kirchner was the president of Argentina from 2003-2007. He guided the country out of one of the worst economic crisis faced by Argentina. His wife, the current president, is the first woman to be elected by the people. She gained popularity due to the support she received from her husband, who was a very influential politician in the country.

# III. Humanitarian Needs and Response

Nestor de Kirchner was a popular president who had a stronghold of the government and didn't obey to the police or military. He worked hard to decrease class differences within Argentinean society. Kirchner made the way for Argentina out of the crisis by increasing the export of agricultural products. After Argentina got out of the crisis, his very combative leading style continued, and he tried to issue decrees to the people around him and started to get accused of authoritarianism. 2007 Kirchner chose to not run for reelection due to the economic crisis, and his wife Christina Fernandez de Kirchner stepped in and started campaigning for herself.

Christina made a huge success by winning with 45% of the final vote, while her closes competitor only had about 28%. Many of the people who voted for her for president, did so because she was backed up by her husband who made sure that the poor people had it better off. Not only his influence as a president helped her to win, but the fact that he had a hands-on role in the running of the economy along with a very substantial influence within the government as well.

#### Who is Nestor de Kirchner?

Nestor Kirchner was Argentina's former president, he ruled over Argentina during 2003-2007, and was a political leader during 2008-2009 until he passed away 2010. Kirchner was little known outside his home province of Santa Cruz in Patagonia, where he was governor, until he entered the battle for the presidency with Menem. Originally, he came second to Menem with only about 22% of the total vote. The electoral law of Argentina states that, if a presidential candidate pulls out of a runoff election, the Congress automatically declares the other candidate the winner. Therefore, when Menem dropped out of the runoff, Kirchner was, by default the winner.

When he became president, he was quick to appeal to the people in order to provide economic growth for the country while avoiding planning the long term economy of Argentina. His unwavering insistence to increasing utility prices is probably the worst example. Most rates remain almost unchanged to this day, despite their long demanded 180 day freeze. Even though these policies helped kickstart the economy, it was not put into order to avoid possible inflation growth in the country. Moreover, they created an investment climate that by the end of Kirchner's administration could see Chile receive almost twice the inflow of foreign direct investment (FDI); a recent study in Argentina calculated lost FDI at approximately \$6 billion.

## What was unique about his presidency?

# Nestor Kirchner was a very stubborn political leader, who wouldn't bend for other people's opinions. He made sure Argentina got out of the economical crisis in the early 21st century ---

Nestor Kirchner got elected as a president for Argentina in 2003, during the economic crisis. He had a stronghold of the government and stood up against the military and police, he tried to do his best to decrease class differences. Kirchner made the way for Argentina out of the crisis by increasing the export of agricultural products. After Argentina got out of the crisis, his very combative leading style continued, and he tried to issue decrees to the people around him and started to get accused of authoritarianism.

Within politics he believed that you had to be the toughest to make sure that people wouldn't take advantage of you, so he continued his very strict leadership till the very end.

### Who is Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner?

# Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner is Argentina's current president and the first female president who was elected by the people.

Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner is Argentina's current president. She's also the first female president who was elected by the people. Her husband, former president, Nestor Kirchner, helped her with her presidential campaign. She has a law degree, and that's how she met her husband, Nestor Kirchner, who she started her political career with.

Many people today don't like her leadership while other people blame 'poor leadership' for the economic crisis that she was forced to deal with.

### How did she become the current president of Argentina?

Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner was elected by the people of Argentina; the fact that her husband was the former president helped her reputation during her campaigning.

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Before they came into power, she along with Nestor fled Buenos Aires from the military junta to his hometown in Santa Cruz. When the country gave way for democracy, they moved back to Buenos Aires in 1983 to work with politics.

Her husband, Nestor Fernandez, did fairly well within politics, and was elected as a mayor in 1987 in Rio Gallegos. He was the president of Argentina in 2003-2007 and in 2007 he decided to not to run for reelection due to the economic crisis, and Cristina stepped in and started campaigning for herself. She made a success by winning with 45 percent of the final presidential vote, which was far superior to her closest competitor who only received about 28 percent. Many of the people who voted for her for president, did so because she was backed up by her husband who made sure that the poor people had it better off. Not only his influence as a president helped her to win, but the fact that he had a hands-on role in the running of the economy along with a very substantial influence within the government as well.

### **IV. Contacts**

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