

INSTITUTIONAL Report First Semester 2003

CADAL'S CHAIRMAN LECTURED AT AN INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS



Carlos Gervasoni, CADAL's chairman, attended to the LASA (Latin American Studies Association) Congress at Dallas, from march 27 to 29, 2003. Gervasoni released a paper titled: 'Political Weakness and Financial Crises: an explanation of the failure of De la Rúa in Argentina' for the Panel Democracy and Recent Financial Crises in Argentina and Brazil. Gervasoni shared the audience with Luis Carlos Bresser Pereira (former minister of Economics of Brazil), Bill Smith (University of Miami), Leslie Elliot Armijo (Lewis and Clark College) and Christine Kearney (University of Oregon).

ELECTORAL PERSPECTIVES IN ARGENTINA



In regard with the presidential elections in Argentina, on April 23, CADAL organized a meeting at it's headquarters, during which the specialists in politics Carlos Gervasoni and Julio Burdman spoke about 'The electoral and post electoral political panorama'. At the meeting they analyzed the electoral tendencies of the polls, the different possible ballottage scenarios and the future governability of Argentina.

PRESENCE ATTHE BOOK FARE OF BUENOS AIRES

From April 14 till May 5, 2003 the 29° International Book Fare of Buenos Aires was held, with the visit of one million people. The only pro democracy and market institute at the fare was CADAL, with a stand that offered it's own publications and from other alike organizations of the region as well.

CADAL's stand gave a very special attention to the human rights situation of Cuba, taking into account that since March 18 this year, Castro's dictatorship had imprisoned 76 peaceful dissidents and executed, after a brief judgment, three Cuban citizens who had stolen a boat with the intention of leaving the country. One of the visitors of CADAL's stand was Buenos Aires's Mayor, Anibal Ibarra, who received a copy of the prosecution against the Cuban journalists Raul Rivero and Ricardo González Alfonso.

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Website and publications

CADAL's website www.cadal.org notoriously increased it's number of visits. By e-mails to subscribers, journalists, researchers, law-makers, and public officers from Latin-American countries, it's content was updated: articles on regional current issues, Documentos, PAPER Latinoamericano and information on events were sent to CADAL data base.

Since 2003 began, on average one article on regional current issues was published every two days and six Documentos were released, three on the region in general, two about Cuba and one on Venezuela. Moreover, since April, PAPER Latinoamericano (acronym of Publication on Political and Economical Regional Analyses) was published headed by Carlos Gervasoni with the writing assistance of Santiago Alles. PAPER Latinoamericano includes articles on the main regional issues and a monthly summary of the most important news in Latin-America.

Besides, together with Konrad Adenauer Foundation, the book "Oswaldo Payá Sardiñas y el Proyecto Varela" was published and for the second semester of this year we are planning to publish three more books.

Videos, CD Rom and VCD

CADAL made two reports that were put into the air in four editions of the TV show "En vivo con Carlos Mira", at the cable TV station Politica & Economia. One of the reports analyzed the "Latin-American Crisis", in two parts: one on "The myths and facts of the pro-market reforms" and the other on "The Chilean keys to success". The other report was about "Populism and dictatorship in Latin-America", which included a video by National Democratic Institute on "Oswaldo Payá and the Varela Project". Both of these reports were also adapted for VHS, CD Rom and VCD.



"Latin America desperately needs institutes like CADAL that contribute to change our diagnostics and therapies for the evils that afflict us".

Carlos Alberto Montaner Vice Chairman of Internacional Liberal Author of the book "Las raíces torcidas de América Latina"

"In Latin America, we need to think about the causes of our failures and difficulties, about our future and our possibilities. To accomplish this important mission, and so as to put together those of us who research and worry about the region, CADAL offers us an open space of an excellent intellectual level, accomplishing a necessary task, maybe decisive, in these moments of crisis".

Carlos Sabino Academic Director of CEDICE Author of the book "El fracaso del intervencionismo. Apertura y libre mercado en América Latina"

CADAL's sub director met with alike organizations in Spain



Hernán Alberro, CADAL's sub director, met in Madrid with Pablo Díaz from Cuba Encuentro and with Juan Morán from Fundación Hispano Cubana. In both cases, Alberro got to know more about the activities that those organizations make there and they agreed to strengthen the institutional exchange between CADAL and these Spanish institutes. Alberro talked about the results of the appearance of CADAL at the Book Fare of Buenos Aires and the possibilities of having the publications of those two organizations for future fares. Both organizations agreed on this and even proposed to place CADAL publications in their stands at Miami's Book Fare.

Conference at the Argentine National Congress

Dr. Fernando Ruiz offered a conference on "Independent journalism and freedom of the press in Cuba', on February 26, 2003 at the Auditorio del Edificio Anexo of the Chamber of Representatives of Argentina. This event was organized by the president of the Commission of Free Speech of that Chamber and by Centro para la Apertura y el Desarrollo de América Latina (CADAL). The conference was opened by the National Representative Fernanda Ferrero, president of the Commission of Free Speech and by the Lic. Carlos Gervasoni, CADAL's chairman. The comments were made by the journalists Fernán Saguer (La Nación newspaper) and Martín Pittón (América radio station).





Early 2003, Fernando Ruiz made a field study at Cuba were he interviewed tens of independent journalists in Havana and other cities and villages inland. During the months before his trip he had had a huge e-mail and phone contact with the journalists and during his trip to the island he was able to have the direct testimony of the cuban independent journalists. This field study ended up with his imprisonment and isolation. This allowed Ruiz to get to know the functioning of the secret police and he suffered the kind of pressure the independent journalist had described to him during the extensive interrogatory that he had to go through.

International Solidarity

During the Legislative Assembly of the Argentine Congress on May 25, for the Assumption of the President and vice-president of the country, a document made by CADAL and signed by 14 representatives and five senators was distributed. The document stated: "In the city of Buenos Aires, on May 25, 2003, the signatory, National Representatives and Senators of Argentina, state our solidarity to the Day of Support for the Freedom in Cuba that are being held this day in different cities of the world. In this sense, we ask Dr. Néstor Kirchner, who is today coming into office as President of Argentina, to adopt a similar attitude to that of the other democratic governments of Latin-America and Europe, addressing the government of Cuba to free a the peaceful dissidents imprisoned and prosecuted in that country for the "crime of opinion" which represents a violation of the principles established by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, signed by Argentina".



CADAL, una UNG orgentina que promueve las libertades civiles en América latina, fue la impulsora del pedido

astro se lleva quejas por arrestos

■ Un grupa de legisladores firmaron una iniciativa para que se adopte una postura a favor de la liberación de los opositores al regimen. Se la entregaron en manos al dictador junto a una copia del "Proyecto Vareja"

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International Conference at the UCA "The Varela Project, the independent journalism and Human Rights in Cuba"

Tuesday, 3rd of June, CADAL, Konrad Adenauer Foundation, the Christian Democrat Organization of America and the Cuban Democratic Directorate, offered a sensitive conference on Cuba at the School of Communications at the Universidad Católica Arcentina.

The meeting had as a main aim to celebrate the first anniversary of the submission of the Varela Project in Cuba, analyze the human rights situation of the country and send a solidarity message to the peaceful opposition activists imprisoned and prosecuted in Cuba for crime of opinion.





The meeting also count with the expositions of the national representatives Patricio Walker (Chile) and Jaime Trobo (Uruguay), Dr. Hans Blomeier (Representant of Konrac Adenauer Foundation in Argentina), Dr. Fernando Ruiz (Universidad Austral) and Javier De Céspedes (President of Cuban Democratic Directorate). After the lectures, that were preceded by the showing of the video "Oswaldo Payá and the Varela Project", a phone conversation was held with Oswaldo Payá, main supporter of the Varela Project and Peace Novel Laureate candidate, who answered from Havana to the different questions of the lecturers. Payá's words concluded with a very big and sensitive applaud from the audience.

Before the questions from the audience, Dr. Daniel Malnatti, journalist of the TV show "Caiga quien Caiga" and professor at UCA, was invited to describe with details the aggression he suffered while reporting the visit of the Cuban dictator in Buenos

The assistants received a copy of the book "Oswaldo Payá Sardiñas y el Proyecto Varela", published by Konrad Adenauer Foundation and CADAL, which is also available http://www.cadal.org/libros/LibroProyectoVarela.pdf



El jete del bioque oficialista democratacristiano aseguró que esos gestos "envalentonarr a la dictadura cubana"

"Me sorprenden los políticos argentinos que aplauden a Castro"

El jote de la bancada derno craraccistians chilena cu la Canana de Dipulados (prinapal bleamen in alisa), Parrtrie Walker, se munifesto osprprendidos per la actitud de sua pares argentinos al recibir conuna ovación al presidente subanc. Fidel Castro, en e ara-le asuación de Nestor Kirchnor como presidente. De vacita en Buenos Auen, invitado nor el Centro pare a Apertum y el Deserrollo de Ar el tar Le-ina y la Parchasim Konnel Adenaner, este legislativ nomice riave del ohe sisemo chileno, ismentò que estos

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