

## **SUMMARY OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE 30<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF CIRIEC**

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President of IAIES-CIRIEC Argentina

On the occasion of the realization of the 30<sup>th</sup> International Congress of CIRIEC held in Buenos Aires on October 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014 under the slogan "The Public, Social and Cooperative Economy: innovative responses to global issues".

It was done a brief summary of the Congress.

The event represented a great challenge for the Argentine Institute of Research of Social Economy (IAIES) Argentine section of the CIRIEC based on the need for the presence of Argentina, in particular, and Latin America as a whole, as actors in the discussion, analysis and search for answers to the global issues in the field of Public, Social and Cooperative Economy.

Noteworthy is the success of the call for the Congress, reflected in the participation of more than 80 exhibitors (distinguished academics, government authorities, representatives of trade unions and local and regional cooperative organizations) from 16 countries of America, Europe and Asia. The number of attendees amounted to 316 participants.

The official opening of the Congress took place on October 29<sup>th</sup> in the Palace of the Legislature of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires. The Deputy Edgardo Form welcomed the visitors on behalf of the authorities of the Government of the City of Buenos Aires. Then, the President of CIRIEC INTERNATIONAL, Leopold Beaulieu and the president of the IAIES-CIRIEC Argentina, José Pablo Puzino, took the floor to thank its presence to the attendees that filled the Golden Hall of the Legislature.

On October 30<sup>th</sup> the Congress was opened at the Hotel NH City & Towers. It was attended by 350 participants from 20 countries of America, Europe and Asia.

At the Opening Session were present National Government Authorities, represented by the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Security, Ph. Carlos Tomada, Ph. Patricio Griffin, President of the National Institute of associativism and Social Economy (INAES) and Ph. Oscar Gonzales, secretary of Parliamentary Relations of the Office of the Cabinet of the National Government. In addition formed part of the panel the President of CIRIEC INTERNATIONAL, Leopold Beaulieu, the president of the IAIES, José Pablo Puzino, the vice-president of the Government of Wallonia and minister of the

Economy, Industry and Innovation, Mr. Jean Claude Marcourt (Belgium) and Mr. Jean Lacharite, vice president and in charge of the International Solidarity of the National Confederation of Trade Unions (CSN) of Canada. The President of CIRIEC INTERNATIONAL opened the Congress and then the other participants referred to the importance of the event and its various themes of the same.

In addition formed part of the panel the President of CIRIEC INTERNATIONAL, Leopold Beaulieu, the president of the IAIES, José Pablo Puzino, the vice-president of the Government of Wallonia and minister of the Economy, Industry and Innovation, Mr. Jean Claude Marcourt (Belgium) and Mr. Jean Lacharite, vice president and in charge of the International Solidarity of the National Confederation of Trade Unions (CSN) of Canada.

The Congress continued on October 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> with the modality of Plenary Lectures in the morning (6 in total) and Workshops (12 in total) with presentations, questions and answers in the afternoon. The different topics on Social Economy were addressed by 80 notable experts, professors and researchers from 16 countries, including 25 of Argentina.

Were jointly presented posters of scientific papers sent from different places in Argentina and abroad; thematic books and tables of sponsors of the event. There were also numerous scientific articles approved by the Directorate of Planning and Conducting the Scientific Work of the IAIES as a contribution to the event.

The diversity of topics discussed corresponded with global problems, solution strategies and good practices that demonstrate the potential of the Public, Social and Cooperative Economy based on principles and values which undoubtedly help to improve the quality of life for a large part of the population of the planet and which have as their purpose the common good.

Are cited below some of the thematic areas addressed in the plenaries and workshops of the event:

- A) The importance of partnerships of entities of the Social Economy and trade union movements; the solution that brings the Social Economy in the performance of essential public services such as water, electricity, transport, telephony; the institutional and legislative development of the Social Economy: experiences of different countries and regions; the re-appropriation of the public action and common property; the redistricting and the alliances of the State with private partnerships and organizations of the Social Economy.
- B) The Social and Cooperative Economy, a source of inspiration in the Sustainable Development; the social impact of Public Policies and their recipients; the depletion of Natural Resources; and the ecological aspect as a priority of the Social Economy.

- C) The importance of prevention against Unemployment (employment programs for young people, proposals and experience of the Social Economy); the fight against inequality; Local Development and the positive activities of the cooperative sector (experiences of integrated territory, such as the dairy basin in Argentina); and the importance of International and Public Cooperatives of Social Economy in the generation of employment and efficiency (the example of UNISOL between Brazil and Canada).
- D) The importance of Education and Cooperative Training. Its incorporation into formal education at various levels as a model of development, experiences and proposals (inclusion of cooperative principles, human rights, gender equality and of older adults through an Eighth Principle).
- E) Public Policies: Proposals for energy-saving systems, renewable energies. Purification through cooperative networks? Social networks in the innovation and as an instrument for promoting the Social Economy (in policies of the State). Health Services: the right to health; the role of the Social Economy, their experiences and discussions on its financing.

The Research Institute of Social Economy (IAIES), Argentine section of the CIRIEC INTERNATIONAL, feels a great deal of pride in having been able to carry out this important Congress in character of organizer, in accordance with its founding mission, and has developed in the framework of the requirements of our quality system certificate in a timely manner.

#### BY WAY OF FINAL CONCLUSIONS

##### The Directing Council of the IAIES-CIRIEC Argentina

It considers the 30<sup>th</sup> Congress of CIRIEC, as an event of importance for the Public, Social and Cooperative Economy.

It evaluates as a success the organization and development of 30<sup>th</sup> International Congress of CIRIEC.

Also: thanks the CIRIEC INTERNATIONAL her essential support and the important call and appreciates and also congratulates all the moderators, panellists and staff for their outstanding performances.

Also highlighting the valuable cooperation of National and Provincial Authorities, as well as of the City of Buenos Aires, as sponsors and institutional and also the cooperation of authors of works and posters by the scientific work.

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It is noted that due to the success of the 30<sup>th</sup> International Congress of CIRIEC THE INSTITUTE IAIES -CIRIEC Argentina decided to edit the copy No. XIV 19 of the Notebooks of Social Economy, under the slogan 30<sup>th</sup> International Congress of CIRIEC "The Public, Social and Cooperative Economy, Innovative responses to global problems".

In the same are published in detail the activities, summaries of the plenary sessions and workshops, biographies of the panellists proposals, solutions and conclusions presented at the academic level and experiential, national and

global levels, of the Public, Social and Cooperative Economy as well as the posters and scientific papers presented, in Spanish, English and French.

This can be requested at IAIES. Email: [iaies@uolsinectics.com.ar](mailto:iaies@uolsinectics.com.ar)

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