

Argentina's Climate Shift

Posted at: 26/11/2024

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Context: Argentina's new far-right President, Javier Milei, is reportedly considering withdrawing the country from the **Paris Climate Agreement**, sparking global debate about its commitment to climate action. This speculation arose after Argentina's representatives abruptly left the ongoing COP29 climate summit.

What is the Paris Climate Agreement?

The **Paris Agreement**, adopted in 2015, is a global accord aimed at combating climate change by:

1. Reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.
2. Limiting global temperature rise this century to **below 2°C** (preferably 1.5°C) above pre-industrial levels.

Countries involved (called "Parties") must submit plans every five years, called **Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)**, outlining their climate action efforts. These plans are expected to become more ambitious over time.

How Can a Country Withdraw from the Agreement?

Under **Article 28**, a country can withdraw from the agreement as follows:

1. The country must wait **three years** after the agreement took effect (for Argentina, this period passed in 2019).
 2. A written withdrawal notification must be sent to the **UN's Office of Legal Affairs** in New York.
 3. The withdrawal takes effect **one year** after the notification is received. Until then, the country remains bound by the agreement.
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Why This Matters for Argentina and the World:

- **Argentina's Emissions Role:** As the 24th-largest emitter of GHGs and South America's second-largest economy, Argentina plays a significant role in global climate efforts.
- **Fossil Fuel Reserves:** The country holds vast fossil fuel resources, including the **second-largest shale gas reserves** and **fourth-largest shale oil reserves** globally, making its stance on climate agreements crucial.

- **Global Implications:** If Argentina withdraws, it could set a precedent for other nations reconsidering their climate commitments, potentially undermining global efforts to address climate change.
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This move reflects President Milei's broader agenda of challenging global norms and prioritizing economic growth over climate obligations, raising concerns about its impact on international climate goals.

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