

20 September 2018

Dear Danilo Ángel Astori Saragosa,

It is with great pleasure that I write to inform you that *GlobalMarkets*, the newspaper published at the IMF/World Bank Annual Meeting this year in Bali, has named you Finance Minister of the Year for Latin America.

I chair the editorial committee of *GlobalMarkets* that has considered you the outstanding candidate for the award this year.

In a year characterised by political upheaval and uncertainty in Latin America, even just remaining in office and overseeing one of the most stable economies in the region is worthy of praise. Dean Barrow of Belize is the only finance minister in Latin America to have been in office for longer — and he has overseen two debt restructurings in that time. Economists and businessmen see you as a moderate, stabilising influence in the centre-left Frente Amplio coalition. You have been a key figure in its 14 years in government, during which Uruguay has succeeded where so many Latin American countries have failed, pushing social programmes and progressive policies while retaining the approval of international financial markets.

Under your stewardship, Uruguay's economy has continued to grow steadily in the last year despite crises in neighbouring Argentina and Brazil, underlining the country's resilience. Additionally, Uruguay's impressive investor relations team has led the building of a nominal local currency curve for foreign investors for the first time ever.

Congratulations once again on your award — it is very well deserved.

Yours sincerely,



Toby Fildes  
Managing editor

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