INITIATIVE TO BUILD A MORE FAVORABLE LEGAL AND FINANCIAL ENVIRONMENT FOR NGOS ACTIVITIES

CONFERENCE
“REGULATORY AND FINANCIAL RESTRICTIONS AFFECTING NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS”

DATE AND PLACE
November 21, 2019
Universidad Austral, Pilar Campus

INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS

SUPPORT

DIALOG BETWEEN NGO AND BANK REFERENTS

Universidad Austral hosted a conference in which experts and referents from NGO networks dialogued with representatives of public and private bank chambers about regulatory and financial restrictions that negatively impact the non-profit sector.

With an audience of over 70 participants and the institutional support of Universidad Austral and ICNL, a space for the exchange of knowledge between actors was promoted with the objective of improving NGOs’ access to financial services.

PANELS

After the opening by Guillermo Canova, experts Pedro Gecik and Gabriela Pellón presented the first panel “Creating awareness and strengthening capacities in the Argentine non-profit sector.” Discussions were held on topics such as: Non-profit organizations, their role as reporting institutions before the FIU, excessive regulation and financial exclusion (bank de-risking); Presentation of the Guide to AML-CFT Practical Recommendations for NGOs and Dissemination of Findings on ML/TF Sectoral Risk Assessment.

In the second panel entitled “Cases and experiences in relation to restrictions on access to banking services. What can we learn from each other that will help us strengthen the environment in which NPOs develop?”, civil society representatives and bank officials had a fruitful exchange on common interests derived from restrictive regulations and opportunities to collaborate to facilitate the work of NGOs.

Jocelyn Nieva (ICNL), Mario Burgos (Sociedad Civil en Red), Patricia Kahane (RACI and Fundación Tzedaká), Jimena Pérez Alzueta (CELS), Diego Roma (Asociación de Banca Especializada and Banco Colombia), Bárbara Blanco (Banco Colombia), María Laura Correa (ABAPPRA and Banco Provincia de Buenos Aires) and Manuela Bastanchuri (GDFE) participated in the second panel with messages that focused on building trust to avoid practices tending to stigmatize the non-profit sector as bearing a high risk of money laundering and terrorist financing.

CONCLUSION

The conference concluded with the objective of persistently exploring spaces for articulation among stakeholders for the solution of problems affecting civil society, as well as the use of innovative mechanisms that facilitate the relationship between NGOs and Banks.