



The Outsider Who Won

November 20, 2023

On [Saturday](#), before yesterday's election in Argentina, The Washington Post called him "Trump-like"; *The New York Times*, on [Sunday](#), compared him to Donald Trump in the first sentence of its results profile, proclaiming his win, in its title, a "victory for the world's far right."

The two pieces deserve careful study of how American media primes its center-left readership to fall in line with its ideological poses. Sad that I cannot provide that careful study, here; but happy for the occasion to probe the issues laid bare in these two less-than-stellar election coverages.

A decent profile of Argentina's new president would inquire more honestly and deeply into just how badly Peronism and Kirchnerism have wounded the inflation-ridden South American country, and with less prejudice explore the actual beliefs of president-elect Javier Milei. Then, and only then,

would they figure out why Milei's been so successful.*

Against all previously determined odds.

For whatever else one may say about Milei, he's not only the most thoroughly and vehemently anti-*leftist* politician in the world, but also the most thoroughly successful *libertarian* one.

Which is why the *Times* tries to make him sound "right-wing." The factuality of the characterization is merely Milei's fervent anti-socialism. But the comedy of the characterization is that, in previous times, North American leftists have characterized Peronism, which Milei opposed, as right-wing. So how does the "far right" win for defeating "far-right fascism," as we used to think of Argentine mainstream politics?

This is a dance of misdirection, of course.

Truth is, Milei's the ultimate outsider, making Trump seem insider-ish by comparison.

Our miseducating media doesn't want you to consider that!

This is Common Sense. I'm Paul Jacob.

* Javier Milei's victory margin [was](#) "the widest since Argentina's return to democracy in 1983."