

The City November 20, 2024

A \$180 million “compensation” for ocean pollution, young people and gambling, and those scammed by a fake Elon Musk

All the behind-the-scenes news from Mar del Plata

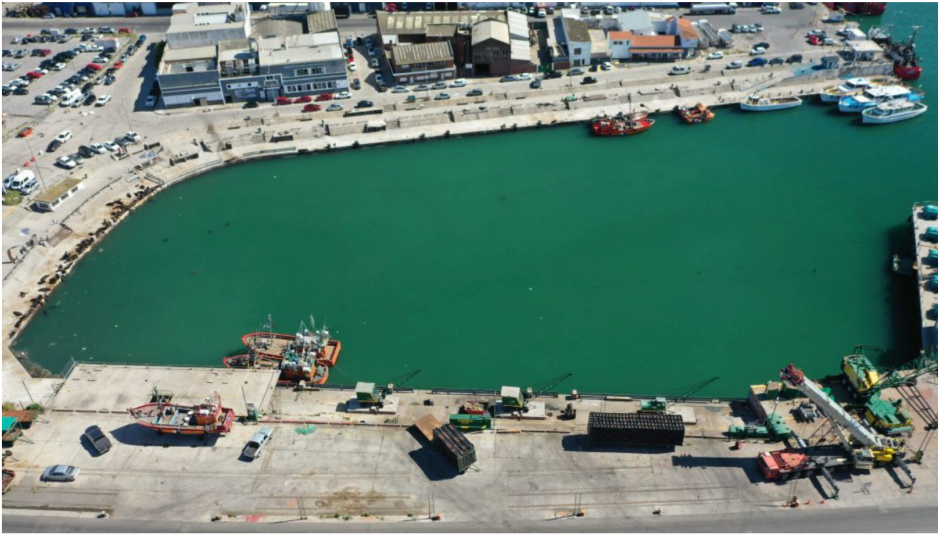


photo @dronmardelplata

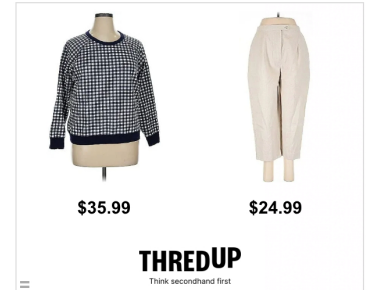


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At the time, they offered compensation of 200,000 pesos. Ultimately, they "stretched" it to 180 million pesos, which was accepted by the court, which recently approved the agreement. Specifically, the federal court accepted the settlement proposal submitted by a fishmeal manufacturing company that, as a resolution to a criminal case it was facing, proposed financial compensation for the completion of the sewage network extension works being carried out in the port of Mar del Plata. In 2016, the company "Cooperativa Marplatense de Pesca e Industria LTDA" (Coomarpes) was charged with discharging toxic waste from a fishmeal factory, violating the Hazardous Waste Law (24.051). The defense requested an alternative to the oral trial, through comprehensive reparation for damages, which included improvements to the effluent treatment plant, certified by technical bodies.



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the "12 Apostles" lives in Mar del Plata. « La Capital de Mar del Plata Newspaper

After a series of inspections, hearings, and presentations over the years, with the emergence of interested parties seeking to collect the fine, the federal court approved the agreement establishing a monetary compensation of \$180,000,000 to complete sewage network works at the port of Mar del Plata. Various organizations (INTI, OSSE, the Ministry of Environment, among others) confirmed the investments made by Coomarpes, highlighting improvements in environmental quality. It was also established that the monetary compensation will allow for the completion of a project of significant community impact, benefiting more than 100 companies and improving port infrastructure. A ten-day deadline was also set for the defendants to deposit the funds. If this deadline is not met, the process will resume toward oral trial.



The ruling highlights the shift toward a restorative justice paradigm, prioritizing conflict resolution and reparation of damages over strict criminalization. The environmental damage in this case consisted of the discharge of toxic substances into the sea from the facilities of the Coomarpes fishmeal factory in Mar del Plata on February 25, 2016. The discharge occurred through a storm drain at the "Playa del Puerto" (Port Beach), potentially affecting the marine ecosystem and environmental quality of the area. Technical reports in the case determined that the deficient conditions of the Coomarpes effluent treatment plant at the time allowed the discharge of polluting liquid waste. The ruling, while not specifying the exact contamination levels in detail, mentions that the effluent contained organic remains and residues from the fishmeal production process that posed a risk of contamination to the marine ecosystem. According to a subsequent report by Obras Sanitarias, the dumped waste did not qualify as "hazardous waste" under Law 24.051, but still represented a negative environmental externality that needed to be corrected.

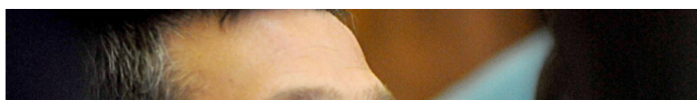




Meanwhile, the most recent technical reports, following the company's corrective work, concluded that environmental conditions have improved significantly, and that the current discharge from the plant does not compromise the sanitary network or pose a significant environmental risk. Furthermore, there is no evidence of a repeat of the polluting event, thanks to investments in technology and the redesign of production processes. In summary, the environmental damage consisted of a specific impact on a public coastal area, with potential impacts on marine biodiversity and water quality, subsequently mitigated through the implementation of corrective measures.



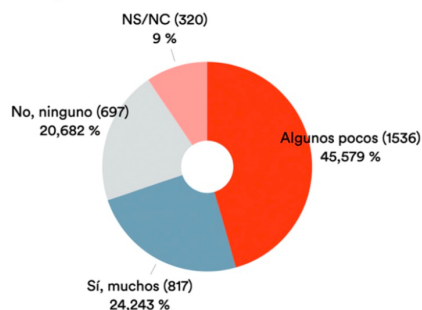
In another aspect, it was determined that the funds offered as comprehensive reparations by the Coomarpes company, a total of \$180,000,000, will be used to complete the sewage system expansion project in the port of Mar del Plata. This project is of great importance and has been pending for more than 60 years. The sewage system in the port area will be completed, which will directly benefit the sanitary infrastructure and the local environment. It will benefit more than 100 companies linked to the port, optimizing the sanitary and operational conditions of the area. The funds will be managed exclusively by the Mar del Plata Regional Port Consortium, which will assume responsibility for the administration, supervision, and execution of the works. The consortium will also assume any additional expenses necessary to complete the works, estimated at an additional \$100,000,000, according to its technicians.



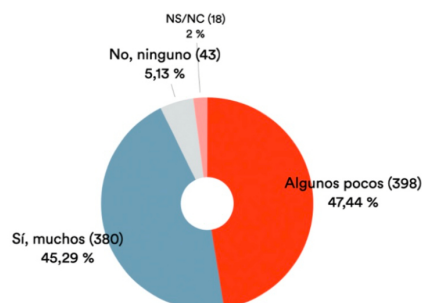


Furthermore, upon completion of the project, the Port of Mar del Plata will be recognized as one of the few "blue ports" in the world, distinguished for its environmental sustainability. "This allocation of funds is part of the restorative justice strategy adopted in the case, seeking to transform financial compensation into a tangible and lasting benefit for the affected community and the environment," it was stated. "We celebrate that the court has supported this option for the resolution of this case and, with it, the opportunity to prioritize the completion of a project that is fundamental to the development of our port and the environmental protection of the entire jurisdiction," said Marcos Gutiérrez, president of the Mar del Plata Regional Port Consortium.

Le preguntamos a los que habían experimentado con apuestas: *"¿Te endeudaste alguna vez para apostar?"* 107 adolescentes contestaron que **SÍ**. *"Tus amigos apuestan?"* Sobre el total de respuestas encontramos que:



Si tomamos quienes declaran tener experiencia previa o actual estos números aumentan considerablemente



"Please don't let up on this issue of children and online gambling."

It's a tragedy. I know some stories of families being destroyed, and no one seems to care. So, don't let everything slide like so many other issues." The woman, the principal of a provincial school in Mar del Plata, surprised former mayoral candidate Fernanda Raverta and councilwoman Mariana Cuesta while they were walking along the coast, near Unzué, on a sunny Monday morning, when many tourists were "stretching" their time back home. "We're not going to let up," Raverta told the respectful teacher. As is known, a few days ago, Raverta released a study that revealed that one in four teenagers in Mar del Plata had gambled at some point through various platforms. From that anonymous and voluntary survey of 3,370 young people, it emerged that 12-year-olds who had ever gambled represented 5.46% of those surveyed, and the figure rises to 33.73% among 18-year-olds. Of this population, 9.53% admitted to currently gambling. And two telling facts: of the total number of respondents, 107 adolescents admitted to having gone into debt in order to gamble, which demonstrates the connection young people have with financial risk. Likewise, among those who had ever gambled, 52.67% acknowledged that it is a "very serious" issue.

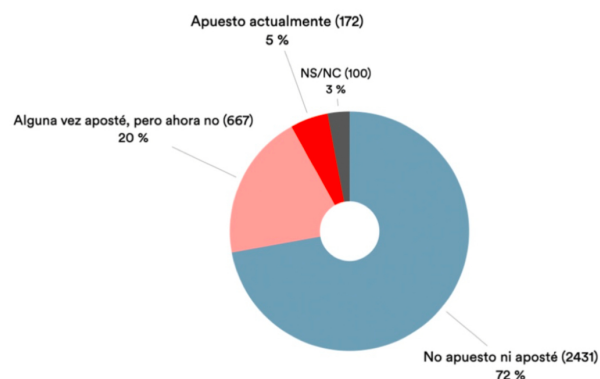


Algunos resultados:



De manera alarmante, vemos que **uno de cada cuatro** nos contestó que **tenía experiencia en apuestas online**, ya sea apostando actualmente o habiéndolo realizado alguna vez.

¿Apostaste alguna vez?



Las diferencias por género son marcadas, **siendo más del doble los varones** respecto que las mujeres que refieren experiencia en apuestas.

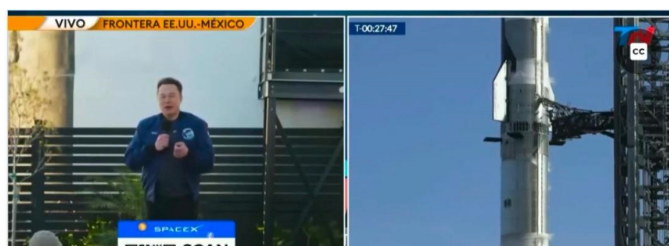


"Kids spending their time figuring out how to generate income without a job is a major issue these days, for families, educators, club coaches, and healthcare professionals," Raverta and Cuesta agreed, revealing to the teacher that the report's data reveals the need to protect young

people from the impact of technology and access to gambling sites. It's the first step toward building an effective intervention strategy, added Raverta, who hours earlier had been at the Auditorium for a talk given by journalist Nicolás Cayetano—"I'm here because I'm a gambling addict, or I was, I don't know, because you're never fully recovered. I haven't gambled for years, but I'm not cured. It's a problem that will be with me every day for the rest of my life," he said—in front of hundreds of students at the Auditorium Theater, as part of a talk on problem gambling promoted by the Buenos Aires Ombudsman's Office, organized by the Provincial Lottery and Casino Institute, and the General Directorate of Culture and Education. After the brief coastal talk, the two politicians set off again at a brisk pace, enjoying the holiday and the close of the long weekend.

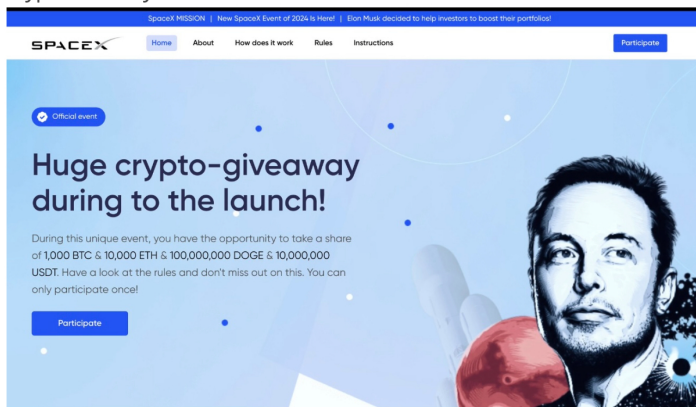


The Civic Coalition, Federal Encounter, and Democracy Forever blocs requested a special session in the Chamber of Deputies for next Wednesday to discuss a bill seeking to combat gambling addiction and cybergambling, which establishes strict advertising restrictions to encourage gambling. The deputies decided to advance a law to limit advertising on social media and in the media, as well as sponsorship of soccer teams, in light of the alarming growth in gambling among adolescents and young people. Another key point is the prohibition of access by children and adolescents under the age of 18 to gambling and betting sites and platforms, as well as online sports betting and predictions. The special session was requested by deputies Mónica Frade, Maximiliano Ferraro, and Juan Manuel López from the Civic Coalition; Sergio Acevedo from Santa Cruz; Mónica Fein, Margarita Stolbizer, Nicolás Massot, Esteban Paúlón, and Oscar Agost Carreño from the Federal Encounter; from Federal Democracy, Pablo Juliano and Facundo Manes, and from the left, Mónica Schlotthuer.



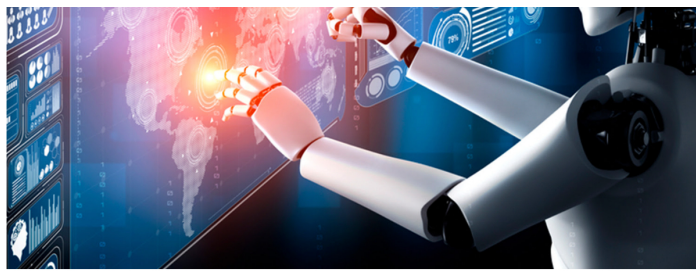


Much has been said about Artificial Intelligence and its impact on different levels of society. But its use can also be "useful" for carrying out scams. And if it's carried out with Elon Musk as the protagonist and broadcast on a television channel to thousands upon thousands of viewers during prime time, the results can be surprising. This is relevant in light of what happened last Tuesday, when hundreds of Argentines—many of them from Mar del Plata—were scammed in a situation unprecedented in the country. Specifically, the TN channel broadcast a supposed SpaceX launch, but it turned out to be a crypto scam. The channel passed off a video, likely from a hacked YouTube account, as a new rocket launch into space by Elon Musk. "What was being displayed on the channel's screen was, in fact, a 'scam,' that is, a 'fake stream' from a hacked YouTube account that was carrying out scams." In fact, in the video uploaded by various users, it can be seen that the translation to the businessman indicated that users had to access the QR code to supposedly participate in the broadcast and duplicate the cryptocurrency.

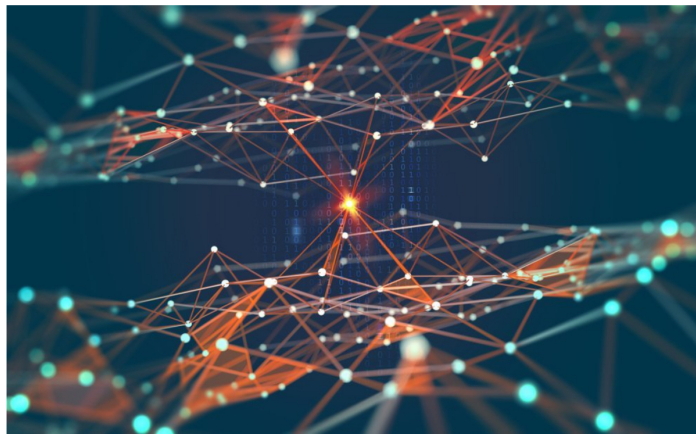


“While the falsification of Elon Musk's voice and the creation of such a convincing message using AI are concerning, the question of liability is complex. On the one hand, there is the role of the media. To what extent should channels verify the content they broadcast, especially when it comes to topics that can have such direct economic repercussions for viewers?” asked a renowned local lawyer, who admitted to having received inquiries from several Mar del Plata residents who were harmed when depositing their bitcoins, following the instructions that emerged from scanning the QR code that appeared on the screen while the fake Elon Musk spoke.





On a broader level, this incident also underscores the growing concern about the use of technologies such as Artificial Intelligence to create "deepfakes" and other fake content that appears authentic. Increasingly, AI is capable of manipulating images, sounds, and messages so precisely that it is difficult to distinguish between what is real and what is fake. In this context, the role of the media becomes even more crucial. As technology advances rapidly and generates new risks, it is imperative that media outlets prepare with stricter protocols to identify and prevent the spread of fraudulent content. This case highlights the need for clearer and stricter regulation, both for the creators of fake content and for the platforms and media outlets that distribute it. "Trust in the media and the information we consume cannot be taken lightly, and the responsibility to protect citizens from this type of fraud falls on all involved," the expert noted about this paradigmatic case.



Meanwhile, 64% of CEOs worldwide identified Artificial Intelligence as their "top investment priority" in 2024. This data comes from the tenth edition of "CEO Outlook," a KPMG survey of 1,325 business leaders from major international markets. 64% are investing in AI in 2024. On the other hand, 63% expect to see returns in the next 3 to 5 years. Among the main benefits of AI implementation, global CEOs recognize three: "increased efficiency and productivity," "better workforce qualifications to prepare for the future," and "increased organizational innovation." They also remain aware of the risks posed by the rapid implementation of new technologies, as 61% stated that ethical challenges are among the "most difficult to address" when implementing AI in their companies. The "lack of regulation" and "technical skills and capabilities" were also areas of concern, with the former accounting for 50% and the latter for 48%. Finally, 76% of respondents believe that AI "will not affect the number of jobs in their organization." Only 38% believe their employees have the

their organization. Only 36% believe their employees have the “right skills” to fully take advantage of AI’s benefits. And 58% agree that the integration of generative AI has caused them to “rethink the skills required for junior positions.”



TODAY IN MAR DEL PLATA

Flu vaccinations are progressing in Mar del Plata, with supplies and “without difficulties.”



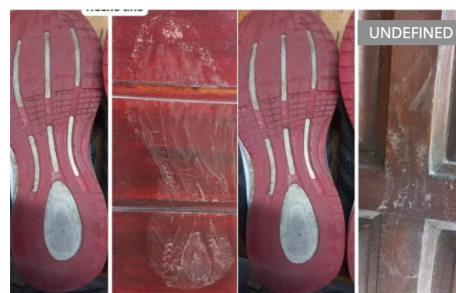
THE CITY

A man was sentenced for sexually abusing his three children.



POLICE

The trail of crime: a criminal was arrested for the sneakers



UNDEFINED

Latin American Weiqi (Go) Circuit in Mar del Plata



STRATEGY

Weigh-ins are in order and everything is ready for the boxing evening at the Provincial



INTERNATIONAL TITLES

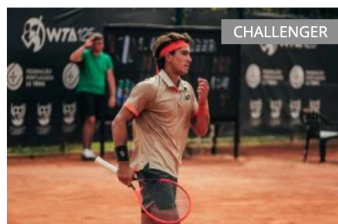
Zelayeta, champion and in the ideal team of the League



VOLLEY

SPORTS

Comesaña took another step in Oeiras



CHALLENGER



Las billeteras virtuales ahora son parte de RIPSAs

mercado pago

MODO

Cuenta DNI



Interview

Juane De la Fuente: “We had high expectations, and people are excited too.”

CHESS

Valerga caught up with Kiselev



EUROPA LEAGUE

Manchester United's incredible comeback: all the Europa League semi-finalists



SPORTS

The Column of Juan Travesaño



OPENING

River goes for qualification



