

after televised video showed him being beaten by police. "The government is mistaken if it thinks that with bullets, torture and punches it will control the just demands of Cajamarca," Arana told reporters, Reuters reported. "The president shouldn't just defend investment. He should defend the fundamental rights of Peruvians." Arana is believed to have his sights set on running for president in 2016. His supporters say Humala has moved too far to the right since taking office a year ago. Humala has not spoken about this week's violence. His cabinet ministers, however, suspended rights to free assembly in an effort to end the protests. As part of the mine project, Newmont Mining has agreed to an environmental mitigation plan that outside experts recommended. The plan includes reservoirs that would replace two or more lakes. The company said it began work on the reservoirs last weekend after nearly all of the other work on the mine had been halted since November due to protests. [Editor's note: See related Q&A in Thursday's [Advisor](#).]

Economic News

Fernández Forces Banks to Lend Below Suspected Inflation Rate

The government of President Cristina Fernández de Kirchner is forcing Argentina's largest commercial banks to lend at rates believed to be below the country's inflation rate, the Associated Press reported Thursday. The new rules,

The new rules force the banks

The Dialogue Continues

Are Market Forces Eroding Latin America's 'Food Sovereignty'?

Q Last month's OAS General Assembly meeting in Bolivia had food security as a main focus. Countries debated the inclusion of the term "food sovereignty," referring to the rights of peoples to largely define their own agricultural systems rather than relying on market forces. What issues does the region face in terms of food security, and how did the OAS debate exemplify those issues? How does increasing Chinese demand for food play into the picture? What positive steps have countries in the region taken and what needs more work in terms of ensuring a stable, sustainable food supply? How could the private sector help provide new solutions?

A Roberto Rodrigues, member of the International Food & Agricultural Trade Policy Council and coordinator of the Getúlio Vargas Foundation Agribusiness Center: "There is no way for a country or a people to isolate themselves from the globalized economy or market forces. Therefore, the most important issue that the region has to face is the short view of Latin American governments about the issue. No Latin American country has a consistent strategy to address food security. The more advanced countries have some policies for the sector, but not a strategy that considers income for farmers and food access for consumers. This

implies rural credit, minimum price guarantees, infrastructure and logistics, technology, trade policy and legal security, among other relevant topics. The increased Chinese demand is only one

"No Latin American country has a consistent strategy to address food security."

— Roberto Rodrigues

factor of the market forces and it has great importance, as it tends to increase. The region can be a major supplier to China and other emerging countries. However, there is a lack of strategic and coordinated vision between the region's countries. Now there are only conversations and discussions, with scarce achievements. The private sector is doing its part more effectively than governments, incorporating new technologies and management mechanisms. It would be more helpful if they invest in infrastructure and value-added goods, in addition to the search for new markets."

Editor's note: The above is a continuation of a Q&A published in the June 28 [issue](#) of the Advisor.