



# CRISIS EN VENEZUELA

## Bulletin No. 8

From 2 to 9 october 2017

[www.crisisenvenezuela.com](http://www.crisisenvenezuela.com)



**Codevida - [www.codevida.org](http://www.codevida.org)**

Health rights 2014-2017: Deprived of medicines and health services for prolonged period of time



The Coalition of Organizations for the Rights to Health and Life (Codevida) and the Venezuelan Education-Action Program on Human Rights (Provea) published a detailed report for the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR). The report explains the situation regarding the right to health in Venezuela between 2014 and 2017.

The document describes setbacks that have turned into a humanitarian emergency with serious and extensive damages to the population due to the prolonged shortage of medicines and the precarious infrastructure of health

services. The accumulation of uncorrected structural problems, systematic disinvestment, drastic spending cuts for the sector, disruption of the health system and the government's decision to not allow international humanitarian aid has extremely deteriorated the state of the health sector.

The public health system is undergoing a process of deep institutional and infrastructure destruction with devastating impacts that threaten the lives and the integrity of thousands of people.

The general and prolonged shortage of medicines and basic health supplies affects the entire population, in particular about 3 million people of all ages with chronic health conditions who have spent at least a year without regular access to specialized treatment.

 [READ THE COMPLETE REPORT HERE](#)

**CEPAZ - [www.cepaz.org.ve](http://www.cepaz.org.ve)**

Citizen Activists Network for Human Rights held Third Annual Meeting

The Citizen Activists Network for Human Rights (Redac) held its III National Meeting, organized by the Center for Justice and Peace (Cepaz) under the motto "Citizen's Activism for Peace and Human Rights." The objective was to strengthen the work developed by Redac in more than 12 states and build an agenda of actions and incidents to give continuity to the work of activists and organizations in Venezuela.

The activists contributed proposals for collaborative work and announced the creation of the virtual platform for the training of human rights defenders. In addition, consultants evaluated

the achievements of three years of work and determined the themes and actions in the defense of human rights that will lead the network next year as a space for joint action. During the

event new regional coordinators were elected who will be responsible for channeling the activities of Redac throughout the country.

Redac's work is fundamental during the Venezuelan crisis. The permanent evaluation of its lines of action prioritizes actions depending on the needs where each region in the network has representation.



 [MORE ON REDAC HERE](#)

## Acceso a la Justicia - [www.accesoalajusticia.org/wp/](http://www.accesoalajusticia.org/wp/)

### Citizens at mercy of the State's oppressive power

"How should we treat a traitor to the nation? We would treat him like an enemy" said the current constituent Diosdado Cabello in March against opposition leaders whom he accused of promoting a foreign invasion in our country. It is not just rhetoric. As popular discontent increased with the food and health crisis that plagues our country, the government has exhausted every gimmick, mostly illegally, to keep the seat of power during and after four devastating months of protests against Nicolas Maduro and his cronies (April-July).

One of the most convoluted mechanisms is accusing as an "enemy of the State" anyone who is in disagreement



with the government; that includes anyone from known opposition politicians to ordinary citizens participating in demonstrations. Furthermore, from the criminal point of view different rules were applied against the accused. This describes the concept of Feindstrafrecht or "criminal law of the enemy", outlined by German criminal law professor and legal philosopher Günther Jakobs. This theory advocates the elimination of the human rights of the subjects qualified as enemies and such concept, unfortunately, is the one used in Venezuela, where those who do not agree with the official policy are not simple opponents but traitors to the nation. Therefore, its treatment can not be equally implemented to citizens that agree with the ideology imposed by those in power.

This difference was evidenced, among other ways, by processing opposition demonstrators detained between April and July 2017 through the military court system and not civil courts as due process. This came about after the Attorney General at that time, Luisa Ortega Díaz, refused to charge those apprehended for considering that they had not incurred in any crime.

 [READ MORE HERE](#)

## Foro Penal Venezolano - [www.foropenal.com](http://www.foropenal.com)

### Carlos Graffe is one of 499 arbitrarily detained by the Venezuelan government

From April 1st to October 5th, the Venezuelan Penal Forum recorded 5,379 arbitrary arrests. Until October 5th in Venezuela 499 people were still detained for various reasons. 751 civilians have been brought before military courts, of which 236 are held in custody. From January 2014 to date, Foro Penal has included in its records 11,924 arbitrary detentions for a cumulative record of 1,266 political prisoners, of which 827 have been freed under various modalities.

In April 2017 we registered 117



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Foro Penal

**Carlos Graffe**  
Dirigente político VP  
Privado de libertad  
Detenido el 13/07/2017  
Recluido en Ramo Verde  
#LiberenAGraffe

political prisoners. Today that figure in Venezuela, certified by the OAS, based on data provided by the Venezuelan Penal Forum, is 439 people. 7,023 people remain unjustly subjected to criminal proceedings under

precautionary measures.- Carlos Graffe, a young political leader of Carabobo state is custody of the military prison of Ramo Verde. Graffe's trusted attorneys are not allowed to represent him and he suffers from a serious illness due to a kidney disease. He is denied proper medical care and his life is in danger. Defenders of the Venezuelan Foro Penal are not allowed access to his file. More than 10 applications have been filed in his favor, but none have been answered.

## Transparencia Venezuela - [www.transparencia.org.ve](http://www.transparencia.org.ve)

### Governor electoral campaigns plagued with abuses

Transparencia Venezuela began a study to register the violation of the electoral order by candidates who aspire to be elected governors in Venezuela. Elections are scheduled for October 15th, 2017 after a year of delay and in clear violation of the Constitution.

Through La Lupa, candidates' activities are registered from before the formal start of the electoral campaign, on September 23rd, until its completion, on October 12th. This analysis seeks to defend electoral norms and the right to clean elections, while emphasizing the misuse of state resources to favor political bias.

Preliminary analysis reveals irregularities such as early electoral propaganda, use of public resources, use of influences to gain advantage, officials acting in favor of a political party, public agencies in the campaign, use of children in proselytizing acts, among other breaches of instruments such as the Organic Law on Electoral Procedures and its regulations, as well as the Law against Corruption. We've also observed, just like in previous elections, that the candidates of the United Socialist Party of Venezuela (PSUV) have obvious campaign advantages over their contenders.

La Lupa's conclusions will be presented by Transparencia Venezu-

ela on October 13th, two days before the electoral contest, a ranking of the candidates who committed the most infractions will be depicted, not only to present the complaint to the public and the National Electoral Council, but so that citizens have a clear view that allow them to exercise their right to vote with an informed conscience.

 [SEE MORE ABOUT LA LUPA HERE](#)

## Provea - [www.derechos.org.ve](http://www.derechos.org.ve)

### Poverty will continue to increase with government decisions

On Thursday, October 5th, 2017, the forum "Scenarios in crisis: Economics, oil and social rights" was held in Caracas. The event brought together four specialists who, in the absence of official information, have been collecting their own data to know the country's economic situation and its impact on the quality of life of the population

The first presentation was made by the economist Manuel Sutherland, who calculated that the amount of money that the Venezuelan State has received since 1988 is equivalent to 10 Marshall plans: "Europe could be rebuilt with a single Marshall Plan. The levels of corruption in the absence of controls have been extraordinary." Using data and the use of graphics, Sutherland described how government measures in economic matters have hurt the poorest, especially the working class.

Internationalist, Luis Angarita, followed up focussing on the Venezuelan external debt and the exploitation of oil in the country. "The foreign debt for 2006 was \$46,725 Billion, for 2012 was \$130,362 Billion," according to Angarita. The expert said that the economy could recover in two years if there was the political will to make corrections to the type of model implemented since 1989.

The social block of the forum was conducted by sociologist Jo D'Elía, Provea's health rights investigator.

After a diagnosis of the situation of the public health system, the current percentage of drug shortages was 90%, aggravated by the brain-drain of 13,000 doctors in the country and a 70% deficit of nurses. Finally, political scientist Heiber Barreto estimated that food inflation for 2018 will be around 1,500%, while total inflation would be around 2,530%. In addition, he denounced that the closure of state food houses has left 300,000 people without food.



 [READ MORE FORUM HERE](#)

## Un Mundo Sin Mordaza - [www.sinmordaza.org](http://www.sinmordaza.org)

“The Anti-campaign for the “Indestructible Venezuela”

### NO + FRAUDES



LIBERTAD PARA VENEZUELA

The safeguard of memory is an ethical contest, is the creation of the foundations for the defense of our future, is building history with every detail of our past, is reclaiming our fundamental rights. In Memories For Life we want to protect our Venezuelan identity, to show marginalized memories and to rescue the forgotten stories.

“The Anti-campaign”, created by the artist José Daniel Morales, is the contrary version, visually and contextually, of the campaign “Indestructible Venezuela”, which was promoted by the Venezuelan regime. In this campaign, the artist represents several topics like censorship, repression, violence, fraud, death, torture and dictatorship.

## NO + DICTADURA

## Espacio Público - [www.espaciopublico.org](http://www.espaciopublico.org)

Suffrage becomes a demand in the midst of an adverse system

Voting is also a citizen expression that derives from the appointment of public officials. Faced with the controversy of voting or abstaining from the Venezuelan Regional Elections on October 15th, we stem from the conviction that participation is the way to recover, maintain and strengthen democracy.

Suffrage is a right and is one of the mechanisms - although not the only one - of democratic action. Just as its exercise must be accompanied by warranties, it becomes a demand when the system is adverse. Democratic practice does not begin or end with voting, but without it would not exist.

Rights are inalienable, we can not



renounce them without affecting our dignity as people. The rights we enjoy today are historical achievements that

have arisen precisely from situations of disadvantage, such as the woman's right to vote, which was in the hands of men until it became effective.

We have an ideal scenario that we should not only aspire for but must fight for ... there is no doubt we also have a series of experiences that make us suspicious as voters. We recommend to turn all these doubts into demands, insisting on ensuring adequate conditions for exercising the right to vote. Free, universal, direct, secret, periodic and authentic elections!

 **MORE ABOUT THE THEME HERE**