



CRISIS EN VENEZUELA

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CIVILIS Derechos Humanos - <http://www.civilisac.org/>

“Non-violence is the most humane way to resist and persist when facing oppression”



Angel Zambrano is a social communicator. He is an activist within the Citizens' Laboratory of Non-Violence, an organization born little more than one year ago, aiming to become a space for encountering and articulating among people, organizations, and their ideas and projects on citizens' practising for peaceful action and democracy.

In his opinion, non-violence is the most humane way to resist and persist when facing oppression; but it still goes further, beyond political junctures: building communities, taking into account diversity, in order to achieve more fair societies.

—How do you feel dedicating your life to promote and defend human rights?

—Our work focuses on contacting defenders and promoters of human rights. I wouldn't say we dedicate our lives to defending human rights, that sounds like major words, only applicable to those who do it day by day, with the tenacity and generosity that characterize them. We venezuelans are climbing a difficult ascending trail; and to us, working on the social –and also to those that work

on other fields–, adversity is teaching valuable lessons. Adversity is strengthening our social tissue in many ways that are not yet clearly determined; but they will be in the middle and long terms, meaningfully. I believe it is a privilege being here, living what we are living, and doing what we are doing.



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PROVEA - www.derechos.org.ve

The Right to Drinking Water, enough and continuous



Demonstrations for demanding water services spread all over the country. Scarcity of drinking water gets more acute, whereas the government acts indolently about it, not caring at all before the suffering of families. The Plan de la Patria 2013-2019 established the consolidation of an adequate water distribution system, but the observable results stand for quite the opposite.

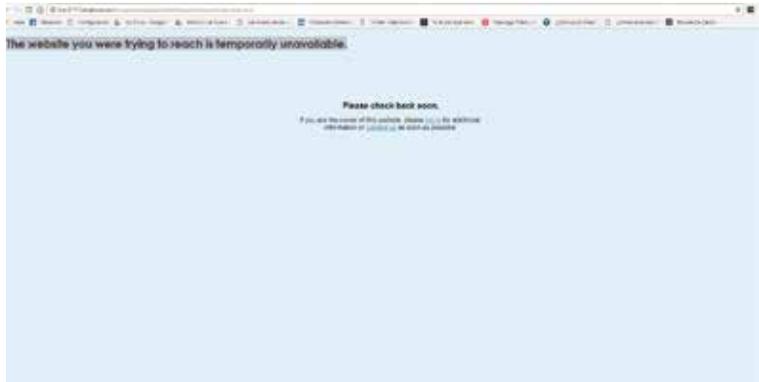
It can't be thought of as “normal”, that a community must be submitted several days –or weeks– to not getting water. All of us are entitled to obtain from the State a full guarantee, concerning the drinking water delivery service, not only continuously, but in enough quantity. The Right to Drinking Water is a fundamental Human Right, and we have to demand its fulfillment. Therefore, when communities march to protest for a bad and irregular water service, they are simply asking the government to do its job: to comply with its obligations.

The crisis we presently endure concerning this vital, indispensable service may be partially salved by executing emergency, punctual measures; but other actions refer to the structural aspects.

Among the urgent measures are: the renovation of water-pumping machines; the changing or repairing of tubings; and the improvement of quality control mechanisms. Among the structural measures are: the developing of an environmental policy to protect water masses and sources, and to ease their sustaining exploitation; and making important investments, such as the construction of dams, reservoirs, and aqueducts. All of those measures are a must, when it comes to an integrated management of the water.

Espacio Público - www.espaciopublico.org

Website *Punto de Corte* still off-line



Website *Punto de Corte* is still off-line, since receiving an attack to the page's servers on Wednesday July 11 in the evening, after publishing an interview by journalist Sebastiana Barraez with Luisa Ortega Díaz, district attorney in the exile.

In a press note emitted by *Punto de Corte*, they inform to be searching for the causes that produced the page's collapse, just after the emission of the aforementioned

interview, named "The secrets of Maduro's government told by Luisa Ortega Díaz", realized in Colombia. The district attorney in the exile relates what happened when deputy Diosdado Cabello, a member of the illegitimate Constituent National Assembly (ANC), called her on December 28, 2012, and told her that Hugo Chávez had died. Ortega Díaz also talks with the journalist about other facts, all of them revealing the relationship the former public official had with "chavismo".

In the communication, *Punto de Corte* states that the report rendered by a team of technicians describes the fault as "an attack -unauthorized entries- from several servers in parallel, with the apparent objective of making a massive coding of the information files of the client *Punto de Corte Agencia de Información*".

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CEPAZ - www.cepaz.org.ve

Joint Democracy: a challenge to Venezuelan women



The concept of joint democracy implies a new social contract based on the equilibrium of genders, within a context of responsibilities shared by the State, the society, and the enterprises, for achieving deep transformations: governability, political participation, economy, non-violence against women, education, and inter-genders communication. All of that means Values of Equality.

Nevertheless, data presented by

UNO's Women (ONU Mujeres) in 2016 point out that, although there has been a normative progress in Latin America and the Caribbean zone -by means of introducing international juridical standards in their legislations on women's rights- reality reflects other situation. There is an absence of women presidents; also, a low percentage of women in parliaments, as well as in important positions -both national and local- in our region. Figures are revealing: only 29.3% of legislative national parliaments correspond to women; in local sites, only 13.4% of mayors and 28.8% of town councilors are women. Venezuela is not any better concerning this situation: the economical, social and political crisis our country faces seemingly produces a stagnation and even a retrocession, as far as equality, opportunities, development, and social and political participation are concerned.

In 2017, the Center for Justice and Peace (CEPAZ), jointly with other organizations, presented an inform named "Parliament: Sensitive Gender", which reflects the low political representation and the exclusion of women at all levels of public power. The lack of favorable conditions, and the absence of legal mechanisms and effective strategies, have impeded the inclusion of parity and alternability in debated during electoral processes; and this has caused a retrocession, registered like this: only 21% of the feminine population play an active role in the political life in our country.

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Transparencia Venezuela - www.transparencia.org.ve

42 countries have sanctioned the president of the Supreme Court of Justice of Venezuela



Maikel Moreno, the president of the Supreme Court of Justice (TSJ), heads the list of 13 magistrates of our highest court that have been sanctioned by international community: he is prohibited to enter in 42 countries. Reasons? There are several, the first one being his affinity with President Nicolás Maduro; also, the fact that his decisions are always favorable to the Executive's interests; and, on top of those, his own personal past.

Affinity with the mandatory was publicly exposed

during the act for opening the 2018 judicial year. In his speech, Moreno encouraged Maduro to keep "the strength and the impulse for armouring the country's security, defense, and sovereignty"; and he also exhorted the president to be "absolutely confident that the Supreme Court of Justice and, logically, the Judiciary as a whole, according to Law and legal instruments, will guarantee the unharmedness of our nation".

Since he was elected as a magistrate of the Criminal Hall, in December 2014, Moreno has taken highly controversial decisions. An example: in January 2017, he was the reporter that ratified the 14-year imprisonment sentence against opposition's leader Leopoldo López. Finally, we must add the personal past of Maikel Moreno: he is pointed at as having been prosecuted for two homicides, when he worked in extinct Direction of Intelligence and Prevention Services (DISIP).

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Acceso a la Justicia - www.accesoalajusticia.org/wp/

In Venezuela, Justice is not blind, not even among the Military



In general terms, it is true: members of the Bolivarian National Armed Force (FANB) have more possibilities of getting Justice than civilians, when attending the highest court of the republic to litigate with the government. Statistics are: 20% of sentences favorable to demands of the military; only 10% of sentences favorable to demands of citizens or of civil society's groups. Nevertheless, inequality and injustice reign all the same within the people in olive-green uniforms.

Acceso a la Justicia did a research work on jurisprudence of the Political-Administrative Hall of the Supreme Court of Justice (TSJ), related to cases in which the military sued the State. Some revealing data are: from 164 cases, 41% favored retired officers. Obviously, discrimination between active and retired military is present in here.

This situation is also evident concerning military levels. Within the cases of military vs. State that were regarded as inadmissible by TSJ, 78% were attempted by members of the professional troop; whereas only 56% were introduced by officers. Those figures make us wonder what may be the reason for such an inequality.

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Foro Penal Venezolano - www.foropenal.com/

256 persons are political prisoners of Venezuela's regime

12.422 arbitrary detentions have been registered by Foro Penal Venezolano between January 1st, 2014 and July 13, 2018.

806 civilians have been presented before Military Courts. From these, 72 are still in custody, 6 of them being women. Since January 2014, we accumulate 1.536 political prisoners. Full liberty or release under diverse modalities have been obtained in 1.280 cases. Today, the number for this category of inmates is 256, which has been certified by OAS (OEA) based upon data provided by Foro Penal. Besides, 7.293 persons are still unfairly submitted to prosecution under caution measures.



Un Mundo Sin Mordaza - www.sinmordaza.org

Never Again in Venezuela: portraits of sorrow and repression



Never Again in Venezuela is an audio-visual campaign realized by NGO Un Mundo sin Mordaza, aiming to sensitize Venezuelans and to obtain sympathy and solidarity abroad, regarding the social and political crisis Venezuela is presently enduring.

Through a well documented serial, true stories are presented, stories about families victimized by the government along the last 18 years, families whose Rights have been violated. Chapter one is dedicated to those who died during the 2017 anti-governmental protests. This chapter shows the deep sorrow in 10 homes, where they are in mourning for the loss of one of their members, due to the repression practised by the State security corps.

These families from different locations in our country represent those over 150 persons assassinated within the 2017 manifestations. Their deaths remain unpunished. Sin Mordaza claims for this facts not to be

repeated again in Venezuela. The entire stories of this cases may be seen on website www.memoriasporlavida.com or in YouTube TV Sin Mordaza.

