



# CRISIS EN VENEZUELA

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



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

### Weaving hopes



Two important events occurred recently. They were important when we realize the need for organizations –both social and political– to advance and sum their strengths and initiatives, in order to rescue Democracy in Venezuela. The first of

these activities was a meeting of organizations that promote non-violent and creative protest. They got together quietly, but very enthusiastically and willingly, for sharing experiences and step forwards in constructing demanding communities.

The second activity was an act held on Monday, September 24, at Aula Magna, in Central University of Venezuela (UCV). The event was named “Enough!”: guilds, unions, political parties, organizations of the civil society, and social activists accompanied the creation of National Platform of Conflict. It was stated: we go ahead towards a sincere dialogue

to prove that unity and fraternal organization can make real spaces, where all venezuelans, at one voice, may recuperate our right to have rights, to be the constructors of our destiny, to re-vitalize our almost-cut-off will power, to join in one and shape a force capable of getting through and over differences, walking on the same direction, despite diversity, trusting ourselves again.

Two initiatives and only one purpose: weaving hopes and persevering on a difficult but indispensable deed, aiming to rescue democracy and to reach a worthy life.

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

### An immigration work agenda based on Human Rights is imperative

Presently, a debate on the Rights of migrants and refugees figures into the political agenda in many countries. The matter occupies a lot of space in mass media and also within international organizations, that are in search for the most efficient ways to protect and assist these migratory groups, so especially vulnerable. In the system of the United Nations Organization (UNO/ONU) there is deep concern about the increasing number of massive displacements in the last years. It is estimated that 3.3% of the world population –around 244 million people– are migrants.

The reasons for this global phenomenon are diverse and have multiplied. They include natural disasters, armed conflicts, political crisis, economic poverty, and lack of opportunities, any of which have impelled thousands of persons to leave their countries and undertake a long way, hoping to find an alternative to improve their families’ living conditions and their own. During the experience, many migrants and refugees –especially those in irregular situations– usually live and work clandestinely, which



implies being deprived of their rights and liberties, becoming even more vulnerable than the rest of the population: many are victims of discrimination, exploitation, and violence.

That is why civil society’s organizations and the international community actors must develop a working schedule on migration, as related to Human Rights, aiming to place the migrant as the center of well coordinated political measures. As for CEPAZ, we have decided to carry on our campaign “12 Actions for Peace”, focusing on migrants’ and refugees’ rights. We understand that millions of persons confront this complex reality, finding their Human Rights violated in many aspects.

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

### The National Budgetary Law is no longer a secret

Along the first 2018 semester, Venezuelan government approved Additional Credits for BsF 433.823.697, which must be added to BsF 36.102.059 originally estimated. This means that the national expenses summed to BsF 469.925.756. This figure shows a 1.201% raise, when compared to the numbers of 217 for the same period. However, in real terms, the total expense went down 72%, due to hyper-inflation, according to calculations by Transparencia Venezuela.

After a new effort to defeat opacity, patronized and defended by the Executive, our NGO could accede extra-official key information about the 2018 National Budgetary Law. Data obtained demonstrate the governmental failure at adapting



public policies and budgets to the real income of the country and its capacity of getting indebted. Transparencia could accede the specific budgets of national public organism, the chronological schedules for receiving the resources assigned during the year, and the transfers addressed to the states and the municipalities.

Transparencia Venezuela contrasted the amounts destined to each organism and the Additional Credits approved January -June 2018, with the corresponding sums in 2016 and 2017. The results are in an Inform called "Our 2018 Budget". Among many findings, this is one: concerning the five Public Powers, the Judiciary was the only one that had a growth in real terms. In 2017, the Judicial Power received BsF 878.610; in the present year, including both Original Estimate and Additional Credits, it has received BsF 46.839.667, which means 14% of real growth. Other key sectors, like health, education and housing, suffered a real fall.

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

### UNO's Council of Human Rights emits a historical resolution on Venezuela

The Council of Human Rights of the United Nations Organizations (UNO/ONU) is the main inter-governmental organ within the system. On September 27, 2018, it emitted a resolution, which stresses on the growing concern of governments around the world for the humanitarian emergency and the violation of human rights in our country.

The document contains a profound distress before the violations of Human Rights in Venezuela. It affirms that the Venezuelan government should open doors and give way to humanitarian help, a mean to confront "the shortage of medicines and food, the increasing malnutrition, and the outbreak of illnesses that had been eradicated or kept under control in South America". In addition, the resolution solicits from the UNO's High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet, to elaborate an exhaustive inform on the situation in Venezuela, which will be presented to the Council during its 39th period of sessions, in June 2019-Bachelet will also provide oral updating of the situation



along the March and September periods of sessions.

Michelle Bachelet requests Venezuelan government to let UNO's investigators come to the country. The High Commissioner explained that, in case of not obtaining this authorization, her office will do, all the same, because monitoring and reporting are mandates inherent to that organism, independently from the Council's resolution. "If we are not

permitted in, we will do our work at the distance, in a nearby country; but, obviously, if we are allowed to work inside, there is a chance to take into consideration the official version of the facts. The surest way to get an impartial inform, not biased and as neutral as possible, is granting access to all the actors", she stated.

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

### Officials' careers eliminated in Department of the Public Prosecutor



In present Venezuela, amidst violations of the State of Rights and Human Rights, it seems it is always possible to descend lower in illegality. That has come to be almost a rule in our country. Official Gazette 41.482 -September 14, 2018- included a Resolution, numbered 2703 and issued on September 13, which modifies art.3 of the Statute of the Department of the Public Prosecutor (Ministerio Público, MP). The Resolution establishes that all the career Officials' positions now come to be positions of trust, therefore

objects of discretionary appointment and removal. As a consequence, those officials lose their former steadiness.

Resolution 2703 not only changes art.3 of the Statute, but also eliminates all articles that refer to the career of MP's Officials. Among these, arts. 4 and 5, related to the objectives and the career regime. Besides, the resolution reforms the Organic Act on MP, LOMP, especially its Title VI, respecting the procedures of careers and selective competitions respecting MP's officials. The juridical basis alleged by the Attorney General on emitting the resolution, is that Constituent National Assembly (ANC), using its original power, decreed MP in emergency and ordered its restructuration.

Illegality of Resolution 2703 is evident: in any case, it should develop the Law, not change it, given that resolutions are sub-legal documents. In addition, it is unconstitutional,

because our Magna Carta -art.286- orders the legal instruments to recognize steadiness of MP's Officials, and -art. 256- guarantees the necessary independence of attorneys. Consequently, LOMP establishes a career regime and orders the Attorney General to elaborate a Statute, and likewise a Resolution that determines the bases and requirements for entering MP as a Career Official. It must be said that this new resolution of our country's Head of penal actions violates international instruments, which demand the independence of attorneys and the logical need to warrant their steadiness.



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Venezuelan citizens know so much about vicious Justice -because of the tremendous noise corruption makes in our judicial system- that, even before stepping in a Court, they are certain: quite probably, they will obtain nothing.

Average citizens do not think much about changing our system of administering Justice; among other reasons, because such is not the task that corresponds to common people. But they perceive the present situation as being so disastrous, that the necessary changes are assumed like



enjoy practicing their rights, just as they are defined in our Magna Carta.

## Bloque Constitucional

### Justice is a civic need

dreams or hopes, name them chimeras, others would call them utopias.

Yet, the radical transformation of our system of Justice an emergency, an absolute need. Only when we have available a system of authentic Justice, will we feel really protected. Only when we get a system of Justice working like clockwork -or even merely working- all average, common citizens in this country will be able to

## APLEX demands from the Ombudsman actions in favor of Liberty of Expression



The letter states that the Alliance will not give up at denouncing, as it has done it along the presidential periods of both Hugo Chavez and Nicolas Maduro. It has been always so, especially since mass media became “the principal obstacle to the revolution”; and consequently, all sorts of attacks, restrictions and censorship began to increase -not to mention the shutdown of radio and TV broadcasting stations.

Ombudsman: these abnormal situations impede an accurate respect for Liberty of Expression and for practicing the Right to Access to Information. When that happens, we face one of the most meaningful deficits in our country’s democracy. Actions by and from your Office are indispensable in the present circumstances, in order to grant the full practice of the liberties just mentioned, according to art.58 of the National Constitution, and, also to international treaties on Human Rights.

Alliance for Liberty of Expression (APLEX) attended the Ombudsman’s Office, to demand from Alfredo Ruiz Angulo, Head of the protective entity, his acting in favor of Liberty of Expression in Venezuela. This is the second time APLEX delivers a letter to the official, as a way of urging him to comply with his functions at guaranteeing the Right to Access to Information and the Liberty of Expression in our country.

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