



CRISIS EN VENEZUELA

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www.crisisenvenezuela.com



Codevida - www.codevida.org

National Report on the Complex Humanitarian Emergency as related to the Right to Health

Venezuela has a population of 31.8 million people, along and across 24 states; we all endure a complex humanitarian emergency since 2015, unprecedented in our country. That emergency is a multi-profiled one, a high-scaled one; and is due to many factors, which compound to produce a wide disassembly at all levels: institutional, juridical, political, social, and economical. That emergency has devastating effects on the life and well-being of the whole population. As for the Right to Health, we confront the destruction of the public sanitary system –that was already quite deteriorated; and this causes grave harms to the health of millions. As a result, we witness the re-appearance and propagation of epidemic illnesses eradicated decades ago. Also, we count thousands of deceases that could have been avoided.

Consequently, complex humanitarian emergency has a major impact on the Right to Health. Part of it: paralysis and/or operational decrease and/or closing of the majority of medical attention centers; prolonged scarcity of medicines, vaccines, and basic medical inputs, all of them indispensable for the prevention, the diagnose and the treatment of diseases and/or injuries; dis-attention to persons with chronic health conditions, to pregnant women, to newly-borns; inefficient action against malnutrition, in a context of serious alimentary insecurity, generated by economical sinking, 61% of extreme poverty, high rates of violent deceases, and the collapse of basic services.



In 1999, our Constitution established –arts.83 and 84– the obligation the State has of guaranteeing the right to health as a part of the right to life. Such obligation implies the creation of a national public health system under its heading, but including an inter-sectorial management, decentralized and participating, integrated in a wider system of social security, and under the principles of gratuitousness, universality, integrality, equability, social integration, and solidarity. Along two decades, vexing and doing on the very contrary, the

State addressed its policies to an institutional disassembly, which has weakened the public sanitary system. Therefore, today we remark: a) a refusal to comply with the constitutional mandate; b) the non-investment in health; c) the use of abundant resources for creating other system, parallel to the institutional one, dismissing health professionals and workers; d) a rigid and abusive foreign exchange control, that affected the vulnerable health sector, due to its dependence on importations; and e) the inaccessibility to/absence of official data about the system’s situation and the population’s health conditions.

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Foro Penal - www.foropenal.com

226 persons are political prisoners in Nicolás Maduro’s regime

Up to October 12, Foro Penal had registered 12.448 arbitrary arrests, occurred since January 1st, 2014.

811 civilians have been presented before Military Courts. Since January 2014 to now, we have accumulated 1.552 certified political prisoners. Full liberty or release under diverse modalities have been obtained in 1.326 cases.



By April 2014 we had 117 political prisoners. Today, the number for this category of inmates is 226, which has been certified by OAS/OEA, on the basis of data provided by Foro Penal. From those, 34 are women. Besides, 7.343 persons are still unfairly submitted to penal prosecution under caution measures.

Espacio Público - www.espaciopublico.org

65 NGOs: There are no conditions in Venezuela for investigating transparently the death of councilor Fernando Alban



Councilor of Municipality Libertador, Fernando Alban, a militant of Primero Justicia (PJ), was arrested by Bolivarian Intelligence Service (SEBIN) on Friday, October 5, at Maiquetia's Airport, in the state of Vargas, on his arrival after a trip to

New York. Alban had accompanied the president of the National Assembly (AN), during several political meetings held within the framework of the General Assembly of the United Nations Organization (UNO/ONU).

20 hours after his forced disappearance, his relatives and lawyers learned where he was and the charges imputed: terrorism, high treason, association in delinquency, and homicide in the grade of frustration. 28 hours later, on October 8, the government divulgated that Fernando Alban "committed suicide" in SEBIN's headquarters, in Plaza Venezuela, where he was in custody.

Given these facts, 65 NGOs for Human Rights declared their repudiation and refusal to both, Alban's arbitrary detention and the abnormal situation -the death of a councilor occurred in a State's premise. We urge international community to inspect conditions in our country's detention centers; also, we demand an international organization to investigate this case, in order to identify those responsible for the councilor's death.

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CEPAZ - www.cepaz.org.ve

Through simple actions, individuals and organizations exacted assistance and support for migrants and refugees



Rights of the migrants and refugees were the main subject selected by the Center for Justice and Peace (CEPAZ) for accomplishing the Second Edition of "12 Actions for Peace". Along 12 days, this initiative had a massive participation of organizations and individuals, who realized simple actions, destined to underline the Rights of those that leave their home countries somehow

by force.

Due to the certainty that the crisis of Venezuelan human mobility is one of the biggest and gravest in the region, CEPAZ impulsed 12 days of collective activism, a way to make visible migrants' and refugees' human rights. Both, individuals' and organizations' commitment was to become an alter-voice of these persons. In addition, to press on international organisms and the States to provide them with assistance and support.

Since the first day, 547 people participated in the actions. Along the campaign, many other activists joined in. Besides, 38 national and international organizations backed the event. One of the fundamental supports was the patronage by Twitter's Pautas para Bien. Spreading

messages remarking hope, resilience, sheltering, and also alert warnings on the venezuelans' migratory situation, was the main tribute that proved the active involvement of the social network. There was a special call to the international community, aiming the adoption of urgent measures for guaranteeing the respect of these people's human rights. Under the tag "12 Actions for Peace", the campaign's publications were seen and replicated in Venezuela, Colombia, México, United States, Spain, Argentina, Chile, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Peru, France, Italy, Portugal, and even Angola and the Philippines.

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CIVILIS Derechos Humanos - www.civilisac.org

“My motivation is knowing that I can help others to have a peaceful, yet demanding voice about their rights”



Natasha Saturno, a lawyer and a member of Acción Solidaria, says that in Venezuela we witness massive violations of human rights, which shapes a complex humanitarian emergency. Saturno achieved this:

Inter-American Commission for Human Rights (CIDH) granted a caution protective measure in favor of a person with hemophilia, who began to receive a due treatment.

—What is the role of defenders before the situation in Venezuela?

—The same as in any other country: watching over the State’s accomplishment of its obligations regarding Human Rights. That means a work of vigilance, and demanding our rights. How, when, and where vary, depending on our focuses and specializations.

—What motivates you to go on working?

—It may sound like a cliché, but there is not a greater satisfaction than helping other persons; and, given the complex humanitarian emergency we have in Venezuela, I cannot think of a better place for complying humbly with this vocation. So, my motivation is knowing that, since my desk, I can help others to have a peaceful, yet demanding voice about their rights.

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Acceso a la Justicia - www.accesoaljusticia.org

Three setbacks for the government, and counting on...

Inside, repression reaches such high levels: some humble firemen were imprisoned due to a humorous video about President Nicolás Maduro –once more, gloomy pseudo-Act Against Hate. Outside, the government has been practically given a trashing, despite the revolutionary diplomacy’s efforts to avoid it. First setback: five Latin America countries –Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Paraguay, and Peru– plus Canada, solicited before the Prosecutor’s Office of the International Penal Court (CPI) a trial for violations of Human Rights in Venezuela. This is unprecedented, because other similar cases –Uganda, Mali and others – had been presented by the affected native populations, but never up to now by a third party.



the Head of Venezuelan State –who alleges to be the representative of a “potency country” – totally vexes the insulting official daily speech, full of “anti-imperialistic” slogans.

Third setback: the historical resolution by the UNO’s Commission of Human Rights, issued on September 26, which declared the existence of a humanitarian crisis in Venezuela, and accounted for its consequences against hundreds of thousands of venezuelans. This is important: until a few years ago, Venezuelan government used to receive prizes and recognitions from the UNO’s entities –such as FAO and UNPD; now, that is changing in the present, although more slowly than required by the crisis.

Second setback: Maduro’s regime hardly expected this defeat, when tried –by its own initiative and unfruitful– to have a meeting with the President of the United States, Donald Trump, within the framework of the UNO’s (ONU’s) General Assembly. Such public reiterated solicitation by

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PROVEA - www.derechos.org/ve

Hyper-inflationary projections pulverize Social Rights

International Monetary Fund (FMI) most recent inform projects an inflationary rate of 1.370.000% in Venezuela by the end of 2018; and 10.000.000% by the end of 2019. In turn, the United Nations' Program for Development (UNPD/PNUD) stated that, between 2012 and 2017, Venezuela descended 16 posts in the global Index of Human Development (IDH).

The present Venezuelan recession with the consequent increasing poverty cause the exclusion of vast sectors of the population. All of this puts an end to the greatest oil bonanza in our history. Now, it is a period in which corruption raised; and so did irresponsibility at managing public resources; and so did the running into debt. On top of this, the sharpening of the crisis and the absence of actions to overcome it are

fundamentally due to the closing of democratic spaces and to the extinction of the State of Rights. The Venezuelan State, conducted by rulers that derived in a dictatorship, has openly abandoned its obligations, as far as economic, social and cultural rights are concerned. Therefore, they cannot grant an adequate standard of living to the population.

The adaptation of anti-popular and anti-democratic measures related to economy has eroded warranties of social rights. The possibility of overcoming this crisis in a short time is illusory; and so is the mitigation of the critical effects on the most vulnerable sectors of the population. Still, there is more: increasing repression, State terrorism, and the consolidation of social and political control mechanisms, by all means unconstitutional... They are factors



that generate even harder penuries for venezuelans. The dictatorship, determined to keep in Power, repress and imprisons, in an attempt to silence the voices of displeasure that mobilize and shout against hunger and poverty.

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Un Mundo Sin Mordaza - www.sinmordaza.org

Sin Mordaza demands for an independent investigation to clarify circumstances in councilor Fernando Alban's death



Because of our work on promoting and protecting the human rights of Venezuelan citizens, Sin Mordaza demands from the authorities the accomplishment of due

investigations, in order to clarify circumstances that surrounded the death of Primero Justicia's councilor Fernando Alban; and also to identify those who were responsible.

The Municipality Libertador's councilor was detained -without a warrant of arrest- last October 5, at the international airport in Maiquetía, under suspicion of his supposed participation in the supposed attempted assassination, dated August 4. By this action, Alban's rights to the personal liberty, to personal integrity, and to due procedures -arts. 43,49 and 46 of the National Constitution- were violated.

Alban's death was announced via Venezolana de Televisión (VTV) by Attorney General, Tarek William Saab,

appointed by Constituent National Assembly. Saab assured that the councilor committed suicide, which he realized by asking to be allowed to the toilet. Once there, he jumped out of the window.



Transparencia Venezuela - www.transparencia.org.ve

Seven stories of one single anguish: gasoline

Because we are committed to make visible all aspects of the Venezuelan crisis -to which a budding plan for rationing gasoline is to be added- Transparencia Venezuela verified the situation of citizens in seven states of our country, when they need to fill the tanks of their vehicles.

The obscure, confusing presidential announcements about the raise of the price of gasoline; and about the new paying system via Fatherland's Card (Carnet de la Patria), which strengthens that document as a control mechanism; instead of clarifying are increasing venezuelans' anguish about the matter.

We have registered exhausting lines of cars in Maracaibo, state of Zulia -in some cases two kilometers



long; the hours spent immersed in merciless heat, endured by drivers in Lara; the very risky wee hours that many have had in Merida; the chaotic confusion confronted by venezuelans, special mention of those in Valencia, state of Carabobo... Last but not least, the infuriating disdain of those in charge of checking the so-called "Bio-pay" ("Biopago") in the state of Bolivar. All the

testimonies figure into a hotchpotch of anxiety and anger, everywhere in the country, in a context of opacity and improvisation.

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Bloque Constitucional

Let's recuperate the validity of Justice as a Constitutional Value



Art.26 of our Constitution orders Venezuelan State to guarantee Justice to be charge-free, accessible, impartial, suitable, transparent, autonomous, independent, responsible, equitable, and expeditious, with no undue delays, nor formalisms nor useless repositions.

That constitutional mandate is not in force at all. In the past years, those who should guarantee the attributes mentioned above have replaced them for a simulacrum called "justice", that is not charge-free, since bribing is a common shameful practice -whether requested or offered- for dealing in the courts. It is not accessible, either; on the contrary, it is perceived as a thick wall, something beyond reach for ordinary citizens. Much less is it impartial or suitable, when political interests are involved, ranging from getting an official post to obtaining economical or any other kind of benefits or influences. Justice is nowadays a dark activity,

conveniently undercover, which is precisely the way to leave aside autonomy and independence.

It is nevertheless true: not all judges nor all officials within the present system of Justice participate in this debacle; but most of them do, especially at the highest levels. Bloque Constitucional assumes the challenge: we must re-validate our constitutional order and give it back to the citizens, in order to grant them a decent living inside the society they decided to build, under such a social contract called Magna Carta -Justice finally included, in force, as a secure way to real peace and liberty.

