



# CRISIS EN VENEZUELA

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

### The road followed by PSUV for taking for taking Juan Guaidó out of the political game



Since Juan Guaidó, president of the National Assembly (AN), assumed the reins of government under art.233 of our Constitution, mandatory Nicolás Maduro activated every State structure in order to take him out of competition. Different actions were executed, both judicially and policely, aiming at reducing Guaidó's strength, after the revival of nationwide protests and the recognition of Guaidó's status by more than 60

countries.

On January 29 -only six days after Guaidó assumption of the interim presidency of our country-, Tarek William Saab, Attorney General of the Constituent National Assembly (ANC), solicited from the Supreme Court of Justice (TSJ) caution measures against Guaidó, for supposedly causing harm to the peace of the Republic. The very same day, only six hours later, Maikel Moreno -TSJ's president- emitted a prohibition to go out the country against Guaidó; and order to block his bank accounts; and another prohibition, this one concerning the possibility of transferring and/or burdening his properties.

On February 11, it was ANC's Controller General's turn: Elvis Amoroso announced an auditor

intervention against Guaidó, because he supposedly hid or altered data in his sworn patrimonial declaration. In March and April, the same entities acted once more against the president in charge: Saab announced the beginning of an investigation for Guaidó's supposed responsibility in the electric crisis; Amoroso announced Guaidó's disqualification; and Moreno solicited the disruption of his parliament immunity, an indispensable previous step before detention. Simultaneously, State security corps and groups of armed civilians have attempted to intimidate Guaidó: his Head of Office and one of his relatives are presently arrested.

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

### Repression for silencing protests for water and energy

A new interruption of the electric service -March 25, 2019- worsened the sufficiently precarious life conditions of venezuelans. Since March 25, the major part of our country undergoes constant energy cuts, which affects daily dynamics of millions of families, and, furthermore, jeopardize health and integrity of hundreds of thousands. Since the first nationwide blackout happened, vast zones have found themselves repeatedly affected, not only by the lack of electricity, but also, consequentially, by the lack of drinking current water. Yet, there are no answers, nor explanations, nor an emergency protocol from those in power -via facto-, who control Venezuelan State's resources and institutions.

The population's despair before the prolonged interruption of the water service has motivated hundreds of communities -both in Caracas and in the countryside- to overtake public places and streets, demanding an official reply and the end of the long drought. Nicolás Maduro's reaction has been the same as in the beginning of this year: paramilitary groups and elite bodies of public



forces, are used for repressing manifestations and punishing those who dare to express their legitimate displeasure.

The Forces of Special Actions of the Bolivarian National Police (FAE/PNB); the CONAS of the National Guard; and the "paramilitary collectives", grouped and integrated into the recently created "peace teams"... All of them have acted coordinately for repressing protests and intimidating inhabitants of poor communities and middle-class sectors. Up to now, one death has been reported: 78 years old Beatriz Olivo, who participated in a protest in the state of Zulia. Besides, 47 persons have been arrested and/or suffered illegal police raids and/or harassment, in order to counter residents in sectors affected by the severe scarcity of drinking current water.

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

### 117 detained for protesting the lack of energy and water

By April 5, 2019, Foro Penal had registered 14,558 arbitrary detentions, occurred in Venezuela since January 1st, 2014. 837 civilians have been presented before military courts. Since January 2014 up to date, we have accumulated 2,807 political prisoners; full liberty or release under diverse modalities have been obtained in 1943 cases.

By April 2014 we had 117 political prisoners in Venezuela. Today, the number for this category of inmates is 864, which has been certified by



OAS/OEA on April 1st, 2019. From those, 91 are women. Besides, 8,168 persons are still submitted to penal processes under caution measures.

The State's repression has increased, due to the recent protests for repetitive blackouts and the lack of water and of other public services. By April 4, at least 117 persons has been arrested for protesting in peace, 13 teenagers among them. We at Foro Penal

reject violence against citizens and criminalization of protest.

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

### HRW exhorts ONU to respond before humanitarian emergency in Venezuela

The combination of severe scarcity of medicaments and aliments with the spread of illnesses along our frontiers has derived a complex humanitarian emergency; and this demands a blunt reply from the Secretary General of United Nations (ONU). So was pointed out by experts and medicine doctors of the Public Health Faculty Bloomberg, at University John Hopkins; and NGO Human Rights Watch (HRW), in a joint inform. During Nicolás Maduro's government, Venezuelan health authorities have proved, not only their incapability to put an end to the crisis, but their ability to increase it, by simply denying it and censoring information about the size and the gravity of problems of the health sector in our country.

The 73 pages inform was titled Humanitarian Emergency in Venezuela: a big-scale UNO's reply is required for undertaking health and alimentary emergency. The report documents an increase in maternal and infantile deaths; outbursts of illnesses preventable by vaccination, such as measles and diphtheria; and drastically higher ciphers of infectious diseases like malaria and tuberculosis. Data available show raising levels of alimentary insecurity and child



malnutrition, as well as an elevated number of boys and girls hospitalized due to undernourishment.

Experts of Human Rights Watch; of Center for Humanitarian Help; and of Center for Public Health and Human Rights, Faculty of Public Health Bloomberg, at University John Hopkins; interviewed more than 150 persons, in order to produce this Inform. Among them were health professionals;

Venezuelan citizens who recently went to Colombia and Brasil for soliciting medical attention or in search for aliments; representatives of international humanitarian NGOs; ONU's officials; and Brazilian and Colombian officials. The experts team also analyzed data generated internally, in Venezuela, informations provided by official entities, hospitals, international and national organizations, and our NGOs pro Human Rights. The elaboration of their Inform lasted a whole year.

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## CIVILIS Derechos Humanos - [www.civilisac.org](http://www.civilisac.org)

Venezuela suffered the biggest blackout within the process of deterioration associated to the Complex Humanitarian Emergency



For several years now, Venezuela has been suffering a grave economical crisis, characterized by an extremely high inflation and a growing scarcity of aliments and medicines. As a part of the whole process of deterioration associated to the Complex Humanitarian Emergency, last March

7 our country suffered the biggest blackout ever; and it caused an increase of the formerly high number of deaths at hospitals; and of problems in alimentary supplying and in public services of water and transportation.

Although energy had been reestablished almost nationwide by March 14, repeated cuts of the electricity persisted in diverse zones for several days. On March 25, a second major blackout put the country in shadows again.

Due to this situation, the formerly

existent scarcity of aliments and medicines aggravated, alimentary products in fridges got bad, and even butcheries and other refrigerated food shops stopped attending customers. Furthermore: some of those premises could not restart their activities once the electric service was reestablished, because the irregular voltage harmed permanently their equipments.

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## Defiende Venezuela - [www.defiendevenezuela.org](http://www.defiendevenezuela.org)

In dictatorships, democracy has no respite

Last March 28, Controller General of the Republic appointed by Constituent National Assembly (ANC), Elvis Amoroso, announced the political disqualification of president in charge, Juan Guaidó, along a 15 year period. That decision is based on supposed irregularities committed by Guaidó concerning his sworn patrimonial declaration, among other reasons.



Defiende Venezuela considers that this decision violates fundamental rights of president in charge. According to Inter American Court of Human Rights (CIDH) -in case Lopez Mendoza vs. Venezuela-, administrative and political disqualifications attempt against political rights, particularly against the right to be elected -which is foreseen in art.23.2 of American Convention on Human Rights.

On April 1st, 2019, the president of the Supreme Court of Justice (TSJ), Maikel Moreno, declared that TSJ plenarily decided that president in charge Juan Guaidó disrespected their sentence of January 29, 2019, by which he was imposed caution measures -prohibition of going out the country and prohibition to transfer and/or

burdening properties, among others. Based upon this, the Plenary Hall of TSJ ordered illegal ANC to disrupt parliamentary immunity of deputy Juan Guaidó, and so it was realized on April 2, 2019.

All the same, ANC's actings violate the right to have a due process, since ANC is not the competent entity to act that way: National Assembly (AN) is.

On top of that, when conveying on parliamentary immunity as a validity requirement, the Republic's rules were not complied with; and rights such as being judged by a natural judge; and being judged in an independent and impartial court; were openly violated. Both are sacred rights, established in art.10 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; in art 14 of the International Pact on Civil and Political Rights; and in art.8.1 of the American Convention on Human Rights.

For all the aforementioned, Defiende Venezuela urges authorities that headed such decisions -that violate our Constitution and the Human Rights of president in charge Juan Guaidó -to omit their consequent execution; and to take measures for guaranteeing full respect to human rights, as established in our Constitution and in international treaties ratified by the Republic.

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

### Institutional collapse and humanitarian emergency



Political regime ruling in Venezuela since 1999 created a waybill for overtaking absolute power, in which coercion of the justice system –especially the Judiciary– has been a key factor. As a result, the Judicial Power has inverted progressively its role: instead of protecting the rights of citizens and our Constitution, it has become a “legalizer” of the Executive’s actings, and –eventually,

in time– an important organism for repression.

Such a situation has aggravated since 2015, when people elected a new National Assembly (AN) with a majority of opponents to the government, because the latter understood that having to leave the Palace of Miraflores could be imminent, due to the loss of popular support. Then, the Supreme Court of Justice (TSJ), which should act as a guarantor of our Magna Carta, in complicity with the rest of Public Powers, turned into the executive arm of dictatorship: TSJ annulled the Legislative Power’s actions through 90 sentences emitted up to now. This institutional break has caused the present overall collapse of our

country, since the State stopped accomplishing its functions and population suffers today the consequences: a complex humanitarian emergency, within which basic, essential rights are merely printed on papers.

Acceso a la Justicia produced a document where facts and decisions are exposed in detail; and also are explanations on how the institutional break and the complex humanitarian emergency developed in Venezuela.

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## Bloque Constitucional - [www.bloqueconstitucional.com](http://www.bloqueconstitucional.com)

### Paramilitary forces’ attacks against civil population are lese humanity offences

Venezuelans who figure into a democratic political movement; who have attended assemblies, manifestations, and other activities convoked by president in charge Juan Guaidó; have been victimized through harassment and systematic, coordinated attacks by armed groups, well organized, subdized, and promoted, which we deem and qualify as paramilitary (collectives and UBCHs –Units Bolivar/Chavez–). Those groups at the service of usurper Nicolás Maduro, execute flagrant violations against private homes; shootings in popular sectors; and kidnappings and robberies in manifestations, especially against journalists. Such activities have resulted in deaths, injured people, thefts, harms to private properties... but victims do not denounce, because they fear losing their lives and/or being attacked again.

These aggressions against unarmed, defenseless, civil citizens have been committed with blunt objects; or with long distance and short distance lethal weapons. They all are lese humanity offences, according to art. 7.1 of the Statute of Rome. They all have been performed by paramilitary groups, who aim at silencing manifestations against the economic setback, the social chaos, the



institutional apathy, impunity, corruption, and the general privation we all undergo. Everything happens before the impassive look of police corps, before the eyes of illegitimate Attorney general, and at sight of judges. Such political actions must be qualified as State Terrorism, for Nicolás Maduro and his accomplices give the orders and undercover at the same time.

Their only purpose is frightening those who supports democracy.

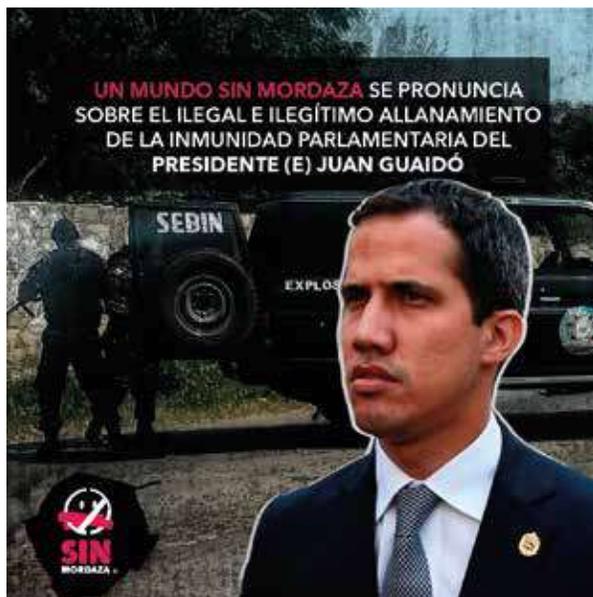
As for Armed National Force (FAN), in charge of the Nation’s security: it has remained aside, by so doing becoming another accomplice of every impune delinquency action by these paramilitary groups. Police and military chiefs should be conscious: no pretext will ever free them from penal responsibilities, nor excuse them for complying with criminal orders, whether for committing or omitting actions. Individuals under their command may be the actors in logistic supporting, hiding, and with drawing when facing paramilitary groups; but chiefs are responsible, for allowing deliberately their subordinates’ actings. This is a grave military offence, and a fault against FAN’s Code of Behavior –and all of that will figure into the expedient to be presented before International Penal Court.

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

We exhort international organism to watch over the proper functioning of institutions in Venezuela

On April 1st, 2019, the illegitimate Supreme Court of Justice (TSJ), headed by Maikel Moreno, emitted a pronouncement addressed to Constituent National Assembly (ANC), for soliciting the disruption of parliamentary immunity against president in charge Juan Guaidó. According to Moreno there is a case of contempt before a caution measure -prohibition of going out of the country- decided last January 29, 2019 against Guaidó. He made a tour in Latin America for meeting with mandatories of diverse nations in the hemisphere.

It is compulsory, mentioning that any and every decision taken by TSJ jointly with ANC absolutely lacks legality, since the latter was created aside law. Therefore, any acting derived from them is deemed as non existent. The sole legitimate organ that could agree on disrupting the parliamentary immunity of a deputy is AN itself, as established in our



Constitution, art.200. In addition, this action couples with that equally illegal political disqualification, imposed on president in charge Juan Guaidó last March 28.

Un Mundo Sin Mordaza, as a promoter and protector of Human Rights, categorically rejects this acting of TSJ, which intends to attempt once more against president in charge of Venezuela, Juan Guaidó, this time via disruption of his parliamentary immunity, which gives way to his arbitrary detention.

This has already happened: the case of president in charge Guaidó Head of Office, Roberto Marrero. Besides, we urge international organism, like Organization of American States (OEA) and the Organization of United Nations (ONU), to watch over the proper functioning of institutions in Venezuela.

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

CIDH granted caution measures to Luis Carlos Díaz

Inter American Commission for Human rights (CIDH) granted to journalist and human rights defender Luis Carlos Díaz and his immediate relatives a protective caution measure. Besides, CIDH urges Venezuelan State to adopt the necessary measures for guaranteeing his fearless work as a journalist, being certain that he will not be victimized via intimidations or threats.



to declare to the mass media about his case; and a presentation regime.

In CIDH's resolution -dated March 29, 2019-, the organ requests the State that, within 15 days sharp next to the notification, the following measures must be taken: protection of life and integrity for Luis Carlos Díaz and his immediate relatives, according to standards established by

Luis Carlos Diaz was detained by officials of the Bolivarian National Intelligence Service (SEBIN) when he left his work place -Unión Radio, in Caracas- at 5 pm of March 11, 2019. Finally, he was released, after his arbitrary detention, his forced disappearance, and his presentation in court, charged with "public instigation", just for exercising his right to free expression. Then, he was imposed a prohibition to go out the country; a prohibition

International Laws and Human Rights; and guarantee that he will be able to do his journalistic activities with total freedom of expression, without fearing intimidation, threatening, and harassment.

## Can we talk on elections in Venezuela?

The second international reunion about Venezuela of the International Group of Contact (GIC) -Quito, Ecuador, March 28- concluded with a declaration, which includes propositions for electoral observation, and a waybill for convoking elections that comply with all conditions and guarantees established in our Constitution as soon as possible. GIC insisted currently affecting Venezuela should have a pacific solution, a democratic political solution, a properly Venezuelan solution that excludes the use of force. This declaration means an important slap against Nicolás Maduro's intentions to remain in power.

We at Centro de Justicia y Paz (Cepaz) recognize the effort of GIC, which privileges a pacific -democratic way-out for our country, despite the major challenge this way-out implies, given the institutional collapse and the governmental inability. We think that, for impulsing a democratic transition, it is indispensable, establishing a mechanism of electoral assistance from United nations (ONU), designed to work independently at evaluating Venezuelan electoral system; and designed for permitting NGO's propositions in constructing and consolidating electoral processes. Keeping that in mind, we have been



developing 15 minimal conditions concerning the necessary guarantees for an authentic elections. It is indispensable, before convoking elections, to count on the firm commitment of the rest of State institutions, that must support such processes within the Venezuelan Constitutional framework, and according to democratic international standards as well.

Although elections look distant in Venezuelan political scenario -due to our citizens going through a complex humanitarian situation-, we must understand how prior it is, developing now an electoral map, for generating a pacific change, able to respond simultaneously at attending the emergency, at protecting human rights, and also at becoming an organized society, consciously civic for exercising political participation.

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