



# CRISIS EN VENEZUELA

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



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

### The Supreme Court of Justice and Central Bank compete for the first place in opacity

The Supreme Court of Justice (TSJ), particularly the Constitutional Hall, have increased the frequency of undue delays and omissions when publishing their sentences on TSJ's website; especially in those cases in which human rights of victims have been gravely violated. For example: instead of divulging complete texts of the sentences, they present their decisions through press notes or press conferences.



When somebody affected by a sentence knows only partially or does not know at all the complete contents of the procedure, that person is defenseless, the victim of an open violation to the rights to presumable innocence, to be defended, and to a due process. Obviously, the grade of vulnerability is bigger if opacity darkens essential rights, such as personal liberty, or affects daily lives of most

inhabitants in our country -which happens currently, regarding decisions of TSJ's Constitutional Hall.

Yet, opacity in Venezuela exists not only in TSJ, but in all the State organism, except National Assembly. In fact, we can talk about a State policy concerning the justice system; and also talk about TSJ's sort-of-policy of not granting access to public information. Same things occurs in Central Bank of Venezuela (BCV), this time respecting inflation indexes.

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

### Ruben Gonzalez, a dictatorship's hostage



In 10 years, union leader Ruben Darío Gonzalez, of State company Ferrominera del Orinoco, has been submitted to two judicial processes and imprisoned, for being consequent at defending workers' rights. For being us around May 1st, Labor's Day, it is most opportune, remarking that Gonzalez is a symbol of resistance against authoritarianism; and, in turn, his

persecution is a sample of arbitrary use of power to harass those who dare demanding rights in Venezuela.

In 2009, Gonzalez was detained for leading a strike for exacting the accomplishment of their collective convention. After a long judicial process -five years! - he was declared not guilty in all charges imputed and obtained full liberty. From those five years, the unionist spent one and a half behind bars. On November 29, 2018, he was arrested in a road control post by officials of General Direction of Military Counter-Intelligence (DGICM); submitted to an unconstitutional judicial process under military jurisdiction; and sent to La Pica Jail, in the state of Monagas.

Ruben Gonzalez has been detained for more them five months within an

unfair and tricky judicial process. He is a hostage of dictatorship. He is just one, among the political prisoners of Nicolás Maduro and his inner circle. Let's demand for Ruben Gonzalez's release, and the ceasing of persecution against union leaders. Let's require an end to the use of military courts for judging civilians. Exacting liberty for political prisoners must be a constant struggle, in the route to recuperating democracy and a better Venezuela

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## REDUNI - [www.redunivenezuela.com](http://www.redunivenezuela.com)

### University professors in extremely poverty



The destruction of Venezuelans' purchasing power is evident, due to the implementation of policies of XXI century socialism along the past two decades. University professors' remunerations do not escape this reality, aggravated by hyperinflation that makes useless any form of increment pro increasing the purchasing power.

In the context of May 1st, Labor's Day, it is traditional announcing wages raises. University professors went out on streets, for manifesting;

and during these events were arrested Rafael Soto, University of Zulia; and Carmelo Gallardo, University of Carabobo. Professor José Luis Sánchez -Eastern University- was injured, shot in the abdomen.

According to World Bank, those who earn US\$ 1,90 per day in extreme poverty. When we calculate Venezuelans' basic salary after Central Bank of Venezuela's (BCV's) official exchange rate -Bs.S 5.202.94 per US\$ by the end of April 2019-; and when we contrast the result against the new chart of wages for university professors; we find that a titular professor, at the highest level with a 15 years experience, holding a PhD degree, backed up by research works and published articles by indexed magazines, may earn US\$ 20.03 a month- say, US\$ 0,67 per day. That means that a titular

professor receives monthly 2.61 minimum salaries, presently Bs.S 40.000 each; or -in other words- US\$ 7.68.

World Bank defines poverty as the "inability to reach a minimum life standard". If we add to this definition recent ciphers published by Center of Documentation and Analysis for Workers, of the Venezuelan Federation of Teachers (Cendas/FVM), which sets the cost of a Family Alimentary Basket by March 2019 at Bs.S 702.246.24 -US\$ 134-, we can affirm that, in the present conditions it is impossible for university professors to have a worthy life standard. The pulverization of purchasing power is directly determined to the intention of control and intervention of those in power, who have proved a major contempt for freedom, knowledge, and universities.

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

### Rejection of Radio Caracas Radio's shut down and CNN's and BBC's going off the air

In the morning of April 30, National Telecommunications Commission (CONATEL), via an administrative act, cancelled the concession and ordered the immediate closure of Radio Caracas Radio (RCR 750 AM), after 89 years of uninterrupted transmissions. Such happened because RCR transmitted, uncensored, facts in progression since last Tuesday early hours.



Among events covered by RCR was a speech by president in charge, Juan Guaidó; and all that was happening in the surroundings of Military Air Force Base La Carlota. Following the end of transmissions by RCR, TV stations CNN International and BBC were taken out from cable operators in the country. By these actions,

Nicolás Maduro transgresses, in flagrancy, the right to freedom of expression and of information of citizenry; and the right to work of RCR's staff. These are measures taken by the Venezuelan regime for concealing facts presently happening in our country.

In Un Mundo Sin Mordaza, as a part of our work for defending and promoting human rights, we strongly reject the closing of these mass media, since it is a violation to freedom of expression, consecrated by art.57 of our Constitution; and the right to be informed, art. 143 of our Magna Carta. Besides, it is also a violation to art.13 of American Convention on Human Rights.

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

## Civic monitoring on exercising peaceful protests and political participation – April 30

Continuing on actions developed since January 23, 2019, our center for Justice and Peace (CEPAZ), jointly with members of Red de Activistas Ciudadanos por los Derechos Humanos (REDAC), keep on monitoring for registering and documenting violations of Human Rights, due to the systematic repression and persecution of dissidence, a State policy executed by Venezuelan security forces. To accomplish this work, we count on platform Denunciando Ya; and with direct reports from our civil activists.

Last April 30, a military pronouncement occurred for supporting Executive in charge, an action that derives from citizenry mobilizations. All that day long, National Telephone Company (CANTV), who provides Internet service for 70% of users in Venezuela, blocked social networks, like Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram, apart from YouTube and Google Service, among other websites. Besides, multiple attacks happened against journalists. All of this proves the clear intention of Venezuelan government (de facto): restricting citizenry access to information.

It is remarkable that private open-air TV stations in Venezuela did not transmit any information on the facts occurred that day, and broadcasted just variety programs, in order to prevent closings executed by National Commission of Telecommunications (CONATEL). Thus, the State could spread its version of the facts, using its own mass media. Nonetheless, activists, defenders, and allied organizations made possible to gather the facts collected and shown in this work. Information here does not include many other occurrences registered elsewhere nationwide, but only those known via civil monitoring that could be verified, which happened in

the states of Aragua, Bolívar, Carabobo, Lara, Mérida, Monagas, Táchira, Zulia, and District Capital.

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

### 2018: Second year with the highest number of violations of freedom of expression

Along 2018, 387 cases/situations and 608 denouncements of violations of freedom of expression were documented. These data makes 2018 the second period with the highest number of such cases, 2014 remaining in the first place, with 350 situations registered during that lapse of political and social conflict.

During the event, some research works were analyzed, as an account on the overall situation of not accessing public information, persecuting opinions in social networks, harassment against State workers, and the fact that certain zones in our country do not count on traditional mass communication media any more.

Framed by the Day of Press Freedom, which is celebrated every May 3, Espacio Público presented its annual inform, that describes the situation of the rights to freedom of expression in 2018.

**DIGITAL VERSION OF THE INFORM HERE**

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

### 273 manifestants arrested during 2 days of protests

Since January 2014 up to date, we have accumulated 2.983 political prisoners. Full liberty or release under diverse modalities have been obtained in 2.158 cases. Besides, 8.413 persons are still unfairly submitted to penal processes under caution measures.

These ciphers will increase meaningfully, due to the



beginning of new processes against 273 manifestants -up to now- who were arrested in the context of protest, on April 30 and May 1, 2019. During these events, a brutal repression was executed, with a balance of more than 300 injured and -fully confirmed up to date- 4 assassinated persons, 2 youngsters among them.

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

### Criminal repression by State security corps must stop



Transparencia Venezuela, jointly with other civil society organizations, energetically condemned criminal repression, and also the violence exercised and favored by the State security corps during protests, occurred since Tuesday, April 30,

which have a deadly balance of four venezuelans murdered -two minors, among them.

NGOs emitted a joint comuniquee, where they recall that art.68 of our Constitution clearly establishes that citizens have the right to manifest peacefully and unarmed, under no other conditions than those stated by Law. Besides, the constitutional text refers to "the use of firearms and toxic substances is prohibited at controlling peacefully manifestations".

NGOs demand human rights to be

respected, as foreseen in our Constitution and in treaties, pacts, and conventions subscribed and ratified by Venezuelan State; and solicit opening investigations against authorities of public corps and armed civilian, who are responsible for violations of human rights; and for the lethal and disproportional use of toxic substances and firearms at controlling manifestations.

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