



CRISIS EN VENEZUELA

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www.crisisenvenezuela.com



Defiende Venezuela - www.defiendevenezuela.org

Venezuela & CIDH: between special mechanism and pressure on that organism to visit our country



Venezuela's case is particular. International organisms have witnessed both Hugo Chavez's and Nicolas Maduro's reluctance to accept suggestions, opinions, and comments, when those concern mistreatments against Human Rights in Venezuela. The Inter-American Commission for Human Rights (CIDH) last visited Venezuela after the institutional break in April 2002, when there was an attempt to overthrow the Venezuelan mandatory. During CIDH's permanence with us, President Chavez thanked the Commission for its enthusiasm and concern about the situation in our country. However, despite Chavez's

words, CIDH produced a critical inform related to Human Rights and democracy in Venezuela, published in the beginning of 2003. Results were not pleasant to the government and, ever since, the State has not authorized a new visit of this organism to Venezuela.

No matter the State's refusal to permit an interpellation, to be questioned at any extent, and to accept suggestions by protective organisms, CIDH stresses on its efforts; and in the case of Venezuela, has created a special mechanism, MESEVE: A technical team is expected to realize a follow-up of the crisis and to emit two reports: one, about the situation of Venezuelan migrants in the region; and another about the situation of Human Rights in our country. This team will also evaluate the results of both solicited and granted caution measures; give priority to accepted petitions and produce informs about their substance and their

acknowledgement; assume litigations before the Inter-American Court; verify if recommendations to the State have been accomplished; support the strengthening of civil society; and serve as a guide and advisor in the situation of Human Rights in our country.

We are certain that, via these mechanisms, all local organizations' efforts will be strengthened; and joint working accompaniment will help to accomplish results, in order to protect victims and impede the State to go on committing grave violations against Human Rights. Finally, MESEVE will contribute to collect more evidences and testimonies, destined to the recreation of facts and to the due reparation for victims.

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Acceso a la Justicia - www.accesoalajusticia.org

History of a fraud (III): Kidnapping of Electoral Power

Along the last 20 years, voting in Venezuela has become a fundamental instrument for legitimizing the chavist revolutionary project and the political regime, started by ex-president Hugo Chavez and consolidated by Nicolás Maduro. Acceso a la Justicia, in its inform "The Taking of Absolute Power", identifies three stages in the totalitarian plan of the Executive for overtaking the Electoral Power: control in the integration of the National Electoral Council (CNE); elimination of opposing political parties; and fraudulent elections between 2017 and 2018.

Electoral Power is functioning with its back turned on the Constitution and the Law, acting to favor chavism, not as an electoral arbiter. CNE has

protected Executive's action for annulling political adversaries and remain indefinitely in power. During April 14 elections in 2013, CNE showed its institutional advantage, when it ignored a great quantity of electoral illegalities, and made the balance's scales more favorably pro interim president Nicolas Maduro.

Besides, CNE guaranteed 545 members of Constituent National Assembly (ANC) in July, 2017, despite the fact that this process was unconstitutional because there was no referendum for confirming those results -so, that election disrespected electoral guarantees. In addition, there were multiple vices in regional and municipal elections, which served as a rehearsal for realizing later a process



of presidential elections made-to-measure for Maduro, in May 2018- a process whose legitimacy has been questioned by 54 countries in the world.

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Bloque Constitucional - www.bloqueconstitucional.com

Rejection to the election of Venezuela for ONU's Council of Human Rights

On October 17, 2019, Venezuela was elected for integrating the Council of Human Rights of the Organization of United Nations (ONU), a fact that has been rejected –inside as well as outside our country– by those who are aligned with principles consecrated in the foundation charter of that multilateral organ –we, Bloque Constitucional, among them. It is for such principles that we recognize the precedence of Man's fundamental rights, because of dignity and humane values.



evidences, presently in study by that Office, for possibly realizing a Preliminary Exam of the situation in our country, and opening an investigation that might determine the individual penal responsibilities of the actors of these crimes, that have devastated an entire population.

Bloque Constitucional believes in United Nations' capability for stopping the

That was a most regrettable decision. It contradicts the basic principles aforementioned, when one realizes that the regime that usurps governmental functions in Venezuela has dismantled democratic institutionality and massively violates our population's Human Rights systematically. This has been verified by CIDH itself and documented by the inform of United Nations' High Commissioner for Human Rights. Furthermore, those responsible for such actions have been denounced before the Prosecution Office of the International Penal Court (CPI) for presumably committing lese humanity crimes; and these denouncements are backed by material

continuation of atrocities by the tyrannical regime. That is why we have solicited from president in charge of the Republic of Venezuela, Juan Guaidó; and from the National Assembly (AN); the accomplishment of all necessary diplomatic actions, aiming at the suspension of the venezuelan representative in the Council of Human Rights. We have equally solicited that, once this representative assumes Venezuela's post in the Council –January 1st, 2020– ONU's State members may consider the annulment of his right to integrate that entity, according to paragraph 8 of resolution 60/251, March 15, 2006, which establishes: "It will be able to suspend inherent rights as a member of the Council to any one of them that commits grave and systematic violations of Human Rights".

Transparencia Venezuela - www.transparencia.org.ve

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website of its kind. It will be used by anyone who wants to verify news or announcements. In order to do that, citizens count on a WhatsApp number: 0424-198-1060; a contact form on the page itself; official accounts @EsPajave en Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram; and an application for denouncements, DiloAqui, en Android and iPhone.



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REDUNI - www.redunivenezuela.com

How are university rectors elected in the world?



The election of persons for occupying a chair in a university board of directors has always caused expectations, not only within the institutions where they are to work for, but also in the social environment where Alma Maters are located. In Venezuela, the emission of decree #0324 by the Supreme Court of Justice (TSJ) –an entity questioned as for its legitimacy –has produced uncertainty inside autonomous national universities, because it commands realizing elections according to one sole procedure for all rectoral positions, in all the electoral sectors. Sectorial votes will be counted simultaneously within each sector, that is: 1) votes of professors; 2) votes of students; 3) votes of graduates; 4) votes of administrative personnel; 5) votes of laborers. More than enough juridical reasons have already been exposed for emphasizing on how unconstitutional

and legally weak that decree is. Yet, the instrument has provoked within universities the raising of ultra-democratic voices and strong reactions of others, who think that electoralism may lead to a better model of university government.

According to Mexican activist and academician Imanol Ordorika, procedures for electing university authorities may be grouped in four categories: 1. Direct Voting: it corresponds to universities where occur wide-and-open electoral processes, with the participation of academicians, students, graduates, and, in some cases, the technical personnel. They are pondered process, where professors' voting is always dominant, with students' voting in the second place. 2. Representative Colleges: this time selection is accomplished by organized professionals, or by special inclusive entities, appointed for deciding. Those groups are integrated by professors, students, graduates, other influential public personalities and, in some cases, university employees. The percentages of members of each group rank decreasingly in the same order. 3. Corporative Elections: universities use governing councils of different kinds for appointing rectors. In Anglo-Saxon tradition, universities are frequently

defined as corporations, and that is the reason for their concept of governing councils of regents. 4. External: this is the case, when rectors are appointed by an agent who is outside universities –generally big corporations or governments.

Procedures for electing university authorities in the world seem to be related to traditions and to the political and social system where they belong. An autonomy tradition and an aim at returning to democracy procedure, in many Latin American countries, selective procedures that combine wide-and-open electoral processes and representative colleges. In the United States, appointing university authorities is a responsibility of the corporative organizations –traditionally close to the managerial sector – as much as it is of the federal representative political system. In continental Europe, democratic political systems relate their electoral norms with Direct Voting and Representative Colleges, which characterizes Italian, Spanish, and French universities. Totalitarian regimes, as China and Cuba, under a centralized control by their Communist Parties, thoroughly illustrates the model of External appointment of rectors.

Foro Penal - www.foropenal.com

Uncertainly goes on about negotiations for the release of political prisoners

By October 25, 2019, Foro Penal had registered 15.177 arbitrary detentions in Venezuela since January 1st, 2014. 848 civilians have been presented before Military Courts. Up to date, we accumulate 3.233 political prisoners; full liberty and release under diverse modalities have been obtained in 2.804 cases.



is 429, 24 of them being women. Besides, 8.943 persons were or still are unfairly submitted to penal processes under caution measures.

Uncertainly still reigns about supposed negotiations between the government and some political parties' leaders, as for the liberation of political prisoners. Last week, 18 out of 24 announced releases effectively happened. No other possible liberations

By April 2014, we had 117 political prisoners in our country. The cipher by October 21 are scheduled for now.

Venezuelan women start their migratory routes with great risk and vulnerability

The very difficult political, social, and economical crisis we presently have in Venezuela has caused appropriate conditions for people to leave and settle in other nations of the region. Venezuelan women start their migratory routes with great risk and vulnerability. They travel alone, with scarce economic resources and with precarious student and professional backgrounds; and, at the end, they find few supporting organized groups in the countries that receive them. For not having a place of residence nor an acquaintance to shelter them nor enough money in their pockets, they are potential victims of abuse and exploitation, because chaos and the absence of effective protective systems favors the action of outlaws in full impunity. When migrating, women and girls suffer stronger impacts that imply additional risks, like the possibility of being victims of white slavery and trafficking, sexual and psychological violence, feminicide, sexual and labor exploitation and xenophobia, among others.

It is true that, in many cases, migratory processes represent an improvement in conditions and quality of life of women and their families; but it is also true that migrating may eventually deepen their vulnerability. 188 Venezuelan women in 9 countries have been rescued by judicial authorities after having been victimized by dealers of persons. From those, 88 cases happened in Colombia. Again in Colombia, the access of women and girls to health attention is obstructed, even when they have been object of sexual violence –and that is like re-victimizing them. The number of these cases is growing. If Venezuelans had the opportunity of entering sheltering countries legally, they



would not be so vulnerably in traffickers' hands. Regularizing shelter conditions in sheltering countries is indispensable, in order to make victims feel sure at the moment of denouncing these type of offences before authorities. Without having the possibility of a job, migrants' risks of falling into some scheme of human exploitation increase, because they need to survive economically. As for this matter, women and girls are differentially in a greater danger than men.

If such situations are not faced properly, probabilities of becoming victims of sexual violence will stand against Venezuelan women and girls. Principal responsibilities rely on governments. However, civil society have as well an important role to play. The following are some urgent recommendations: registering and publishing trustable statistics; making visible the situation of Venezuelan women and girls in human mobilization, aiming at understanding that the migratory phenomenon has different consequences according to gender, race, and social class; making sheltering countries more sensible, concerning their support to feminine migrants, focusing on their particular needs and the reasons for their forced migration; regularizing legal migratory conditions, including the right to work; and easing the access to clinical attention in cases of rape; and the access to medical services for sexual and reproductive health, in both transit and sheltering countries.

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Un Mundo Sin Mordaza - www.sinmordaza.org

Crisis whips on infancy



ranked decreasingly from the best to the worst. In turn, Observatorio Venezolano de Violencia declared that 1.484 children and teenagers died violently in 2018 in our country; but other 10.499 were violently harmed along the same year.

Observatorio points out that, since 2010, Venezuela is affected by an economical, political, and social crisis, which has hit infantile population strongly. Besides, displacement rate for kids has increased due to the forced migration of entire families, who have

moved abroad to escape the complex humanitarian emergency in our nation.

Before such a situation, United Nations Fund for Infancy (UNICEF) included Venezuela in the inform Action Pro Infancy 2019, where children's needs worldwide are reflected. UNICEF solicited US\$ 3.900 MM for helping enfants that are victims in conflicts and natural disasters. From that sum, US\$ 70 MM are required specifically for attending Venezuelan minors.

In the last inform published by NGO Save The Children, it is underlined that Venezuela occupies the 131st post in a list of Hispano-American countries as for protection to infancy; and they are

PROVEA - www.derechos.org.ve

The history of Punk in Venezuela in a book and a CD

Since 2018, Provea decided to join more actively in promoting and defending cultural rights, with the slogan “All rights in all languages”. The right to culture implies, among other aspects, providing spaces to diverse manifestations of cultural life: music, poetry, theater, movies...

Besides, we understand that, in the context of the Complex Humanitarian Emergency in our country, our collective indignation and wish for a better Venezuela finds many ways to express within the cultural world, full of institutions, organizations, groups, and individuals, who are able to contribute and want to help since their specialities, because they like what they do and know how to do it. One of the first initiatives was the exchange of music for medicines, which meant



collecting a high number of medicaments and an effective promotion of solidarity.

Last October 19, in premises of the Bank of Books (Banco del Libro), was celebrated the official launching of the book “Former Education: an incomplete history of Venezuelan Punk Rock”; and also of the CD

“Minister: what is your job? A strange tribute to Venezuelan Punk”. Those are two works for paying homage to this musical genre in our country, an initiative led by Redes Ayuda.

Knitting alliances, motivating collective actions, and adding up in the fight for democracy figure into our purposes, though we do not forget doing as we have done since we exist: accompanying victims in their claims for justice. We innovate for widening and multiplying fields and forms of struggling pro Human Rights.

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Espacio Público - www.espaciopublico.org

GNB officials intended to take a cell phone away from Fe y Alegria Radio’s reporter



Rosmina Suarez, a reporter of Fe y Alegria Radio 88.1 FM in Maracaibo, state of Zulia, was covering an opposition march in Rafael Urdaneta

Park, last October 24. She was surrounded by a group of officials of Bolivarian National Guard (GNB), who intended to take her cell phone away.

“I sat on a bench in the park, waiting for something to happen; and GNB officials surrounded me and asked me for my cell phone. I refused to give it, because I was not recording anything; but they insisted, arguing that only the State mass media were permitted to be there”, Suarez explained.

The reporter adds that the incident did not go bigger because some persons intervened and somehow made GNB officials quit. “I went back to the radio station, there was no physical harm, they did not take my cell phone away... It was just an incident, though it caused me displeasure”, Suarez said.

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