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www.crisisenvenezuela.com

Acceso a la Justicia - www.accesoalajusticia.org

FFM Report: lese humanity crimes by their full names



Since 2014, crimes of lese humanity have been committed in Venezuela. So is denounced by the Independent Mission for Determining Facts about the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (Fact Finding Mission, as it is officially named, FFM), in an extensive report that was presented before the Council of Human Rights of the United Nations. Besides, FFM's Report affirms that those crimes would have been perpetrated under command or with the cooperation of Nicolas Maduro and his Minister of Defense, Gen. Vladimir Padrino Lopez; and also with the complicity of the former Heads of the Ministry of Internal Affairs in recent years, Generals Miguel Rodriguez Torres, Gustavo Gonzalez Lopez, and Nestor Reverol Torres; and Admiral Carmen Meléndez.

FFM, presided by the Portuguese lawyer María Valiñas, stated that they have "reasonable motives" to believe that, within the period in study, lese humanity crimes were



effectively committed. In addition, they verified that, in our country, have occurred murders, detentions acts of torture, violations, and forced disappearances in a "general and systematic manner"; and all of that figures into a "policy for silencing, discouraging, and suffocating opposition to the government".

FFM conclusions correspond to the investigation of 223 cases, from which 48 were exhaustively analyzed; and, in addition, FFM was informed about other 2.891 cases.

Read more in spanish here 

Defiende Venezuela - www.defiendevenezuela.org

Defiende Venezuela and Coalición por los Derechos Humanos join efforts in favor of political prisoner victim of torture



Last July 23, 2020, organizations Defiende Venezuela and Coalición por los Derechos Humanos (Coalition Pro Human Rights) presented a petition of caution protective measures before the Inter- American Commission of Human Rights (IACHR), in favor of Juan José Gamez Maza, who is bereft of liberty and has been tortured by agents of the General Direction of Military Counter-Intelligence (DGCIM).

Gamez was detained for being presumably involved in a military rebellion known as "Operacion Aurora" ("Operation Daybreak") against Nicolas Maduro. He has been object to forced disappearance, arbitrary detention, and torture. Up to date, his family. Up to date, his

family has not had a direct contact with him; but they have been informed that Gamez Maza has been strongly beaten repeatedly by DGCIM's officials, to the point of having to use a wheel-chair now.

This situation has seriously affected life, health, and physical integrity of José Gamez Maza; for which reason, Defiende Venezuela and Coalición por los Derechos Humanos presented a petition of caution measures, that were granted on September 2nd, 2020, via IACHR's resolution 54/2020.

Read more in spanish here 

CEPAZ - www.cepaz.org

Cooperation and international justice



Efforts made by Venezuelan civil society's organizations have been fundamental for obtaining the recognition of the international community concerning our Complex Humanitarian Emergency, which causes a progressive deterioration of our quality of life. The intense multi-dimensional crisis is due to the undermining by the State of international normative frameworks.



pretend to be compromised with international organisms and with Human Rights: just and simply, they act that way precisely for avoiding a full application of those follow-up and investigation mechanisms.

In this context of systematic violations and impunity we, Centro de Justicia y Paz (CEPAZ), consider as a primary task to obtain the renovation of

Identifying this is essential for activating an agenda related to the grave problem of Human Rights in Venezuela. Within the universal system of protection to HHRR, we can mention and remark two active mechanisms.

In the first place, the follow-up by the High Commissioner of the United Nations for Human Rights, HCUNHR; and, in the second place, the International Independent Mission for Determining Facts in Venezuela, or Fact Finding Mission, FFM. Nevertheless, despite the validity of both mechanisms, the Venezuelan State goes on not complying international obligations; and also goes on remaining unpunished for violating Human Rights in our country. The State policy addresses to stay and perpetuate in Power -even when, sometimes, they

mandates for further investigations. We are for keeping both mechanisms in force, following-up and investigating because both are not only essential, but complementary. On one hand, HCUNHR protects and promotes Human Rights, and performs to point out violations from the point of view of the States' responsibilities. On the other hand, FFM is a temporary organism for investigating violations as foreseen in the International Law, and characterizing international crimes, which contributes to combat impunity.

Read more in spanish here 

Espacio Público - www.espaciopublico.org

Puerto Cabello's Mayor harassed and threatened with suing journalists in Carabobo



Puerto Cabello's Mayor, Juan Carlos Betancourt, harassed and threatened with legal actions to Francisco Chirinos, a correspondent of website "EL Pitazo" and journalist Alexandra Rojas, a reporter of news website "Pateando la Calle"; in both cases, because of their journalistic work.



By the end of August, we, Espacio Público, have document 135 act of harassment, most of them by officials of the Venezuelan State. We remind that the exercise of journalism must be respected and, furthermore, guaranteed. Public officials are objects of public scrutiny; and publishing information concerning their management should not be a

The Mayor got upset for the publishing of information about "Operación Príncipe", a special action by Bolivarian National Service of Intelligence (SEBIN) against a band called Sinsalud (Nohealth), which operates in the state of Carabobo. "Get ready! I'm going all the way against you! You'll have to respond for accusing me with no evidence at all!", said Betancourt in his radio program, last Wednesday 23rd.

reason for menacing or persecuting independent journalism.

Read more in spanish here 

Acción Solidaria - www.accionsolidaria.info

Venezuelan natives: still unprotected

NGO CODHEZ, in the state of Zulia, published an inform on the situation of native populations in that entity. They give details about grave cases, like those in villages in Paraguaipoa, where more than 50.000 persons suffered a blackout for at least 180 hours, last August.

Indexes of infantile malnutrition in those native communities are alarming; just as it is in other zones in our country: in the state of Monagas, for example, where 220 children were found under their appropriate weights, according to a study realized last February; or in the state of Bolívar, where waraos' community kids die from complications for drinking contaminated water.

The appearance of Covid-19 in native communities in our country has worsened their precarious life conditions, not only because of active cases and deceases, but also



effective mechanisms to alleviate their Complex Humanitarian Emergency and to save as many native lives as possible.

Read more in spanish here 

Foro Penal - www.foropenal.com

FFM's Report will be an important element to be considered in ICC's preliminary exam

By September 25, 2020, Foro Penal had registered 15.574 arbitrary arrests in Venezuela since January 1st, 2014. 870 civilians have been presented before Military Courts. Up to date, we have accumulated 3.499 political prisoners. From those, 3.165 have obtained full liberty or release under diverse modalities.

By April 2014, we had 117 political prisoners in our country. The number by September 25, 2020, is 334, out of which 22 are women. Besides, 9.255 persons were or still are unfairly submitted to judicial processes under caution measures.

Concerning the recent report by the International Independent Mission for Determining Facts for Venezuela (FFM, from Fact Finding Mission), which establishes that lese humanity crimes would have been committed in



Venezuela; and, in addition, includes possible individual liabilities with full names; we wish to remark how important this document is for the preliminary exam presently in progress in the International Criminal Court's (ICC's) Prosecution Office. Nevertheless, we must understand that ICC's Prosecutor could need further evidence; or could realize other investigations. FFM's

Report is just one more element, despite its blunt transcendancy; one among many elements into the proof heap to be evaluated by ICC. Only after a positive evaluation could be solicited the beginning of penal investigations against specific persons. Therefore, this FFM's Report is a very important step ahead -yet, not the last one.

Transparencia Venezuela - www.transparencia.org.ve

Chavism Inc.: an investigation to prove the Bolivarian capitalist machinery around the world



From an apart in a luxury skyscraper on “the millionaires’ avenue” in Manhattan, N.Y., U.S.A., to fantasy mansions in paradisiac Marbella, Spain; from investments in exclusive tourist projects in the Caribbean, like Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, to dream-budgetary enterprises in El Salvador; from complex managerial schemes in Panamá, linked with bulky bank accounts worldwide to companies in Argentina and Uruguay, who were just low-profile businesses and became multimillionaire firms... All of that is connected and associated to one common source: countless and endless fluency of petro-dollars from Venezuela, during governments of Hugo Chavez and Nicolás Maduro, along the last 20 years.



privilege diaspora that shows the international projections of the Venezuelan case. Contents appear in a series of reports from one dozen countries.

“Chavism INC” is based upon data from official enquiries by authorities, like attorneys, judges, tribunals, and even Parliaments in

Such is what “Chavism INC.” is about: a joint investigation published by Transparencia Venezuela, Alianza Rebelde Investiga, and Connectas, the Latin American journalistic platform. The document tells about a mass of negotiations that enriched a few, now comfortably installed in diverse spots worldwide -a sort of

21 nations. All investigations concerned the roundabouts and final destinies of enormous lots of money, obtained thanks to being close to the Power, via advantageous agreements, tricky and fraudulent; or via sophisticated schemes, that squeezed budgets and patrimonies -and, at the end, left our formerly prosperous oil-producer nation immersed in hunger, impoverished, and with severe humanitarian deficiencies.

[Read more in spanish here](#) 

PROVEA - www.derechos.org.ve

Differences between reports by HCUNHR and FFM



Former reports by the High Commissioner of the United Nations for Human Rights (HCUNHR) Michelle Bachelet have registered violations of economic, social, civil, and political rights in Venezuela. In 2020, her Office was mandated more specifically to present a special report about independence of our Judicial Power and access to justice in our country -but not exclusively dedicated to those matters: other subjects were the possibility of obtaining reparations for the victims; and the situation of HHRR in Orinoco’s Mining Arch zone.



and other cruel, inhumane, and degrading mistreatments.

Aiming at guaranteeing perpetrators’ accountancy for deeds and justice for the victims, FFM concluded that there are enough reasons to state that, since 2014, lese humanity crimes have been committed in our country.

In turn, the International Mission for Determining Facts for Venezuela (a.k.a. Facts Finding Mission, FFM), integrated by Marta Valiñas, Francisco Cox Vial, and Paul Seils, received a mandate from the United Nations’ Council of Human Rights to investigate only four specific crimes, in order to point out responsibilities. Crimes in question were: (1) extra-judicial executions; (2) forced disappearances; (3) arbitrary detentions; and (4) tortures

While HCUNHR, by her mandate, focused on violations of HHRR and the State’s responsibility; FFM focused on individual liabilities in four concrete crimes. Thus, both mechanisms are different, but complementary to each other; and the present struggle of victims and Human Rights defenders favors both mandates to be extended in time and in depth.

[Read more in spanish here](#) 

Bloque Constitucional - www.bloqueconstitucional.com

FFM Report is a reflection of the crushing reality venezuelans live in

On September 15, 2020, the International Independent Mission for Determining Facts about Venezuela, appointed by the Council of Human Rights of United Nations (officially called Fact Finding Mission, FFM), presented a Report commanded September 27, 2019, with the approval of Argentina, Hungary, Italy, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Barbados, Bulgaria, Chile, Croatia, Czech Republic, Japan, Perú, Denmark, Spain, United Kingdom, among others; aiming at the evaluation of presumable violations of Human Rights, committed in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (Resolution 42/25).

It is practically unanimous, qualifying this report as complete and in detail; and, above all, as most demolishing. Because it is really devastating, the reality described and compiled extensively: massive



violations of Human Rights that have been committed in our country -and could be deemed as lese humanity crimes.

In the 75th General Assembly of United Nations, interim president Juan Guaidó invoked the principle of responsibility of protecting, given the facts compiled in FFM's Report. He even solicited an extension of the Mission's functions, which is coherent and appropriate -especially when facts like those denounced are still happening; and also that identifying those who ordered or executed such facts is indispensable, in order to assign liabilities. This work is a powerful piece of evidence that permits all countries that solicited the Mission to apply the principle of responsibility of protecting a population, when it is defenseless before so very grave, constant, and massive violations of Human Rights.

