



CRISIS EN VENEZUELA

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www.crisisenvenezuela.com

Acceso a la Justicia - www.accesoalajusticia.org

Supreme Court: opacity and submission to Power along the pandemic

In current Covid-19 times, keeping a prudent distance from one to another has become an everyday usage for everybody except for the Constitutional Hall of the Supreme Court of Justice (TSJ), who clearly gets closer and closer to Nicolás Maduro's administration since the pandemic began. This is the final conclusion we have arrived at in Acceso a la Justicia, after revising sentences emitted since last March 19 and up to September 18 by the maximum interpreter of our Magna Carta.



The major part of Judicial Power paralyzed activities six months ago, due to the measures imposed by Maduro on March 13, when he decreed the state of alarm; and also due to TSJ's Plenary Hall's resolutions, derived from the former. Despite all that, the Constitutional Hall has gone on emitting sentences, principally to favor the Executive. Out of 87 ruling issued in these months, at least 38 (44%) availed decisions adopted in Miraflores Palace -either for safeguarding their own interests; or for attacking the National Assembly; or for restricting political dissidence.

In the meantime, venezuelans' needs seem not to be important to the Constitutional Hall. This is a bitter taste we feel in cases like, for example: a group of lawyers presented an appeal against the paralyzation of justice, which impedes citizens to solve affairs such as divorces; sues for payment for wages or for unjustified dismissals; and claims for children sustenance; to mention just a few.

The paralyzation of justice; and, particularly, of the organism that is responsible for interpreting our Constitution; is not really a novelty. Yet, in the context of the pandemic, this situation proves beyond a reasonable doubt that TSJ's aim is protecting Maduro's government; and this represents a major danger to ordinary citizens, who feel progressively more unprotected before Power.

Read more in spanish here 

Foro Penal - www.foropenal.com

62 detentions along 2 weeks of manifestations

By October 2, 2020, Foro Penal had registered 15.634 arbitrary arrests in Venezuela since January 1st, 2014. 870 civilians have been presented before Military Courts. Up to date, we have accumulated 3.513 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 October 2, 2020, is 348, out of which 24 are women. Besides, 9,283 persons were or still

are unfairly submitted to judicial processes under caution measures.

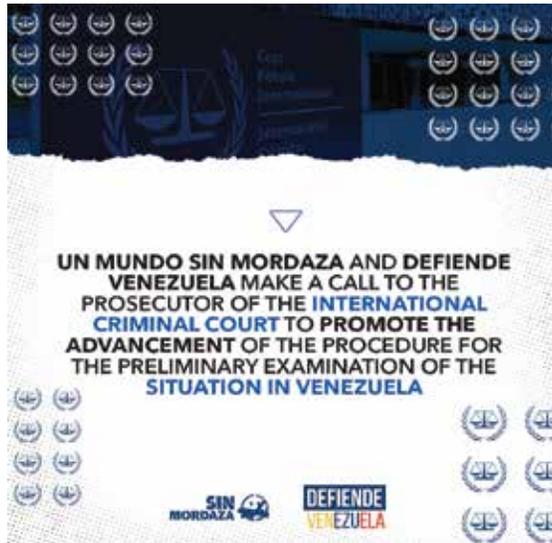
By the end of last week, Foro Penal had registered 373 arbitrary detentions, out of which 261 happened consequentially to social protest. Since September 16, we have counted 62 arrests in manifestations, above all in the states of Yaracuy and Nueva Esparta. The increment of repression and detentions for political reasons is always associated to the augment of citizens' complaints.

Un Mundo Sin Mordaza - www.sinmordaza.org

Un Mundo Sin Mordaza and Defiende Venezuela solicit ICC to start investigating on HHRR in Venezuela



Un Mundo Sin Mordaza and Defiende Venezuela, according to their principles of promoting and defending Human Rights, exhort Attorney Fatou Born Bensouda, in International Criminal Court (ICC), to advance the preliminary exam of the situation of HHRR in Venezuela, which was initiated officially on February 18, 2018; was later remitted by Argentina, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Paraguay, and Peru, on September 27, 2018; and is at the moment in the second phase, which relates to determining ICC's material competence.



are reasonable motives” to believe that lese humanity crimes have been committed in our country; and, according to Art. 7 of the Statute of Rome, ICC is competent to know these types of offences.

We ask ICC to begin the third phase of the preliminary exam, because there are enough convincing elements for doing so, as stated in FFM's report. Therefore, we, Un Mundo Sin Mordaza and Defiende Venezuela, solicit ICC to continue on the case of

The United Nations' Mission for Determining Facts about Venezuela (FFM, by its official name, Fact Finding Mission) presented its inform and concluded that “there

Venezuela: right now, there is a debt to be paid to thousands of potential victims of lese humanity crimes -and they are awaiting for justice.

CEPAZ - www.cepaz.org

Health guild: the main victim of sanitary crisis in Venezuela



Venezuelan regime has propitiated the progressive deterioration of health conditions in our country. Presently, hospitals lack adequate basic infrastructures; they do not count on medical equipments and tools for prevention, hygiene, and protection; and they suffer recurrent fails in public services of water and electricity. All of this is a pre-existent reality, which was foreseen and warned about by civil society's organizations and the international community. Now, we have to add the gravity of the world sanitary emergency caused by the propagation of Covid-19, which has a differential impact on Venezuela.



includes lack of indispensable protection when attending infected patients. As a final result: Venezuela has the highest mortality rate for Covid-19 among health workers in the region.

The health guild, on top of being persecuted, suffer having to combat the pandemic in extremely deficient conditions. Up to September 27, 2020, have occurred not less than 200 Covid-19 deceases among health personnel in Venezuela; while governmental spokesmen announced 606 deceases for the same reason nationwide. Such cyphers mean that the mortality index among the health guild is very high in our country: 33%. Obviously, that is the consequence of our collapsed sanitary system, which

We, Centro de Justicia y Paz (Cepaz), condemn the absence of polices and plans of the regime for combatting the pandemic; and for guaranteeing appropriate health service in our country, which is a fundamental Human Right. In this sense, the State must grant not only a progressive improvement and development of that sector; but also all the necessary resources, for immediately providing medical equipments and protection to health personnel, enabling them to fight the pandemic safely, and guaranteeing priority attention to infected professionals.

Read more in spanish here 

Acción Solidaria - www.accionsolidaria.info

Accessibility respecting the right to health: real inequality within the pandemic

The right to health is an autonomous Human Right. For guaranteeing it properly, the States must take into account providing a standard physical accessibility, which means that premises, goods, and services related to health must be available within a determined geographical area, equally reachable by all sectors of the population -especially of the most vulnerable and marginal ones. However, instructions from Nicolás Maduro's administration, last March, concerning the appointment of certain health centers as sentinel hospitals for Covid-19 cases, do not comply with standards of accessibility.



smaller, has 6 of those. Besides, high numbers of inhabitants are destined to preventive health centers instead of hospitals type IV, as happens in the state of Lara: 2 sentinel centers, 1 CDI (Centers of Integral Diagnosing) and 1 hospital type I.

Unfortunately, 40% of the population are attended in just 7 of the 46 sentinel centers nationwide. Average Venezuelans have to move along 27.7 kms. for arriving to the nearest sentinel center. In addition, the shortage of gas all

An investigation realized by website Prodavinci, titled "Inequality and Covid-19: distances to sentinel centers in Venezuela", concludes that "the greater the distances, the greater the risk of death". According to this study, the appointment of these centers as sentinels does not correspond to criteria of population density; nor of infrastructural characteristics; nor of capacity. Such inadequacy causes that, in some of the largest Venezuelan entities- like the state of Zulia- there are only 2 sentinel hospitals; while the state of Miranda, much

over our country aggravates the situation, making slow and difficult people's translations; and augmenting the possibility of viral propagation. All of the aforementioned explains about the "inequal coverage" to venezuelans affected by Covid-19.

Read more in spanish here 

PROVEA - www.derechos.org/ve

Confessions in "Inform against Infamy"



Nicolás Maduro's regime and inner circles around have launched a campaign for discrediting the Report presented by the United Nations' Independent Mission for Determining Facts in Venezuela, which was published last September 16.

The spine of that campaign is the so-called "Inform against Infamy", a 122 - pages document. Most of it addresses to disqualify the cycles of protests of Venezuelan people since 2014, which are presented as a conspiring strategy.

The most important about this Inform is that it confesses -openly! - that the regime does not have the slightest intention to implement recommendations made by the Mission. A major evidence of this: no signs of will to rectify; and refusal to adopting public policies to avoid the repetition of facts; and also, to investigate presumable authors of lese humanity crimes. At the end of the day, such Inform is one additional reason for advancing ICC's preliminary exam, in order to definitely establish whether lese humanity crimes have been committed in Venezuela.

Transparencia Venezuela - www.transparencia.org.ve

The Executive's control model increased: 706 enterprises belong to the State

For the fourth consecutive year, Transparencia Venezuela developed an investigation about Enterprises Property of the State (EPE), in order to widen our search and determine how many they are; their historical production volumes; their authorities; their levels of autonomy and independence; and, besides, which are the corruption risks they have been in and/ or still are exposed to; how relevant is the political factor in their managements; and what their impact has been in our economic development, and on venezuelans' quality of life.

In EPE III, Transparencia Venezuela identified 706 companies that either completely belong to the State, or in which the State is an important share-holder. Most of those companies were created, expropriated, nationalized or confiscated during the administrations of Hugo Chavez and Nicolas Maduro, both of whom turned the State into a colossal corporation, in order to implement their control model for basing the so-called "XXI Century Socialism" upon it. Our tracking showed that, out from those 706



companies enlisted, 597 are national and 109 international; and they figure mainly in sectors like manufacturing, agro-alimentary industry, hydrocarbons, and financial institutions. In general terms, their outcomes have been seriously unfavorable to Venezuelan economy.

Despite very scarce information available, widening and up-dating this study included these companies' Boards of directors; denouncements about irregularities in entities of the alimentary sector; the role played by extra- budgetary funds in our country's economic setback; and presumable profits obtained by the Power through destroying these enterprises. Now, EPE III is presented via five reports available in our organizations' website.

[Read more in spanish here](#)

Espacio Público - www.espaciopublico.org

Situation of the right to liberty of expression. Inform January-August 2020

2020 is a very atypical year in many ways, due to the general alteration of our context by Covid-19 pandemic. However, same as in previous years, liberty of expression remains as a favorite target of public institutions, security corps, and other officials. All of them are jointly dedicated to limit and restrict the diffusion of informations and opinions, for which they use diverse mechanisms of coercion and coaction. Between January and August of the current year, we registered 300 cases, meaning 795 denounces for violations of liberty of expression in Venezuela.



43 and 49 cases, respectively.

Out of 135 detentions documented in that period -45% more than in 2019, within the same lapse-, 46% were against common citizens and 23% against journalists. 113 detentions occurred between March 16 and August, which proves that, during the quarantine, attacks to liberty of expression increased. Likewise, 59 detentions are related

to covering or to diffusing information about Covid-19 in Venezuela.

Most cases were registered from March onwards, when the state of alarm was decreed, at the appearance of coronavirus + patients. During March, 63 cases were denounced; and, in fact, that was the month with the highest numbers, up to now. In April and May, there were

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Bloque Constitucional - www.bloqueconstitucional.com

In Venezuela, protests face merciless repression by the regime

Citizens, fed up of constant fails in all public services -water, electricity, gas, and fuel-, have taken the streets to protest and insist on their just demands. In some towns in many states, the lack of these services is almost permanent, to the point that the exception comes to be precisely when they are provided.



By September 28, 2020, such protesting events totaled 100; and some of them occurred by night, like in the state of Nueva Esparta. For repressing them, security corps have used tear gas and small shot, apart from arresting over 30 persons. The regime strikes again, this time ordering the repressing groups to do their work even inside the houses of manifestants.

Our Constitution's Art. 68 consecrates the right citizens have to protest in peace and unarmed, for which they just need to fulfill the requirements established by Law; and prohibits the use of fire arms and toxic substances to keep these happenings under control. Thus, security corps, when they confront manifestations the way they are doing it now, are violating a civic civil right. This kind of remarks may sound iterative; but, as long as there are reasons to protest -and everything points at an increment in motives for doing it-, venezuelans will go on taking the streets, even at the cost of their personal freedom and integrity.

REDUNI - www.redunivenezuela.com

University professors: extreme and digital poors

The need of a political change, and the corresponding change in public policies concerning all sectors -and especially the university one- is more than evident. University professors tell about how deplorable their working conditions are: an appointed top-of-the-scale professor earns less than USD 3 per month, while the 15- products basic alimentary basket costs 8 times that sum (USD 120); and the 60-products basket costs 100 times more (USD 300). Apart from that, insurance coverage for Hospitalization, Surgery, and Maternity (HCM policy) practically does not exist any more, which leaves them absolutely unprotected.



Such a labor precariousness makes university professors unable to afford technological equipments: computers and stable connections to Internet, which are indispensable for assuming the challenge that distant education implies. Many of them, for making their own sustenance possible, have joined informal commercial activities, in order to obtain income levels that are

unreachable via academic work. Venezuela is facing the destruction of normal work markets, meaning the deepening of poverty.

While the former is the present scenario of university professors in Venezuela, multilateral organisms worldwide organize for combating poverty in different ways. Among them, outstand efforts made to overcome the digital gap, given that technologies contribute significantly to economic growth. This is the reason why the World Bank (WB) is working with some governments, for avoiding an indefinite paralysis of education. WB calculates that 100 MM people around the world could fall in extreme poverty due to the pandemic; and, in its most recent report, are quoted the cases of Turkey, Pakistan, Rwanda, and Nigeria; in Pakistan, for example, they implemented a plan for acquisitions, to help the Ministry of Superior Education to provide electronic devices to all students, enabling them to participate in diverse options of distant learning.

