



CRISIS EN VENEZUELA

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www.crisisenvenezuela.com

Transparencia Venezuela - www.transparencia.org.ve

An exhaustive investigation regarding suspicious funds in Switzerland is a priority

The outrageous plundering suffered by Venezuelan State Assets in these last decades is unprecedented in Venezuela as well as in neighboring nations in recent times. Nearly one hundred corruption cases with Venezuelan State funds are being investigated by justice authorities in over 21 countries and recent publications about Swiss banks reveal the magnitude of the embezzlement that must be exhaustively investigated.



life conditions.

The seriousness of the allegations and the magnitude of the State Assets compromised in these cases demand an exhaustive investigation that joins the effort of not only the Swiss justice system, but also of the other countries through which the Venezuelans' money has passed. Even more so in

moments such as these when the emergency due to the propagation of COVID-19 makes Venezuelans more vulnerable and greater investments to guarantee their safety are essential.

According to the Le Matin Dimanche journal, quoted by Bloomberg news agency, Swiss authorities identified several bank accounts in that country with about 9 billion francs (10 billion 100 million dollars) that presumably come from public funds embezzled in Venezuela; a figure that contrasts in great measure with the Complex Humanitarian Emergency suffered by the country since at least 2015, and that has skyrocketed poverty and malnutrition indexes, all this while forcing more than 5 million Venezuelans to leave the country seeking better

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PROVEA - www.derechos.org.ve

Organizations make progress in a code of conduct for promoting democracy and transparency

73 Venezuelan organizations have prepared, drafted and undersigned a "Code of Conduct" wherein they ratify which actions are found under the international principles of human rights.

This code of conduct is comprised of 9 action principles: 1) Non-Discrimination, 2) Gender Equality, 3) Sexual Diversity, 4) Sexual Harassment Prevention and Sanction, 5) Respect towards the Environment, 6) Cost-free Services and Access to same, 7) Autonomy before the State and Parties, 8) Transparency, and 9) Non-Violence.



threats, they will keep on working in the promotion and defense of Venezuelans' rights, being part of a large civil society movement committed to recovering democratic institutionalality, decreasing poverty, and creating a country with opportunities for everyone and without any type of discrimination whatsoever.

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Through the consensus of these principles, Venezuelan organizations ratify that, in spite of the

Un Mundo Sin Mordaza - www.sinmordaza.org

Un Mundo Sin Mordaza rejects the arbitrary detention against the NGO Azul Positivo activists



Un Mundo Sin Mordaza rejects the continuous attacks of the regime against civil society organizations, more recently against the NGO Azul Positivo, who has been helping people with HIV in the State of Zulia for 16 years.

Since 2004, the NGO Azul Positivo has worked in order to strengthen civic response before HIV, provide education and supply provisions to those who suffer from this disease in their state. Once more, the recurring practice of harassment is evidenced against those who safeguard the rights and assistance of Venezuelans in midst of the complex humanitarian emergency, just like it happened to the organizations Convite, Alimenta la



Solidaridad, and Caracas Mi Convive this past December.

Un Mundo Sin Mordaza, in its task of promoting and defending human rights, rejects these actions in detriment of Azul Positivo that attempt against freedom of association and social rights set forth in Articles

16 and 25 of the American Convention on Human Rights. Likewise, it urges the authorities to cease persecution against organizations whose sole purpose is to mitigate the effects of the crisis which the country is going through. These types of human rights violations have no statute of limitations and are being investigated by international authorities.

Espacio Público - www.espaciopublico.org

Tweeter Pedro Jaimes is declared innocent after years of illegal trial



Pedro Jaimes was declared innocent on January 21st, 2021 after an unjust process that started with his arbitrary detention on May 10th, 2018 by officers of the National Bolivarian Intelligence Service [SEBIN by its Spanish acronym]. He was put on trial because he tweeted the route of the presidential airplane, which is public information, available on Internet and of national interest whose disclosure does not imply any crime whatsoever. Hours before, Nicolás Maduro had announced on his Twitter account that he would arrive to the State of Aragua "in minutes".



Pedro Jaimes was disappeared for a month; he was tortured by SEBIN officers who beat him until breaking a rib and he was detained in El Helicoide [government facility used for torturing political prisoners and headquarters of the SEBIN], in inhuman conditions until October 17th, 2019. During that year and five months he didn't receive timely medical attention or frequent access

to sunlight, and the judicial system delayed his hearings in over 15 opportunities, subjecting him to unfair public judgment: prison without trial or sentence.

Pedro Jaimes was accused of three crimes: interfering with the operation of civil aeronautics, computer espionage, and disclosure of political secrets. All the charges are ambiguous and broad, which allows their discretionary application on behalf of the State in order to criminalize the disclosure of information. The information shared by Pedro Jaimes in his Twitter profile didn't have an express legal reserve and it was easily accessible by searching the Internet; thus, the accusation of the Office of the District Attorney was promoted in an illegal manner and should have been rejected.

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Acceso a la Justicia - www.accesoalajusticia.org

The Supreme Court of Justice lifted the fence from the Parliament now that it is controlled by Nicolás Maduro's Government



The Supreme Court of Justice [TSJ by its Spanish initials] returned the Parliament its attributions in the blink of an eye; all that was necessary was for Nicolás Maduro's government to gain control of the Parliament once more in order to lift the fence that it had raised through more than one hundred rulings issued since December 2015.

The decision was made by the Constitutional Chamber, in its Ruling N° 1 dated January 8th, which supported Presidential Decree N° 4.396, through which Nicolás Maduro imposed a new State of Exception and Economic Emergency on December 26th. In said decision

it orders that the presidential decree that declares the state of exception be remitted henceforth to the Parliament «within the following eight calendar days (...) for its consideration and approval», something that had been denied since 2016 arguing that the Parliament was in contempt.

The treatment that Venezuelan justice has given to the Parliament throughout these last five years is the best evidence of its bias towards the government. The TSJ hasn't hesitated to neutralize a State Power elected by more than 14 million Venezuelans and neither has it had any difficulty in lifting said fence from one moment to another and without any type of explanation or argument whatsoever. What has happened in these years is clear proof that citizens in Venezuela are completely at the mercy of the whim of the authorities and that the Constitution and the laws aren't even worth the paper on which they are written.

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Defiende Venezuela - www.defiendevenezuela.org

Considerations regarding the approach that the State must give to LGBTIQ people who are imprisoned were presented before the IACHR

On January 15th, 2021, Defiende Venezuela presented its considerations before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights regarding the approach that the State must have for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Questioning, and Intersex (LGBTQI) people who are imprisoned. Concretely, the specific obligations regarding the allocation of transgender individuals, access to health with an approach of transition, conjugal visits, and violence prevention and recording against this community.



consulting opinion petition of November 2019 regarding "Differentiated approaches in matter of Imprisoned Individuals", according to Article 64.1 of the American Convention on Human Rights presented by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR).

Defiende Venezuela anxiously awaits that the date and time in this year be determined in the framework of the sessions of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in order to present our oral pleas before the judges of said Court. It is worth mentioning that our organization has participated in two previous opportunities in consulting opinions before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights.

These considerations are framed within the

Bloque Constitucional - www.bloqueconstitucional.com

Arrest warrant against legitimate Members of Parliament attempts against their human rights

Those who are now leading the illegitimate Parliament, born from the December 6th, 2020 electoral fraud, have urged the Office of the District Attorney and the Judiciary Power to take action against the legitimate Members of Parliament elected in 2015, and whose constitutional permanence was supported by almost 7 million Venezuelans who gave an affirmative response to the popular consult in December 2020.



torture, and arbitrary arrests are the main violations executed by Nicolás Maduro's regime against Venezuelan Members of Parliament. Out of the 137 parliamentary representatives that are persecuted in the American continent, 134 are Venezuelans: 93 men and 41 women.

The Inter-Parliamentary Union was warned about the threats of Nicolás Maduro's regime against the legitimate Representatives and the violation of parliamentary immunity. The most recent report from the Human Rights Committee of the international authority points out that Venezuela is the country that most persecutes and harasses its parliamentary representatives. The document states that intimidation, invalidation of their positions,

The order that the legitimate Members of Parliament be incarcerated was issued by Iris Valera, who is acting as Vice-President of this illegitimate group and, up to a few weeks ago, she was head of the Ministry of Prisons, in which she dedicated to violate the human rights of the prison population and to distort policies that correspond to apply to this institution. Thus, it comes as no surprise the plan to individually attempt against the rights of the Members of Parliament and to violate the right of all Venezuelans to have representation (Article 62 of the Constitution) by who have been legitimately elected, and whose continuity was authorized by millions of Venezuelans, as well as a considerable representation of the international community.

Comisión para los Derechos Humanos y la Ciudadanía - www.codehciu.org

The second semester of 2020 recorded an increase in gender violence in the State of Bolivar

Gender approach is a cross-cutting priority for the Comisión para los Derechos Humanos y la Ciudadanía (Codehciu); therefore, our purpose of investigation and a call to attention to the Venezuelan State regarding the human rights violations of the women victims of violence is constant on our part. Human rights violations in the State of Bolivar are diverse and systematic, just as the innumerable existing decadences that allow for a reality that entails negative and, in many cases, permanent consequences to women, teenage and small girls. This has been internationally acknowledged by experts and people specialized in the matter.



increase in cases of physical violence when compared to the previous semester.

According to the analysis performed by Codehciu of this last semester, gender violence cases are totaled as follows: 43 cases of physical violence, 15 recorded sexual violence cases, 7 femicides; 4 harassment cases, 4 threats, one domestic violence case, one psychological violence case, one human trafficking case, and one woman disappeared.

Between July and December 2020, the press recorded 91 cases of gender violence in the State of Bolivar, a 72%

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Acción Solidaria - www.accionsolidaria.info

Venezuelans' mental health in decline



World Depression Awareness Day was celebrated on January 13th, date that seeks to draw attention to the most frequent disorder characterized, according to the World Health Organization (WHO), by the "presence of sadness, loss of interest or pleasure, feelings of guilt, lack of self-esteem, sleeping or eating disorders, feeling of fatigue, and lack of concentration." For Venezuelans, depression numbers have rapidly increased; in fact, it is considered more of a social disorder than an individual. The country is going through a Complex Humanitarian Emergency (CHE) since 2016, to which the pandemic added on in 2020.



Just as in any health condition, depression disorder must be tended to by qualified staff (psychologists and psychiatrists). Unfortunately, with public health services collapsed for years because of the CHE and with COVID-19 in full swing, people must resort to private services where a consult with a psychologist can cost between \$10 and \$25 per session, and with a psychiatrist around \$30. Besides, some medications prescribed for helping with the symptoms generated by depression can cost between \$3 and \$10, in a country where minimum wage is \$2 per month.

In the findings of a study performed by the civil society organization Médicos Unidos de Venezuela (2020) regarding the mental health state of Venezuelan health workers, they found that in average 67% (bioanalysts, nurses, physicians, and dentists) report symptoms of depression, being these symptoms in greater intensity among the personnel aged between 25 and 45 years.

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Foro Penal - www.foropenal.com

Complaint filed for crimes against Salvador Franco from the Pemón Indigenous Community



As of January 22nd, 2021 Foro Penal recorded 15,694 arbitrary arrests in Venezuela since January 1st, 2014. 870 civilians have been presented before military courts. Up to this date we have accrued a historical number of 3,566 political prisoners, of which 3,212 have been released under different modalities.

As of April 2014 we recorded 117 political prisoners in the country. As of January 22nd the number is 354 people, out of which 26 are women. Additionally, 9,304 people were or are being unjustly subjected to criminal procedures under cautionary measures.



This week, Foro Penal filed a document before the Directorate of Fundamental Rights of the Office of the District Attorney denouncing the commission of serious human rights violations to members of the Pemón Indigenous Community who are arbitrarily detained since December 2019, and especially requesting the initiation of an investigation for the commission of serious crimes against Salvador Franco, member of

the Pemón Indigenous Community who was arbitrarily detained and who recently died because the authorities of El Rodeo II prison refused to comply with the order from the judge that imposed the obligation of urgently transferring him to a medical assistance center.

CEPAZ - www.cepaz.org

Civil organization societies of humanitarian character are criminalized in Venezuela

In this last year, at least six humanitarian organizations in Venezuela have been victims of patterns that criminalize and hinder the exercise of their work and that put at risk the integrity of their work team. Even though the Venezuelan code of laws, and more precisely Article 326 of the Constitution, set forth the joint responsibility between the State and civil society in progressively promoting human rights, we find ourselves in a land of a repressed civic space that in no way responds to what a favorable, democratic and safe environment should be, in order that civil society may be organized, develop and act in a free and independent manner.



continuous threats regarding access to international cooperation.

Regarding the last part, it is necessary to point out that the criminalization of international cooperation contradicts the commitment of the States stipulated in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) that determines the obligation of the

The surrounding of restrictions under which civil societies in Venezuela develop represents a threat to the autonomy and the exercise of the fundamental freedoms that determine their operation, such as the freedom of association, meeting, pacific demonstration, freedom of speech, and the right to participation. From the Centro de Justicia y Paz (Cepaz) we have documented in the past how the regime applies and perfects criminalization patterns through exercising control of Public Powers against the work of civil society organizations by means of practices such as workplace raids, arbitrary detentions, discredit campaigns and discourses making use of public media, even those of the State at the service of the people, besides the obstacles for legal registration and

States to make maximum use of the available resources, and even receive international assistance, in order to give full effectiveness to the economic, social and cultural rights of the population. This obligation is of special relevance in the context of the Complex Humanitarian Emergency that Venezuela is going through and that it urgently requires of international cooperation in order that civil society may continue its work in favor of protecting Venezuelans' human rights before a State who exercises a policy of massive, systematic, and generalized violations to said rights.

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