



CRISIS EN VENEZUELA

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www.crisisenvenezuela.org

Transparencia Venezuela - www.transparencia.org.ve

British justice will decide in September who will keep the Venezuelan gold

Which one is the Central Bank of Venezuela's [BCV by its Spanish initials] Board of Directors who can dispose of the Venezuelan gold that's in the Bank of England, the one headed by Calixto Ortega Sánchez or the *ad hoc* Board appointed by Juan Guaidó supported by the 2015 Parliament? This doubt will be clarified in September at the latest by the High Court in London. The court heard the parties' opening statements from July 13th to 18th, which dispute the 31 tons of Venezuelan gold that the BCV has in the United Kingdom.

This is the second legal proceeding for Venezuelan gold that British justice has tried since 2020, but on this occasion it's not about determining who's Venezuela's legitimate President, in the eyes of London's government, but rather if the *ad hoc* Board of Directors of the BCV named by Guaidó was appointed in strict compliance of the law or whether if the Supreme Court of Justice's [TSJ by its Spanish initials] Constitutional Chamber's decision



of annulling the appointments made by the Parliament elected in 2015 must be taken under advisement in order to explain this issue.

On December 20th, 2021, the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom (SCUK) ratified that the oppositionist is recognized by the British

Executive Power as the "Interim" Head of State of Venezuela, but it didn't consider whether Juan Guaidó or the people he's appointed for the BCV, endorsed by the Parliament elected in 2015, are the ones who are able to dispose of the gold; and, thus, he recommended the High Court to allay this doubt.

[Read more in Spanish here](#) 

Acción Solidaria - www.accionsolidaria.info

Gender breach: a step backwards against inequality

Between March 7th and April 8th, 2022, a community diagnosis was performed among the users of the different services offered by our organization. Among the most prominent results we have those indicating the composition and characteristics of the population that we tend to every day.

Out of the 399 people surveyed, 226 identify themselves as women, which equals to 57% of the people that were interviewed, most of them were women and were tended to at Acción Solidaria during the polls. This was confirmed by the Humanitarian Health Response Program, where women are the ones who benefit the most from it.



There exist multiple studies and analyses on gender breaches and the difficulties faced by women in order to enjoy the same rights as men on equal conditions. This study produced data that confirm this inequality.

[Read more in Spanish here](#) 

Foro Penal - www.foropenal.com

Armed groups murdered three indigenous people at the Orinoco Mining Arc (OMA)



As of July 22nd, 2022 Foro Penal recorded 15,772 arbitrary arrests in Venezuela since January 1st, 2014. 875 civilians have been presented before military courts. Up to this date we have accrued a historical number of 3,667 political prisoners, of which 3,425 have been released under different modalities.



As of April 2014 we recorded 117 political prisoners in the country. As of July 22nd, 2022 the number is 242 people, out of which 16 are women. Additionally, 9,421 people were or are being unjustly subjected to criminal procedures under cautionary measures.

The Orinoco Mining Arc (OMA) tragedy claimed three other lives this week. On July 21st, according to what Olnar Ortiz reported, Foro Penal's Indigenous Peoples General Coordinator, armed structured organizations killed three indigenous territorial defenders, members of the Guahibo people (Sikuani/Jivi/Jiwi) ethnic group, in the Municipality of Sucre of the State of Bolivar. The OMA has resulted not only a serious environmental crime, but also a continuous source of extremely serious human rights violations.

Acceso a la Justicia - www.accesoalajusticia.org

Maduro's government ignores Bachelet's recommendations and launches a new wave of repression against organized civil society



"Adopting measures in order to guarantee that democratic and civic space isn't illegally restricted." This was one of the recommendations that the outgoing United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCHR), Michelle Bachelet, told Nicolás Maduro's government in order to improve the country's fundamental guarantees situation in the last report she presented before the United Nations Human Rights Council. Nevertheless, the new wave of repression launched by Venezuelan authorities against organized civil society in the first week of July leaves clear their decision of ignoring said petition.



Between July 4th and 7th, in other words, in a matter of seventy-two hours, the Bolivarian National Police [*PNB by its Spanish initials*], the National Bolivarian Intelligence Service [*SEBIN by its Spanish acronym*], and the Military Counterintelligence General Directorate [*DGCIM by its Spanish acronym*] detained seven union leaders, university professors and humanitarian workers. Five out of all the detainees have something in common: they are or were active members of the oppositionist Red Flag Political Party [*Bandera Roja*]. Some of them, like Reynaldo Cortés, even have positions in the Board of Directors (he's the secretary of the State of Guarico's configuration). The group was one of the few Venezuelan left-wing extremists who never supported the late Hugo Chávez or his successor Nicolás Maduro. From the

partisan configuration, Red Flag Political Party assured in a statement that they blame this on "Maduro's regime's fear of popular fights. They can't forgive social fighters who have unmasked their anti-worker and anti-national policies, with their firm protest position thus proving in practice that what they really want to sell as improvement and progress is actually a false normality".

Some of the detainees have participated in protests or have exposed the obstacles faced by the Venezuelan union movement in order carry out their duties in favor of workers before international authorities, such as the International Labor Organization (ILO). "Unions are a niche where the government is weak. No labor president pays and treats workers this badly. We've been working on that front and it's logical that they had to attack there somehow", stated Jesús Hermoso, responsible for communications and propaganda of the Crónica Uno Political Party. The political party assures that they have information that the security forces are after twenty more people.

Read more in Spanish here 

Espacio Público - www.espaciopublico.org

The Telecommunications Commission closed three more radio stations in the State of Cojedes

Officers from the National Telecommunications Commission of Venezuela [CONATEL by its Spanish acronym], along with agents from the Bolivarian National Guard closed Moda 105.1 FM, EX 100.1 FM and HITS 92.5 FM radio stations located in San Carlos, State Cojedes on July 15th.

The event was denounced by the National Press Workers Union [SNTP by its Spanish initials], that added that among the officers' argument for closing these media was the presumed illegal use of the radio- spectrum and that the stations didn't have the necessary permits for going on air.



We should underline that with this action there are a total of four radio stations from Cojedes that have been closed in the last two weeks by the governmental authority, due to the fact that on July 1st CONATEL also decided to take Candela 92.9 FM off the air and forfeited their equipment.

[Read more in Spanish here](#) 

CEPAZ - www.cepaz.org

Venezuelan women flee from the country's crisis through the Darién Gap (jungle)

The Darién, also known as the Darién Gap or the Darién Jungle, is a jungle and swamp region located on the border between Panama and Colombia. It's used by many migrants and refugees as a transit area in order to pass to Central America, and eventually arrive to the United States. Venezuelan refugees also use this border in order to flee from the Complex Humanitarian Emergency. They travel through entire countries by way of irregular and dangerous routes, being desperate and looking for brighter future. Out of the 19,000 people estimated to have gone across this jungle from January to April this year, at least 6,951 came from Venezuela; in other words, a little more than 36%.



Death Mountain that had been dead for several days. She was a woman, she looked like she was pregnant." Walmery warned of the differentiated risks suffered by women in this jungle. During her travel she heard stories about girls and women who had been sexually abused. She was also a victim of harassment from the transporters in Mexico right in front of her daughters. "I couldn't do or say anything. Not even telling my husband, because the transporters were heavily armed."

In January 2022, Walmery, a 39-year-old woman, from the city San Francisco, State of Zulia (Venezuela), decided to cross the Darién along with her husband and their two 4 and 9-year-old daughters. With very little information about this journey, without knowing the perils and relying on videos and people's photographs assuring they were able to arrive to the United States using this route. Walmery and her family sold some of their belongings and started their journey. Just as many other families before them, this family, didn't have any other choice but to leave Venezuela. They weren't only affected by the Complex Humanitarian Emergency; they were also politically persecuted by Nicolás Maduro's government. "I didn't think this was going to be as bad as it was. I realized that once I had arrived there." She claimed to have seen and lived very dramatic situations. "I saw a person on

Walmery's story, just like the rest of the women that have pass through this dangerous jungle and other irregular routes day after day, should make us question ourselves. This is why that here at Cepaz, we have put an emphasis on discrimination, violence and defenselessness of women fleeing from Venezuela, passing through other countries and how this doesn't end when they eventually arrive to the host country. Criminalizing migration just contributes even more to the situation of vulnerability, danger and defenselessness of people escaping from the crisis and the persecution that exists in Venezuela. We call upon international authorities, the States, and transit and host countries to guarantee the safe passage of people in mobilization and to design migration and attention, protection and regularization policies with gender perspective and a human rights standpoint.

[Read more in Spanish here](#) 

PROVEA - www.provea.org

Victims' committees are strengthened

The Alianza de Familiares Víctimas de la Represión (Alfavic Venezuela) performed its first national meeting in April in an effort to strengthen itself as an organization of family members claiming for the truth, justice and redress. With that same purpose, towards the end of June, the organization of Familiares de Víctimas de Personas Asesinadas en Operativos de Seguridad Ciudadana, Orfavideh, held its first national meeting.

These two events are extremely relevant in the fight defending human rights and seeking justice. Families of



people murdered by police officers and military agents in different contexts have organized themselves in order to increase their action capacity against impunity.

Venezuela has a huge justice debt due to the serious human rights violations and crimes against humanity perpetrated in the country. Advancing towards establishing the truth, determination of responsibilities and sanctions require listening to the voices and demands of the victims' families and incorporating them into the processes so that justice isn't just a dream, but a reality.

