



Ministry of People's Power for Foreign Affairs

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TOPIC OF THE WEEK



Independence is a constant struggle for dignity

On July 5, 1811 Venezuela was established forever as a free Republic, leaving behind 300 years of colonialist oppression by declaring its independence. Today, 210 years after that determination in favour of freedom, the Venezuelan people continue to battle and triumph in the face of attacks on the sovereignty of the country.

"Independence is a dynamic act, in permanent movement (...) it is a permanent struggle for dignity and human existence itself in these lands," reflected the President of the Republic, Nicolás Maduro,

during the civic-military parade for the celebration of the 210 years of the Declaration of Independence and the Day of the Bolivarian National Armed Forces. The ideals embodied in the Constitution of 1811, promulgated after independence was declared, have been the shield of the Venezuelan people in all their struggles against tyranny.

With that same impetus, the people reversed the April 2002 coup against Commander Hugo Chávez and defeated the 2002-2003 oil strike, attacks devised by the United States that sought

to undermine the Bolivarian Revolution and restore neoliberalism in Venezuela. Today, the country faces a brutal economic blockade promoted by imperial agents.

It is the struggle that Generalissimo Francisco de Miranda and the Liberator Simón Bolívar began, struggle which was then rescued by Commander Hugo Chávez, and are those same forces that "will allow us to recover and regain all the social and economic rights that criminal sanctions have violated against our people," said the President.

He added that this force will open the way to "restore the socialist welfare state built in these years of the Bolivarian Revolution, restore economic stability to our country, overcome criminal sanctions and find the paths of sustainable development."

PHOTO: COURTESY

Venezuela denounces assassination plan by US

President Nicolás Maduro denounced that the recent visit to Colombia and Brazil by the head of the US Southern Command, Craig Faller, and the director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), William Burns, had the purpose of designing a plan against

the life of the high political and military leadership of Venezuela, including the head of state, to create chaos in the country.

Already in August 2018, the Venezuelan President faced an assassination attempt, supported by the

governments of the United States and Colombia, from where it was organized. Also in the neighbouring country other aggressions have been gestated such as the mercenary Operation Gideon, activated in 2020 to invade Venezuelan territory, with the ultimate objective of subjecting Venezuela to a form of neo-colonialism and appropriating its resources.

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DIPLOMACY



Union in Defense of Multilateralism and Peace

In the face of, such as the Covid-19 pandemic, the application of Unilateral Coercive Measures and global warming, it is becoming increasingly necessary to unite in favor of humanity. In this spirit, 18 countries participated this July 6th in the Preparatory Meeting for the official launch of the Group of Friends in Defense of the Charter of the United Nations (UN).

The meeting resulted in a joint declaration reaffirming fundamental principles: commitment to peace, sovereignty and self-determination of peoples, as well as the will to promote multilateralism. Algeria, Angola, Belarus, Bolivia, Cambodia, China, Cuba, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Iran, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Nicaragua, Palestine, Russia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Syria and Venezuela ratified that the

UN Charter, in force for 75 years, is the basis of respect for international law.

“We stress that effective compliance with the provisions of the Charter promotes peaceful and friendly relations, cooperation among States and, ultimately, guarantees international peace and security”, expressed in the text, read by the permanent representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the UN, Samuel Moncada, who extended the invitation to other countries to join this initiative.

“Let us work to protect the legal instrument with the greatest scope and legitimacy in the world, which has prevented and will continue to prevent humanity from suffering the horrors of a world war,” expressed the diplomat via online from the UN headquarters in New York.

PHOTO: MPPRE

NEWS BRIEF



Condemnation of the assassination in Haiti

The Venezuelan head of state, Nicolás Maduro, strongly condemned the assassination of the president of Haiti, Jovenel Moïse, which occurred on July 7, and expressed his solidarity with the people of this Caribbean country: “We advocate that peace and stability reign in Haiti.” For its part, CELAC reaffirmed in a statement its categorical rejection of “violence in all its expressions and urges dialogue for the pacification of the country.”

PHOTO: COURTESY

Willingness to dialogue with UN Office for Human Rights

Venezuela rejects the fallacious content and biased nature of the report issued by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on July 1. At the same time, it ratifies its willingness to maintain channels of communication and dialogue with that instance “without geopolitical agendas at the service of hegemonic powers contrary to International Law,” it is expressed in an official statement.

Ambassadors deliver credentials

At the Miraflores Palace, in Caracas, President Nicolás Maduro received the credentials of the new ambassadors in Venezuela appointed by Guinea Bissau, María de Lourdes Batista Mendonca Tabora; Nigeria, Olorundare Phillip Awoniyi, and Burkina Faso, Aminata Sana Congo.

A flower in honor of Venezuela’s biodiversity



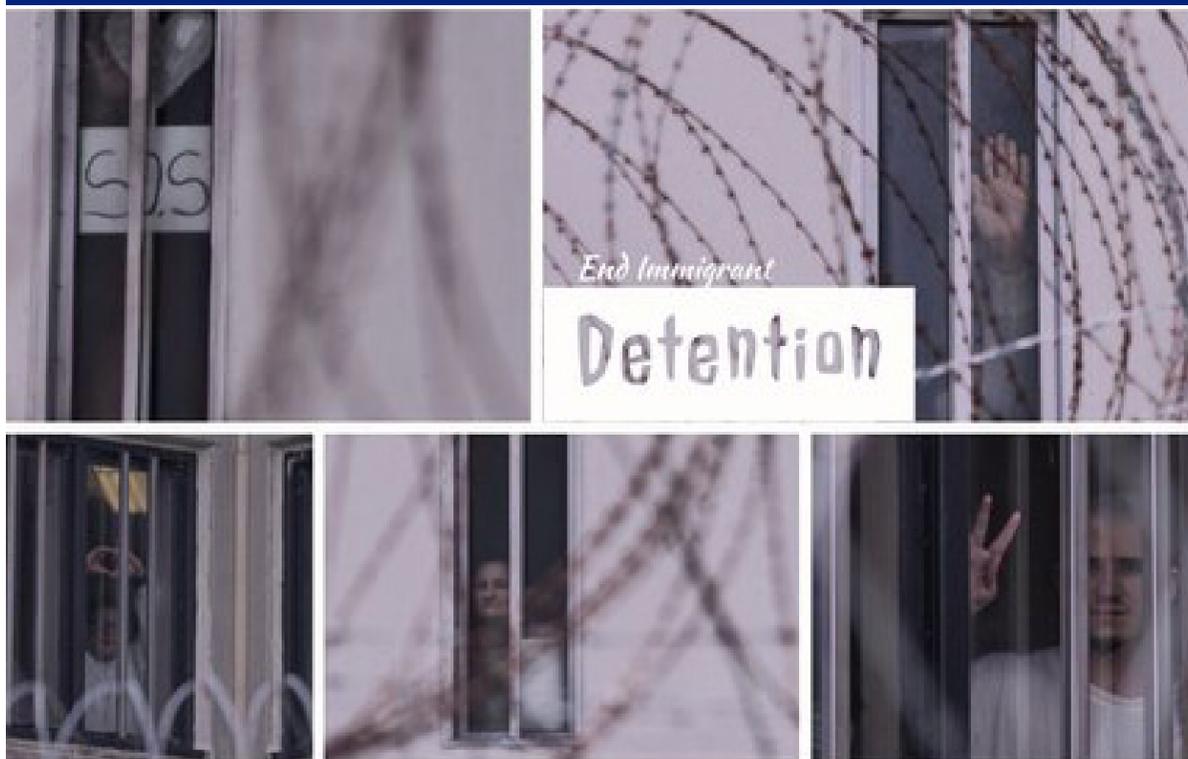
VENEZUELA IN IMAGES

On July 8th, 2000, the Flor de Venezuela (Flower of Venezuela), the country’s pavilion, was inaugurated at the Universal Expo in Hannover, Germany. The six-storey structure, designed by architect Fruto Vivas, has on the roof 16 giant petals of an orchid, which open and close; it houses

gardens and fish tanks that honor Venezuelan biodiversity. Since 2009, it has been exhibited in Barquisimeto, Lara State, in the center west of the country, and since 2013 it has been declared Cultural Heritage of the Nation.

PHOTO: COURTESY

HUMANITY ON THE MOVE



US detention centers violate human rights of migrants

Almost two months ago the government of the United States announced the closure of two detention centers for migrants in Georgia and Massachusetts due to alleged violation of human rights, such as hysterectomy operations to migrant women who didn't require it. The situation is proof of a systematic policy against those who enter this country in an irregular way.

Due to the difficulties of legal migration and shaken by the inequality and violence in their countries of origin, thousands of men, women and children from diverse parts of the world, particularly from Central America, the Caribbean and South America, try to enter US territory by irregular ways. One of the risks they take is being caught and jailed in detention centers with deplorable conditions.

Separation of families; restrictions in access to water, hygiene products and food; overcrowding; difficulty to receive medical assistance and discretionary treatment from a legal viewpoint, are the main violations they face, a situation that even the

Keys:

- The US is considered the country with the greater immigrant detention system in the world, with a network of 200 centers.
- The flow of irregular migrants increased since April 2020. In February 2021, at least 100,000 people were detained in the southern frontier of the US.

US National Security Department considered a time bomb in 2019.

"The cruelty is intentional, it is government policy," attorney Elora Mukhejee declared to the media, accompanied by a group of colleagues that investigated the situation and also warns that the cruel treatment won't stop the migratory flow.

PHOTO: ARCHIVE / COURTESY

CAPSULES OF IDEAS

"The improvement of the condition of women seems in particular to be closely linked to the progress to be made in respect of human rights, the consolidation of peace and the establishment of the fairest economic relations between nations, inseparable progress of the economic, social and cultural transformations that the establishment of an effective equality between the sexes requires."

Argelia Laya. Intervention in the National Parliament, Caracas, November 1984.

UNBLOCK



Venezuela demands Covax timely compliance

Venezuela has had to face the obstacles that come from the economic blockade to be able to access vaccines for the immunization of the population against Covid-19. The efforts of the Bolivarian Government have enabled, for example, the payment of \$120 million to the Covid-19 Vaccines Global Access (Covax), which should make the first delivery of the antigens this month.

Nevertheless, currently there is a delay in the delivery of 11 million vaccines acquired through Covax, a mechanism that depends on the World Health Organization. This situation led the Venezuelan State to demand the delivery of the doses or the reintegration of the amount canceled.

"I say this publicly: The Covax system has failed the Venezuelan people. I don't know if they have failed the peoples of the world, but they are not giving us an answer," President Nicolás Maduro expressed.

The Head of State instructed Executive Vice President, Delcy Rodríguez, to activate the mechanisms to request the timely delivery of vaccines or the return of the money. In that case they rely on necessary liaisons to acquire the antigens by other means.

"Venezuela has its doors open to initiate conversations, purchase vaccines and accept donations," the President stated recalling the complex financial operation that the Venezuelan State made to evade the blockade to be able to pay Covax.

PHOTO: ARCHIVE / COURTESY

HEROIC ROOTS



The Supreme Congress ratified the sovereignty of the people

It is considered the oldest parliament in Latin America and a key experience for the region. The First Congress of Venezuela, or Supreme Congress, was put up 210 years ago and was responsible for the Declaration of Independence. It was installed on 2 March 1811: 43 deputies, among lawyers, such as Juan Germán Roscio; politicians such as Francisco Isnardi, who was also a doctor; militaries, such as Francisco de Miranda, and other represented sectors, including clerics. They addressed the Declaration of Independence, a debate not without controversy.

On 3 July, before the Patriotic Society, Simón Bolívar questioned whether congress would discuss “what should be decided...” And in a demonstration of his strategic vision of independence and integration, he was categorical: “Let us fearlessly lay the foundation stone of South American freedom: to hesitate is to lose ourselves.” These approaches were included in a document addressed by the Patriotic Society to the congress.

Thus, two days later, on 5 July 1811, “the absolute Independence of Venezuela” was declared. In an exercise of sovereignty, it was established that the new Republic, as a “free and independent State, has full power to give itself the form of government that is in accordance with the general will of its peoples.” It is a right that drove our fight for freedom in the nineteenth century and that today, now already in the twenty-first century; we reaffirm and defend every day.

IMAGE: COURTESY

BEATS OF OUR PEOPLE



Miracle Mission, an instrument of light and life

Due to an accident at school, the Chilean Camila Vergara ran the risk of going blind. In 2008, she received a hug that she considers healer: it was a show of affection from Commander Hugo Chávez, who was visiting Santiago de Chile. She also received the embrace of Cuba and Venezuela, when she was treated through the Miracle Mission.

This policy, founded on 8 July 2004, promoted by Chávez and Commander Fidel Castro, has treated more than 6 million patients with ophthalmological diseases in 31 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. In addition, as of 2020, it distributed 40 million lenses.

It is possible thanks to the legion of Cuban and Venezuelan doctors deployed throughout the region, accompanied by the solidarity of our people and governments. For this mission, a free transfer and care scheme was constructed, with the highest

technology; as well as a network of patients who, with their testimonies, bring more people in search of treatment.

“It’s time to see, it’s time for light, it’s time to live,” Chávez said in 2009, when he met again with Camila on the fifth anniversary of the Mission, in Caracas, who was getting ready to study medicine, after regaining strength to “continue dreaming of a better world.”

The Miracle Mission is a humanitarian operation “created by the ALBA, by Fidel and by Chávez,” said President Nicolás Maduro, who promotes the expansion of this health policy, which so far in 2021 has allowed more than 10 thousand surgical interventions in Venezuela, despite the difficulties arising from the Covid-19 pandemic and the economic blockade.

PHOTO: ARCHIVE / COURTESY

UNCOVERING FAKE NEWS

The aggression against Venezuela is also disguised as an NGO

Right-wing sectors employ the figure of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to disguise, with an “independent” character and work on social issues, agendas of aggression that include constructing narratives that seek to distort reality and feed fake news aimed at creating anxiety.

Therein lays the discourse that seeks to victimize Javier Tarazona, who faces a judicial charge for instigating hatred, treason to the Homeland and terrorism. This campaign aims to evade the fact that this citizen used Fundaredes, the organization he leads, to spread false matrices aligned with Colombian armed groups that carried out terrorist actions in towns in Apure state bordering Colombia,

where the Bolivarian National Armed Forces acted to defend sovereignty, repel irregulars and protect the population.

The practices of this type of companies that act under the façade of NGOs are part of an operation whose objective is to justify the multifactorial aggression against Venezuela. The case reflects how matrices of persecution are fed against organizations that are part of the strategy of aggression encouraged by the United States and allied factors, as Venezuela has denounced.

In this context, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Jorge Arreaza, has been emphatic: “The real NGOs have our full support; unlike those franchises who want to sow violence.”