

RESOLUTION ON VENEZUELA

In the face of the continuing, dramatic and unsustainable political, economic and social situation under which the Venezuelan people is suffering, IDC-CDI:

1. Supports the findings of the legitimate Supreme Court, which has in fact been in exile since 9 April 2018, and which considers that there are sufficient grounds to bring to court Nicolas Maduro on the issue of corruption, thereby depriving him of the very right to be candidate and exercise any public position whatsoever;
2. Considers as unacceptable the legitimacy and the veracity of the results of the supposed electoral process of 20 May, given that this process was convoked without the necessary legality, lacking the most minimal guarantees in its execution, and in the absence of a sufficient representation of all political forces;
3. Supports the overwhelming repudiation of the process by the Venezuelan citizens, who decided not to go to the voting-booth so as not to validate its results. This represents a clear expression of popular rejection, otherwise obscured by repression and fear;
4. Understanding that the regime of Nicolas Maduro has foreclosed any electoral possibilities, CDI-IDC supports the democratic sectors both inside and outside Venezuela who are pressing, popularly, institutionally and internationally, for a transitional process in the country to enable the restoration of democracy in Venezuela;
5. As a result of this process, and in the understanding that this democratic restoration will only be possible by a change of regime in Venezuela, CDI-IDC endorses the resolution of the European Parliament of 8 February 2018, broadly supported by the Members of the European Parliament, demanding the implementation of the following basis democratic requisites : 1. Recognition of the impartial electoral calendar set by the National Electoral Council (CNE) ; 2. That elections be held in the presence of international observers ; 3. That the right of persons eligible to be candidates in these elections be restituted;
6. Congratulates the OAS on its decision not to accept as valid the voluntary withdrawal from the organization by Venezuela on presumed constitutional grounds, an act denounced by the very Supreme Court of Venezuela and by the legitimate and democratically-elected National Parliament, for impinging on important human rights, and supports the proposal to suspend Venezuela as a full member on a temporary basis;
7. Supports the proposal of the Canadian Prime Minister to call on the International Penal Court to “take action against those responsible for crimes against humanity in Venezuela”, demonstrated in every report presented by experts appointed by the OAS ; the proposal of the United States, which considers necessary “the sanctions and the isolation of the Bolivarian government both in the region and the wider world” ; the proposal of the “Group of Lima Plus Two”, not to recognize as legitimate the presidential elections of May 20th.
8. Considers the limited release of some political prisoners as insufficient. This double-edged release does not justify the continuing political repression affecting the country, nor the lack of freedom of expression and the elevated degree of civil repression, as those released were not permitted to formalize or prepare their candidacy to freely and democratically take part in the elections.
9. Demands from José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero, the phony “international mediator” for Venezuela, to clearly take into account the failure of his initiative. Calls on Pedro Sanchez, President of the Spanish Government, to repudiate the actions and statements by Mr. José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero, and at the same time reminds Minister Josep Borrell that mere dialogue cannot serve as pocket-change for the thousands of victims caused by the policies of the Bolivarian narco-dictatorship holding the risk of making Spain complicit.