

Resolution on Venezuela

The CDI-IDC would like to express its concern regarding the serious humanitarian crisis, authoritarianism and social fragmentation that Venezuela is suffering, in a scenario characterized by the rupturing of its constitutional and democratic framework as a result of usurpations by the government of Nicolás Maduro Moros — and in collusion with the Supreme Court of Justice, which is subjugated to it — of the authorities and purview of the National Assembly, duly elected by the people on 6 December 2015.

The CDI-IDC is particularly distressed by the economic outlook for the coming year, which, due to the State's systematic undermining of the private economy, the contraction of the Gross Domestic Product, the commencement of an inflationary process considered the world's worst, and the disastrous devaluation of the nation's currency, threatens not only to lead to a severe shortage of food and medicine, affecting the whole population, but also to fan the flames of violence already plaguing the nation, with violent death rates having shot up to 91.1 per 100,000 inhabitants at the end of 2016.

The CDI-IDC regrets the foreseeable failure of the talks undertaken between the government and representatives of the democratic opposition, facilitated by UNASUR and the Vatican, as attempts are made to reestablish the right to vote, currently rescinded by the government, and the National Electoral Council, which has been placed under government control. These developments have served to fracture the opposition and to sow greater pessimism among the Venezuelan population with regards to the future of their liberties.

It is clear that the government of Venezuela exercises power by means of decrees that usurp the legislative function rightly belonging to legislative representatives in a democracy, and that major figures in the government are currently being investigated at the international level for collusion with drug traffickers and terrorists. The CDI-IDC would like democratic governments and international organizations around the world to take note of these facts, and calls upon them to adopt firm and united positions that might serve to alleviate the inhumane conditions suffered by Venezuelans. It appeals to these governments and organizations to redouble their efforts to secure the freedom of political prisoners and to reestablish both elections and the autonomy and constitutional authorities of the National Assembly.