



## **Resolution on Venezuela**

CONCERNED about the flagrant political, economic and social crisis affecting Venezuela, as ascertained by numerous international organizations with impeccable credentials and credibility ; by the increasing instances of human rights violations, persecution and imprisonment, especially of opposition leaders and leaders in exile ; by the false accusations on the part of the government incriminating opposition leaders in plotting antidemocratic actions ; by the criminalization of acts of protest and the use of lethal weapons in order to confront the supposed public disorder ; by the scarcity and limitation of foodstuffs and medicines wrought upon the Venezuelan people, thereby infringing on basic rights such as health care and nourishment ;

### **WE MANIFEST**

Our concern about the abuse of power of the Venezuelan government and its authoritarian drift by raiding the office and detaining the High Mayor of Caracas, Antonio Ledezma, and the nonsensical accusation against Congressman Julio Borges and the will to revoke his immunity. This new authoritarian behavior underscores the abusive detentions of the opposition leader Leopoldo López and the loss of immunity of Congresswoman María Corina Machado.

### **RESOLVES**

Our solidarity with the leaders of the Venezuelan MUD opposition alliance, with the country's political prisoners, with the victims of persecution, false accusations and exile and with the Venezuelan people in general;

### **WE DEMAND**

1. The end of political prosecutions, false accusations, detentions and illegal processes of violations of human rights against political leaders, among them the High Mayor of Caracas Antonio Ledezma and the opposition leader Leopoldo López.
2. To rectify these antidemocratic proceedings and call the democratic forces to a dialogue which allows national reconciliation by negotiating within the frame of the rule of law, regarding the constitution and the constitutional order, respect to human rights and fundamental freedoms for all citizens.

3. An end to the hostile acts against the opposition and to offer transparency and impartiality guaranties, including the possibility of international observation missions, towards the development of parliamentary elections to be held this year.

**WE CONSIDER**

That the opposition and the government of Venezuela should embrace the basic democratic values in order to rebuild ways towards dialogue and cooperation, thereby rejecting hatreds and resentments blocking the way towards a dialogue based on a true spirit of participation. In our view, this could eventually lead to a collective rectification, under the rule of law and in accordance with the constitution, respect for human rights and the fundamental freedoms of all the Venezuelan citizens.

CDI Executive Committee, Brussels, 1 March 2015