



Ministry of People's Power for Foreign Affairs

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## TOPIC OF THE WEEK



# Venezuela initiates plan to mitigate effects of climate crisis

Global warming endangers the continuity of the human species and all forms of life in our planet, a scenario that requires action in all areas. In the case of Venezuela, the Bolivarian Government, the scientific community and People's Power take joint actions to reduce the impact of this environmental chaos.

"The climate crisis situation on planet Earth is very serious, and we cannot remain in a bubble as the imperialist elites of the United States and Europe do", the President of the Republic, Nicolás Maduro, affirmed during the closing of the 1st National Congress of Researchers on Climate Change, which took place in Caracas, from May 3th to 5th.

Venezuela is "part of a global community, we are inhabitants of a planet and we have the obligation to do our best from here and connect our experience with many others who, in the world, are seeking to mitigate" this environmental catastrophe, said the Head of State .

If action is not taken immediately, experts predict that Venezuela will experience consequences by

2090 such as an increase of 5 degrees Celsius in the average temperature, a reduction in rainfall and a decrease in important flows. Also, due to prolonged droughts, crops would be affected as well as food security.

Similarly, scientists warn of threats to 14 coastal cities that are home to 19% of the country's population, due to rising sea levels.

### Actions for the environment

During the activity, the President approved the proposals collected in the congress, where 700 people participated on average each day, including scientists, academics and popular leaders. Among these approaches, which are aligned with the Patriotic Plan, a management program of the Bolivarian Government, is the creation of a rotating fund of 10.000.000 bolivars, to boost public policies on climate change.

Likewise, the President approved the creation of the Venezuelan Network of Knowledge and Expe-

riences around the subject; and the holding of an International Meeting Against the Climate Crisis, scheduled for October this year.

Likewise an arbitrated ecological magazine will be created, the National Ecosocialist Award against the Climate Crisis, the National Observatory of the Climate Crisis and the Center for the Study of the Global Environmental Crisis, which will be under supervision of the Venezuelan Institute of Scientific Research.

Along with these measures is the change of the Presidential Commission Against Climate Change to the Council of Sectoral Vice Presidents, the design of a risk map and the activation of training camps for the brigades against climate change, which promote ecosocialism within communities.

"In Venezuela we have a commitment with nature, with the Pacha Mama and humanity," said the President. "I have faith in humanity; I have faith that we will see the miracle of the recovery of Planet Earth," he affirmed.

PHOTO: PRESS PRESIDENTIAL

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## DIPLOMACY

### Cooperation with Cuba is refounded to respond to new challenges

The strategic association between Cuba and Venezuela, which has been bearing fruit in the social, cultural and diplomatic fields for two decades, will now enter a process of refoundation, to adapt to new scenarios and continue seeking shared prosperity and well-being.

“We have decided to create a profound and creative refoundation, so that our cooperation is adapted to the new times and allows for a positive impact on the social, economic and cultural life” of the two nations, Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro stated when he received in Caracas the Prime Minister of Cuba, Manuel Marrero.

In this regard, the high Cuban representative reaffirmed his country’s maximum willingness to

maintain cooperation and conveyed the desire of General Raúl Castro and the President of Cuba, Miguel Díaz-Canel, “to continue advancing in this revolutionary effort.”

During his visit to Caracas, Marrero also met with Executive Vice President, Delcy Rodríguez, to exchange experiences in the economic and financial field.

#### Expression of Solidarity

In his meeting with the Prime Minister of Cuba, President Maduro expressed his solidarity with the people and government of the Caribbean country after the accident that occurred at the Hotel Saratoga, located in Havana, on May 6th.

PHOTO: PRESS PRESIDENTIAL

### Historical brotherhood with Bolivia strengthened

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Venezuela, Félix Plasencia, reaffirmed the historical ties of brotherhood and cooperation with Bolivia, after meeting with the president of that country, Luis Arce, on a work visit to the South American nation on May 5th and 6th.

The President reiterated his interest in holding the Third Joint Integration Commission to “deepen and develop our bilateral cooperation in all areas,” said the Foreign Minister, who also held meetings with former President and regional leader, Evo Morales, and with social movements.

Plasencia also met with his Bolivian counterpart, Rogelio Mayta, with whom he agreed to hold a meeting of the Mechanism for Political Consultations and the Second Meeting of the Mechanism for Consular and Immigration Consultations between both nations.

According to a joint declaration, the Foreign Ministers agreed to promote exports between their mar-



kets and celebrated the recovery of the productive activity of Venezuelans, who circumvent the effect of Unilateral Coercive Measures.

Bolivia and Venezuela also ratified their commitment to multilateralism, regional integration, the protection of nature, the fight against the wrongly named sanctions and the promotion of dialogue for peace in the Ukraine crisis.

PHOTO: COURTESY

## CAPSULES OF IDEAS

*“We are amongst revolutionaries and we would cease to exist the moment we let go of the weapons of critique; but not simply as writers but as citizens of a country, as rank revolutionaries”*

Roque Dalton. Interview given to Mario Benedetti, 1969.

## NEWS BRIEF



### A management for energy development

The Secretary General of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), Mohammad Barkindo, visited Venezuela to meet with representatives of the Bolivarian Government, who gave him recognition for his management, which covers the periods 2016-2019 and 2019-2022. In that time, he has contributed to multilateralism and Peace Diplomacy in the energy sector.

PHOTO: COURTESY

### March for the 77th anniversary of the defeat of fascism

Diplomatic representatives of Russia and the Venezuelan Ministry of Foreign Relations marched in Caracas to commemorate the 77th anniversary of the defeat of Nazi troops by the Red Army. The mobilization is part of the tribute to the heroes who “gave their lives and fought to defeat fascism,” said Vice Minister for Latin America, Rander Peña.

### Rejection of the vile murder of journalist

Venezuela rejects the murder of Shirin Abu Akleh, a Palestinian journalist who worked for the Al Jazeera channel, a crime committed by the Israel army in a refugee camp in the Occupied West Bank. Venezuelan Foreign Minister, Felix Plasencia, sent words of condolences to the relatives and ratified the “unwavering commitment and support for the dissemination of the truth of our peoples and the Palestinian Cause”.

### New perspectives in the fight against terrorism

At the High Level Conference on Human Rights, Civil Society and the Fight against Terrorism, Venezuela called for studying the potential link between this scourge and Unilateral Coercive Measures. The alternate ambassador to the UN, Joaquín Pérez, also reiterated the need to avoid “the political use of this common struggle and to put an end to all acts of economic terrorism.”



## UNBLOCK



### The blockade as a weapon against multilateralism

The Unilateral Coercive Measures (UCM) are not only an attack against the fundamental rights of the population, they also represent a weapon to limit the action of Venezuela in international forums, by preventing it in the last three years from paying its commitments to the United Nations (UN), where it is a founding State.

Before this body, US\$39,850,761 is owed, but it is not the only case. In total, there is a negative balance with seven international bodies, such as the International Labor Organization, and there are unpaid commitments derived from five multilateral agreements, for a total debt of US\$80,276,200.26, as reported by a study of the Sures organization.

According to this analysis, a determining factor is the exclusion of Venezuela from the worldwide interbank messaging system, known as SWIFT, due to alleged "financial alerts" issued by the United States (U.S.) Treasury Department, the main promoter of the so-called sanctions.

The U.S. government and the United Kingdom also blocked in June 2020 a Venezuelan initiative to obtain an exemption from payment of dues to the UN General Assembly Contributions Committee. In addition to these restrictions, the United States has failed to comply with its obligations as host country of the United Nations headquarters, with arbitrary measures such as limitations on the issuance of visas.

These sanctions seek to isolate our nation from the international community, by pursuing "reputational damage of the Venezuelan State and a forced interruption of its normal functioning in the multilateral system", adds Sures in its analysis.

PHOTO: COURTESY

## REVOLUTION IN PROGRESS



### Commercial sector grows by 86% amid economic revival

Between 2021 and 2022, the commercial sector in Venezuela grew by 86%, thanks to policies aimed at overcoming the effects of the blockade promoted by the United States (U.S.) and the European Union. Actions to stimulate economic activity show favourable results in traditional trade, which increased from 16% to 19%; industrial trade, from 5% to 6%; trade in services, from 13% to 15%, and entertainment trade, from 12% to 14.40%.

"This is the way. Venezuela is getting stronger, it is recovering for the happiness of all", indicated the Executive Vice President, Delcy Rodríguez, who hopes that the productive sectors will continue on the path of development.

When meeting with members of the National Association of Supermarkets and Self-Services, she highlighted that tax collection grew 123% between April 2021 and 2022, and inflation is under control, which has remained in single digits in the last eight months.

To achieve these indicators, the dialogue promoted by the National Council for Productive Economy is essential, especially in the creation of bridges to stabilize prices, substitute imports, recover the national currency, the bolivar, and guarantee access to goods and services.

#### Increase supply

Along with commercial activity, the supply rate also grew. In 2017, when the Unilateral Coercive Measures (UCM) began to intensify, this indicator was at 20%. Today, it is at 89%, thanks to the efforts promoted with different economic actors.

Venezuela has conditions to produce. "We have to make use of those capacities and those potentialities, so that it is independent of external factors," reiterated the Executive Vice President, who called for the continuation of promotion the country's export capabilities in this new stage.

PHOTO: COURTESY



## VENEZUELA IN IMAGES

### Expanding coffee power

By 2022, Venezuela aims to produce 3.8 million quintals of coffee and has everything to do so. Since 2018, when 1.6 million quintals were reported, the growth of the sector has been maintained through the work between the Bolivarian

Government, coffee growers and roasters, who showed their qualities in the 1st International Meeting of Venezuelan Coffee, held from May 5th to 7th in Caracas.

PHOTO: COURTESY



## BEATS OF OUR PEOPLE

### Artists define mechanisms to revitalize creative activity

More than 400 Venezuelan artists discussed various proposals in order to promote the creative field in all its stages, assuming artistic work as a space for the defence of identity, by participating in the I Congress of Image and Space Arts, in Caracas.

The creators discussed mechanisms to improve the visibility of the works, promote art, improve the protection of the artist and create mechanisms to access resources, a sample of the application of the Resistance, Rebirth and Revolution scheme for a New Stage of Transition to Socialism, known as 3R.NETS.

The result of the conference was presented on May 10th, Plastic Artist's Day, a date in honour of Armando Reverón, one of the most important creators of the 20th century. As one of the results, this May 14th, the First Permanent Fair of Venezuelan Art will be held in Caracas.

"This is an alternative circuit for the commercialization of the works of Venezuelans, in which they themselves will be marketers of their art," said Zacarías García, director of the Institute of Image and Space Arts (IARTES, Spanish initials).

#### Art against the blockade

The congress participants warned that the Unilateral Coercive Measures have also generated damage in the artistic area. Given this situation, the Minister of People's Power for Culture, Ernesto Villegas, indicated that those who promote these illegal actions have failed in their intention to stop the creative imagination of the people.

"The wounds of the war that we have experienced are visible, they are felt, but they have not been able to stop creation, that is very important," Villegas said.

PHOTO: COURTESY

## UNCOVERING FAKE NEWS

### Manipulation and lies, the ways to induce Venezuelan migration

Sectors of the Venezuelan right, protected by the United States, used neuroscience tools and promoted manipulation in social networks, as part of a psychological war to induce Venezuelan migration for political purposes, says a report presented in the National Assembly.

The document was prepared by the Special Commission for the Investigation of Crimes against Venezuelan Migrants Abroad. The president of such instance, Representative Julio Chávez, detailed that 3.7 million compatriots, victims of the blockade, have moved through Latin America. Of that total, 1.8 million have arrived in Colombia.

In the neighbouring country, groups were activated that, under the facade of NGOs, received "more than 1,400 million dollars to, supposedly, attend to migration, something that has never happened," said the Member of Parliament.

"This lucrative business aroused the interest of Iván Duque (...) and was promoted by leaders of the Venezuelan opposition who, at that time, after stimulating campaigns on social networks and in the media, using big data and neuroscience, stimulated this migration that, at the time, they catalogued as a disease", he said.

In addition, 82% of the crimes against Venezuelans abroad occurred in the neighboring country, where the local extreme right promoted xenophobia. This action left 1,279 nationals murdered between 2016 and 2017, as well as mass graves with Venezuelans. Faced with this reality, the National Assembly will maintain the operation of the special commission, which announced this week the investigation of the brutal aggression suffered by a Venezuelan child in Peru, and will generate laws for the protection of migrants.

## HEROIC ROOTS



### Afro-Venezuelan people, forgers of rebellion and freedom

The fight against all forms of oppression is one of the principles inherited from our Afro-descendant communities. They were the first to raise their voices against the oppression of the colonial era, in which privileges prevailed for peninsular whites, allies of the Spanish crown. Thus, in 1553, the slave Miguel de Buría led the first black uprising against the reigning iniquity. Trafficked to extract gold near the current city of Barquisimeto (west of the country), Miguel and his companions broke chains and fled to the nearest mountains, from where they frightened the landowners for several days and founded their free kingdom, which fell after the assassination of the leader of the rebellion. That flag of struggle was taken up 242 years later by the zambo José Leonardo Chirino.

On May 10th, 1795, he led a rebellion in the western central state of Falcón with 350 blacks and natives against slavery and in favour of a Republic, both remembered with the commemoration of the Afro-Venezuelan Day. Although Chirino was dismembered in 1796, his fight was an inspiration for the Liberator, Simón Bolívar, to whom many Afro-descendants lent support. One of them was the battle-hardened soldier Pedro Camejo, nicknamed Negro Primero, who contributed to decisive patriot victories, such as the Battle of the Queseras del Medio, in 1819, and the Battle of Carabobo, on June 24th, 1821, where he fell in combat.

Miguel de Buría, Chirino and el Negro Primero are examples of the vast legacy left by the children of Mother Africa in Venezuela. His passage through history, as President Nicolás Maduro has said, is "a cry of rebellion that resounds in every corner of the Homeland."

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