



NICOLAS MADURO MOROS
PRESIDENTE DE LA
REPUBLICA BOLIVARIANA DE VENEZUELA

Caracas, 11 July 2019

*MICHELLE BACHELET
UNITED NATIONS
HIGH COMMISSIONER
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS*

The report presented by your Office to the Human Rights Council on 5 July has come to my notice. Its content is deeply harmful to the dignity of the Venezuelan people and the truth of the human rights situation in Venezuela. Unfortunately, it is quite clear that you DID NOT LISTEN TO VENEZUELA.

Firstly, the report in question is a replica of the previous reports drafted by your predecessor, who -as a matter of public record – guided his actions to building an illegal and immoral case against Venezuela, with the sole objective of criminalizing the Venezuelan State.

You have presented a report fraught with false statements, distortions, and manipulation of data and sources. A report that lacks balance and rigor, openly biased that -while presenting a distorted account of the human rights situation in our country – does not reflect the information and data provided by the State but that of the trite media narratives imposed by the imperial media hegemony.

It is particularly alarming that to try to depict the situation within Venezuela your report privileged the versions obtained abroad. Thus, of the 558 interviews conducted by the OHCHR, 460 were held outside the national territory, which constitutes 82% of the opinion in the report.



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Your report, unfortunately, aligns itself with the media and political narrative imposed from Washington, that symbolically attack Venezuela by repeating the script of the existence of an alleged dictatorial government and an alleged humanitarian crisis in order to justify an intervention in favor of those who hanker to disappear the Project of Simon Bolivar and purloin our immense natural resources.

I ask myself while I also ask you:

Can a political project legitimized 23 times at the ballot box in the last twenty years be called a dictatorship? A project that reduced poverty by the basic unsatisfied needs to a third that it was before the Revolution in less than two decades? That made Venezuela the second least unequal country in the continent, produced the most significant transfer of wealth of our history, transferring 25% of the income of the wealthiest sectors to middle-classes and sectors with fewer resources?

Can a government be called a dictatorship that in a Constitution voted by the people, gave for the first time rights to the indigenous people, children, women, elderly, and that had made visible and empowered the impoverished majority and disfranchised minorities?

Can it be called a "humanitarian crisis" when the United States has deprived Venezuela of more than 30 billion dollars of its oil assets abroad, has blocked and confiscated more than 7 billion dollars allocated to the purchase of food and medicine, it has forbidden servicing the Venezuelan debt and persecutes any company that trades with Venezuela? Can we call this a humanitarian crisis, or should we talk of the illegal, illegitimate and criminal application of unilateral coercive measures aimed to collapse our country smothering it economically as it was done with the Chile of Allende between 1970 and 1973?



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I have the privilege of presiding over a Nation with a constitutional order that legally prioritize the Constitutional State of Human Rights. We do not disregard our challenges in human rights. We are resolved never again to reproduce the odious violations of the most fundamental rights perpetrated in Punto Fijo decades by the political elites doing the bidding of transnational interests. We are permanently in the institutional disposition to vindicate the full exercise of the rights people have by their very human nature.

You report disregards the historical truth of Latin America and ignores the titanic effort of the Venezuelan State to protect its people from unquantifiable material and human damage caused by the criminal blockade of the United States and its allies.

Regrettably, you have given in to the pressures that I know exist to distort your mission, and sadly you have taken the side of the real violators of human rights of the Venezuelan people, thus, opening the door to those who suggest a direct intervention to our homeland.

An example suffices to illustrate the fallacious statements contained in the report.

You affirmed that the "Carnet de la Patria" system is a social control mechanism that conditions the benefits that it grants to a political persuasion or militancy. Nothing farther from the truth. Your team received complete information on this matter. Venezuela has approximately 30 million inhabitants, and there are 18.809.877 citizens registered in the Patria platform. This figure reveals the inclusive character of the most complete and unparalleled existing Social Protection System. A technological tool that provides direct subsidy to our population without bureaucratic and partisan bias.



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You personally met with a group of relatives of the victims of the political violence inflicted by the opposition. People that were burnt alive just because of the color of their skin or because they seemed to be pro-Government. However, you have not included the slightest reference to this encounter in the report, neither to the dramatic demand for justice made by the relatives to which you committed yourself.

You have failed the victims. You have left voiceless those who had the right to at least see their testimony reflected in the report.

It is also extremely offensive that when it comes to assessing the efforts of the State in the case of the victims of human rights violations, your report indicates that the reparation is done to silence them.

By injuring the truth of what happens in Venezuela, your Office has placed itself on the side of those who harm our people. Hence, it has sapped the efforts of the Venezuelan State to normalize the relations between your Office and our country.

For all the above, I express to you our outright and absolute rejection of the report presented. We condemn its content and demand that your Office immediately rectifies and corrects the grave mistakes, false accusations, and omissions, that turns it into a dangerous step towards an intervention in Venezuela, promotes the impunity of an opposition that trivializes its disregard of life and fosters coups d'état, assassination attempts, violence and destabilization.

The honorable Venezuela of political, economic, and social majorities that opts for peace and the sacred independence of our Nation longs for the United Nations system as a great world community, can make advance their principles and purposes of

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the initials 'JM'.



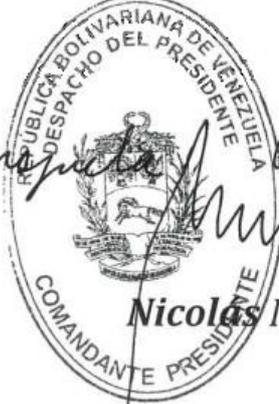
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their Fundamental Charter to protect our country, which is victim of severe attacks by the most savage military power known in the history of humanity.

Know that Venezuela will continue standing victoriously that no false report, nor attack regardless of its coarseness, will tamper with our firm determination of continuing to be a free and sovereign people committed to the defense of its legitimate rights.

From the homeland of Bolivar and Chavez, I bid you farewell, not without demanding a soon rectification of the report in question.

¡ Por Venezuela venceremos!



Nicolás Maduro Moros

COMANDANTE PRESIDENTE