

A Venezuelan researcher explained to African social movements the challenges of Venezuela in the face of the 2020 parliamentary elections

The researcher-activist Diego Sequera, from the digital medium Misión Verdad, spoke about democracy and elections in the face of the next parliamentary elections in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela during a meeting promoted by the Bolívar and Chávez Center of the Venezuelan Embassy in the Republic of Kenya, the Office of the Vice Minister for Africa of the Ministry of People's Power for Foreign Relations and the Simón Bolívar Institute for Peace and Solidarity among People.

The meeting was held within the framework of the United Nations International Day of Democracy in virtual mode due to confinement as a result of the global pandemic of Covid-19, it served to reaffirm solidarity as the foundation of the South-South cooperation and the fraternal meeting between representatives of different African social movements attending.

Sequera spoke about the struggle that Venezuela is leading to have "its own normality" and reflected on the cycles and types of violence that imperial forces have unleashed against the Bolivarian Republic.

Regarding the elections, Sequera emphasized the weight and historical value of the Venezuelan vote and how the act of voting has been a participatory challenge against national and global interests that seek to eliminate national sovereignty.

He highlighted the large-scale "social engineering" on the population, the product of an intensive study of the democratic process in Venezuela by the United States intervening in electoral processes in Latin America, particularly from the administration of President Obama in 2013 to the present.

In that sense, it included the unilateral coercive measures (MCU), applied against Venezuela and other countries, in that social engineering that today seeks to affect the Venezuelan parliamentary elections on the 6th of December in the same way that it has impacted the national economy.

The researcher proposed that countries that advance in their own democracies should take into account the threats that are beginning to emerge due to the fact that corporate interests behind interfering governments seek to intervene in these type of democracies, they will study the process and design ways in which the interference seems almost natural.

To illustrate, he introduced the concepts of "for-state" and "for-elections" as ways in which global structures seek to disappear or subjugate regional powers and nation states by fabricating "electoral legitimacies" in the style of Guaidó's self-proclamation in 2019, which has been repeated in more recent cases such as the elections in Belarus.

Following this, Lewis Maganga, from the Kenyan Socialist Revolutionary League, expressed his solidarity with the Simón Bolívar Institute and emphasized how strategic it is to maintain the link between people to claim their rights.

Sabatho Nyamsenda, member of the Tanzania Socialist Forum (TASOFO), expressed that “the revolutionary resistance of the Venezuelan people and their leadership in the face of imperialist machinations inspires us all, we will always be in solidarity with the people of Venezuela” , the objective of TASOFO (called Jukwaa la Wajamaa Tanzania in Swahili) is to develop the theory and the struggle to vindicate socialism and African unity in opposition to capitalism in all its forms and its development systems.

In the same spirit of South-South cooperation, John Ngabirano from Uganda, and Irene Asuwa from Kenya and Sobukwe Shukura from All African People Revolutionary Party, as well as Tumbu Ladislaus from Tanzania, among other participants, emphasized the importance of supporting and caring for the Venezuelan revolution, making its democratic character visible.

Embassy of Venezuela in Kenya