

## Communiqué

The Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela denounces before the international community the contempt shown towards multilateralism and its institutions by the regime of the United States of America upon its abrupt withdrawal from the United Nations Human Rights Council.

A government that engenders wars, death and destruction for natural resources and geopolitical domination, that has visible and clandestine torture centers, that blockades countries to make their peoples suffer and distort their will, that attempts to fence in the Palestinian people and that expels and mistreats millions of immigrants, could not withstand the scrutiny of an international democratic body that did not accommodate its attempts at control and subordination.

With such a track record, Washington's membership in the Human Rights Council was already paradoxical. As proof, its withdrawal comes precisely at a time when it is incapable of demonstrating even a sliver of humanity towards the over two thousand children who have been separated from their parents and confined in cages like wild animals solely for being immigrants at the southern border. The world had not witnessed such ruthless and inhumane acts of xenophobia since World War II.

Venezuela expresses its solidarity to all the children and their families who are currently the targets of persecution by a criminal regime that is attempting to take humanity to times we had already overcome. Now more than ever, the international community should preserve multilateralism in the defense of international law and human rights. The Bolivarian Government of Venezuela notes, as a positive outcome, that the United Nations Human Rights Council can now act without disruptions, attempts at extortion and direct pressure by humanity's main violator of human rights.

Caracas, June 20, 2018