



Ministry of People's Power for Foreign Affairs

Weekly Newsletter / October 29th 2021



TOPIC OF THE WEEK

Back to school with biosecurity and vaccination

The Covid-19 pandemic, defined by the World Health Organization in March 2020, imposed restrictions on human activities, among them education. In Venezuela, despite these circumstances, this right has been guaranteed through the distance learning modality; this October 25, classes were resumed return to in-person in schools and high schools nationwide, with special biosecurity measures.

"The bell rings for the commencement of in-person classes in Venezuela with the respective precautions," said Venezuela's President, Nicolas Maduro, in

a broadcast address hours before the beginning of school activities. He called on teachers and students to observe handwashing, alcohol disinfection and masks wearing.

Likewise, he urged the Minister for Education, Yelitze Santaella, and Tibusay Lucena, Minister for Higher Education, respectively, to achieve a 100% of education sector personnel vaccinated: "As of the last data I received, 85% of the staff got its vaccine, but 15% is still to be vaccinated, and we must motivate them to immunize so that we all win."

He pointed out that an ongoing evaluation of the

entire process will allow for timely decisions to be made, such as the suspension of on-site classes in any school or locality for epidemiological measures.

A shared effort

The return to in-person classes is a reality thanks to the joint work of the Government and the organizations of the people's power, which worked to rehabilitate almost 3,200 educational centers to provide adequate attention to the student population. The President called on the Social Cabinet to redouble efforts to reincorporate young people of training age into the education system.

"I reiterate my support to ensure a victorious 2021-2022 school year. The priority is health. We will achieve it," the Head of State said.

PHOTO: COURTESY

Towards 95% of the population immunized

Nearly 60% of the Venezuelan population is already immunized, and by the end of October is expected to reach 70%. "Our big goal this year is to reach 95% by December so that we can be calmer. I call on those 18 years of age and older to get their vaccinations without a prior appointment," said President Maduro, who ordered to add another 200 Integral Diagnostic Centers to the 115 already available for vaccination.

Starting this October 25, children over 12 years of age can get the vaccine and, in two

weeks, children over three years of age will be eligible for immunization. In this regard, Carlos Alvarado, Minister of Health, stated that 5,000 public and private schools operate as vaccination centers across the country.

Protection against Covid-19 in Venezuela is possible thanks to the efforts of the Bolivarian Government, with the support of the World Health Organization and sister nations like Russia, China, and Cuba, which - overcoming the harassment and economic blockade by the United States - delivered vaccines to the country. From Moscow, we have received 3.3



million first and second doses of Sputnik V. By the end of the year, Venezuela will receive 16 million Cuban Abdala vaccines, a biological product the country will produce shortly.

PHOTO: COURTESY

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DIPLOMACY

Venezuela and Cuba, solidarity cooperation in favor of the peoples

The Governments of Cuba and Venezuela strengthen projects in the areas of health, science and technology, agriculture, food and telecommunications, within the agreement they maintain for more than two decades, at the initiative of Commanders Hugo Chávez and Fidel Castro.

Upon receiving Ricardo Cabrisas, Cuban Deputy Prime Minister and co-president of the Intergovernmental Commission of the Cuba-Venezuela Comprehensive Cooperation Agreement at the Miraflores Palace in Caracas, the President of the Republic, Nicolás Maduro, highlighted the purpose for which both countries work: "To achieve the attention and satisfaction of our peoples in the Bolivarian concept of the greatest happiness possible."

After meeting with the Cuban high representative, the Head of State announced that another 16 million doses of Abdala anti-COVID vaccine will arrive, which will begin to be produced in the country as of 2022. Thus, cooperation in the pharmaceutical area is expanded. Medicines for 30,000 patients with diabetic foot are already being produced in Venezuela, thanks to the Cuban cooperation.

The meeting with President Maduro is part of the agenda of Cabrisas in the country, which included meetings with representatives of the Ministries of Science and Technology, Health, Agricultural Production and Land.

PHOTO: COURTESY

More multilateralism and cooperation in the face of inequality

The Executive Vice President, Delcy Rodríguez, once again denounced the inequitable access to vaccines against Covid-19 and the aggravation of social inequality in the midst of the pandemic, which has left 114 million unemployed and 120 million people in extreme poverty in the world.

While more than 73% of vaccines are under the control of 10 countries, "the poorest have become poorer" and inequality has increased, since "a small minority owns the wealth of the majority of the world's population," she said during her participation, by telematic means, in the 7th World Investment Forum, organized by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

She warned that to this situation is added the imposition of unilateral coercive measures against countries such as Venezuela, which is facing attempts to prevent it from accessing vaccines, medicines and the Special Drawing Rights administered by the International Monetary Fund.



This whole scenario of inequity could delay the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals by a decade, warned the Vice President, who called for the construction of a new financial architecture: "We need more multilateralism and more cooperation."

PHOTO: COURTESY

CAPSULES OF IDEAS

"Socialism liberates; socialism is democracy and democracy is socialism politically, socially, economically."

Hugo Chávez, Timon Coup, October 20th, 2012

NEWS BRIEF



For the normalization of relations

The National Assembly created a commission that will work on the normalization of relations with Colombia, in response to a proposal received from the Senate of the neighboring country to further advance in that task. President Nicolás Maduro expressed his support for this initiative: "We have to resolve our differences in peace and, likewise, regularize and normalize commercial and productive relations."

PHOTO: COURTESY

The truth against colonialism

To save future generations from contemporary colonialism, it is essential to close the cultural and historical abyss that feeds this practice, said the Minister for Culture, Ernesto Villegas, at the XXI Ibero-American Conference of Ministers of the area. He also reiterated the proposal to establish a Truth Commission to study the genocide against the native people during the Spanish conquest.

Carter Center will send electoral mission

After accepting the invitation of the National Electoral Council, the Carter Center will send an International Mission of Electoral Experts for the November 21 elections in Venezuela. The organization, which sent an exploratory mission to the national drill on October 10, joins the UN, the European Union, Ceela, among many other observers and international companions for these elections.

Rejection of new US aggression

The Government of Venezuela rejected the visit of the Secretary of State of the United States, Antony Blinken to Colombia, for being part of the strategy of systematic aggression against our country. Through a statement, it expresses that the administration of President Joe Biden "still has time to rectify and avoid conducting a hostile foreign policy towards Venezuela," whose only fate will be failure.



UNBLOCK



Kidnapping of Alex Saab lays bare tentacles of the blockade

The case of the Venezuelan diplomat Alex Saab, kidnapped in Cape Verde and now in the United States, is revealing how through the economic blockade the Venezuelan agri-food system is attacked, which since 2014 suffers a breakdown in production due to a multiform war, with “simultaneous elements through different actions applied by the United States to weaken the Venezuelan National Power,” explained the researcher Clara Sánchez.

At the “Food blockade and the Alex Saab case” forum, in Caracas, Sánchez explained that a combination of media, economic and diplomatic actions are used to besiege mechanisms such as the Local Supply and Production Committees (Clap in Spanish), which monthly distributes food to more than 7 million families throughout the country. For contributing to that program, as well as bringing medicine and fuel to Venezuela, Saab was illegally detained more than a year ago in Cape Verde, at Washington’s request.

Saab, in addition, was the victim of a second political kidnapping with his extradition to the United States on October 16, in a move that ignored two judgments of the Court of Justice of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) that ordered the release of the diplomat, subjected to a flawed process, in which “all fundamental rights, international law and the sovereignty of the Venezuelan State” were systematically violated, said lawyer Indrhiana Parada, of the Free Alex Saab movement.

The accusations against the Venezuelan diplomat “have insufficient legal justification to be considered a real crime,” said Parada, who called on the international community to demand Saab’s release.

Faced with this escalation, Venezuela must continue to denounce the criminalization of its activities, transactions and officials, as what occurred with our Special Envoy Saab, victim of “a terrible situation of violation of Human Rights,” said the Deputy Minister of Anti-Blockade Policies, William Castillo.

PHOTO: ARCHIVE/ COURTESY

REVOLUTION IN PROGRESS



Communal organization contributes to the integral development of the country

Near the shores of the eastern state of Anzoátegui, Venezuela celebrated a milestone in the organization of People’s Power: the certification of the communal council of El Edén, the 49,000th registered in the country.

The communal councils articulate projects for local development, in areas such as agricultural production and self-construction of houses. These instances of direct participation born in 2006 are the bases of the communes, another figure of popular organization that promotes projects of greater impact on the development and transformation of the communities. In Venezuela, more than 3,000 communes heed the call of Commander Hugo Chávez in his speech known as Golpe de Timón (a call to guarantee the construction of socialism in Venezuela), of 20th of October 2012, with the expression “Commune or nothing!”: to promote local development with a strategic and productive vision, as part of the planning of the Venezuelan State.

“We must fulfill the dream of Comandante Chávez: that all the communes be productive,” said from Caracas the President of the Republic, Nicolás Maduro, who received from Hugo Chávez the task of advancing in the development of the communes, which plans to continue with the conformation of the communal cities.

In that sense, he committed to establish with the communes formed in the Wairairarepano National Park, in the capital region, the first of the 309 communal cities that are estimated to be established, after the law that will govern these new forms of organization is approved, to exercise sovereignty and the protagonist participation of the people as part of the construction of the Communal State.

On the day of the ninth anniversary of the Golpe de Timón, 118 new Mission Bases were also activated, for a total of 1,605 spaces of this type, which serve more than one million vulnerable families.

PHOTO: PRESIDENTIAL PRESS

VENEZUELA IN IMAGES



Altar of heroes and heroines

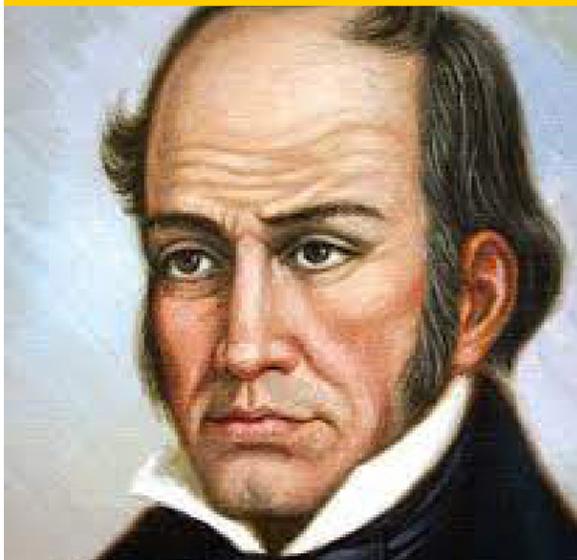
North of Caracas, the National Pantheon exalts the greatness of our gentile. Inaugurated on October 28, 1875, the following year it received the remains of the Liberator Simón Bolívar. Gradually, heroines have entered, such as Luisa Cáceres

de Arismendi; heroes, such as Rafael Urdaneta; artists, such as pianist Teresa Carreño; indigenous leaders, such as Guaicaipuro, among other figures of our national history.

IMAGE: COURTESY



HEROIC ROOTS



Simón Rodríguez, Master of Free Republics

His life was marked by the vocation to educate, with the horizon set in a liberating education. Simón Rodríguez insisted on sowing in his students, including the most brilliant of all, Simón Bolívar, ideas not only to break ignorance but also to lay the foundations for truly free nations. Born in Caracas on October 28, 1769, he stood out because he studied great thinkers from a very young age. As a profesor at the School of Reading and Writing for Children, today Casa de las Primeras Letras, he met the future Liberator. They developed a strong and lasting friendship, decisive for the history of Venezuela.

Support for the independence struggle leads Rodríguez into exile. In 1797, under the name of Samuel Robinson, he left abroad and traveled for several years to Jamaica, France, the United States, England, Germany, Prussia, Russia, the Netherlands, Poland and Italy, where he witnessed the oath of commitment to independence, made by Bolívar when he was 22. He also expanded his studies in languages, pedagogy, philosophy and other areas, without leaving teaching aside.

Already in America, Bolívar appointed him in 1824 Director of Public Education and Director of Mines, Agriculture and Public Roads of Bolivia. Revolutionary and creative, he is in addition to the Liberator and Ezequiel Zamora, leader of the Federal Revolution, one of the main pillars of the tree of three roots, a synthesis of the founding ideas of the Bolivarian Revolution structured by Commander Hugo Chávez.

Rodríguez summarized his conviction in the freedom and self-determination of peoples in one of his best-known ideas: "Spanish America is original, its institutions and its government must be original, and its means of founding one and the other must be original. Either we invent, or we fail."

PHOTO: COURTESY

BEATS OF OUR PEOPLE



Ali Primera, the voice of the people made the necessary song

"I do not sing because there is misery, but because there is the possibility of erasing it, of eradicating it from the face of the earth," said Ali Primera, poet, singer and activist who dedicated his life to fight against injustice and inequality, always on the side of the Venezuelan people.

Ely Rafael Primera Rossell, our Ali, was born on October 31, 1941, in Coro, Falcón, in the northwestern part of the country. Raised by his mother and his brothers, at a young age he worked at different jobs without abandoning his academic training.

In Caracas, at the age of 19, he began to study chemistry at the Central University of Venezuela, where he also dedicated himself to refining his lyrics. In 1967, he gained great notoriety in Latin America by presenting his song "No Basta Rezar" (Praying is not enough), at the Protest Song Festival, organized by the Andes University, in the

western state of Mérida.

Six years later he recorded his first album in Europe: Gente de mi Tierra (People of my land). Upon returning to Venezuela, he encountered a record veto by the oligarchy. Due to this, Alí, who recorded 13 albums, created the Cigarrón label, to spread his music and that of other artists such as Lilia Vera, Los Guaraguao and his brother José Montecano.

Then in 1999, with the arrival of the Bolivarian Revolution, Commander Hugo Chávez rescued the music and lyrics of the Singer of the People, who died in 1985: "Alí, your song was always a weapon for the fight, your example and your guitar are recorded on our flags."

It was a recognition of a man who composed lyrics to make the "necessary song", because, as he himself said: "A man armed with a song and human poetry, is an unarmed man for envy and malice."

PHOTO: ARCHIVE /COURTESY

UNCOVERING FAKE NEWS

The extreme right and its double "electoral" discourse

Coherence and honesty are two principles absent in the actions and the media discourse of Venezuela's extreme right, especially from the fugitive from justice Leopoldo López and former deputy Juan Guaidó, involved in the theft of assets of the Republic and in anti-democratic plans. Less than a month before regional and municipal elections, to be held on November 21, both have an abstentionist discourse, even though the sector they represent nominated candidates for 23 governorships, 335 municipalities, 253 state legislators and 2,471 councilors.

This double discourse has even been criticized by the High Representative for Foreign and Security Policy of the European Union (EU), Josep Borrell, who declared that both Guaidó and López seek to "dynamite" the EU Election Observer Mission, present in Venezuela by invitation of the National Electoral Council (CNE in Spanish). "López, Guaidó and their representatives in the European

Parliament do not want the mission to be carried out despite the fact that their political parties present themselves" for the elections, he said.

And 70% of the 70,244 candidates come from opposition parties, which also participate in the audits of the electoral event, currently progressing according to what is established in the schedule, including the start of the electoral campaign on October 28 and the installation of 1,000 booths for the Electoral Fair, a strategy for communicating candidacies and forms of voting.

The abstentionist call of López and Guaidó is replicated by media based in Miami, Bogota and Madrid, and they hide the fact that right-wing parties participate and endorse the audit processes established by the CNE. Thus, while the opposition candidates are campaigning, the media setting that supports them is paradoxically torn between denying participation and spreading their electoral propaganda.