



Ministry of People's Power for Foreign Affairs

Weekly Newsletter / April 29th 2022



Venezuela calls to investigate the impact of the blockade on the working class

The US blockade affects the quality of life of all sectors of Venezuela, especially the working class. However, it is not an exclusive reality of the country, which is why the Bolivarian Government urges the International Labor Organization (ILO) to investigate how Unilateral Coercive Measures (UCM) disrupt the enjoyment of Human Rights of millions of workers of 30 countries, such as Cuba, Nicaragua, Russia, China and Iran, which are under a regime of illegal sanctions.

"I would ask you for a line of research on the economy of the blocked countries, which are more than 30 countries. What happens to the workers in those countries? How do the blockades affect the workers and employers of those countries?" Executive Vice President, Delcy Rodríguez stated during the installation of the Social Dialogue Forum, which brought together this week in Caracas representatives of the Bolivarian Government, the ILO and 120 union delegates.

At the meeting, Rodríguez explained how the aggression of the US and its European allies has raged against the oil industry, the main producer of foreign currency income. As a consequence, profits

from crude oil sales went from 65,000 million dollars in 2008 to 743 million in 2020, and this had an impact on the wages of workers, whose social protection has been a priority in government policies.

Faced with this panorama of pandemic and blockade, the Venezuelan labor force has not fainted and has been the key to the country's economic recovery, which has left the hyperinflationary cycle behind since the end of 2021.

This new scenario "has been thanks to the workers of Venezuela, to their level of consciousness, together with them we found a way to reinvent Venezuela in terms of production," she said.

Trade union protection

The Executive Vice President presented figures on the growth of trade union freedom during the last 23 years in Venezuela. Between 1986 and 1998, only 3,981 new worker organizations were registered, a figure that contrasts with the 6,810 new union groups formed between 1999 and 2022.

Likewise, Rodríguez denounced the precariousness that workers in the richest countries face due to the pandemic, whose governments tend to point to

Constant dialogue for peace

The Bolivarian Government holds meetings with all sectors of the country, in order to discuss proposals that contribute to national well-being, said the president of the National Assembly, Jorge Rodríguez, after the presentation of the preliminary report of the Special Commission for Dialogue of the Legislative Power, on April 20.

"We are going towards a growing process of consolidation of State the welfare which has been so attacked and overwhelmed by unilateral coercive measures (...) and there are issues and wounds that the people want to be treated," Rodríguez added and urged to present a full proposal at the plenary in the coming months.

Venezuela, a country in which the Constitution and laws require the holding of a collective agreement. "In those so-called first world countries there is less collective bargaining (...) less union coverage for workers," she warned.

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DIPLOMACY



Strengthened strategic ties with Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

The President of Venezuela, Nicolás Maduro, received this week in Caracas the Prime Minister of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Ralph Gonsalves, to evaluate the mechanisms of integration and strategic exchange between the two nations.

It was “a fruitful meeting, full of brotherhood, in which we reviewed the cooperation between both countries and the new alliances for the development of our peoples. Long live the Caribbean Union!” the Venezuelan President stated after the meeting, held at the Miraflores Palace.

During his visit to Caracas, Prime Minister Ralph Gonsalves also held a meeting with the Alba Bank

authorities to examine joint projects and explore future plans.

In addition, he participated in the inauguration of the Caracas-Saint Vincent and the Grenadines air route, by the Venezuelan airline Conviasa which will have weekly flights.

With this new air connection alternative, the relation between both countries is further strengthened by shared spaces such as the Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America-Peoples’ Trade Treaty (Alba-TCP), Petrocaribe and the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC).

PHOTO: COURTESY

Chancellor Plasencia visited Cuba and Nicaragua

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Félix Plasencia, met with authorities from Cuba and Nicaragua, in order to evaluate the cooperation agenda for shared development and the promotion of multilateralism. In Managua, he held meetings with his Nicaraguan counterpart, Denis Moncada, to study the bilateral agenda and aspects of the III Mixed Commission, soon to be scheduled; and also met with the President of the National Assembly of that country, Gustavo Porras Cortés.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Venezuela was also received by the President of Nicaragua, Daniel Ortega, and the Vice President, Rosario Murillo, who have historically expressed their support for the Bolivarian Revolution.



During his visit to Havana, Plasencia met with his Cuban counterpart, Bruno Rodríguez. “We continue to strengthen our bilateral relations and carry out a review of the world panorama to undertake joint actions framed in the Diplomacy of Peace,” said the Venezuelan Minister.

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CAPSULES OF IDEAS

“The Venezuelan Nation needs to assert itself and asserts itself by denying the colonial order. It is the logic of revolutions and political movements that, without being revolutionary in the absolute sense, determine profound social transformations and promote human freedom.”

Federico Brito Figueroa. Contemporary Venezuela, colonial country?, 1972

NEWS BRIEF



Support for the palestinian cause

Venezuela reiterated before the United Nations Security Council its support for the cause of the people of Palestine and its rejection of the growing escalation of tensions, “by Israel, which uses the attention that the international community is giving today to other situations of conflict in the world, as an advantage and distraction,” said the Alternate Ambassador, Joaquín Pérez.

PHOTO: COURTESY

Scientific alliance for well-being

Representatives of the scientific community of Russia and Venezuela evaluated cooperation strategies in Caracas to promote collective health and common well-being. With the Eurasian country, “we have a broad agenda for research and innovation in areas of strategic interest,” said the Venezuelan Minister of Science and Technology, Gabriela Jiménez.

Timely financing for development

When participating in the UN Economic and Social Council Forum on Financing for Development, Venezuela warned that the current international situation puts at risk the timely achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. In this sense, “we must create new conditions for financing development,” said the Vice Minister of Multilateral Affairs, Rubén Molina, who reiterated the harmful effects of Unilateral Coercive Measures.

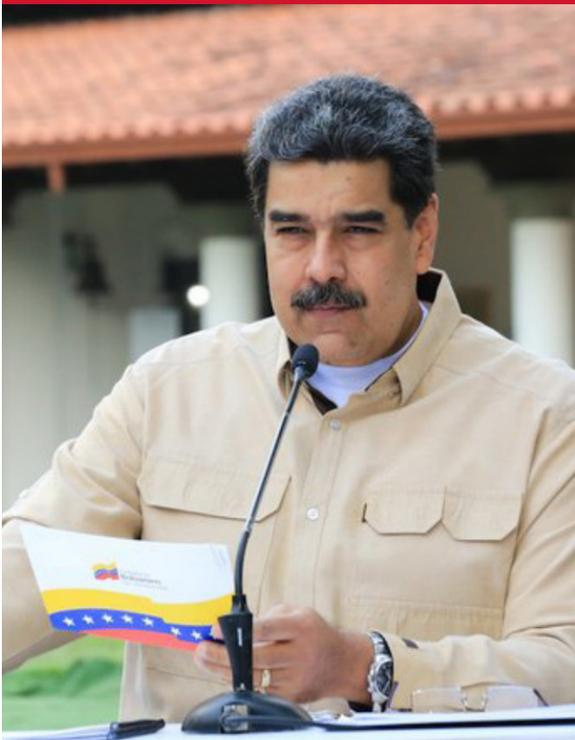
CNE receives recommendations from UN experts

The president of the National Electoral Council (CNE), Pedro Calzadilla, received the recommendations of the panel of experts sent by the United Nations Organization (UN) to witness the elections of governors and mayors on November 21. During the meeting, Calzadilla thanked the specialists for their work in the process.



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UNBLOCK



Anti-boomerang plan against the effects of sanctions on Russia

The unilateral coercive measures (UCM) imposed on Russia, in the midst of the conflict with Ukraine, have an impact on the energy market and on food access. Given the magnitude of these ravages, Venezuela is preparing a special plan to counteract the boomerang effect of the so-called sanctions, imposed from the United States (USA) and Europe.

The effect of these actions "has hit the economy of Europe, the US and the world, it has generated an inflation record in the US, the highest in 40 years," said Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro, who warned that this situation will maintain for months regarding items such as wheat, soybeans and yellow corn.

Faced with this situation, the Executive Vice President, Delcy Rodríguez; Members of the Vice Presidency for the Economic Area and producers will devise actions to supply the national market, with tariff and parafiscal policies.

Another key element is the prevention of the inflationary impact of the current crisis. In that sense, consumer education will be essential to address practices that encourage speculation.

non-neutral economy

President Maduro reiterated the call to lift the UCMs "because they are aberrant" against economies and the rights of entire populations. The actions against Russia show that the economy "is not neutral, the dollar is not neutral and that international banks are not neutral, that many of the so-called multilateral institutions are at the service of politics, ideology and the power struggle of those who rule in the United States and in Europe."

PHOTO: COURTESY

REVOLUTION IN PROGRESS



Barrio Adentro begins a new stage to strengthen the health system

In 19 years, the Barrio Adentro Mission realized the dream of Commanders Hugo Chávez and Fidel Castro: to turn cooperation into a tool of well-being for the peoples. More than 1,496 million medical attentions rendered in that time are examples of this.

Through this mission, which unites the effort of Cuban doctors with Venezuelan professionals, 174 million services were offered in almost Two Decades in Integral Rehabilitation Rooms; 3.2 million surgical interventions of different pathologies and 6 million ophthalmological operations were performed, with the Miracle Mission.

All these efforts were the basis of the deployment of the health brigades of Barrio Adentro since the arrival of COVID-19 in our country, as 95% of those infected received care through this Mission and the Public Health System.

"To you, Barrio Adentro Mission, belong the achievements and success of the Venezuelan

model in the fight against the pandemic," said the President of the Republic, Nicolás Maduro, at the anniversary ceremony of the Mission, held in Caracas on April 21.

A New stage

The Barrio Adentro Mission will enter another phase with the 3r.NEST transformation scheme, designed for a new era of transition to socialism.

In the case of the mission, this scheme will be applied under the principles of "Resistance together with popular power, the Revival of the idea of the Barrio Adentro Mission project of primary and preventive care, and Revolutionize what is necessary," said the Head of State.

In addition, the recovery of offices and the training of new professionals will be maintained from spaces such as the Salvador Allende Latin American School of Medicine, which will receive 30,000 students.

PHOTO: COURTESY



VENEZUELA IN IMAGES

A golden karateka

The athlete Yorgelis Salazar won the gold in Kumite, category -50kg, in the 1K Premiere League of Karate, in Portugal, after defeating Turkish Serap Ozcelik Arapoglu 6-0, first in the global ranking of the specialty. The Venezuelan woman thus obtained her

first victory in a Premier League and her third international award of the year. "We are proud of you, our champion!" said the President of the Republic, Nicolás Maduro.

PHOTO: COURTESY



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BEATS OF OUR PEOPLE

Women ratify commitment against inequality and injustice

The tenacity, intelligence and determination of women is essential to consolidate equality and peace in a world without violence and injustice. This has been expressed by leaders gathered at the XVII Congress of the International Democratic Federation of Women (FEDIM), held in Caracas from the 25th to the 30th of April.

During the installation of the event, in which 139 delegates from 27 countries participate, the Minister for Women and Gender Equality, Diva Guzmán, recalled that the Bolivarian Revolution has contributed to the empowerment of Venezuelan women, since it laid the foundations for “the construction of the legal architecture in the rights of women,” with instruments such as the Law of Humanized Childbirth and the creation of the Feminist School of the South.

Likewise, she highlighted the strength of women in the face of the US blockade, which has Venezuelan women among its main victims. “We have demon-

strated our creative resistance capabilities to confront the harsh situation imposed on us,” she added. The effect of the persecution against Venezuela was also denounced by the president of the National Preparatory Committee for the event, Maritza Rossette, referring to the harassment of several attendees of this congress in various airports around the world, just for coming to our country.

For her part, the coordinator of the FEDIM for the Arab countries, Aida Nasrallah, considered this space as a fundamental spear to “confront a savage capitalist imperialism” that attacks women in the world. One of these aggressions, she warned, is the blockade against Venezuela, “which has threatened the security, food, medicine of the people.”

Parallel to this event, the Venezuelan Congress of Women continues, an activity that debates, from the popular power, proposals and projects in favour of this sector and that will culminate on May 31st.

PHOTO: COURTESY

UNCOVERING FAKE NEWS

Conjuring Violence to Protect Economic Recovery

The economic improvement in Venezuela is palpable. Since 2021, in the midst of the pandemic and despite the brutal blockade, our country has been overcoming the cycle of induced hyperinflation and shows more evidence of a recovery, to the point that a body such as Credit Suisse projects, for this year, a growth of 20 % for our country.

To consolidate this trend, peace is essential. Acts of sabotage and the promotion of violent actions cause severe damage to the economy, as the country already experienced in 2014 with the seditious plan called “La Salida,” which left 44 murdered and caused economic losses of 10,000 million dollars, and with the insurrectionary manoeuvres activated in 2017, which caused more than 150 deaths and millions in damage to the public and private sectors.

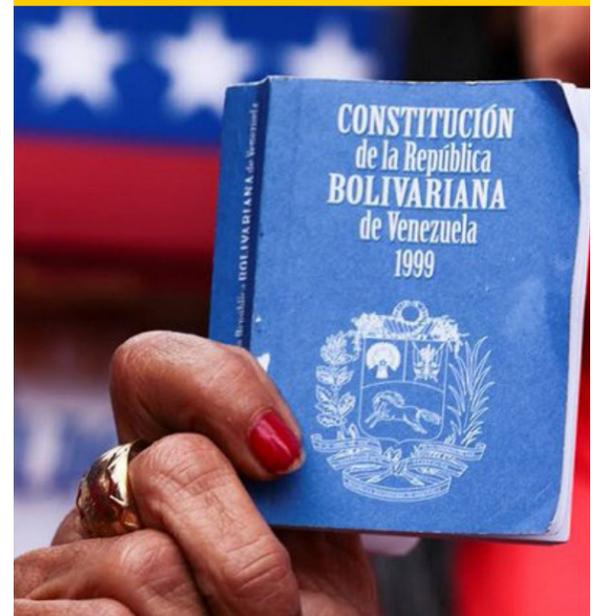
In both moments, incitement to hatred was one

of the triggers of violence, as is being done today with campaigns that seek to reactivate the vandalism of groups encouraged by extremist sectors. “There are those who are paying for campaigns out there, through social networks to once again promote hatred and division among Venezuelans,” warned the President of the Republic, Nicolás Maduro.

In an activity held in Caracas on April 20th, he warned about the action of sectors that seek to “fill our country with violence, again, with some kind of guarimba, sabotage,” for which he urged to promote unity, add efforts and continue to consolidate the path of economic growth.

The call reaffirmed the president, is clear: “Let no one sabotage the process of gradual recovery of the economy, of happiness, of Venezuelan tranquillity and peace!”

HEROIC ROOTS



Unprecedented referendum laid the foundations for the Fifth Republic

During his investiture as Head of State, on February 2nd, 1999, Commander Hugo Chávez swore to consult the people if they wanted to refund the Homeland with a new Constitution that would promote participatory and protagonist democracy, and that would leave behind the exclusionary model of the Carta Magna enacted in 1961.

“I swear before the Homeland, I swear before my people that on this moribund Constitution I will promote the necessary democratic transformations so that the new Republic has a Carta Magna adequate to the new times. I swear,” were his words, which he honoured two months later.

Thus, on April 25th, 1999, the first consultative referendum in our history was held. With 87.75% of the votes, the proposal for a National Constituent Assembly was approved; in the same consultation, 81.77% of the voters voted in favour of the electoral bases to elect the members of the plenipotentiary body.

With this referendum, in addition, the way was opened for broad participation in electoral events, such as the consultation to approve the current Bolivarian Constitution, in 1999, and the referendum for the constitutional amendment, in 2009. For these reasons, April 25th, 1999 “is a memorable day, it is a day of the people and it is a day for the people, for the glory of the brave Venezuelan people,” Commander Chávez added.

The value of that historical event is vindicated today, when working on a new system of government connected with the Communal Power. As President Nicolás Maduro has said, “23 years later, we continue to build the Socialist Homeland.”

PHOTO: COURTESY