



HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL - 43rd SESSION

High Commissioner's oral update on the situation of human rights in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela [A/HRC/RES/42/25](#)

10 March 2020

Ms Michelle Bachelet – High Commissioner for Human Rights:

There are still **political tensions** and violence perpetrated by **security forces** in Venezuela. OHCHR documented aggressions against members of the **political opposition and journalists**. Security forces did not act to prevent such aggressions.

OHCHR is concerned by the **legislation sanctioning human rights** organizations that receive finance from abroad as well as a public announcements against **NGOs**. Harassment against **university** authorities and restrictions on **trade union** liberties with arrestations of leaders, are also documented. Regarding **economic and social rights**, OHCHR is concerned by new **economic sanctions**, particularly those affecting air companies and oil industry in Venezuela.

There are still big problems of importation of **food, health and humanitarian aid**. It is still of utmost importance to address the situation of **Venezuelan children**. Recent survey of FAO shows that 2.3m people are suffering **severe food insecurity**. Situation of **people that left the country**: 4.9m individuals. OHCHR deplores **xenophobic** statements and actions by authorities of these countries against refugees from Venezuela.

It is possible to **reach the necessary political agreement** to ensure fair, transparent and peaceful elections. OHCHR appeals all parties to act in a way to make this possible.

Venezuela – Country concerned

Venezuela regrets that presentation from the High-Commissioner **lacks balanced approach**. It is easy to see the **influence of media campaign against Venezuela** in Ms Bachelet's statement.

Resolution [A/HRC/RES/42/25](#) against Venezuela, voted by the council, is a **politically motivated** one. Many countries that advocated for it are committing human rights violations within their borders.

Resolution [A/HRC/RES/42/4](#) on strengthening cooperation in area of HR in Venezuela in 2019 by the HRC has the **approval of the Venezuelan State**.

It is important to maintain **cooperation and dialogue between Venezuela and OHCHR**, which have received full support from Venezuelan government bodies. It is a **relevant and necessary cooperation**. The High-Commissioner Office assists in drafting the second human rights plan in Venezuela as well as drafting a national follow up mechanism to the recommendations of the human rights organisms.

Venezuela reiterates its **invitations to the Special Rapporteur** on negative impact of unilateral measures as well as the Special Rapporteur on the right to development, to visit Venezuela.

The Trump administration used the Monroe Doctrine once again by imposing a **total blockade** against Venezuela, which can be described as **crime against humanity**. USA robbed Venezuela 16 billion \$.

Interactive Dialogue Participants – States:

Asia-Pacific States: Pakistan (on behalf of the OIC). **Western Europe and Other States:** Croatia (on behalf of the European Union). **Latin American and Caribbean States:** Venezuela (on behalf of a group of countries), Peru (on behalf of a group of countries)