



FORUM: Special Political and Decolonization Committee (SPECPOL)

TOPIC: Reestablishing Political Stability in Venezuela post the US intervention

STUDENT OFFICER: Panagiota Katsifi

POSITION: Co-Chair

PERSONAL INTRODUCTION

Dear delegates,

My name is Panagiota Katsifi, and I have the utmost honor of serving as one of the Co-Chairs of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee at the 5th AML MUN conference, where we will address the theme: "Countdown to 2030: measuring progress, holding accountability and finalizing policies on SDGs". I am a 12th-year student at Greek-French school "Jeanne d' Arc", and this will be my 11th conference, as well as my second time as a Student Officer.

In this study guide, you will find valuable information on the first topic of the committee's agenda regarding the reestablishment of political stability in Venezuela following the US intervention. However, I strongly encourage you to also conduct research on your own, so that you gain a thorough understanding of your country's policy and thus you are able to make the most of this conference! Whether you have any questions on this topic or anything else related to the conference, feel free to contact me via my email: pkatsifi@gmail.com

TOPIC INTRODUCTION

Though the US-Venezuela conflict became a headline due to the well-known invasion that the US launched in 2026 against Venezuela and the abduction of its president, Nicolas Maduro, it has been going on for several years. The relations between the two countries started falling apart in 1999, after Hugo Chavez, a left-wing populist became president of Venezuela. Upon his death in 2013, the presidency went to Nicolas Maduro, and from that moment on the tension began intensifying both internationally and within the country.

The tension spiked in 2019, during Trump's first term as the US president, when the US backed Maduro's political rival, Juan Guaido, in a conflict regarding the 2018 elections, and also imposed sanctions, very similar to the sanctions imposed on Cuba, Iran and North Korea, such as prohibiting their access to US financial markets and blocking the government's and Petróleos de Venezuela, S.A. (PdVSA) assets and transactions. At the same time, the country internally faced a severe economic and humanitarian crisis, which included hyperinflation, extreme poverty, lack of access to



food, water and medical care, and a significant wave of emigration, owing to systemic corruption, governmental mismanagement, as well as the decline of oil production and prices.

In the 2024 elections, the US did not recognize Maduro's win, with the US Secretary of State, Antony Blinken, saying that there were "serious concerns that the result announced does not reflect the will or the votes of the Venezuelan people",¹ because the country's electoral council did not provide the necessary public evidence, and external observers stated that Edmundo Gonzalez, candidate of the main opposing political alliance Unitary Platform, actually won the majority of votes. Furthermore, in the same elections, the main political rival of Maduro, Maria Corina Machado, was forbidden from entering the presidential run due to a conviction for corruption. However, many international observers consider this conviction to be fabricated. During Trump's second term, the US increased pressure, since they deployed naval forces and launched attacks to tackle maritime narcotics trafficking near the coast of Venezuela, while also doubling the reward (to 50 million dollars²) for information leading to the arrest of Maduro as the head of a terrorist organization, the Cartel de los Soles, and further expanding their military presence in the region.

In the early hours of January 3rd 2026, the US conducted a military operation named 'Absolute Resolve', according to which President Maduro and his wife, Cilia Flores, were captured and transported to New York. Furthermore, it is reported that at least 40 Venezuelan civilians as well as 32 Cuban soldiers were killed in strikes around the capital, Caracas.³ The US administration framed the operation as part of their campaign against illegal drug trafficking. Therefore, Maduro and his wife were charged with engaging in a narco-conspiracy with designated terrorist groups, to traffic cocaine into the US, and possessing and using illegal weapons. After the attack, President Trump suggested that the operation aimed at forcing regime change, claiming that the US "will run the country until such time as [they] can do a safe,

¹ Kingston, Shannon K. "US Officials Voice 'Serious Concerns' over Contested Outcome of Venezuela Election - ABC News." *ABC News*, 30 July 2024, [US officials voice "serious concerns" over contested outcome of Venezuela election - ABC News](#). Accessed 18 July 2026.

² Seddon, Sean. "US Offers \$50m Reward for Arrest of Venezuela's Nicolás Maduro." *BBC News*, BBC, 8 Aug. 2025, [US offers \\$50m reward for arrest of Venezuela's Nicolás Maduro](#). Accessed 21 Aug. 2026.

³ Jutten, Marc, and Angelos Delivorias. "The US Military Intervention in Venezuela and the Regional and Geopolitical Context." *EPRS | European Parliamentary Research Service*, Jan. 2026, [The US military intervention in Venezuela and the regional and geopolitical context](#) Accessed 05 Aug. 2026.

proper and judicious transition”.⁴ However, the exploitation of Venezuela's oil reserves is believed to be one of the attack's main goals.⁵

The attack is considered illegal by international experts, as criminal charges do not provide legal authority to invade a foreign country and arrest their President, who also has head of state immunity. Venezuela had not declared war or conducted an attack against the US. Thus, the US violated their sovereignty according to the UN Charter Article 2 (4) stating that “all members shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state.”⁶ In addition, Trump's administration violated the US constitution, because the Congress had not authorized a military intervention, which cannot be considered a law enforcement mission due to the scale of use of military equipment.

The state of Venezuela, following the attack, was declared in a state of emergency, which allowed the expansion of armed forces and arrests. Two days following the attack, Vice-President Delcy Rodríguez was sworn in as an interim President. According to the Venezuelan constitution, she can serve up to 180 days, as Maduro's absence is considered temporary. Since the January attack, she has condemned the US' invasion, characterizing it as kidnapping, organizing public rallies asking for the President's release and supporting the country's sovereignty. Nevertheless, she has also adopted economic reforms that allow greater foreign investment in the country's oil production and made agreements according to which PdVSA's (Petróleos de Venezuela, S.A.) oil revenues will not go directly to the Venezuelan government, but instead, be deposited into U.S. controlled accounts, giving US significant power over Venezuela's oil income.

DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS

Populism

“a political approach that claims to champion the common person against a perceived elite. It combines left and right-wing elements, often opposing big business while also being critical of established liberal, socialist, and labor parties.”⁷

⁴ “Trump Says US Will ‘Run’ Venezuela after Nicolás Maduro Captured and Taken to New York | US Attack on Venezuela | the Guardian.” *The Guardian*, 4 Jan. 2026, [Trump says US will ‘run’ Venezuela after Nicolás Maduro captured and taken to New York | US attack on Venezuela | The Guardian](#) . Accessed 18 July 2026.

⁵ Sherman, Natalie, and Shanaz Musafer. “Maduro Says Trump Wants Venezuela's Oil. But Is That the Real US Goal?” *BBC News*, BBC, 12 Dec. 2025, [Maduro says Trump wants Venezuela's oil. But is that the real US goal?](#) . Accessed 06 Aug. 2026.

⁶ “United Nations Charter (Full Text).” *United Nations*, [United Nations Charter \(full text\) | United Nations](#) . Accessed 06 Aug. 2026.

⁷ “Populism | History, Facts, & Examples | Britannica.” *Britannica*, 7 July 2026, [Populism | History, Facts, & Examples | Britannica](#) . Accessed 31 July 2026.

Cartel de los Soles

Also known as the Cartel of the Suns is a term used to describe “groups within Venezuela’s armed forces, implicated in a wide range of criminal activities, including gasoline smuggling, illegal mining, and other corruption schemes – most notably drug trafficking.”⁸ According to the US Secretary of State, Marco Rubio, it is “headed by Nicolás Maduro and other high-ranking individuals of the illegitimate Maduro regime who have corrupted Venezuela’s military, intelligence, legislature, and judiciary.”⁹ It was characterized by the US as a Foreign Terrorist Organization.

Interim President

Interim President means “an individual temporarily fulfilling the role of President in the absence of the incumbent for a temporary period.”¹⁰

Petrostate

Petrostate is a “a country where government income is deeply reliant on the export of oil and natural gas, economic and political power are highly concentrated, political institutions are weak and unaccountable, and corruption is widespread.”¹¹

Shadow fleet

The shadow fleet, also known as the dark fleet, “refers to a group of tankers and support vessels that rely on deceptive shipping practices to move sanctioned or high-risk commodities while concealing their true origin, ownership, or destination.”¹²

The Carter Center

The Carter Center is a US based non-profit organization which “observed the first election in Venezuela in 1998, and then continued to observe more elections, conduct media training, and undertake conflict resolution efforts to strengthen peace and democracy. Throughout the years, the Center has tried to address the widening chasm between the people in power and the opposition parties.”¹³

⁸ “Cartel of the Suns.” *InSight Crime*, 16 Jan. 2026, [Cartel of the Suns profile](#) . Accessed 31 July 2026.

⁹ “Terrorist Designations of Cartel de Los Soles.” *U.S. Department of State*, 16 Nov. 2025, [Terrorist Designations of Cartel de los Soles - United States Department of State](#) . Accessed 31 July 2026.

¹⁰ “Interim President Definition.” *Law Insider*, 7 July 2025, [Interim President Definition | Law Insider](#) . Accessed 06 Aug. 2026.

¹¹ Roy, Diana, and Amelia Cheatham. “Venezuela: The Rise and Fall of a Petrostate.” *Council on Foreign Relations*, 31 July 2024, [Venezuela: The Rise and Fall of a Petrostate | Council on Foreign Relations](#) . Accessed 31 July 2026.

¹² “What Is a Dark Fleet or Shadow Fleet?” *International Maritime Rescue Federation*, [What is a dark fleet or shadow fleet? | International Maritime Rescue Federation](#) . Accessed 31 July 2026.

¹³ “Venezuela.” *The Carter Center*, 18 May 2026, [Venezuela - The Carter Center](#) . Accessed 13 Aug. 2026.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Venezuela: A Petrostate

Venezuela, considered a petrostate, possesses the largest proven oil reserves in the world, estimated at 303 billion barrels as of 2023, (5 times larger than the US), while also having the 9th largest natural gas reserves.¹⁴ Hugo Chávez became Venezuela's president in 1999, promising to minimize corruption, end poverty and inequality, and reshape the old political system. Thus, a new constitution, expanding presidential power, was approved, and the oil sector was nationalized, as the country gradually transformed into a more authoritarian state. However, the country's financial dependence on oil expanded, as oil production during his presidency was significantly reduced. After Chávez's death (2013), Maduro's governance worsened the situation, leading to critical underinvestment in the sector and to a long and stable decline in Venezuela's oil production, from 3.4 million barrels of oil per day produced in 1998 to roughly 1 million barrels in 2025.¹⁵ Simultaneously, as the inflation rate in April 2026 reached the highest in the world, 387.4%,¹⁶ its gross domestic product (GDP) faced a decline of approximately 75% between 2014 and 2021,¹⁷ and the imposition of US sanctions brought to light the country's chronic weaknesses.

Relations between Venezuela and the US

Until 1999, the US and Venezuela collaborated closely regarding oil commerce. Then, in 2005 the US first sanctioned Venezuela due to their lack of cooperation concerning anti-drug and anti-terrorism efforts, targeting mostly stakeholders that were involved in drug trafficking and financial aid to Hezbollah. During Obama's and Trump's first administrations, the sanctions expanded to the government, individuals and the oil sector, including targeting oil shipments to Cuba. More specifically, the US imposed sanctions on Venezuela and its state energy company *Petróleos de Venezuela, S.A. (PdVSA)*, because of which "All property and interests in property of the government of Venezuela that are in the United States ... are blocked and may not be transferred, paid, exported, withdrawn, or otherwise dealt in".¹⁸ Moreover, in 2020 Maduro and other Venezuelan officials faced charges concerning narco-terrorism and corruption. Those charges were relaxed by the Biden administration, allowing the

¹⁴ Duggal, Hanna, and Mariam Ali. "What Resources Does Venezuela Have - Apart from the World's Most Oil?" *Al Jazeera*, 8 Jan. 2026, [What resources does Venezuela have — apart from the world's most oil? | US-Venezuela Tensions News | Al Jazeera](#). Accessed 06 Aug. 2026.

¹⁵ Widdershoven, Cyril. "Venezuela's Oil Future at a Crossroads." *Energy Intelligence*, 6 May 2026, [Venezuela's Oil Future at a Crossroads | Energy Intelligence](#). Accessed 06 Aug. 2026.

¹⁶ "Inflation Rate, Average Consumer Prices." *IMF*, International Monetary Fund, Apr. 2026, [World Economic Outlook \(April 2026\) - Inflation rate, average consumer prices](#). Accessed 13 Aug. 2026.

¹⁷ Roy, Diana, and Amelia Cheatham. "Venezuela: The Rise and Fall of a Petrostate." *Council on Foreign Relations*, 31 July 2024, [Venezuela: The Rise and Fall of a Petrostate | Council on Foreign Relations](#). Accessed 31 July 2026.

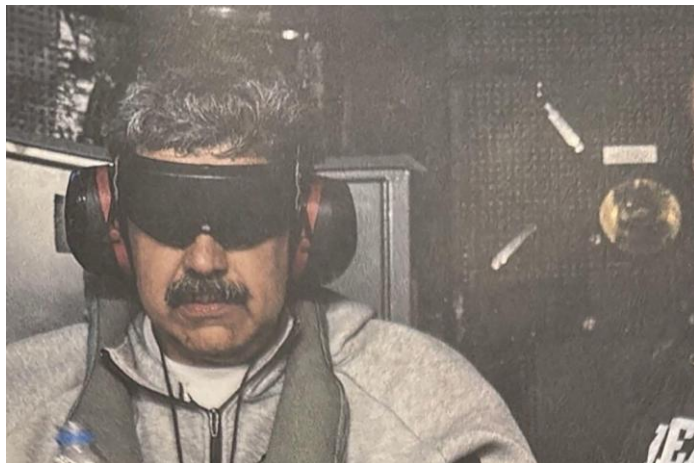
¹⁸ *Federal Register :: Blocking Property of the Government of Venezuela*, 5 Aug. 2019, [Federal Register :: Blocking Property of the Government of Venezuela](#). Accessed 18 July 2026.

Venezuelan state to export oil directly, and consequently strengthening the economy, until there were concerns regarding the legitimacy of the results of the 2024 elections, where María Corina Machado was also prevented from running.

Throughout Trump's second administration, relations between the two countries were exacerbated. In August 2025, the US proceeded with the deployment of vessels near Venezuela, doubled the reward for information that would lead to Maduro's arrest and indicated him as the leader of Cartel de los Soles, which they characterized a Foreign Terrorist Organization. Afterwards, the US launched strikes against vessels off the coast of Venezuela and expanded military presence in the region. Since September, it is reported that 21 US strikes have killed more than 80 people.¹⁹

Operation Absolute Resolve

On the 3rd of January 2026, the US intervened militarily in Venezuela, captured President Nicolás Maduro and his wife Cilia Flores and transported them to New York. More than 40 Venezuelan civilians and 32 Cuban soldiers are reported to have been killed by US strikes around the capital. Maduro and his wife were accused of collaborating in a conspiracy with Cartel de los Soles to traffic cocaine into the US, as well as possessing and using illegal weapons.



President Nicolás Maduro after his capture²⁰

The attack is considered illegal both within the US and internationally. According to the American Constitution, only the Congress, and not the president, has the power to declare war. Because Venezuela had not attacked US territory or military facilities, the US violated Article 2 (4) of the UN Charter, "using force against the territorial integrity or political independence" of Venezuela.²¹ Furthermore, the US violated Maduro's head of State immunity, based on which he is considered immune from legal proceedings by foreign criminal courts for his actions while president. Thus,

¹⁹ Jutten, Marc, and Angelos Delivorias. "The US Military Intervention in Venezuela and the Regional and Geopolitical Context." *EPRS | European Parliamentary Research Service*, Jan. 2026, [The US military intervention in Venezuela and the regional and geopolitical context](#) Accessed 21 Aug. 2026.

²⁰ Mkalward. "Experts React: The US Just Captured Maduro. What's next for Venezuela and the Region?" *Atlantic Council*, 3 Feb. 2026, [Experts react: The US just captured Maduro. What's next for Venezuela and the region? - Atlantic Council](#) . Accessed 31 July 2026.

²¹ "United Nations Charter (Full Text)." *United Nations*, [United Nations Charter \(full text\) | United Nations](#) . Accessed 06 Aug. 2026.

legally they did not have the authority to military attack, bomb and capture the president of another State.

The next day in Venezuela

After the attack, Venezuela was declared in a state of emergency and Vice-President Delcy Rodríguez was sworn in as an interim President. Since January, international observers have reported that wrongly imprisoned captives have been released, while civil society has reclaimed some of her freedom. Nevertheless, there has not been any institutional change to tackle authoritarianism and repression in Venezuela. Maduro's government has not been held accountable for their crimes, nor have they recognized victims of oppression. Moreover, measures to protect the new political system of corruption have not been implemented, neither regarding the independence and impartiality of justice institutions. In March, after seven years, the United States and Venezuela reestablished diplomatic and energy relations, with Trump recognizing Rodríguez as president of Venezuela and complimenting her administration. Rodríguez denies claims that Venezuela is under foreign administration, but the country remains dependent on the US to release its frozen assets, ease sanctions and complete their three-phase process in Venezuela: stabilization, recovery, and transition.

MAJOR COUNTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS INVOLVED

China

Given that 90 % of Venezuelan oil exports were to China in 2025, the Chinese State is a vital partner of Venezuela, interested in diversifying its energy sources, expanding its international influence, as well as competing with the US.²² Through the last two decades, China has loaned around 100 billion dollars to Venezuela,²³ while also has signed in 2023 partnership and investment agreements in order to promote cooperation and protect investments, especially in telecommunications and infrastructure projects. In return, China has received oil and gained access to raw materials, crucial for advanced electronic technologies and military equipment. After the US intervention, China, as well as countries such as Cuba and Russia, heavily criticized the US' attack, calling them out for a violation of international law, and demanding the personal safety and release of Maduro and his wife. Trump's message following the intervention, noting that "American dominance in the western

²² Jutten, Marc, and Angelos Delivorias. "The US Military Intervention in Venezuela and the Regional and Geopolitical Context." *EPRS | European Parliamentary Research Service*, Jan. 2026, [The US military intervention in Venezuela and the regional and geopolitical context](#) Accessed 05 Aug. 2026.

²³ Ahlawat, Sumit. "China's \$100 Billion Gamble on Venezuela in Jeopardy: Is Beijing the 'Biggest Loser' of U.S. Military Ops on Maduro?" *EURASIAN TIMES*, 7 Jan. 2026, [China's \\$100 Billion Gamble On Venezuela In Jeopardy: Is Beijing The "Biggest Loser" Of U.S. Military Ops On Maduro?](#) . Accessed 21 Aug. 2026.

hemisphere will never be questioned again" is considered by many international observers to be mainly directed to China.

United States of America (USA)

The US intervention, which according to international law is considered an action of aggression and military, economic and political coercion, raises concerns regarding US' ability to replace political legitimacy and bring stability in Venezuela. Since the attack violated Venezuela's sovereignty, it is questionable whether Trump's plan to "run" Venezuela, restore infrastructure and judicial transparency and ameliorate their economy will succeed, as it is based on establishing authority rather than democratic independent institutions, similar to the cases of Iraq and Afghanistan.²⁴ Also, the US did not impose the change in the regime that suppressed Venezuelans' rights, as Maduro's vice president Rodriguez is still in office, something also that expresses worry about the true intentions of the intervention.

Venezuela

During Maduro's presidency, the government's tendency to violate democratic values and institutions in order to maintain power, resulted in a dramatic humanitarian crisis, with extreme shortages of food, water, and medical supplies, and almost two million people reliant on international aid. Therefore, the forenamed precarious living conditions urged almost 8 million Venezuelans to flee the country since 2015.

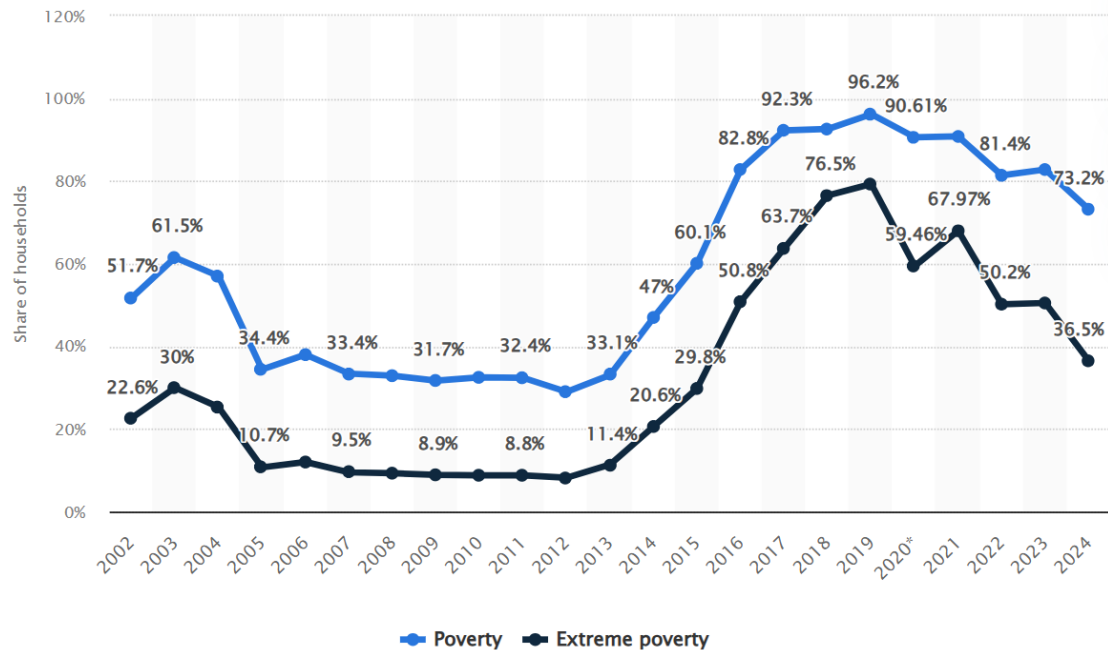
In addition, the Venezuelan State proceeded in restricting freedom of speech, by prosecuting, enforcing disappearance, and torturing those against the government, such as journalists and human rights defenders,²⁵ reportedly manipulating the results of elections and practiced discrimination against indigenous people and the LGBTQ+ community.²⁶ The situation further escalated after the catastrophic earthquakes of

²⁴ Duffy Toft, Monica. "Can the US 'run' Venezuela? Military Force Can Topple a Dictator, but It Cannot Create Political Authority or Legitimacy." *The Conversation*, 9 Apr. 2026, [Can the US 'run' Venezuela? Military force can topple a dictator, but it cannot create political authority or legitimacy](#) . Accessed 31 July 2026.

²⁵ "Venezuela: Enforced Disappearances Amount to Crimes against Humanity." *Amnesty International*, 29 July 2025, [Venezuela: Enforced disappearances amount to crimes against humanity](#) . Accessed 06 Aug. 2026.

²⁶ "Interim Report : UN Panel of Experts – Venezuelan Presidential Elections 28 July 2024." *United Nations*, 9 Aug. 2024, <https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/4062104?v=pdf> . Accessed 31 July 2026.

June in Venezuela that killed more than 5.000 people and resulted in physical damage of 20 billion US dollars.²⁷



Households in poverty and extreme poverty in Venezuela from 2002 to 2024²⁸

Venezuela faces challenges regarding the stabilization of the situation, since the country's political system is characterized by corruption, paramilitary networks and illicit shadow fleet oil trade chains. Therefore, for the stabilization of Venezuela and the following economic and political prosperity, it is crucial to reestablish transparent security and justice democratic institutions, hold fair elections, and minimize dependence on oil revenues, through investments in other sectors and strengthening of education and public services.

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

In 2019, the OHCHR started monitoring the human rights situation in Venezuela. Since then, they published reports, provided technical assistance to the justice system and prisons, and supported victims, in cooperation with the civil society and NGOs. After the attack, the OHCHR advocated for the protection of civilians and democratic principles, while cooperating with humanitarian aid agencies to provide support to vulnerable populations, including food, health care and protection services.

²⁷ Shalal, Andrea. "Venezuela Quakes Caused \$19.6 Billion in Damage, World Bank Report Shows." *Reuters*, 23 July 2026, [Venezuela quakes caused \\$19.6 billion in damage, World Bank report shows | Reuters](#). Accessed 05 Aug. 2026.

²⁸ "Household Poverty Rate in Venezuela 2024." *Statista*, 20 Jan. 2026, [Household poverty rate in Venezuela 2024 | Statista](#). Accessed 01 Aug. 2026.

TIMELINE OF EVENTS

DATE	EVENT
6 th of December 1998	The Carter Center observes for the first time the elections in Venezuela.
2 nd of February 1999	Hugo Chávez is sworn president of Venezuela for the first time.
2005	The US first sanctioned Venezuela over counter-terrorism and anti-drug non-cooperation.
19 th of April 2013	Nicolás Maduro is sworn president for the first time, following Chávez's death.
20 th of January 2017	Trump's first inauguration as the US president.
20 th of May 2018	Venezuela's 2018 Elections, where the US supported Juan Guaido.
28 th April 2019	The US froze all Venezuelan government assets in the US.
20 th of January 2021	Biden's inauguration as the US president.
28 th of July 2024	Controversial Venezuelan elections, with claims of election rigging.
20 th of January 2025.	Trump's second inauguration as the US president.
August-September 2025	The US expanded military activity in Venezuela and attacked vessels.
3 rd of January 2026	The US attacked Venezuela and captured Maduro and his wife.
5 th of January 2026	Rodriguez is sworn as interim president of Venezuela.
5 th of March 2026	The US and Venezuela have diplomatic ties after 7 years.
24 th of June 2026	Earthquake in Venezuela.

RELEVANT UN TREATIES, CONVENTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

UN Charter

The UN Charter, which was reportedly violated by the US, highlights Venezuela's right to be a sovereign and equal state (Article 2(1)) and protected from actions against their territorial integrity and political independence (Article 2(4)).²⁹ It also promotes the need for the disputes between Venezuela and the US to be solved by peaceful measures and diplomacy, rather than military interventions (Articles 33–38),³⁰ something that is essential for the stabilization of Venezuela. The UN charter is crucial, since it supports Venezuela's sovereignty in determining their political and social future, including their leadership, and condemning foreign interventions.

A/HRC/57/L.8 (2024)³¹

This Human Rights Council resolution, extends the presence of the Fact-Finding Mission (FFM) in Venezuela for two more years, due to violation of human rights by the regime, including arbitrary detentions, illegal state executions and violations of political rights. This resolution helped stabilize the situation in Venezuela, by requesting accountability and expanding international oversight, through the continuation of monitoring and reports in the region.

PREVIOUS ATTEMPTS TO SOLVE THE ISSUE

The Fact-Finding Mission (FFM)

In 2019, the Human Rights Council founded the Fact-Finding Mission (FFM), an independent monitoring body in order to investigate alleged human rights violations in the country. This helped assess the situation in Venezuela and take measures to tackle injustice, as well as stabilize the political system. Its latest mandate is set to expire in October 2026.

The Barbados Agreement

In 2023, the Maduro government and the opposition parties signed the Barbados Agreement, aiming to restore democratic institutions, hold transparent presidential elections, through international observation, and ameliorate political participation in Venezuela. Although its implementation was not successful, with the claims of violation of human rights and manipulated elections continuing, it was a significant attempt to reestablish political stability in Venezuela.

²⁹ "Chapter I: Purposes and Principles (Articles 1-2)." *United Nations*, [Chapter I: Purposes and Principles \(Articles 1-2\) | United Nations](#). Accessed 06 Aug. 2026.

³⁰ "Chapter VI: Pacific Settlement of Disputes (Articles 33-38)." *United Nations*, [Chapter VI: Pacific Settlement of Disputes \(Articles 33-38\) | United Nations](#). Accessed 06 Aug. 2026.

³¹ "A/HRC/57/L.8 General Assembly - UN Digital Library." *United Nations Digital Library System*, digitallibrary.un.org/record/4063189/files/A_HRC_57_L.8-EN.pdf. Accessed 13 Aug. 2026.



Amnesty Law for Democratic Coexistence

In February 2025, the National Assembly of Venezuela approved this Law, aiming to grant amnesty to those involved in political protests, violent actions, and election-related events from 2002 to 2025 but excluding those accused of military rebellion and those considered threats to the sovereignty and integrity of Venezuela. This resulted in hundreds of releases, but also raised concerns regarding transparency and limited implementation, as the latter was delegated to the judiciary, accused of impartiality.

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

Tackling humanitarian crisis

It is necessary for the UN to coordinate humanitarian assistance in Venezuela, by expanding programs and establishing corridors to provide support for vulnerable populations, lacking access to food, water and services. The implementation of measures to ensure reliable distribution is therefore vital, as well as humanitarian, financial and technical aid to develop Venezuela's healthcare system, infrastructure and public services. In this way, people's trust in Venezuelan institutions will be restored, and the rise of paramilitary and criminal organizations will be tackled, while migration waves will likely decrease. Therefore, the population will more effectively engage in politics, participate in elections, and reestablish stable democratic systems, based on the Venezuelan people's needs and wishes rather than foreign interests.

Economic growth

In Venezuela, it is important to introduce economic development programs, aiming to strengthen the economy and reduce Venezuela's dependence on the oil sector, in order to ensure political stability. For that, it is crucial to diversify the economy and create new jobs, by attracting foreign investments in other sectors and providing support, aid and incentives, to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). This also requires educational reforms, training, and specialization programs by third parties and international experts.

Accountability for the crimes and victim support

UN Member States should establish independent transparent investigations regarding officials accused of committing crimes under the previous regime, while refraining from politically motivated prosecutions. They should also advocate for the release of prisoners that are still illegally detained for political reasons and support them through means such as legal assistance, psychological support, rehabilitation services, and financial compensation.

Fair and impartial elections

To achieve political stability in Venezuela, it is necessary that the Venezuelan people choose their government through free and credible multiparty elections. For



that, the international community should guarantee freedom of expression, independent media and the prohibition of politicized armed bodies to interfere before, during and after the elections, by means such as assisting the establishment of clear electoral standards for the electoral procedures in Venezuela, to ensure transparency and impartiality, installing international observation missions during the electoral cycle, providing legal protection to journalists and human rights advocates, and imposing sanctions in case of violations. Political candidates, and even parties, that had been illegally disqualified from previous elections, without a fair verdict, should also be given the right to participate. Moreover, it is mandatory, before the elections, that the voter registration and voting systems are modernized, with technical international assistance, as well as the voting procedure is monitored by civil observers and UN independent bodies.

Anti-corruption measures

Another critical problem regarding the stability of the political system of Venezuela is battling corruption. Thus, independent anti-corruption mechanisms should be introduced that will investigate public funds, budgets, and potential abuse of power. Digitalization of public documents and agreements may also improve transparency and accountability. This also applies to the independence of the judicial system in Venezuela, where there should be reforms about the process of the appointment of judges, and training programs to improve efficiency and accountability among judicial officials. International bodies should simultaneously provide protection to officials from intimidation and violence, so that they perform their duties impartially and safely. Furthermore, the international community must ensure that every Venezuelan citizen has access to the justice system, by creating free and accessible legal aid programs.

Independent monitoring mechanisms

Still, it is essential that the international community monitors the situation in Venezuela in order to ensure transparency, justice and primarily the protection of every Venezuelan citizen, through independent bodies, such as the Carter Center and the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), in order to address topics, including the legitimacy of elections, the humanitarian crisis and media independence. The monitoring bodies could also create reports that will be presented in the GA4, noting progress and problems in Venezuela's political system, so as to tackle efficiently and quickly weak points. This will also contribute to the protection of Venezuela's sovereignty and the prevention of further foreign intervention, as long as the Venezuelan state becomes stable and resilient according to international standards.



BIBLIOGRAPHY

Ahlatwat, Sumit. "China's \$100 Billion Gamble on Venezuela in Jeopardy: Is Beijing the 'Biggest Loser' of U.S. Military Ops on Maduro?" *EURASIAN TIMES*, 7 Jan. 2026, [China's \\$100 Billion Gamble On Venezuela In Jeopardy: Is Beijing The "Biggest Loser" Of U.S. Military Ops On Maduro?](#) . Accessed 21 Aug. 2026.

Arocha, José Gustavo. "After Maduro: Challenges for Stabilizing Venezuela." *Center for a Secure Free Society*, 9 Feb. 2026, [After Maduro: Challenges for Stabilizing Venezuela](#) . Accessed 31 July 2026.

Batista, Ian. "Venezuela for the Venezuelans." *CEBRI Journal*, Winter 2026, [CEBRI-Journal | Venezuela for the Venezuelans](#) . Accessed 01 Aug. 2026.

"Cartel of the Suns." *InSight Crime*, 16 Jan. 2026, [Cartel of the Suns profile](#) . Accessed 31 July 2026.

"Chapter I: Purposes and Principles (Articles 1-2)." *United Nations*, [Chapter I: Purposes and Principles \(Articles 1-2\) | United Nations](#) . Accessed 06 Aug. 2026.

"Chapter VI: Pacific Settlement of Disputes (Articles 33-38)." *United Nations*, [Chapter VI: Pacific Settlement of Disputes \(Articles 33-38\) | United Nations](#) . Accessed 06 Aug. 2026.

Duffy Toft, Monica. "Can the US 'run' Venezuela? Military Force Can Topple a Dictator, but It Cannot Create Political Authority or Legitimacy." *The Conversation*, 9 Apr. 2026, [Can the US 'run' Venezuela? Military force can topple a dictator, but it cannot create political authority or legitimacy](#) . Accessed 31 July 2026.

Duggal, Hanna, and Marium Ali. "What Resources Does Venezuela Have - Apart from the World's Most Oil?" *Al Jazeera*, 8 Jan. 2026, [What resources does Venezuela have — apart from the world's most oil? | US-Venezuela Tensions News | Al Jazeera](#) . Accessed 06 Aug. 2026.

Federal Register :: Blocking Property of the Government of Venezuela, 5 Aug. 2019, [Federal Register :: Blocking Property of the Government of Venezuela](#) . Accessed 18 July 2026.

"Household Poverty Rate in Venezuela 2024." *Statista*, 20 Jan. 2026, [Household poverty rate in Venezuela 2024 | Statista](#) . Accessed 01 Aug. 2026.

"Inflation Rate, Average Consumer Prices ." *IMF*, International Monetary Fund, Apr. 2026, [World Economic Outlook \(April 2026\) - Inflation rate, average consumer prices](#) . Accessed 13 Aug. 2026.

"Interim Report : UN Panel of Experts – Venezuelan Presidential Elections 28 July 2024." *United Nations*, 9 Aug. 2024, <https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/4062104?v=pdf> . Accessed 31 July 2026.

"Interim President Definition." *Law Insider*, 7 July 2025, [Interim President Definition | Law Insider](#) . Accessed 06 Aug. 2026.

Jutten, Marc, and Angelos Delivorias. "The US Military Intervention in Venezuela and the Regional and Geopolitical Context." *EPRS | European Parliamentary Research Service*, Jan. 2026, [The US military intervention in Venezuela and the regional and geopolitical context](#) Accessed 05 Aug. 2026.

Kingston, Shannon K. "US Officials Voice 'Serious Concerns' over Contested Outcome of Venezuela Election - ABC News." *ABC News*, 30 July 2024, [US officials voice "serious concerns" over contested outcome of Venezuela election - ABC News](#). Accessed 18 July 2026.

Mkaylward. "Experts React: The US Just Captured Maduro. What's next for Venezuela and the Region?" *Atlantic Council*, 3 Feb. 2026, [Experts react: The US just captured Maduro. What's next for Venezuela and the region? - Atlantic Council](#) . Accessed 31 July 2026.

Nicholasen, Michelle. "Why Venezuela?" *Epicenter*, 19 Dec. 2025, [Why Venezuela? | Epicenter](#) . Accessed 31 July 2026.

"Noon Briefing | Secretary-General." *United Nations*, 5 Jan. 2026, <https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/highlight/2026-01-05.html>? . Accessed 31 July 2026.

"Populism | History, Facts, & Examples | Britannica." *Britannica*, 7 July 2026, [Populism | History, Facts, & Examples | Britannica](#) . Accessed 31 July 2026.

Roy, Diana, and Amelia Cheatham. "Venezuela: The Rise and Fall of a Petrostate ." *Council on Foreign Relations*, 31 July 2024, [Venezuela: The Rise and Fall of a Petrostate | Council on Foreign Relations](#) . Accessed 31 July 2026.

Seelke, Clare Ribando. "Venezuela: Overview of U.S. Sanctions Policy | Congress.Gov | Library of Congress." *Congress.Gov*, 16 Jan. 2026, [Venezuela: Overview of U.S. Sanctions Policy | Congress.gov | Library of Congress](#). Accessed 30 July 2026.

Shalal, Andrea. "Venezuela Quakes Caused \$19.6 Billion in Damage, World Bank Report Shows." *Reuters*, 23 July 2026, [Venezuela quakes caused \\$19.6 billion in damage, World Bank report shows | Reuters](#) . Accessed 05 Aug. 2026.

Sherman, Natalie, and Shanaz Musafer. "Maduro Says Trump Wants Venezuela's Oil. but Is That the Real US Goal?" *BBC News*, BBC, 12 Dec. 2025, [Maduro says Trump wants Venezuela's oil. But is that the real US goal?](#) . Accessed 06 Aug. 2026.

"Terrorist Designations of Cartel de Los Soles." *U.S. Department of State*, 16 Nov. 2025, [Terrorist Designations of Cartel de los Soles - United States Department of State](#) . Accessed 31 July 2026.

"Trump Says US Will 'Run' Venezuela after Nicolás Maduro Captured and Taken to New York | US Attack on Venezuela | the Guardian." *The Guardian*, 4 Jan. 2026, [Trump says US will 'run' Venezuela after Nicolás Maduro captured and taken to New York | US attack on Venezuela | The Guardian](#) . Accessed 18 July 2026.



Uehara, So. "Marubeni Washington Report : Venezuela Policy in the Second Trump Administration." *Marubeni*, 4 Feb. 2025, [MWR202505VenezuelaEN20250204.pdf](#) . Accessed 30 July 2026.

"United Nations Charter (Full Text)." *United Nations*, [United Nations Charter \(full text\) | United Nations](#) . Accessed 06 Aug. 2026.

"UN Experts Condemn US Aggression against Venezuela | OHCHR." *United Nations*, 7 Jan. 2026, [UN experts condemn US aggression against Venezuela | OHCHR](#) . Accessed 30 July 2026.

"US Reimposes Sanctions on Venezuela as Hope for Democracy Crumbles." *The Guardian*, Guardian News and Media, 17 Apr. 2024, [US reimposes sanctions on Venezuela as hope for democracy crumbles | Venezuela | The Guardian](#) . Accessed 13 Aug. 2026.

"Venezuela." *The Carter Center*, 18 May 2026, [Venezuela - The Carter Center](#) . Accessed 13 Aug. 2026.

"Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) Crisis Response Plan 2026 | Global Crisis Response Platform." *IOM-UN Migration*, 26 June 2026, [Venezuela \(Bolivarian Republic of\) Crisis Response Plan 2026](#) . Accessed 31 July 2026.

"Venezuela: Enforced Disappearances Amount to Crimes against Humanity." *Amnesty International*, 29 July 2025, [Venezuela: Enforced disappearances amount to crimes against humanity](#) . Accessed 06 Aug. 2026.

Widdershoven, Cyril. "Venezuela's Oil Future at a Crossroads." *Energy Intelligence*, 6 May 2026, [Venezuela's Oil Future at a Crossroads | Energy Intelligence](#) . Accessed 06 Aug. 2026.

"What Is a Dark Fleet or Shadow Fleet?" *International Maritime Rescue Federation*, [What is a dark fleet or shadow fleet? | International Maritime Rescue Federation](#) . Accessed 31 July 2026.

Yon Ebright, Katherine. "No Legal Basis for Invading Venezuela." *Brennan Center for Justice*, 6 Jan. 2026, [No Legal Basis for Invading Venezuela | Brennan Center for Justice](#) . Accessed 31 July 2026.