



CRISIS EN VENEZUELA

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www.crisisenvenezuela.com



CIVILIS Derechos Humanos - www.civilisac.org

“Guaranteeing Human Rights of all imprisoned population is a responsibility of Ministry of Penitentiary Services”



Carlos Nieto Palma is the coordinator of NGO Una Ventana a la Libertad, dedicated to the defense and promotion of Human Rights of men and women in prison, for which it keeps on monitoring constantly jails in Venezuela.

Nieto considers that Venezuelan prisons are among the worst ones in the region. In Venezuela, the penitentiary system is severely affected by structural problems, such as proceedings delays, stacking, deterioration of the

buildings, absence of a classification of the inmates, lack of indispensable basic services, and the possession and traffic of weapons and drugs. The problem of the prisons has also reflections in the cells of many police stations, all of which hold about 45.000 prisoners up to date.

—What is Una Ventana a la Libertad working on at the present?

—We are working on monitoring and denouncing situations in Venezuelan jails, as well as in the centers of preventive detention. We go on dictating formative workshops on Human Rights to the relatives of those in prison. Besides, we follow up and denounce before international entities for the protection of Human Rights, specifically concerning violations that are currently committed inside Venezuela’s penitentiaries.



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Transparencia Venezuela - www.transparencia.org.ve

Made-to-measure Justice for pursuing and imprisoning deputies



The use of Justice for attacking dissidence, and especially against parliamentarians of the opposition, has reached its top recently, due to the cases of deputies Julio Borges and Juan Requesens.

“The government law firm”: such a phrase is used by many leaders when talking about the Supreme Court of Justice (TSJ), because of the readiness of our highest

court to act according to presidential designations. This has been so at least for eight years, since late Hugo Chavez’s step; but it has increased greatly during Nicolás Maduro’s mandate.

In fact, since 2010, the TSJ’s magistrates have re-shaped Art. 200 of our Constitution, which establishes parliamentarians’ immunity as a warranty of the deputies’ autonomous performance before the other Powers; and also establishes sanctions against those who disrespect this privilege. New interpretations have appeared in time, getting to the point of depriving even principal deputies of this right, considering them as subjects of judicial prosecution as common citizens, regardless their status as high-level officials.



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CEPAZ - www.cepaz.org.ve

Worldwide Day of Humanitarian Assistance



Trying to define a context, Cepaz considers all the main variables, and the most acute situations along the last years, which have taken Venezuelan crisis to be mentioned in the headlines of the principal international mass media.

At the same time, we invite organized civil society to assume a real commitment with Venezuelan population, via an active work on documenting, denouncing, and spreading the facts of this country's crisis; and on creating networks for the action; and on promoting activism among the citizens. It is most important to remember that humanitarian assistance is designed to save human lives, to alleviate human suffering, and to maintain and protect human dignity during and after emergencies.

Every August 19, the United Nations Organization (UNO/ONU) commemorates the Worldwide Day of Humanitarian Assistance, as a reminder of the human needs that are present everywhere in our planet. The Center for Justice and Peace (CEPAZ) joined the commemorations of this day, before the complex humanitarian emergency our country is enduring.

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Espacio Público - www.espaciopublico.org

Espacio Público solicited information about the process of reconversion

The monetary reconversion that entered in force on August 20; and the so-called new monetary cone, have submitted citizens under a major confusion. The government eliminated five zeros to our bolivar, and started the circulation of eight bills and two metallic coins, all of which will co-exist with the old cone. Due to this, Espacio Público solicited information from the president of Central Bank of Venezuela (BCV), Calixto Ortega Sánchez, emphasizing on our need of specifications.



Such a petition is a mechanism that relates to the Right to accede information, which is included in Arts. 51 and 143 of the Constitution of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. The Right to accede public information is a form of Liberty of Expression,

indispensable in a real democracy: officials are to render informs on their management, on the money they receive, and how they administer.

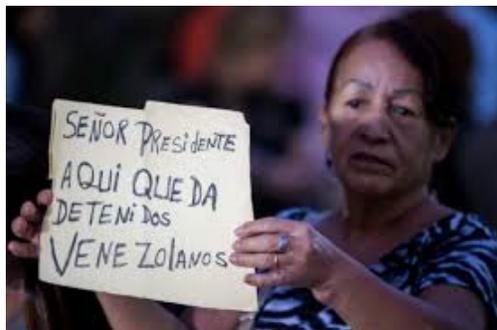
Some of the questions presented are: Which are the public and private entities in charge of distributing bills to the national banks? Is there any informative campaign designed for acquainting the population with the new monetary cone? Concerning the

petro, Ortega Sánchez was asked: How is it, that the crypto-coin "petro" comes to be the second countable unit? How is foreseen the determination of the value of the bolívar soberano, especially for its anchorage to the crypto-coin "petro"? Which is the structure of cost of the "petro"? Besides, Calixto Ortega Sanchez was asked to provide a study about the eventual impacts that may be caused by the coexistence of both monetary cones.

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Foro Penal Venezolano - www.foropenal.com

12.468 arbitrary arrests in Venezuela since 2014



12.468 arbitrary detentions have been registered by Foro Penal Venezolano between January 1, 2017, and August 24, 2018.

810 civilians have been presented before Military Courts. Since January 2014, we accumulate 1.539 political prisoners. Full liberty or release under diverse modalities have been obtained in 1.294 cases. This figure is presently under evaluation, for we are reviewing, one by one, new cases of detentions, respecting the supposed attempt against Nicolás Maduro (at least 40) and respecting the supposedly “undue” raise of prices (25 cases, up to now). Once finished this evaluation, we will be able to confirm whether those were caused by political reasons or not.

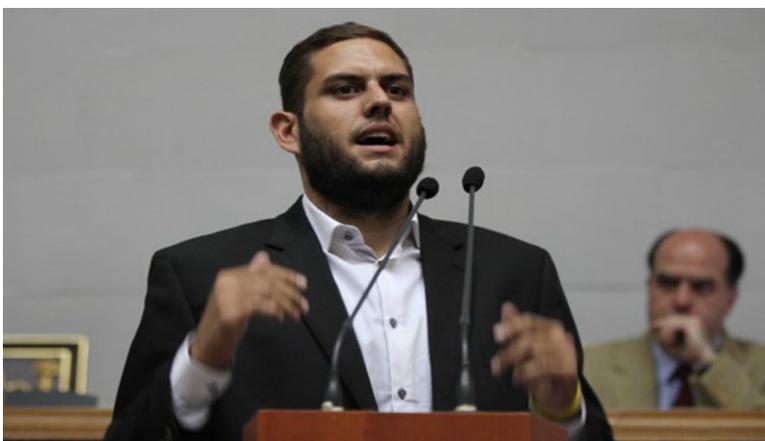
By April 2014, we had 117 political prisoners. Today, the number for this category of inmates is 236, which has been certified by OEA, on the basis of data provided by Foro Penal. However, the same reservation formerly mentioned applies here as well. Besides, 7.321 persons are still unfairly submitted to prosecution under caution measures.

PROVEA - www.derechos.org/ve

FIDH and Provea exact warranties of deputy Juan Requesens's Rights

International Federation of Human Rights (FIDH) is an NGO pro defense of Human Rights, which groups 184 organizations in 112 countries. Recently, jointly with Provea, FIDH issued a communiqué, where is expressed a global concern about the arbitrary detention of deputy Juan Requesens, and also an exhortation to the government, regarding his physical and psychological integrity, as well as his right to a duly proceeding.

Deputy Requesens is charged with a possible entailment with the supposed attempt against the President of the Republic, occurred on August 4. Four days later, Requesens was brutally detained –without a warrant for arrest– in his house in Caracas. The action was accomplished by 14 officials of the Bolivarian National Service of Intelligence (SEBIN), and affected also the deputy's sister –who was released a few hours later. Juan Requesens was



kept incommunicado for more than four days in El Helicoide, the headquarters of SEBIN in Caracas. And he is still there, at the moment.

Detention of Requesens –in addition to being arbitrary and irregular– violated the parliamentarian's immunity, which is stated in the Venezuelan Constitution. According to this principle, a deputy can be arrested only if caught in flagrancy; and, in such a case, the legislator must be kept in custody in his house, not in a prison. Nevertheless, the Supreme Court of

Justice (TSJ) rapidly approved his detention, and directed the case to the Constituent National Assembly (ANC), that submitted his parliamentarian's immunity. This acting permits that Requesens will be judged by an ordinary court, not by TSJ, which is the only entity competent for hearing processes against high officials, when they are charged with supposed political offences. According to Provea's data, during the first semester of 2018, 85 persons were arrested for mere political reasons, without being charged with any specific offence; or without a judicial order; or kept in custody, despite the fact of holding a warrant for release.



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Codevida - www.codevida.org

IVSS falls into discrimination against transplant patients in the regions



One month has passed by since the announced arrival of immune-suppressors Everolimus, Sirolimus, Sodic Micophenolate, and Tacrolimus, to the High-Cost Pharmacy of the Venezuelan Institute for Social Security (IVSS), located in Los Ruices, in Caracas. This is a form

of discrimination against the transplant patients in the countryside, who cannot accede those medicaments that are necessary to keep their transplant organs well, and guarantee their quality of living.

Along this period, IVSS pharmaceutical branches in the states of Anzoátegui, Apure, Barinas, Bolívar, Carabobo, Falcón, Lara, Mérida, Monagas, Sucre, and Táchira, have not received immune-suppressors; the absence of these medicaments in 11 of the 24 states of Venezuela affects severely 45% of the 3.500 transplant patients in our nation, endangering the lives of 1.575 persons.

According to NGO Amigos Trasplantados de Venezuela, along

2017 were reported 90 cases of organ rejection, and 11 deceases, after a prolonged absence of immune-suppressors -over six months. We responsabilize Magally Gutierrez Viña, president of IVSS, for all the harms that the lack of due treatments may cause to health and life of this kind of patients; as well as to 300.000 persons in chronic health conditions, who equally are not maintaining adequately their life-long treatments.

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Acceso a la Justicia - www.accesoalajusticia.org

Labor consequences of the “paquetazo” (the big pack); or the effects of raising wages in 35 times

Within the plan of economical adjustments announced by the government -including the elimination of five zeros to our currency, devaluation, a raise in the cost of gas, and a reformulation of taxes -it is particularly remarkable the raise of the minimum salary up to 3.365%, which forces a revision of both public and private payrolls, and implies a dramatic impact on labor passive costs... and others.

Besides, these measures imposed the anchorage of our wages system to the petro -a crypto-coin worth a barrel of oil-, which is a fluctuating value, meaning by this that it varies, changes; and the amount is



determined by variables well apart from the worker's productivity. Therefore, honoring the salaries will mean constantly adjusting those amounts according to the price of the barrel of oil.

Regarding the impact of this

decision, some devastating effects may be foreseen, mainly on the enterprises' patrimonies, and also on the State's passive, because it triggers the calculations' bases for all concepts; especially, those related to contributions destined to Social Security, Savings Funds Pro-Housing, INCES, and Income Tax. Obviously, the most dramatic consequence will be on the calculation of social benefits, which would raise in approximately 35 times.

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Un Mundo Sin Mordaza - www.sinmordaza.org

Uyapar Hospital has only one pediatrician to attend Ciudad Guayana and San Felix

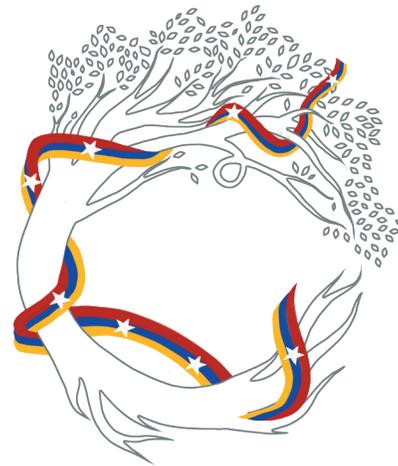


Day by day, Uyapar Hospital loses its medical doctors. Presently, this type-III health center counts only on one pediatrician to attend the small patients, children who need care and come from Ciudad Guayana and San Felix –since Pediatric Hospital “Menca de Leoni” shut down, in April, this year.

Filtration of served waters, and the contamination in Medical Services caused that shut-down in San Felix. Repairs, scheduled to be completed in 30 days, have lasted for more than 4 months, up to now. In the mean time, Uyapar type-III health center assumed attending as if it were a type-IV hospital.

“San Felix Hospital covers the southeast of the state of Bolivar, counting on 150 beds; but in Uyapar the maximum capacity is 30 beds”, said a medical doctor, who did not want his name to be mentioned, fearing retaliations. “They have had to lay out mattresses on the floor, and also to assign two patients per stretcher, in order to receive all who require care. When San Felix Hospital

was closed, no authority seemed to have thought of the consequences for us at Uyapar health center. We started referring to Puerto Ordaz”.



MEMORIAS POR LA VIDA

