



CRISIS EN VENEZUELA

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www.crisisenvenezuela.com



Transparencia Venezuela - www.transparencia.org.ve

Minister of Electric Energy must assume his responsibility for the national blackout

More than a week has passed by since the worst blackout ever in the history of Venezuela; and there are several states where electric fails still go on. There are many families still in shadows; losing their aliments, due to the lack of energy; desperately looking for water and other essential goods; and crying over more than 20 venezuelans who died, because the machines that kept them alive stopped working. Such is according to reports of NGOs, but Minister of Electric Energy, Luis Motta Dominguez, has not yet given convincing explanations for the calamity.

On Thursday, March 7, one hour and twenty minutes after the blackout started, minister Motta Dominguez affirmed that the electric system had suffered a sabotage, and in three hours the situation would be solved.



Since then, he has not declared again in relation with the topic. Transparencia Venezuela urges the head of national electric power to explain the real causes of the blackout; and to assume his responsibility for all that happened and is still going on. Especialists and workers of the electric sector had been warning for years about a possible energetic collapse... but nothing was done to avoid it.

In an inform presented by Transparencia Venezuela in November 2018, called "Venezuela in blackout", we alerted about the critical situation in the sector. Especialist cited in the inform said that the crisis is the result of combining a lack of maintenance with bad management, embezzlement, and non-investment. They remark that, between 1999 and 2014, US\$ 37.691 MM were destined to 40 projects of purchasing equipments and constructing installment, in order to increase thermo-electric generation. Only there, it was discovered that over-pricing reached US\$ 23.033 MM. Nobody imprisoned.

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PROVEA - www.derechos.org.ve

Maduro consolidates patterns of forced disappearance and arbitrary detentions to evade responsibilities for the national blackout

At least two new cases of forced disappearance for political reasons, arbitrary detentions, and home raids without a judicial warrant occurred in Venezuela on March 11, 2019, after the so called "national mega blackout", which lasted for more than 100 hours, starting March 7.

On March 12, around 11 pm, the activist pro human rights and journalist Luis Carlos Díaz was released from prison, after being arrested arbitrarily by officials of the Bolivarian National Service of Intelligence (SEBIN). Following the home raid and detention, and following the intimidation of his wife for avoiding her denouncement of the situation, a wide solidary action was activated, led by social communicators from diverse national and international mass media and NGOs pro human rights.



pressure, the government de facto, through the Attorney General's Office -always at dispose!-, found itself obliged to order Luis Carlos Díaz's release. The frustrated original intention was linking Díaz with the national blackout.

In a similar context, a worker of the State Corpoelec, Geovany Zambrano Rodríguez, was reported disappeared twice in only 24 hours. Zambrano -an Edelca's employee in Planta Macagua, Ciudad Guayana, state of Bolivar -was arbitrarily arrested in two occasions between March 11 and 13, and is still forcibly disappeared. In a press conference, he had denounced the critical condition of Venezuelan electric sector. Persecution for social and/ or political reasons, forced disappearance of persons, and imprisonment -both massive and systematic- could be qualified as crimes of lese humanity, foreseen in the Statute of Rome.

We, in Provea, consider that, due to this popular

UNO's mission impeded to talk with political prisoners in Venezuela

By March 15, 2019, Foro Penal has registered 14,362 arbitrary arrests in Venezuela, since January 1st, 2014. 834 civilians have been presented before Military Courts. Since January 2014 up to date, we have accumulated 2,713 political prisoners, from which 1,802 have achieved full liberty or release under different modalities.



By April 2014, we registered 117 political prisoners in Venezuela. Today, the number for this category of inmates is 911, and 91 of them are women. Ciphers were certified by OAS/OEA on March 10. Besides, 8,044 persons are still unfairly submitted to penal processes under caution

measures.

We have seen –with great concern– how the preliminary delegation of the High Commissioner for Human Rights of the United Nations (ONU) has been obstructed by Nicolás Maduro's government, for impeding the exact accomplishment of functions. The members of the mission cannot talk directly with political prisoners; and their possibilities for observation are limited. We trust in ONU's team's experience, at the moment of judging when they try to hide the truth.

Bloque Constitucional - www.bloqueconstitucional.com

State of Alarm and Statute for Transition in Venezuela

Deputy Juan Guaidó, recognized as the president in charge by National Assembly (AN), decreed –with AN's approval– the State of Alarm for 30 days nationwide; and qualified as a public calamity the interruption of the electric service since March 7. As a basis to this decree, he points out his condition of president in charge, which is recognized in art. 14 of the Statute for Ruling Transition to Democracy– February 5–, given the absence of a legitimate president for period 2019-2015. It is also supported by arts. 337 and 338 of our Constitution. Sustained by the decree, the president in charge decided some measures, among them: ordering FANB to protect installations of Corpoelec; forbidding security corps to impede popular mobilizations; instructing foreign service to coordinate international technical cooperation; and suspending deliveries of crude and fuel to Cuba, in order to save oil.



Bloque Constitucional de Venezuela and Academia de Ciencias Políticas have deemed as legitimate the application of our Constitution's art.333 by AN, aiming at restoring its effective validity as a protective mean to the Magna Carta. According to Title VIII of Chapter I, AN is entitled to dictate a transitory governmental regime under parliamentary control; and is as well entitled to regulate the

actions of the Public Powers, until the ceasing of the usurpation of the Executive Power and the restoration of our Constitution's validity, whenever it may be derogated by other means than those foreseen in the constitutional text. These two NGOs equally recognize the position of deputy Juan Guaidó as the interim president, given the present absence of a legitimately elected and sworn-in president. Therefore, the declaration of State of Alarm is also legitimate, as much as are valid the other measures agreed. Besides, this decree did not restrict any constitutional guarantee: on the contrary, it confirms the need for humanitarian help, authorized by AN through Agreement of February 19, 2019; and the need of international cooperation related to those objectives.

Defiende Venezuela - www.defiendevenezuela.org

Political persecution and arbitrary detentions against service workers during protests

President in charge of Venezuela, Juan Guaidó, convoked a peaceful manifestation on Victoria Ave., municipality Libertador, D.C., at 10 am of March 9, 2019. At 11 AM of March 8, officers of Bolivarian National Police (PNB), following orders, forced the disassembling of the platform built in the place of the protest. So was informed by deputies of the National Assembly (AN), Carlos Berrizbeilia and Winston Flores.



This fact was replicated: a complete systematic attacks against service workers, in the framework of protests all over the country. In the state of Táchira, the so called colectivos and the National Guard (GNB) also persecuted people in charge of assembling platforms and arbitrarily arrested them; and in Maracay, state of Aragua, PNB and officers of National Command counter Extortion and Kidnapping (CONAS) persecuted the driver of a truck, who was transporting sound equipments for an event.

Furthermore: PNB agents retained IDs of Freddy Quintero, Juan Garcia, and Angel Bastidas, who were transporting equipments to be used in the act. The three of them were taken to El Helicoide, headquarters of the Bolivarian National Service of Intelligence (SEBIN).

Defiende Venezuela, being an organization headed for the defense and promotion of the human rights in our country, condemns these attacks against civil and political rights, especially the rights to freedom of expression, association, and manifestation. We regret the detentions of citizens Freddy Quintero, Juan García, y Angel Bastidas, for considering them illegal and arbitrary.

Espacio Público - www.espaciopublico.org

Journalist Luis Carlos Díaz is free, but not for declaring

Journalist and defender of human rights Luis Carlos Díaz was released on March 12, at 11 pm. He was detained in El Helicoide headquarters of Bolivarian National Service of Intelligence (SEBIN), after being arbitrarily arrested, forcibly disappeared, and finally presented in court, charged with “public instigation”, just for practicing his right to free expression. He was forbidden to leave the country and to declare to mass media; and is submitted to a presentation regime every eight days.



Afiuni's, ex-major Antonio Ledezma's, political leader Leopoldo Lopez's, Mérida firefighters Varon and Prieto's, journalists Carlos Julio Rojas's, and activist pro human rights, “Mama Liz”.

Caution measures imposed by the court limit Diaz's personal freedom, and maintain violations of his rights. The prohibition to declare to mass media about his case was extended to his lawyers, forming a censoring measure to impede people to know about his imprisonment conditions, the cruel mistreats he was submitted to, and the irregularities of this case. Since 2009, this sort of previous censorship has been adopted as a condition for release, when detentions have a political dimension. Such happened in many other cases, like judge Maria Lourdes

During the police raid in his place and their consequent detention, Luis Carlos Díaz and wife, Naky Soto, were also robbed by SEBIN's officials. In the home raid -2:30 am- they took away cash money in a foreign currency and jewels; but this was not registered in the act of the proceeding. In addition, we, Espacio Publico's lawyers, have not been allowed to accede the judicial file -one more irregularity against the journalist.

Acceso a la Justicia - www.accesoalajusticia.org

AN assumes once more Executive's functions via Decree of State of Alarm

Before the fact of the national blackout that affected us since Thursday, March 7; and also affected the most essential human rights of Venezuelans; National Assembly (AN) emitted on March 10 a Decree of state of Alarm, the briefest of modalities of a State of Exception. This decision was sustained on arts.337, 338, and 339 of our Magna Carta; jointly with arts. 8 and 15 of the Organic Act on States of Exception; and art.14 of the Act on Statute for Ruling Transition to Democracy for the Reestablishment of Validity of the Constitution of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (CRBV). This acting is a clear demonstration that the Parliament is willing to assume transitorily and progressively the competences of the National Executive, until one of the principal objectives is achieved: the ceasing of the usurpation.



Constitutional Hall of the Supreme Court of Justice (TSJ's SC). Now, we observe that the Head of AN, in his role of Head of State in charge, has emitted this decree, fulfilling all the requirements to validate its merits: the eventual circumstances that endanger citizenry (we have already had human losses); and the evident lack of capability for facing and confronting a public calamity. (Arts. 338 and 339 of CRBV).

The Decree of State of Alarm -in force for 30 days, as foreseen in art.338 of CRBV- presents a catalog of measures destined to diminish the negative impact of this public calamity and its related effects, which includes human losses, caused by the interruption of electric supply to equipments that are necessary to preserve vital functions of patients.

The adoption of this measure happens within a novel, sui generis framework of our national occurrence. Therefore, it is not set according to the classical scheme, in which the President of the Republic, in a Council of Ministries, decrees; and, then, the decree is submitted to consideration by the Legislative Power and by the

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Codevida - www.codevida.org

Codevida denounces intimidation against relatives of dialysis patients who died during the national blackout

During the national blackout Venezuela went through between Thursday 7 and Tuesday 12 of March, all Venezuelans suffered; yet, the most affected ones were those who needed urgent medical attention due to renal insufficiency, those who require dialysis treatment to go on living.



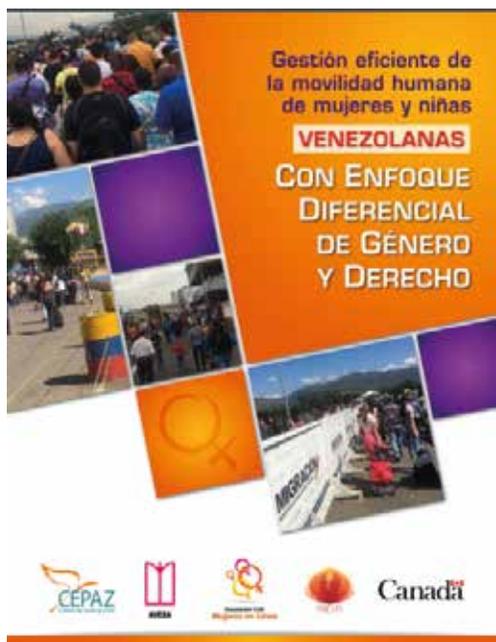
According to denunciations and Codevida's verified reports, in those days at least 20 persons with that chronic health condition died, as a direct consequence of the electric fail, when they could not receive the necessary medical attention. Heading the fatal list, the state of Zulia, with nine deaths; then, Caracas's Metropolitan Area, with five; the states of Lara and Trujillo, with two each; and Apure and Yaracuy, with one each. In fact, after several days, there are still fails in those services, because of the scarcity of water to comply with medical protocols.

Deepest sorrow surrounds relatives for the irrevocable loss of their beloved ones, a loss that could have been avoided. And we denounce that there is a persecution of the victims by the government's spokesmen. In some cases, they have offered an indemnification if they appear in recorded testimonies and blame president in charge Juan Guaidó for the blackout. "This is a crime, playing with the feelings of relatives of somebody recently deceased. The only responsible persons for everything going on in dialysis units are Nicolás Maduro; his Health Minister, Carlos Alvarado; and the president of IVSS, Magaly Gutierrez", stated Francisco Valencia, director of Codevida.

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CEPAZ - www.cepaz.org.ve

Integrated attention of human mobility of Venezuelan women and girls require a differential focusing on rights and gender



were two exists: Caracas and San Antonio del Táchira. The project “Assistance to migrant women in the state of Tachira” included delivering sexual and reproductive health kits in camps of refugees and in borderline towns and cities. The kits contained informative materials, hygienical products, preservatives, and menstrual cups donated by Asociación Lahaie Luna Lezama. A handbook for efficient handling of human mobility of Venezuelan women and girls was produced, too.

Women and girls who run away from their countries take the risk of finding their needs not visualized, which makes them more vulnerable as for violations of their rights –apart from all dangers they must face, related to the traditional roles and gender stereotypes, gender violence, and the peril of being trapped by slavery dealers. Besides, although restrictions affect everyone who tries to be granted asylum, women and girls confront additional difficulties. An efficient handling of human mobility under a differential focusing of human rights require statistical specific information: by sex, by age, by reasons for displacement, among

other factors, that permit public policies to take into account the persons’ needs. Then, decisions may effectively contribute in the solution of problems. Gender analysis are fundamental for guaranteeing dignity and respect of human rights to migrants and refugees.

The manual “Efficient handling of human mobility of Venezuelan women and girls, with a differential focusing on rights and gender” is intended to improve the comprehension and the approach of decision –makers and of organizations of the civil society (OSC), for accomplishing an efficient handling of feminine Venezuelan human mobility, whether migrants, refugees, or slavery dealers victims. The differential focus is on rights and gender; and it comes to favor the development of an integrated attention for women and girls within the Venezuelan exodus.

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Centro de Justicia y Paz (Cepaz); allied with NGOs Asociación Venezolana para una Educación Sexual Alternativa (Avesa), Centro Hispanoamericano para la Mujer Freya, Mujeres en Línea, and Uniandes Acción Popular; with the support of the Embassy of Canada; developed a study along November and December 2018, with a group of women in the beggining of their terrestrial migratory process. There