



Resolution on Venezuela: between uncertainty and hope

In the last 20 years, Venezuela has been subjected to a populist-style regime that has turned into a narco-tyranny and plunged the country into a humanitarian catastrophe, destroying the foundations of the rule of law, in order to replace it with a system that is alien to the democratic nature that inspires our Centrist Democratic International.

Despite this dramatic backdrop, the courageous people of Venezuela have resisted with dignity, surviving a massive and systematic policy of repression that uses fear in an attempt to paralyse a society with an unbreakable democratic spirit, and isolate or interfere with the efforts of its leaders. However, the tenacity of this brother nation has made it possible for an emerging leader, once he becomes President of the sovereign NATIONAL ASSEMBLY of deputies, to assume at the same time, on an interim basis, the first national judiciary, pursuant to article 233 of the Venezuelan Constitution. That leader is Engineer Juan Guaidó. With true talent and an abundance of courage, he has managed to rise up to the challenge and lead a euphoric people that has taken to the streets, clamouring for an end to the usurpation, the felony for which the dictator Maduro is responsible.

It is common knowledge that over 56 democratic governments across the globe have recognised Juan Guaidó as the legitimate president of Venezuela, as well as having issued resolutions and personalised sanctions against the perpetrators of crimes related to the usurpation of Venezuela's public authorities, crimes against humanity, genocide, extermination and war crimes.

Despite these measures aimed at helping Venezuela recover democracy, and alongside it freedom, peace, justice and progress for millions of citizens who are suffering from the ravages of famine and thus death, as a result of the scarcity of medicines, food and other necessities and the prevailing impunity – part of a perverse plan to corner citizens and develop a preconceived methodology of “Social Control” – the narco-tyranny continues to terrorise more than 4 million Venezuelans, part of the largest diaspora in recent years, persecuting dissidents, cracking down on journalists, and imprisoning political leaders and desperate women and men who are demonstrating because there is no electricity, water, domestic gas or petrol.

Despite this reality, the IDC-EDI has continued to assess these incidents and their impact and we therefore believe it is necessary to reiterate our recognition of Juan Guaidó as the only sovereign and legitimate president of Venezuela. We offer him our unconditional support and our commitment to assist him via the



Center Democratic International, so he can achieve the goal that is the key focus of his efforts, i.e. for Venezuela to definitively restore democracy and freedom.

Our commitment is to continue taking all of the required measures to ensure that President Guaidó can lead Venezuela towards social and economic development, to a backdrop of social justice, equal opportunities, legal security and governability. Our hope is for Venezuela to once again be a country where the rule of law reigns, where human rights are respected, and for the country to restore the universal democratic framework set out by the international agreements signed in its name.

For the IDC-EDI, it is urgent that Juan Guaidó put an end to this shameful usurpation, so that he can then dedicate himself to consolidating the transitional government he is responsible for and simultaneously enable Venezuela to hold – in accordance with the law – honest, open and transparent elections, with open supervision by qualified observers from across the globe.

What we know without a doubt, is that while these commendable efforts continue in a strive towards finding a solution to the terrible crisis that Venezuela and its people are enduring, the regime persists in not exploiting its power, while threatening the legitimacy and life of President Juan Guaidó, who has said that all options remain open, including the avenues offered by the Venezuelan Magna Carta itself in its Article 187, paragraph 11, according to which the President of the Republic can invoke an international peace force capable of cooperating with Venezuelans in overthrowing the violent armed groups that have invaded Venezuelan territory and that are, without the shadow of a doubt, the only ones supporting Maduro's narco-tyranny.

For the IDC-EDI, it is a moral duty to implement a solution that goes above and beyond the mere scope of the legal and diplomatic measures based on convictions of the bloody and coercive facts, limited to the grave sanctions already announced. In light of this, the Centrist Democrat International, has decided it is time to thoroughly explore the possibility of activating the CONCEPT OF THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT, endorsed by the United Nations, to safeguard the peoples who are victims of massacres such as those cruelly perpetrated by the dictatorial regime of Nicolas Maduro.