

Venezuelan government and opposition begin new round of talks in Mexico



Nicolás Maduro indicated that his government's participation in this new chapter of talks with the opposition is based on three firm conditions. | Photo: VTV

Mexico City, August 13 (RHC)-- A new dialogue table between representatives of the Venezuelan government and members of the Venezuelan opposition begins in Mexico on Friday. According to Mexican Foreign Minister Marcelo Ebrard, the negotiation process will begin in the Mexican capital at

16:30 local time.

Foreign Minister Ebrard received on Thursday a communiqué from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs which indicates that the parties that will participate in the dialogue on Venezuela had entered the final phase of their exploratory talks in order to start negotiations in Mexico.

The meetings between representatives of the Venezuelan government and the opposition will take place from Friday, over the weekend, until Monday, the 16th.

Last week, President Andrés Manuel López Obrador announced that his country would host these meetings. "What we are looking for is dialogue and agreements between the parties. These are talks between the Venezuelan government and the opposition. Hopefully an agreement will be reached," said the Mexican president.

The President of Venezuela, Nicolás Maduro, affirmed on Thursday afternoon that his government will not submit to blackmail or pressure from the United States, and will therefore participate in the meeting independently.

President Nicolás Maduro indicated that the participation of his government in this new chapter of talks with the opposition is based on three firm conditions and a fourth one which is under consultation.

Maduro detailed that the three key points to advance in this process are: that "all sanctions against the Venezuelan economy and society" be immediately lifted; that all "legitimate and constitutional authorities of Venezuela" be recognized; and that the opposition renounce "violence and conspiracy."

The fourth condition is to incorporate all sectors of the opposition to the dialogue, because in the South American country there are "new leaderships." For this reason, he considered it necessary to "open the floodgates" so that participation is broader.

In 2019, Norway promoted a round of negotiations that turned out to be unsuccessful. The process, which took place in Oslo and Barbados, failed when the U.S. government refused to ease the sanctions imposed on Venezuela and decided instead to increase them.

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