

Venezuela accuses Colombia of diversion of funds for migrants

Caracas, November 30 (RHC)-- The Venezuelan Minister of Foreign Affairs, Félix Plasencia, denounced the government of President Iván Duque for aggravated swindling of the international community, by using Venezuelan migrants in Colombian territory to receive large sums of money for alleged assistance to the migrant population.

"We publicly denounce the government of Mr. Iván Duque for aggravated fraud against the international community and we request a transparent audit to show where those millions of dollars are really going," the Venezuelan foreign minister said.

Plasencia delivered his speech before the 112th Council of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) where he highlighted that Venezuelan migrants receive few guarantees in the host countries, and many have even been victims of different aggressions in New Grenada.

At the same time, the diplomat denounced the significant increase of "deplorable acts of xenophobia, agoraphobia, discrimination and racism," particularly in Colombia "under the inert gaze of Mr. Iván Duque."

Plasencia criticized that Venezuelan migrants have been victims of aggressive criminalization campaigns "that seek to divert attention and escape their own internal social crises" in the so-called host countries.

The foreign minister of Venezuela insisted that his country "has never and will never lend itself to use the dignity of migrants and politicize the situation of other countries or to request undue gifts from international organizations or some countries. Shame on those who act so immorally".

In addition, he called to lift all illegal unilateral coercive measures "that affect human rights, condemning the persecution against migration at any border and within the host countries and ratifying our will to continue moving forward to build a better world where we all smile at life and the future."

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