

# *Another action against Venezuela*

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By María Josefina Arce

The issue of human rights is one of the favorite topics for the right wing, supported by the United States and allied countries to attack Venezuela.

The campaign to discredit Venezuela has been vicious and infamous, conveniently leaving aside the limitations imposed by the economic sanctions against the South American nation, which the opposition has taken advantage of to incite violent actions.

However, the government of the constitutional president, Nicolás Maduro, has always evidenced its commitment to international agreements in this area and its willingness to collaborate with existing organizations, on the basis of respect and non-interference.

This was evidenced last November during the visit to Venezuelan territory of the Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, Karim Khan, to conclude the preliminary examination around alleged human rights violations in the context of the 2017 demonstrations, promoted by the opposition.

A report by the Red de Apoyo Por la Justicia y la Paz revealed that most of the victims of the opposition violence were unrelated to the disruptive actions, which were mainly recorded in territories with right-wing local authorities.

During Khan's visit, although there were differences of opinion, both parties ratified their commitment to collaborate actively, to establish more effective mechanisms to that end and to facilitate the effective performance of the ICC's mandate in Venezuelan territory.

But Caracas has been the object of a new action against it, now to prevent the fulfillment of its commitment.

Executive Vice President Delcy Rodríguez pointed out that the Netherlands obstructed the transfer of a delegation from her country to The Hague for a meeting last Tuesday with Khan, as agreed in the Memorandum of Understanding signed between Caracas and the ICC.

Rodríguez pointed out that the government of the Netherlands set conditions that were impossible to comply with, violating all the agreements. But, he emphasized, the South American country interested in complying with its international commitments requested to hold the meeting in another territory.

Venezuela is facing a media campaign in the midst of an economic siege that affects the welfare of the population. The health and food sectors have been among the hardest hit.

The hostile policy of the United States, supported by allied countries, attacks the achievements of the Bolivarian Revolution, such as universal and free access to expensive medicines to treat rare diseases, vaccination and food.

As a result of this economic siege, maintained in the midst of COVID-19, Venezuela was unable to pay vaccines for its population to the Pan American Health Organization.

The coercive measures have had an impact on all social programs, which even with the difficulties and limitations have been maintained with great effort and political will of the government.

The reality is that Venezuela is the object of crimes against humanity and a campaign to discredit it, as part of the plan to overthrow the constitutional government of Maduro and put a U.S. puppet in its place.

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