

# *Bolívar in Martí, Fidel in Chávez: A colloquy of ideas and thought*

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**Photos: Prensa Latina.**

Caracas, June 15 (RHC) -- The validity, legacy, value of the work and thought of four great Latin Americans were exposed this Wednesday in Caracas at the Colloquium Bolívar in Martí, Fidel in Chávez, framed in the 170th anniversary of the birth of the Cuban Apostle.

Venezuelan and Cuban intellectuals presented in lectures the indissoluble bonds that unite these four Latin American men, who through the imaginary line of time and, in different periods, were linked in ideas and actions for a free and integrated America.

As expressed by Venezuelan researcher Zaida Castro, it is difficult to know when Simón Bolívar's ideology entered José Martí's imagination, but she acknowledged that "there is a broad link", despite the fact that they lived through different historical moments, but the struggle was the same for the independence of the peoples.

She said that from a political perspective, both demonstrated their talent and abilities to put forward proposals that seemed utopian to many, but which are currently very relevant for the vindication of the peoples of Latin America.

The also teacher reflected on the contributions of the heroes to the integration process and affirmed that it can be said that unity, freedom, strategy and political will are the fundamental axes to merge a thought that drives the solidarity of the peoples to achieve the second ideological and cultural independence.

Cuban René González, director of the Fidel Castro Ruz Center, valued as an "extraordinary success" the choice of June 14 to hold this colloquium, because on that date two consistent Bolivarians were born: Antonio Maceo and Ernesto Che Guevara.

Gonzalez recalled passages of the close ties between Cuba and Venezuela, and highlighted that the latter "was and continues to be an inspiration for all Cuban revolutionaries".

It is Chavez's Venezuela, which Fidel recognizes in him as the allied homeland of the Cubans when on December 13, 1994 he arrived in Havana and the historical leader rediscovers in him the future of America, he commented.

The historian highlighted that there is such an important rapprochement of ideas and such an intimate and close communication between the two, that Fidel expressed a phrase that at the time when he heard it "I thought it was one of the most reckless phrases" when he affirmed that "Chavez was the best friend" of the Cuban people.

Reckless, he emphasized, because Cuba has had many good friends and the Cuban Revolution is sustained, among other things, by the solidarity of the great friends that the Caribbean island has had.

Fidel said and with all the reasons and arguments that Chávez was the best friend, because Chávez, like Fidel, is a dreamer, a Quixote, he underlined.

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