

# *Delcy Rodríguez describes the U.S. blockade against Venezuela as economic genocide*

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Caracas, January 16 (RHC)-- The Executive Vice-President of Venezuela, Delcy Rodríguez, described the blockade imposed by the government of the United States against the Venezuelan people as an economic genocide and emphasized that the labor sector is the most affected by this criminal policy.

Rodríguez participated this Tuesday in teleSUR's program, *Conexión Global*, in which he developed economic and Esequiba Guyana points presented the day before by President Nicolás Maduro in his annual message to the nation at the headquarters of the National Assembly (AN).

"In the midst of a blockade that is still in force, Venezuela left no one behind.... Today we are standing up, rebuilding our inclusive model, our protection and social model," Rodríguez said about the social and economic programs in favor of the people.

"And we are doing it with our own effort. The year 2024 is projected as a year of great advances for the welfare of Venezuelans...", she said in the interview.

She described President Maduro's annual message to the nation as extraordinary, and also highlighted that 2023 was a year of progress in the economic development and in the political and social stability of Venezuela. He stressed the importance of the national union to consolidate the advances in political-social and economic matters.

Delcy Rodriguez emphasized that the indexed integral minimum income will be an equivalent of 60 dollars for active employees and 25 dollars for retirees.

The Venezuelan vice president affirmed that 2023 was a difficult year, but one of progress in all areas. She detailed that the gross domestic product (GDP) is projected to increase 5 percent by the end of 2023 and all sectors are working hard to try to exceed 8 percent during 2024.

She pointed out that one of the 7 transformations oriented by President Nicolás Maduro is not to depend on oil income. Delcy Rodriguez acknowledged that technological dependence was a factor that affected the country's public services, so he highlighted the need for independence in this matter within the framework of the 7Ts.

"Last year, it was the year of greater stability in the increase of the dollar".

"It is important that the people know that whoever is in Miraflores, is a worker".

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