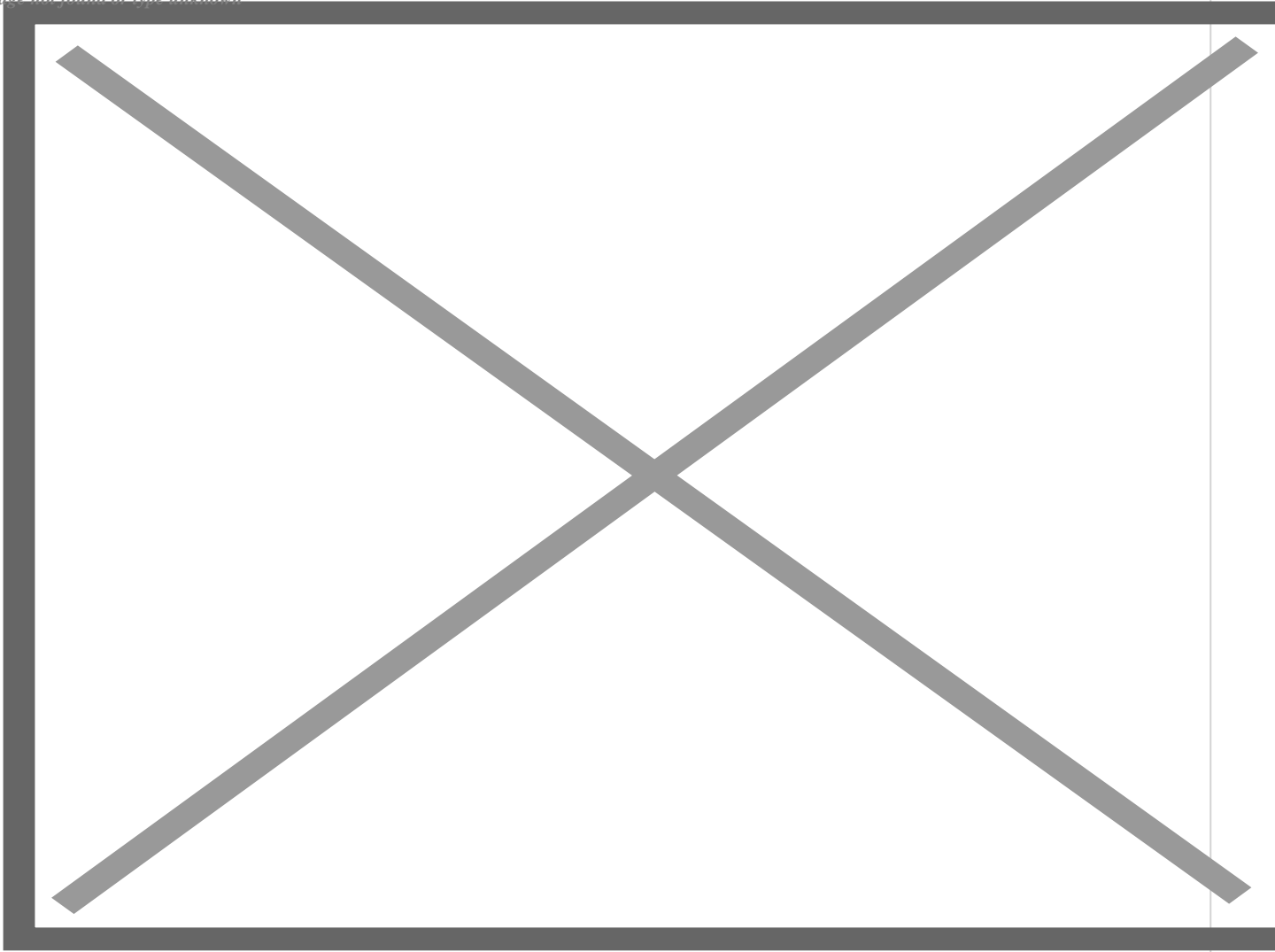


Venezuela rejects the formation of a new Lima Group

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Caracas, August 23 (RHC)-- The Venezuelan government, through its Foreign Minister Yván Gil, has strongly condemned the creation of a new Lima Group and the figure of a new Juan Guaidó.

This Friday, the Foreign Minister of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela expressed in a press conference on national television the response to what he considered to be "a new and unusual page that some

governments of the nation open against sovereignty and against independence."

In this sense, the head of diplomacy of Venezuela read a statement in which the formation of "a new Lima Group and the figure of a new Juan Guaidó" is denounced.

He added that the Venezuelan government describes this initiative as a serious interference in the country's internal affairs and a threat to its sovereignty.

In the text of the statement, the Venezuelan government expressed its firm opposition to what it called a "rude and insolent" statement issued by the governments of Argentina, Costa Rica, Chile, Ecuador, the United States, Guatemala, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Dominican Republic and Uruguay.

According to what was stated by Foreign Minister Gil, these countries would be trying to replicate a model that has already failed and defeated, which not only violates international law, but also ignores the self-determination of the Venezuelan people.

The statement also highlights that Venezuela has faced and overcome similar attempts in the past -- referring to the Lima Group -- and that any attempt to impose a regime change in the country will be equally resisted and defeated.

And the Foreign Ministry statement stresses that the Venezuelan government demands absolute respect for its sovereignty, emphasizing that the historical struggles against the most hostile empires have forged a nation that will not allow external interference.

In addition, the statement condemned the governments that, with their position, would be endorsing and being complicit in acts of criminal violence within Venezuela, which have left victims and considerable damage to essential infrastructure, such as health centers and universities.

Finally, the Venezuelan government warned that history has shown that those who try to undermine the dignity of the Bolivarian people face international contempt and shame.

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