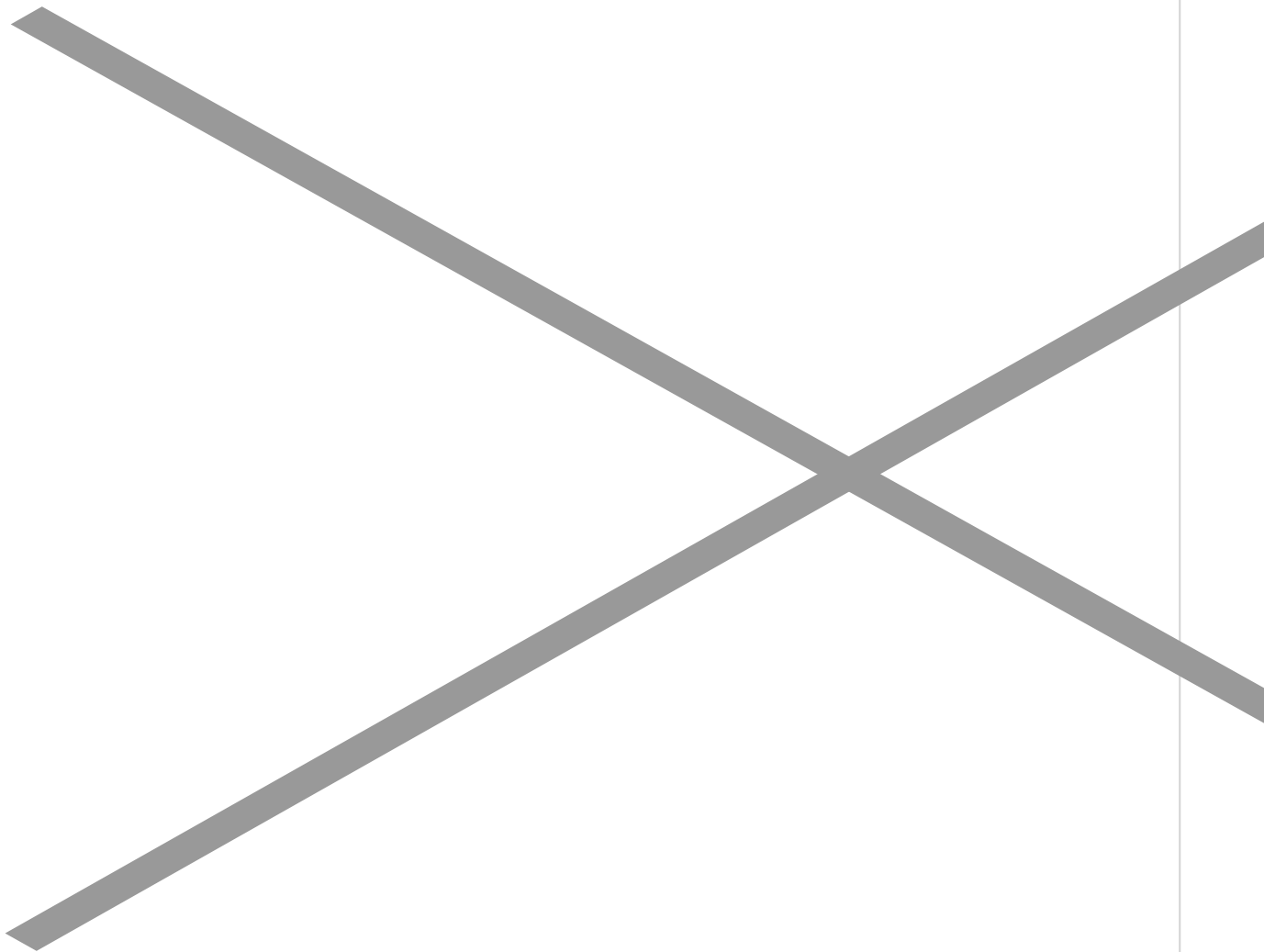


Venezuela recalls ambassador to Spain after interventionist statement by Madrid's defense minister

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Venezuelan Foreign Minister Yván Gil (File photo)

Caracas, September 13 (RHC)-- The government of Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro has recalled its ambassador to Spain, Gladys Gutiérrez, for consultations due to recent statements by the Spanish Defense Minister, Margarita Robles. Likewise, Madrid's representative in Caracas was summoned to appear before Venezuelan authorities on Friday.

Venezuelan Foreign Minister Yván Gil, in a message published on his Telegram channel, described the statements of Minister Robles as "insolent, interventionist and rude." The top diplomat of Venezuela affirmed that these comments point "to a deterioration of relations between both countries."

Given this situation, the Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela "has decided to call the Venezuelan ambassador accredited to the Kingdom of Spain, Gladys Gutiérrez, for consultations."

Spain's defense minister discredited President Maduro's government by calling it a "dictatorship," while showing her clear support of self-exiled Venezuelan opposition leader Edmundo González Urrutia.

Last Wednesday, the president of the Venezuelan National Assembly, Jorge Rodríguez, requested that the Bolivarian Government break relations with the European nation. He also asked for the expulsion of the representatives of the Spanish delegation present in Caracas.

Rodríguez's demands came after the Spanish Congress of Deputies approved, at the request of the extreme right, to refuse to recognize re-elected President Nicolás Maduro.

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