

# *Authorities Denounce Campaigns to Criminalize Venezuela*

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Caracas, May 16 (RHC-PL), -- Venezuelan authorities this week denounced several campaigns from Colombia and Spain to criminalize the South American nation.

According to National Assembly (Parliament) Speaker Diosdado Cabello, the fair treatment of the Colombians who cross the border to settle here is guaranteed in this country.

In that regard, Cabello questioned the statements by Colombian Foreign Minister Maria Angela Holguin, who said that the situation in Venezuela was "difficult", and urged to hold talks to establish a bi-national commission to analyze the cases of deportation.

Venezuelan Ombudsman Tarek William denied there are mass deportations of Colombians, and condemned the media campaign to give the issue the connotation of human rights violations to criminalize Venezuela.

Over the past seven days, Deputy National Assembly Speaker Tania Diaz charged that using Venezuela as an issue in Spanish electoral campaigns is an interference in the country's internal affairs.

After the forum "The Spanish Right Wing against Venezuela", Diaz demanded that Spanish politicians

take the Venezuelan people and institutions out of their electoral debates.

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