

# *ALBA Expresses Solidarity with Venezuela in Struggle for Peace*

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Caracas, June 9 (RHC)-- Foreign ministers of the Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America, ALBA, have issued a joint statement, repeating their support for democratic institutions, dialogue and peace in Venezuela.

As they were meeting in Caracas for the fifth extraordinary session of the ALBA Political Council of the organization, officials condemned the attempt by Luis Almagro, General Secretary of Organization of American States, the OAS, to apply the Democratic Charter against Venezuela's government as "illegitimate."

The communique reaffirmed "the necessity of fully respecting the unalienable right of each State to choose its political, economic, social and cultural system," while welcoming President Nicolas Maduro's initiative to launch a national dialogue with the opposition, with the mediation of the Union of South American Nations.

Finally, the member states of ALBA urged their counterparts at the OAS to watch that the Secretary General properly apply the specific norms that dictate his function.

The Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America, ALBA, also condemned the interference of the European Parliament, as it adopted on Wednesday a resolution criticizing the Venezuelan government.

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