

# *Colombia Rejects Recent Violence in Venezuela*

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Caracas, February 15 (RHC) — The Government of Colombia expressed deep regret over the recent violent events in Venezuela, that left three people dead and dozens of others injured.

In a statement issued Friday by the Colombian Foreign Affairs Ministry, the government conveyed its deepest condolences to the victims' families, the people and government of Venezuela. It also called for the peaceful solution of political differences and urged the parties to adhere to constitutional law and respect for basic human rights.

The letter also emphasized that the stability of Venezuela is essential to the wellbeing of its people, as well as that of Colombia and the region.

Meanwhile, hundreds of people in Venezuela's capital Caracas began concentrating since early morning hours this Saturday to participate in a multitudinous rally for peace and against violence.

The demonstration calls on all sectors of society to work for peace and expresses rejection of the acts of violence and vandalism orchestrated by extremist political groups in the country, with the aim to destabilize constitutional order and the democratically elected government of President Nicolas Maduro.

President Nicolas Maduro on Friday officially launched the National Plan for Peace and Coexistence, which aims to tackle the soaring crime rate and promote a culture of peace and mutual understanding.

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