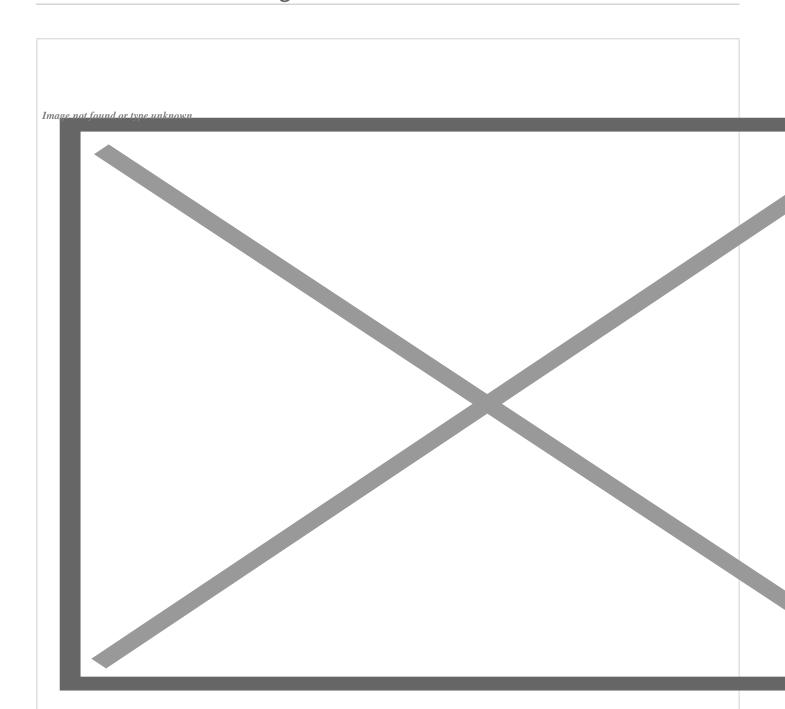
## Polling centers close in Venezuela after elections



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Caracas, November 21 (RHC)-- Venezuelan electoral authorities announced the closing of the voting day that took place this Sunday, after passing normally, highlighting the constant affluence of citizens in their respective centers throughout the country.

According to the National Electoral Council (CNE), through its account on the social network Twitter, "only polling stations that have voters in line can remain open." Venezuelans voted for 3,082 public offices to renew the authorities of 23 Governorships, 335 Mayors' Offices, 253 Legislative Councils and 2,471 Municipal Councils.

Subsequently, the Minister of Defense, Vladimir Padrino López, highlighted the participation of the Venezuelan people in the elections. "A spectacular day for the homeland, a day of happiness, which marks a new path for the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. It was marked by the joy and coexistence of citizens who came out today with the desire to exercise their right", he added.

He indicated that the Plan República, in charge of guarding the electoral material, will withdraw to move the equipment to the CNE's sheds, but will mobilize again on November 26, when the indigenous communities will have to vote.

On his part, the Minister for Internal Relations, Justice and Peace, Remigio Ceballos, congratulated the population for giving "a great demonstration of citizen exercise, full exercise of sovereignty through suffrage. "We are harvesting our independence and we ratify our libertarian character with this great vote."

The international observers made a statement to the media to congratulate the population for going to the polling stations and ratify the democratic character of the South American nation.

The observer and former Foreign Minister of Ecuador, Ricardo Patiño, expressed that "achieving such a wide participation strengthens and consolidates democracy in Venezuela". He also highlighted the presence of witnesses from the different political parties in the electoral centers, thus demonstrating the transparency of the process.

On her part, Gabriela Rivadeneira, also an international observer, affirmed that this day was carried out in a democratic and peaceful manner in the different precincts and polling stations, which ratifies "the integrationist vocation of absolute respect of Venezuelans."

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