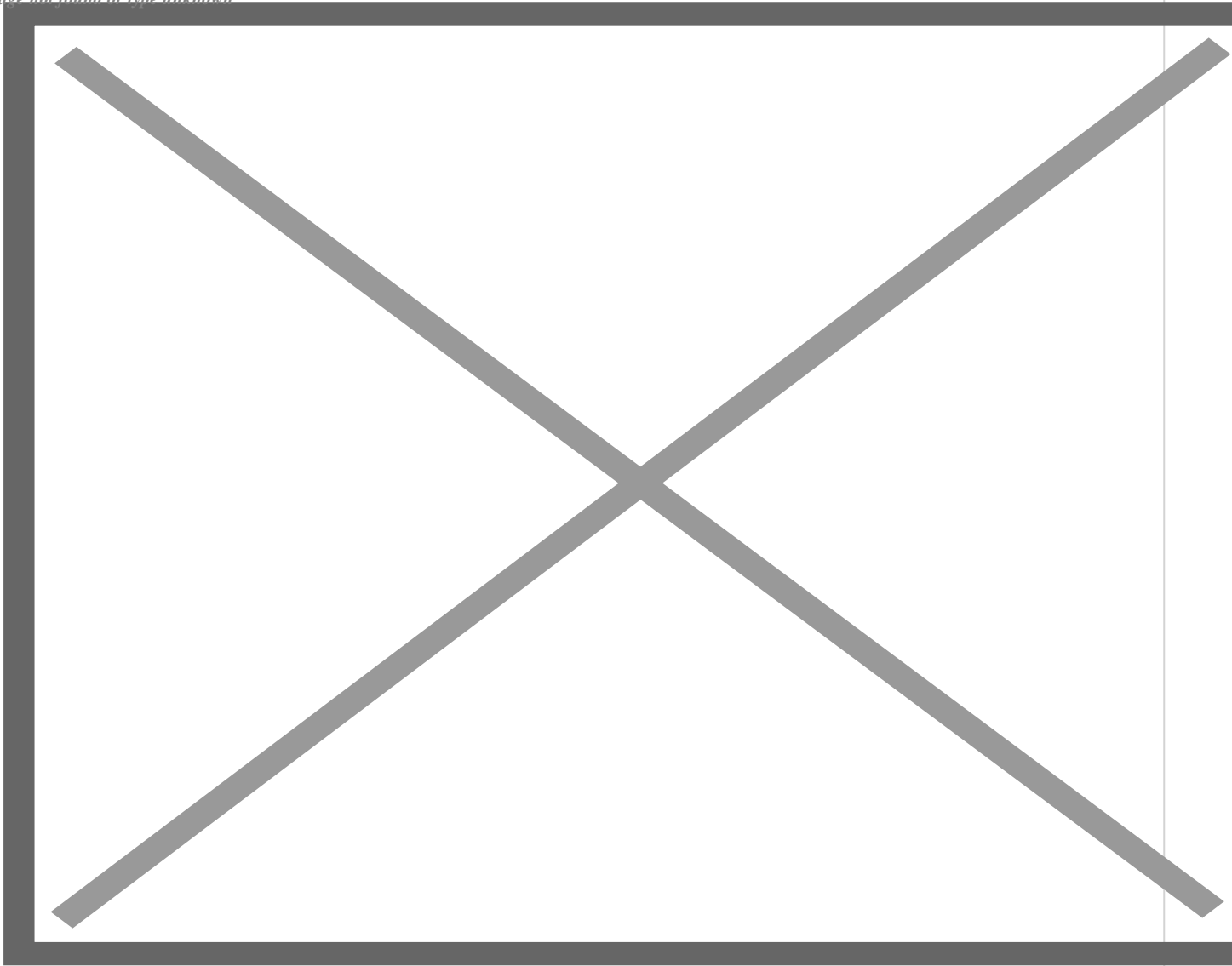


Venezuela demands U.S. return diplomatic assets

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Venezuelan Foreign Minister Felix Plasencia has demanded that the U.S. government return the diplomatic assets plundered from his country in Washington, DC, including the embassy headquarters in the U.S. capital.

Caracas, January 20 (RHC)-- Venezuelan Foreign Minister Felix Plasencia has demanded that the U.S. government return the diplomatic assets plundered from his country in Washington, DC, including the embassy headquarters in the U.S. capital.

During a press conference at the Foreign Ministry headquarters in Caracas, he demanded the U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken instruct the corresponding authorities to restore the control of those facilities to the legitimate Venezuelan government.

Plasencia recalled that those spaces were "outraged, invaded and stolen" from the Venezuelan people as part of the U.S. authorities' recognition of the self-proclamation of Juan Guaidó as interim president in January 2019 -- an action that was an attempted coup d'état.

The diplomatic assets "must be returned to the legitimate government of President Nicolás Maduro, to the constitutional government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela."

During his intervention, the foreign minister presented evidence of the robbery perpetrated in the Venezuelan embassy in Bolivia by Guaidó's representatives, with the support of the de facto authorities, after the coup perpetrated in November 2019 against Evo Morales.

Finally, he urged the jurisdictional and judicial authorities of Spain to respect the requirements of the Venezuelan legal system and to extradite criminals fleeing from justice and residing in that country.

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