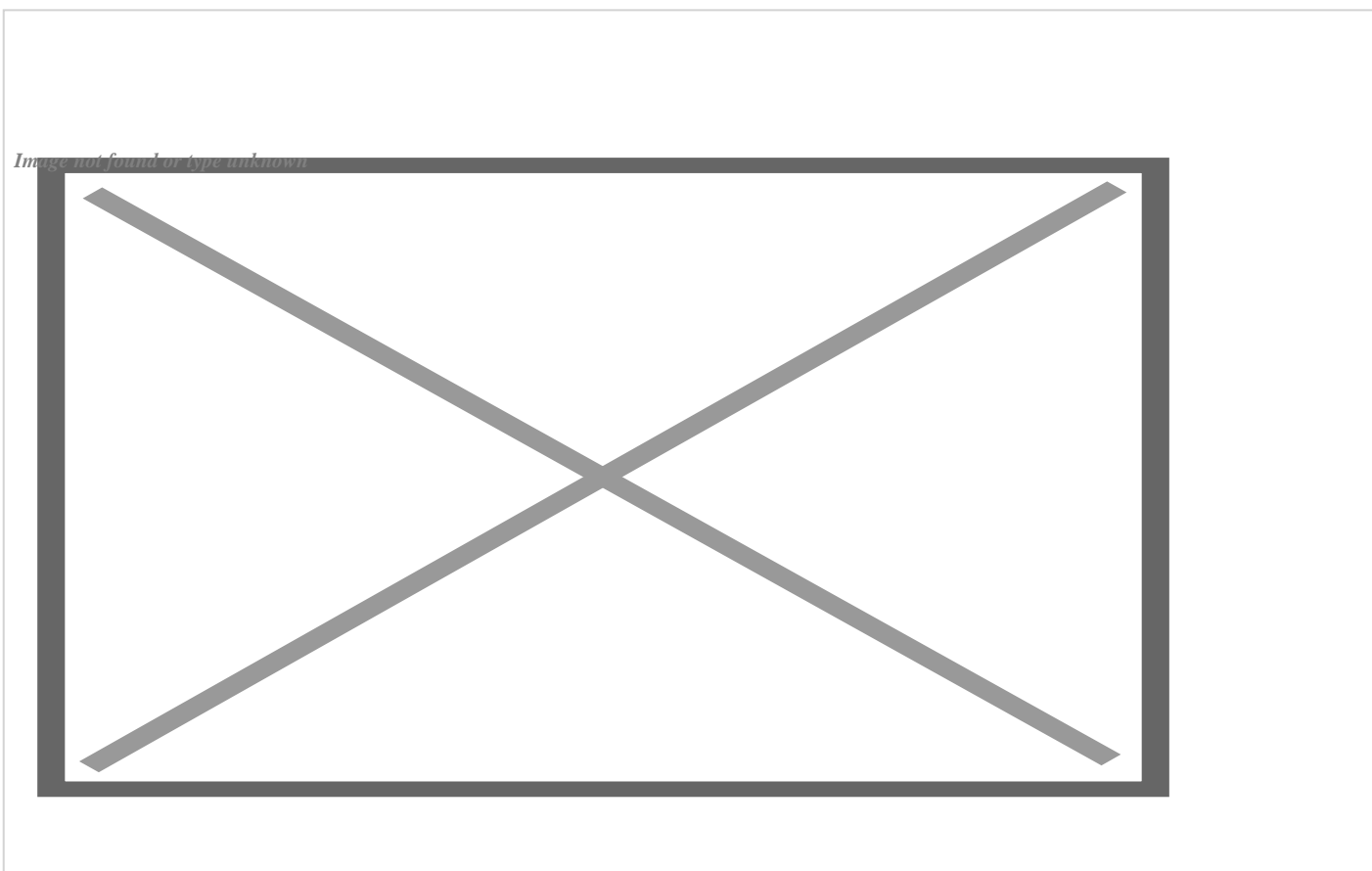


Venezuelan president denounces that U.S. has not complied with signed agreements



Caracas, April 16 (RHC)-- The president of Venezuela, Nicolás Maduro, denounced on Monday that the U.S. government has not complied with the agreements signed, particularly with the lifting of the illegal coercive measures imposed against the country.

"They never complied with a single comma of the signed agreement, never. At this point, the United States of America signed an agreement and should have lifted all sanctions against Venezuela, all of them. That is the truth", he asserted.

During his program Con Maduro +, the head of state said that the U.S. government "asked us a year ago that it wanted to start conversations with us in a reserved and private manner" and that Venezuela has always respected the reserved and private character of the same, reaching the signing of agreements that had as their core "the total lifting of all illegal and criminal sanctions against Venezuela. I am not saying it, the signed documents say it".

"There were more than nine meetings: six meetings in Qatar, with the good offices of the Emir of Qatar, and three meetings in Milan. Venezuela was represented in those meetings by Dr. Jorge Rodriguez, an expert in this type of conversations; by fellow governor Hector Rodriguez; by the attorney general of the republic, Dr. Reinaldo (Muñoz), and by the national commissioner of human rights, Larry Devoe", he detailed.

"We have made claims within the framework of these conversations, but outside the talks, an agreement was reached to achieve the release of the political hostage, Venezuelan diplomat, Alex Saab, last December 20. It was an exchange, they returned our kidnapped and tortured diplomat, and we returned a group of CIA agents, some of them had come to invade Venezuela. An exchange as it is done in the international world", he added.

The President warned that the U.S. intends to monitor and control Venezuela's oil industry. "They want Venezuela to live off the licenses they give", he said, and informed that at noon this day "there was a videoconference with them, I am not going to say who were there, I will only say that Jorge and Héctor were there on our behalf".

"They want to do economic damage to Venezuela. I say to the Venezuelans, to the workers, to the women workers, to the businessmen, to the businesswomen, and to all our people, we have taken our own course of work, economic model, with threats and sanctions, we learned to work and to recover", he stressed.

Another issue raised by President Maduro is the situation in the Middle East, adding to other facts of the current situation, and warning that these are actions of "the Zionist, neo-fascist right wing, with the support of the United States of America".

The President pleaded for diplomacy and rationality to prevail and for the conflict not to escalate. "An escalation of the conflict, product of the Nazi madness of (Benjamin) Netanyahu, could lead us to a third world war and Venezuela advocates for peace, rationality, diplomacy and truth", he reiterated.

The Venezuelan President ratified his commitment in the fight against corruption in the South American nation by notifying that "now there were new captures, new revelations" regarding the Pdvsa - Crypto corruption scheme.

"I could say that, if a year ago we struck the first blows, from one to ten we reached three, now we have advanced to seven, eight, to the level of discovery with evidence, irrefutable testimonies, of the responsibility of the highest hierarchs that we have captured and who are in prison, who must be punished with the maximum penalties established by the Venezuelan Criminal Code. Whoever falls," he asserted.

The Venezuelan President indicated that "we are capturing people". In addition, he thanked the investigative capacity of the Prosecutor's Office and the State security forces, since "all the last ones captured have revealed the plot, evidence, names, they had formulas to hide the money in crypto-assets".

Likewise, he reiterated the proposal presented to the Venezuelan people, for them to debate and draw a conclusion, on "putting the maximum penalties that can be imposed, according to Venezuela's customary constitutional law", ratifying that the country's Constitution must be enforced.

Likewise, in relation to the proposal raised, he recalled that any amendment or reform to the Venezuelan Constitution "is obliged to go to the consultation of the popular referendum. The people speak, the people say, the people decide".

The President also affirmed that the ideological division suffered by the opposition sectors in the country is due, in the first instance, to the "failure of the US imperialism in Venezuela". "I am not to blame for the

fact that the opposition has 24 political parties and 12 candidates. That is your fault. We have a great social and political force, united and only one candidate, the candidate is the people", said the President.

President Maduro revealed that during a conversation held with his Colombian counterpart, Gustavo Petro, in Caracas, and after giving him a presentation of the more than two dozen parties that make up the opposition, the president of the neighboring country asked him if he did not think it was wrong for him to meet with several opposition parties.

Similarly, President Maduro highlighted that the interview he held with Petro in Caracas, last April 9, allowed for the review of investments, relations of a diplomatic nature and the issue of border security. "We agreed on new levels of cooperation in the fight against criminal gangs and we talked about the peace process in Colombia," he added.

"We reviewed a wide range of issues and I think that President Petro's visit was very important, very positive and we hope that we will continue with dialogue, understanding and progress in cooperation with Colombia," he said.

The President of the South American nation also rejected the interventionism of the Government of the President of Chile, Gabriel Boric, in Venezuelan affairs, while assuring that with dialogue and respect it will be possible to combat the organization of criminal groups.

"I do not interfere in the internal affairs of Chile, I have never interfered, nobody should interfere in the internal affairs of Venezuela, with respect, with dialogue, with communication, many things can be achieved", he noted. He recalled that the criminal groups operating in Chile were hired by the right wing of that country and "sought to invade Venezuela from Cúcuta, with the help of the imperialist government".

President Maduro offered Chile the Cuadrantes de Paz model, the concept of civic-military-police union and other programs that the Bolivarian Government has built to guarantee citizen security, and which allowed it to put an end to the criminal organization called Tren de Aragua.

Addressing the summit of rulers of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (Celac), to be held this Tuesday virtually, the Venezuelan ruler affirmed that he will condemn the fascist assault on the Mexican Embassy in Quito, Ecuador, to kidnap former Ecuadorian Vice President Jorge Glas, who had received political asylum from the Government of President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador.

"What the government of Ecuador did, of Daniel Noboa, an oligarch of the surnames, Noboa is one of the surnames, of those who have plundered and destroyed Ecuador for long decades with a formation of extreme right, ultra-right very dragged to the politics of the United States," commented the ruler Maduro.

He said that "no one should ever have any doubt" that the violation of the Mexican legation in Quito had the support of the US government, "of the Southern Command, of the State Department".

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