

# *Venezuelan president demands respect for national identity and an end to the persecution of migrants*

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Caracas, March 23 (RHC)-- Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro has demanded that national identity be respected and that the persecution of Venezuelan migrants cease, in the context of complaints against the arbitrary kidnapping of more than 200 migrants unjustly deported by the U.S. to a high-security prison in El Salvador.

During the farewell ceremony for the AB "Simón Bolívar" training ship, which set sail hours earlier to begin a new training voyage, the head of state stated that "many young people believed in the American dream and went there, only to discover that it was not such a dream."

The Venezuelan leader denounced that after seeking job opportunities and a better future, migrants found themselves trapped in a system that persecutes them and subjects them to torture and disappearances without having committed any crimes.

He emphasized that migrating is not a crime and that if someone commits one, "they should have the right to a trial, the right to defense, and due process."

Nicolas Maduro held Salvadoran President Nayib Bukele responsible for the lives and health of Venezuelans deported by the US and held in the Terrorism Confinement Center (CECOT). And he demanded respect for their human rights.

"The time will come when we rescue those kidnapped in Nazi concentration camps in El Salvador," he said, referring to the aforementioned mega-prison. He emphasized that this is a vile attack on Venezuelan identity by violating the rights of compatriots who emigrated after the sanctions imposed on Venezuela by the U.S. and other imperialist countries.

He pointed out that behind this racist message of contempt, championed by Donald Trump and Bukele, "the objective is to try to humiliate the Venezuelan nationality (...) We tell them: no one humiliates us, we are a decent and hard-working people," he emphasized.

He commented that many of these migrants had already requested to be included in the Return to the Homeland Plan to return to Venezuela. "We are going to search for them, every last one, and we are going to reincorporate them into a Venezuela that must grow and fully recover," he added.

Maduro Moros emphasized that the Bolivarian Government is seeking to reestablish repatriation flights from the U.S. and specified that they will resume on Sunday.

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