

Right-Wing Venezuelan with Ties to U.S. in New Panama Papers



Panama City, May 11 (RHC--teleSUR)--One of the Venezuelan names that stands out in the Panama Papers revelations is Edward Saade, the ex-chair of the Venezuela America Chamber of Commerce and Industry, a non governmental organization that has existed for 65 years and encourages cooperation between Venezuela and the United States.

Saade was regularly featured in WikiLeaks' Cablegate meeting with the U.S. Embassy. He described the Venezuelan economy to the U.S. Embassy political officer in 2010 as "very fluid with rising inflation, growing food scarcity, insecurity, and a looming breakdown of the national health care network."

Judging by the text from the cables, the U.S. officials at the embassy in Caracas trusted his word. "The government's standing is being affected by these problems but Saade discounted the possibility of an effective government response (sic)," the cable continues.

Henrique Salas Romer, the head of opposition right-wing party Project Venezuela who ran against late President Chavez in the 1998 presidential election, was also confirmed to be in the papers. He previously had an account called Adamant Holding, which was incorporated in 2003 and struck off in 2016. In January 2015, Salas Romer set up Tannenbaum Ltd, under Seychelles jurisdiction, which is still active.

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