



# CRISIS EN VENEZUELA

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[www.crisisenvenezuela.com](http://www.crisisenvenezuela.com)



## Transparencia Venezuela - [www.transparencia.org.ve](http://www.transparencia.org.ve)

### The Complex Humanitarian Emergency increases venezuelans' vulnerability concerning traffic of person



Traffic of persons is one of the crimes that unmistakably attempts against human beings' dignity and integrity. Around the world, over 40.3 millions people have been cheated and submitted to exploitation. According to United Nations' Office against Drugs and Delinquency, that is the most lucrative illicit business worldwide, that generates around USD 32.000 MM per year. In 2016, the aforementioned Office registered 26.750 victims of human traffic in 110 nations.

Traffic of persons is a complex offence that includes capturing, translation, reception, and sheltering -all of it

using force or other forms of coercion -kidnapping, fraud, swindle, misfeasance- or taking advantage of a given situation of vulnerability, aiming at exploitation. This particular situation includes prostitution and other forms of sexual usage; hard labor; slavery and other similar practices; bondages; and extraction of organs.

Armed conflicts and humanitarian emergencies augment people's vulnerability. Present circumstances and conditions in Venezuela cause that citizens have to face this reality, both inside and outside our country. In the most recent report of the State Department of the United States on traffic of persons, appears that there are Venezuelan victims of this in Tunicia, where they arrived from Trinidad/Tobago. This affirmation is not so surprising, once we know about ships that went wrecked after leaving the port of Güiria Towards Trinidad/Tobago -ships used to translate victims of traffic of persons.

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## PROVEA - [www.derechos.org.ve](http://www.derechos.org.ve)

### Ruben Gonzalez: release postponed

The Hearing of Appeal in the case of unionist Ruben Gonzalez, scheduled Tuesday, July 28, 2020, ended without a sentence. The Martial Court moved from Caracas to Maturin, where the labor leader is arbitrarily kept in prison since November 2018 in La Pica jail's military wing.

The tribunal decided to delay for 10 days the emission of a ruling. Meanwhile, Gonzalez will continue imprisoned, without enjoying minimal guarantees of medical attention required by his delicate state of health. His relatives inform he has suffered several hypertensive crisis and has not had an opportune care; nor has been provided with protection in the context of Covid-19.

Ruben Gonzalez was condemned to five years nine months imprisonment, charged with attack to a sentinel and defamation against Armed Force. But he is a civilian,



who is judged according to military laws, violating our Constitution and international treaties on the matter.

## Acceso a la Justicia - [www.accesoalajusticia.org](http://www.accesoalajusticia.org)

### A proposition for re-institutionalizing administration of justice in Venezuela during transition



In the last report by the Office of United Nations' High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCHR), it was clearly stated that Venezuelan Judicial Power is absolutely dependent on political power; and there is not such thing as access to justice. This is most grave, for it is impossible developing a country without a strong system of justice, accessible and independent.

That is why in NGO Acceso a la Justicia we have been working on a proposition for re-institutionalizing the

Judiciary in the context of transition towards the State of Rights and democracy. Transition can occur via changes in the regime, as the result of a political agreement between government and opposition; and also as a decision of Nicolás Maduro for performing more according to international standards on Human Rights.

In UNHCHR's report -titled same as this note- our proposition is explained in detail. Among the key aspects, outstand constructing a minimal institutionality within Judicial Power in Venezuela; creating bases for a State of Rights in our country; and working specifically on judicial independence, judicial transparency, access to justice, and judicial management.

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## Bloque Constitucional - [www.bloqueconstitucional.com](http://www.bloqueconstitucional.com)

### In Venezuela, the right to health is violated by prohibiting private labs to realize Covid-19 detection tests

In Venezuela, the increment of Coronavirus contagions forecasted by the Academy of Physics, Mathematics, and Natural Sciences is already a reality. The Academy's pronouncement last May 8 recommended, among several measures, "to widen the diagnosing possibilities of SARS-CoV-2 in Venezuela; to keep in force preventive measures taken; and to decentralize testings and studies, allowing the participation of other laboratories nationwide". "Official" ciphers count for over 12.000 infected persons, a number that could actually be higher. It is not a few frontier spots any more: transmission is within communities by now.

Despite that, we face a decision that refuses to grant permits to private labs for realizing Covid-19 test. Thus, the



regime insists on appointing testing only to the National Institute of Hygiene even when at least other eight labs would be capable to assume them if they are duely equipped, since they are paralyzed at the moment for the lack of resources.

Considering these limitations, one infers that the levels of Covid-19 spread will reach soon could be very difficult to deal with and stop, while the State policy on this matter seems to be just counting new contagions and new deceases. Such happens in a country whose sanitary system has been almost totally destroyed, decimating a population that gets more vulnerable by the day. Just like Angela Merkel recently said before the European Parliament, talking about misinformation, "the pandemic cannot be fought with lies".

## Un Mundo Sin Mordaza - [www.sinmordaza.org](http://www.sinmordaza.org)

### Your Art is your Power: a space for creative activists' expression

Un Mundo Sin Mordaza, committed as it has been for 11 years in promoting Human Rights through Art and Culture, impulsed a new project of interviews with artists-activists.

Tu Arte es tu Poder (Your Art is your Power) is a show window for exposing gagless artists, who are principal actors for reconciliation and for creative denouncing; persons who open doors to social reflection via their virtuous talents. Tu Arte es tu

Poder is a space for making society more sensible and for expanding liberties by means of Arts. It will be on the air on



all the platforms of @sinmordaza from August 2nd onwards.

Our guest in the first edition will be Venezuelan Joaquin Salín, considered as one of the best creators in the world for people under 30 years of age; and awarded for his multidisciplinary creative vision. This Art Director presently lives in New York, where he has created an artistic work that has been recognized in Cannes Lions, One Show, and The Webby's;

and will be interviewed by our NGO's president, Rodrigo Diamanti; while Jairam Navas will be the host.

## CEPAZ - [www.cepaz.org](http://www.cepaz.org)

### Access to justice of Venezuelan women in pandemic times

Women who are victims of gender violence in Venezuela confront deep obstacles for acceding justice; and that has been so even before the declaration of Covid-19 pandemic. Such obstacles concern the required police attention; and the General Prosecution Office action or the judicial process, if that ever occurs. It is a common practice, referring victims to other institutions when they denounce facts, without easing and favoring procedures, or providing denouncers with the necessary guiding tools.



There is not a virtual system to guarantee victims' access to organs of justice, despite the existence of an electronic judicial expedient -since 2018- for the use of tribunals that are competent to know of violent offences against women. We cannot consider granted the right to accede justice, only because there is an Organic Law on the Right of Women to a Life Free of Violence; or because there are special tribunals

and resolutions about the matter of genre. Speaking in practical terms, victims do not count on an effective judicial system -and they are even more unprotected in pandemic times.

Such difficulties in the access to justice for women victims of gender violence have the consequence of re-victimizing them, who feel so frustrated that end up desisting from going on. Obviously, this reality derives from the existence of a harmed judicial system and from juridical inequity based upon genre; but now, we must add up new obstacles, related to the disproportional impact that Covid-19 pandemic has on women, as for protection of their rights.

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## Foro Penal - [www.foropenal.com](http://www.foropenal.com)

### Political prisoners in delicate state of health unattended by authorities



By July 31, 2020, Foro Penal had registered 15.543 arbitrary arrests in Venezuela since January 1st, 2014. 870 civilians have been presented before Military Courts. Up to

date, we have accumulated 3.480 political prisoners. From those, 3.098 have obtained full liberty or release under diverse modalities.

By April 2014, we had 117 political prisoners in our country. The number by July 31, 2020, is 382, out of which 29 are women. Besides, 9.221 persons were or still are unfairly submitted to judicial processes under caution measures.

This week, we have received several reports from political prisoners who are in a delicate state of health. Restrictions imposed by penitentiary authorities; plus the lack of access to tribunals; make very difficult the protection of health and life of the inmates. We demand immediate exams and medical treatments for those political prisoners in delicate conditions; and remind that life and health of persons under custody are one of State direct responsibilities.

## Acción Solidaria - [www.accionsolidaria.info](http://www.accionsolidaria.info)

### Stigmatizing: one more obstacle

According to the Real Academy of the Spanish Language; and also to Oxford and Larousse English Dictionaries; the first meaning of the verb to stigmatize is branding an animal or a person with a burning iron; and another one is affronting or defaming. From this two senses, the former is alarmingly appropriate to describe what the treatment of turning venezuelans is, those who, for different reasons, are coming back to our country due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Although they are not literally branded with a marking iron, when they are called names like "biological weapons", "bio-terrorists", "trocheros", "outlaws", and many other terms like those, words are like burning irons and their effect is the same: separation.

It is necessary to underline that none of such adjectives is based on a scientific basis, the least of all on a humanitarian reasoning. It is simply a way to deviate their responsibility for contagions, and address it on turning venezuelans' shoulders. We must remember that, when the first coronavirus cases appeared in our country, the label used was that Covid-19 was a virus transmitted by persons who could travel, and was happening in only certain sectors in Caracas (where upper-classes reside). Today, before the constant raise of cases in the last weeks, we know that Science was right.

Human Rights defender and president of Acción Solidaria, Feliciano Reyna, explained this situation



thoroughly via Twitter: the State is entirely responsible concerning this pandemic; and is obliged, not only to stand away and refrain from engaging in this type of treatments against Venezuelan turning migrants; but also to provide an efficient health system and safety inputs to this sector's personnel, in order to enable them for fighting this virus adequately.

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## Espacio Público - [www.espaciopublico.org](http://www.espaciopublico.org)

### PNB officers intimidated a journalist for photographing in a gas station



Four agents of Bolivarian National Police (PNB) intimidated Franklin Rodríguez, a journalist of NotiPascua and El Nacional, as he was taking

pictures of a line of vehicles in gas station El Lido, in Valle de la Pascua, state of Guárico.

Rodríguez was on the site for trying to fill his car's tank; and PNB officers attempted to tow it away, apart from snatching his cell phone, since he did not have an "authorization" to report from that place.

Besides, the four agents held Rodríguez's I.D. and his National College of Journalist card; and

Rodríguez had to go to the nearest Police Station, as required by the policemen. Once in there, a commander ordered to give the documents back to the reporter.



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