

March 27th, 2020

## **Vente Venezuela about the US Department of Justice indictments for narcoterrorism of Nicolas Maduro and 13 members of the regime**

The charges filed this Thursday, March 26 by the United States Department of Justice against Nicolas Maduro and other 13 members of the Venezuelan criminal regime, confirm what Vente Venezuela has denounced for years: Venezuelans face a criminal-terrorist State, which is a great threat to the security of the Hemisphere. The suffering of the Venezuelan people shall only stop when this regime ends.

Yesterday, the United States Department of Justice unveiled the results of a long-term investigation carried out by various departments and agencies. In a nation with an effective system of checks and balances, these decisions reflect policies of State to combat international crime and protect national security.

The allegations presented by the United States Department of Justice evidence that Maduro and Cartel de los Soles introduced cocaine to the United States, using drug trafficking as a weapon against this country and its institutions. The group of indicted individuals includes individuals usurping the Executive Power, high ranking members of the National Armed Forces (NAF) and the president of the regime's illegitimate Supreme Tribunal of Justice, Maikel Moreno. Thus, evidencing the criminal-terrorist nature of the entire usurper regime.

Additionally, these investigations evidence that these criminal activities were put in place during the government of Hugo Chávez.

For these reasons, Vente Venezuela has insisted that this criminal regime must be faced with firm and escalating internal and external pressure, in order to create a strong and imminent threat forcing them to leave power.

Today, we tell our compatriots that we are not alone; that our Western allies consider a priority to support us in the eviction of this mafia system, whose operations and damages can no longer be contained within the borders of Venezuela.

The global crisis caused by the spread of the Coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) further evidences our present danger. The corruption and indolence unleashed by the mafias for the last 20 years, have placed the country in a situation of extreme vulnerability and risk. Like any totalitarian system, the reaction has been more repression and lies, further increasing the danger for everyone.

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We should not allow them to use the pandemic as an excuse to control, attack and persecute our people, as they have been doing with our health professionals, journalists and workers - or to silence those of not willing to give evil a truce.

Let's make it crystal clear: this criminal-terrorist regime represents a health threat in the midst of this pandemic. However, the nature of the regime, as well as its relation with organized crime and international terrorism render it a real threat to the security of the whole region. The international democratic community at last has come to understand this.

Finally, we ratify our position of rejecting false dialogues and any other covert appeasing strategies conceived by the regime to obtain oxygen, money and time.

From now on, inside or outside of the country, those who insist in cohabitating with the tyranny, must bear in mind that they are accomplices of the largest drug-trafficking cartel in the world. A cartel so dangerous, that even a global pandemic could not prevent the long arm of justice from reaching it.

Venezuelans, decisions such as those taken by the United States' Department of Justice are appropriate for advancing towards our liberation. As a Nation, we are facing the coronavirus, and we do so well aware that it does not deter our fight to defeat this tyranny, which has so greatly harmed us.

We are still standing on our feet after facing so much horror. We are a noble, brave and honest people, refusing to accept trivialization of evil or to give up on our principles. We shall win! We shall leave the virus behind, and also this totalitarianism, with its network of corruption and cruelty.

**Truth shall prevail and so will justice!**

Caracas, March 27,2020