



Ministry of People's Power for Foreign Affairs

Weekly Newsletter / May 21th 2021

TOPIC OF THE WEEK



The victory of peace and patriotism

On May 20, 2018, Nicolás Maduro won a presidential election for the second time. With 68% of the votes, the candidate of the Great Patriotic Pole surpassed Henri Falcón (Avanzada Progresista), Javier Bertucci (El Cambio) and Reinaldo Quijada (UPP 89).

This triumph reaffirmed the capacity for dialogue with various political sectors by signing a document of guarantees for the process, in which political parties dissociated themselves from abstentionist factors, which sought to delegitimize the exercise of the vote.

During the electoral process there were international observers and the participation of political parties in the audits of the event, as a sign of transparency.

After announcing the results, President Maduro thanked the popular support: "We are the force of history turned into a popular victory, a permanent popular victory."

PHOTO: ARCHIVE / PRESS PRESIDENTIAL

Dialogue, a distinctive feature of the Bolivarian Revolution

The Venezuelan government and sectors of the opposition are getting ready for a new dialogue process. This has been a permanent topic in President Nicolas Maduro diary, throughout his 8 years in office and it has also constituted a distinctive feature of the Bolivarian Revolution, even when faced with brutal antidemocratic actions.

In the spirit of defense of peace and democracy, meetings have been held both in Venezuela, in the Dominican Republic and in Barbados, with international accompaniment, to settle differences and put an end to maneuvers such as the seditious actions perpetrated in 2014 and 2017.

Now, a process is being opened once again with all sectors, including the most extreme and violent of the opposition, involved in the disregard of the Venezuelan State and the kidnapping of assets of the Republic abroad. For this dialogue, President Maduro urges them to renounce the coup, interventionism, the call for invasions, as well as the pro-

motion and support of the economic blockade, in addition to respecting the Constitution.

Additionally, the President said that the opposition must be held accountable for the resources and kidnapped assets, such as CITGO and Monómeros companies, which it handed over to the United States government and that those assets must be returned to Venezuela.

"In the end they recognize that they have to speak with the governing and majority force of Venezuela," said the head of State, who reiterated his willingness to dialogue for the future and prosperity of the country.

This new phase of dialogue is positively received by opposition leaders such as Henrique Capriles, former presidential candidate; Enrique Ochoa Antich and Claudio Fermín, who recognize the need to break with extremism and reverse the economic blockade.

PHOTO: ARCHIVE / PRESS PRESIDENTIAL

IN THIS EDITION

DIPLOMACY

- Cooperation in tourism
- 8 soldiers kidnapped by terrorists
- 20 years of brotherhood
- First woman heading the CARICOM
- Medical supplies from China

VENEZUELA IN IMAGES

- Movie recreates the Carabobo deed

HUMANITY ON THE MOVE

- Double standards on the protection of migrants

UNBLOCK

- US blockade, crime against humanity

CAPSULES OF IDEAS

- "... Uncle Sam has no conscience ..."

BEATS OF OUR PEOPLE

- Jacinto Convit, hero of public health

HEROIC ROOTS

- Indigenous resistance for freedom

UNCOVERING FAKE NEWS

- Lawsuit for moral damages distorted by the media



DIPLOMACY

Russia and Venezuela deepen tourism cooperation

As part of the Program for Cooperation on Tourism 2021-2023, signed between Russia and Venezuela last March, the Executive Vice-President of the Republic, Delcy Rodríguez, held a meeting in Caracas with 90 Russian tour operators, within the framework of a wide range of partnerships enjoyed by both countries.

The promoters have been in Venezuela since early May and have visited tourist attractions such as

Canaima National Park, Margarita Island and Los Roques Archipelago.

Another important step to boost tourism between Russia and Venezuela is the inauguration of the Caracas-Moscow air route by the state-owned company Conviasa, a flight considered historic for being the first in the 21st century to connect the Eurasian giant with Latin America and the Caribbean.

PHOTO: COURTESY

Venezuela demands release of 8 soldiers kidnapped by Colombian terrorists

Venezuela reported to the international community the kidnapping of eight military personnel by irregular Colombian armed groups that were fought by the Bolivarian National Armed Forces (FANB) in the state of Apure, in the south of the country, and demanded "the preservation of their lives and physical integrity," as well as their prompt liberation.

In a communiqué, the FANB reported that on May 9 it received a proof of life sent by these "terrorist organizations dedicated to drug trafficking, kidnapping and extortion, among other criminal activities" and that the People's Power Ministry for Foreign Relations "is coordinating with the International Committee of the Red Cross, to serve as liaison in the liberation of our brother combatants." The Minister of Foreign Relations, Jorge Arreaza, expressed his gratitude to the international organization for its "professionalism and rigour, to jointly generate the necessary conditions for a safe and prompt liberation."



VENEZUELA IN IMAGES

Movie production recreates the Carabobo deed

On June 24 Venezuela will premiere "Carabobo, Liberty Roads". The nine episode series will show the crucial actions of seven historical characters for the victory of the Battle of Carabobo. This production, in charge of Venezuelan filmmaker and histo-

rian Luis Alberto Lamata, it is being filmed in the scenarios where the battle was held 200 years ago. It was done through a public casting and has involved artisans in the elaboration of the costumes.

PHOTO: COURTESY

NEWS BRIEF



20 years of brotherhood

Venezuela and Iran celebrate 20 years of a new era of bilateral relations which began with the visit of Commander Hugo Chávez to Tehran, on May 19, 2001. The strategic relation and brotherhood between both nations is reflected in diverse agreements which benefit their peoples in the scientific, energy, military, cultural and educational areas.

PHOTO: ARCHIVE / MPPRE

First woman heading the CARICOM

Venezuela greeted the appointment of Carla Barnett, as Secretary General of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM). She is the first woman and first citizen from Belize to occupy the position. "We hope to continue working hand in hand to consolidate the union of Latin America and the Caribbean," Venezuela's Foreign Relations Minister Jorge Arreaza stated.

Medical supplies from China

This week 25 tons of medical supplies arrived to Venezuela from China. These will be delivered to states with the most Covid-19 cases. The shipment includes oxygen, spare parts for mechanical ventilation, needles for vaccination programs and personal protection equipment.

Coordination with the World Food Program

Foreign Relations Minister, Jorge Arreaza, held the first work meeting with the representative and director ad interim of the World Food Program in Venezuela, Susana Rico, to coordinate cooperation efforts in the country with this UN authority.



HUMANITY ON THE MOVE



ESTATUTO DE PROTECCIÓN TEMPORAL (TPS) DE ESTADOS UNIDOS A LA MIGRACIÓN VENEZOLANA:

política discrecional y beneficio provisional sin garantías

Double standards on the protection of Venezuelan migrants in the US

US President Joe Biden faces a humanitarian crisis on the southern border of his country, where thousands of migrants, with many unaccompanied minors, end up crammed into shelters and detention centers without the required sanitary conditions, even more so in these Covid-19 times.

Meanwhile, with clear political intentions, Biden does not issue a Temporary Protection Statute (TPS) for Mexican or Central American migrants but for Venezuelans.

TPS does not mean legal status, much less US citizenship, only provisional protection against deportation and permits to work in the US for a limited time. The government has the power to terminate TPS whenever it wants, as in fact happened during the Trump administration with the cases of Haiti and Honduras.

In parallel to the staging, according to which it is intended to protect Venezuelans, the Biden government announced the renewal of the Executive Order that affirms that Venezuela is "an unusual and extraordinary threat to the se-

Keys:

- The TPS is a discretionary measure, and denotes the double standards in human rights with the Venezuela case.
- It is frequently used as a form of pressure for countries not aligned with Washington.

curity and foreign policy" of the United States, a legal instrument on which the criminal and systematic unilateral coercive measures against the Venezuelan people are based.

If the new US administration was so concerned about our compatriots, it could grant - instead of TPS - access to permanent residence. Or better yet, end the illegal economic blockade of the country, which would end the process of human mobility that has happened in recent years.

IMAGE: ARCHIVE / COURTESY

CAPSULES OF IDEAS

"America's conscience is bankrupt. She lost all conscience a long time ago. Uncle Sam has no conscience. They don't know what morals are. They don't try and eliminate an evil because it's evil, or because it's illegal, or because it's immoral; they eliminate it only when it threatens their existence. So you're wasting your time appealing to the moral conscience of a bankrupt man like Uncle Sam."

Malcolm X, "The Ballot or the Bullet," Cleveland speech, April 3, 1964.

UNBLOCK



US blockade, crime against humanity

In order to publicize the negative impact of the Unilateral Coercive Measures (UCM) imposed by the United States and its European allies against Venezuela, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Jorge Arreaza, met on Monday, May 17th, with Elena Valenciano and Judyta Wasowska, from the NGO Center for Humanitarian Dialogue.

In addition to knowing the consequences of the UCM on the lives of Venezuelans, Valenciano and Wasowska evaluated with Foreign Minister Arreaza opportunities for cooperation with the NGO, located in Switzerland and founded in 1998.

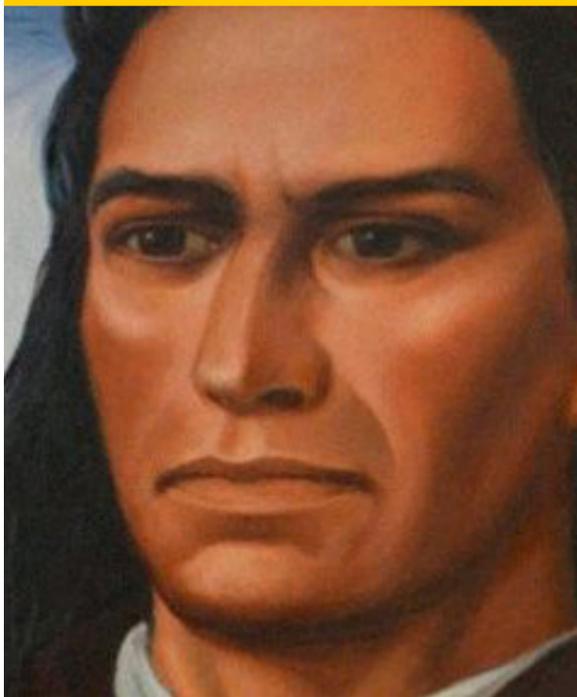
With these actions, Venezuela continues to fight against the brutal economic blockade imposed on the country. Among its serious consequences, these measures that violate International Law have recently caused the death of children like Diego Arvelo, one year old, who was waiting for a liver transplant through the health program financed by PDVSA-Citgo, a company kidnapped by the US government in collusion with its agents from a sector of the Venezuelan opposition. The Latin American Foundation for Human Rights and Social Development (Fundalatin, Spanish initials) reported on Twitter that this case was referred to the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC), Fatou Bensouda, before which Venezuela maintains a complaint of these violations of the Human Rights.

Fundalatin added that four other files of minors who died victims of the imperial blockade were also sent.

IMAGE: COURTESY



HEROIC ROOTS



Túpac Amaru II: indigenous resistance for freedom

In Cuzco, Peru, began the largest indigenous rebellion in the Americas. Between 1780 and 1781, the rebellions led by José Gabriel Condorcanqui, known as Túpac Amaru II, took place in Peruvian territory.

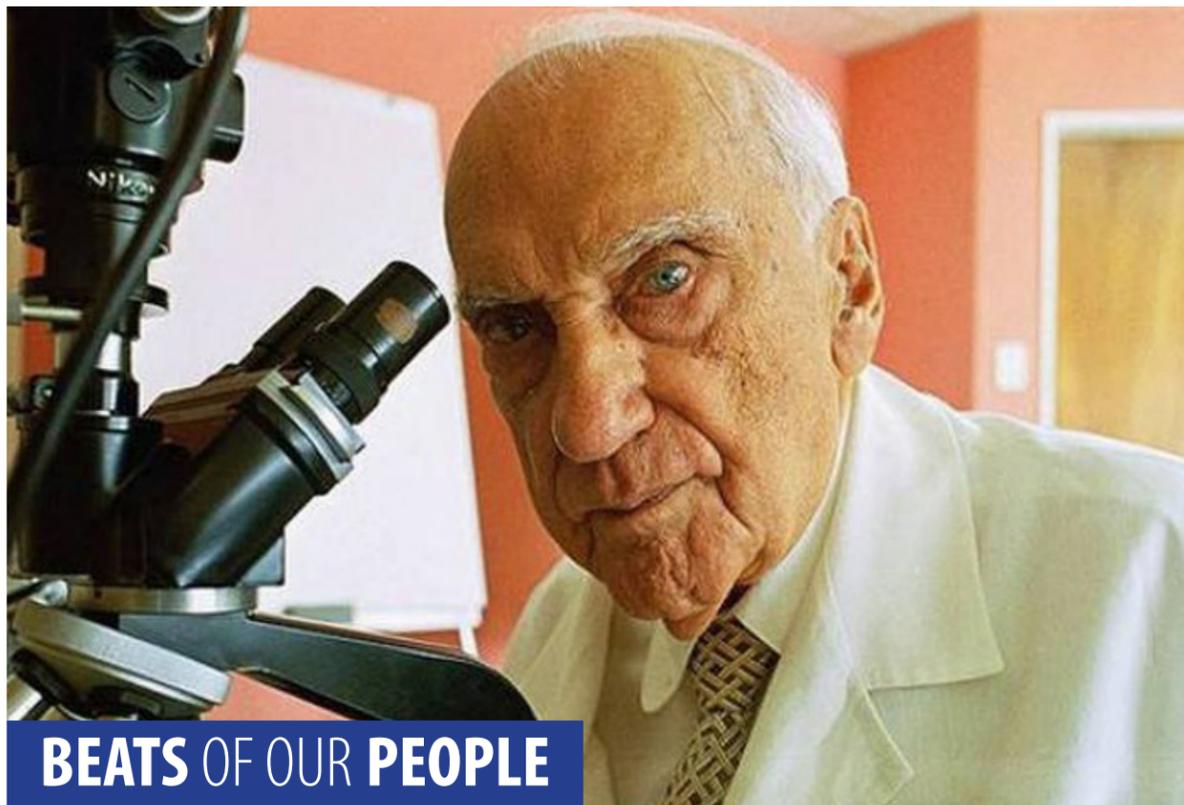
Son of the glorious Inca people, he demanded an end to the harassment of the natives and that of the rule of the Spanish crown. He led feats such as the defeat of the royalist army at Sangarará, on November 18, 1780.

In those struggles 100 thousand indigenous people were killed and Tupac Amaru II was captured in April 1781. After witnessing the murder of relatives and collaborators, he was tied to horses in a feat meant to dismember him, an action that failed. He was therefore beheaded on May 18.

The assassination did not prevent the rebellious spirit of Túpac Amaru from surviving to fuel other movements such as the one led by Bolivian Túpac Katari, in 1781, and the deepening of indigenous resistance against imperialism, a pillar of South America's independence, in the 19th century.

To honour this sacrifice of our original ancestors, in Venezuela Commander Hugo Chavez decreed, in 2002, October 12th as the Indigenous Resistance Day, "destined to recognize our Americanist self-affirmation for the unity, cultural and human diversity, vindicating both the indigenous peoples of America and the contributions of the African, Asian and European people and cultures in shaping our nationality, in the spirit of dialogue of civilizations, for peace and justice."

IMAGE: ARCHIVE / COURTESY



BEATS OF OUR PEOPLE

Jacinto Convit, public health hero

He could have chosen another specialty, but Jacinto Convit decided to start in 1938 as a doctor at the Cabo Blanco leper colony, in La Guaira, north central Venezuela. There, patients were isolated and, many times, chained to prevent them from leaving. Such treatment led the man from Caracas to work for years from public health facilities to create decent services to treat leprosy. As a scientist, he conceived the National Institute of Dermatology in 1965. Later, it became the Institute of Biomedicine, and is the headquarters of the Pan American Centre for Research and Training in Leprosy and Tropical Diseases.

In 1987, he discovered the model leprosy vaccine and, along with findings from his intense research,

made Venezuela the first country to close down leprosariums and tear down stigmas associated with the disease. He also designed the leishmaniasis vaccine and contributed to studies of other tropical diseases.

Convit, a staunch defender of preventive medicine with community participation, joined in the fight against cancer and at the age of 100 published his latest scientific study.

"Winning the Nobel Prize does not take away my sleep, but finding a cure for cancer does," expressed the doctor, nominated for that award. Although he passed away at the age of 100, his last yearning was the goal of the foundation that bears his name.

PHOTO: ARCHIVE / COURTESY

UNCOVERING FAKE NEWS

The lawsuit for moral damages distorted by the media

Lying to conceal the legal responsibility that defamation entails, utilizing allegations about freedom of expression, political persecution or covert expropriation, is the framework in which compensation for 237 thousand petros (Venezuelan cryptocurrency) or about US\$ 13 million is intended, that the newspaper El Nacional must pay the MP and revolutionary leader Diosdado Cabello for moral damages.

In 2015, the political leader sued the newspaper, which has already lost other cases of defamation lawsuit, for replicating without contrast from sources content published by the ABC newspaper of Spain, which assured without evidence that Diosdado Cabello was investigated in the US for links to drug trafficking.

In 2018, a fine of one billion bolivars was im-

posed. After an appeal, the ruling was ratified and in 2021, the Supreme Court of Justice recalculated the compensation for evidence of procedural disorder.

On May 14, the executive embargo of the media company's headquarters in Caracas (equivalent to 60% of the total compensation), abandoned by its owners in 2018, was fulfilled to lease its offices to foreign companies. On the property was, left behind, unused equipment such as a rotary purchased with foreign exchange subsidies.

The media company, also by decision of its owners, continued to operate in digital format in total normality after abandoning the building, which was donated by Diosdado Cabello and will now serve as the International Communications University.