



RESOLUTION ON VENEZUELA
IDU PARTY LEADERS MEETING, 18-21 FEBRUARY 2018, SPAIN

The IDU calls upon its members to take notice on the democratic and humanitarian crisis in Venezuela, which has become worse in the last weeks. Since the Chavez regime took office more than 17 years ago, with the aid of the Cuban communist government Venezuela had gradually become what it is now, a dictatorship.

Therefore the IDU

- 1.) Urges its members to recognise the disastrous humanitarian situation in Venezuela and denounce the illegitimate action of the Maduro regime against the Assamblea Nacional as activities against democracy and the constitution of Venezuela.
- 2.) Requests its members and their governments to take targeted sanctions against senior members of the Maduro regime.
- 3.) Requests its members and their governments to demand from the Maduro regime to open urgently humanitarian channels to deliver food, medicine and everyday needs to the people.
- 4.) Urges its members and their governments to recognise the upcoming elections as illegitimate and und un-democratic.

Statement

The IDU expresses its concern about the political, social and economic crisis that Venezuela is going through, victimizing its 30 million inhabitants. The South American country ceased to be a democracy; its republican institutions and social fabric have been gradually destroyed, transforming the nation into a territory of repression and imprisonment, disqualification of opponents, violation of the rule of law and corruption. The country has become the headquarters of international criminal organizations.

IDU strongly condemns the expulsion of the Spanish ambassador Jesús Silva Fernández from Venezuela, in a clear reprisal for the sanctions imposed by the European Union, violating the basic principles of diplomacy and attacking the interests of Venezuelans who demand the restoration of freedom and democracy for their country.

It is imperative that the opposition parties jointly request the internal and external support necessary to denounce this new violation of the law before the United Nations Electoral Assistance and the Constitutional Court in exile, appointed by the legitimate Venezuelan parliament earlier this year. When there is no pluralistic participation, one cannot speak of democracy.

It is a demand from the democratic conscience that Nicolás Maduro and his regime stop interfering and manipulating the Constitution and the laws of Venezuela.

Candidate Maduro was denounced to the International Criminal Court in The Hague, through a document signed by more than 130 representatives of the people, so that said judicial institution can make a preliminary analysis of crimes against humanity that took place during the 2017 protests in Venezuela.

IDU supports the decisions made by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs at the recent meeting of the Lima Group, condemning the irregular call for elections and their assessment of the situation of fundamental rights in Venezuela. IDU also expresses its support for the European Council for its position on Venezuela and emphasize the need for it to maintain a firm attitude on the sanctions approved.