

No to US Interference in Venezuela!

I demand the US government stop interfering in Venezuela's electoral affairs! Stop funding and advising those who are acting violently to overthrow its democratically-elected government! I call on Congress to reject all proposals for sanctions against Venezuela. Venezuela's government was elected through a system that Jimmy Carter calls “the best in the world”. Anti-democratic extremists like Maria Corina Machado refuse to accept election results. Machado called for “creating chaos in the streets....every corner, every market, every school and university.” Sanctions against Venezuela would just duplicate the failed sanctions against Cuba. They would isolate and alienate the US throughout the hemisphere and world. **Consider the following:**

- **Opposition violence is extreme and provocative.** The leading cause of protest-related deaths has been people crashing, being shot or otherwise assaulted while trying to remove or cross opposition barricades.
- **Venezuela is striving to act responsibly in the face of protests.** As of March 28, 2013, the Attorney General had already opened 60 investigations into alleged human rights violations and imprisoned 15 officials in connection with those incidents.
- **Prominent protest leaders have an anti-democratic and sometimes violent history.** Leopoldo Lopez participated in the 2002 coup attempt when he oversaw the violent arrest of the Interior Minister who was dragged into the street and beaten by an angry mob. Maria Corina Machado was among those present when the 2002 coup regime dissolved the congress, the constitution and the Supreme Court.
- **President Maduro has repeatedly asked for dialogue.** He invited opposition leaders to a February 24 meeting but defeated presidential candidate Henrique Capriles rejected the offer.

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PLEASE RETURN TO: Alliance for Global Justice 225 East 26th Street, South Tucson, Arizona 85713