

# CALL TO ACTION. UN: stop the crime against humanity committed by US blockade of Venezuela

**TO: THE MEMBERS OF THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL**

**DATE: 6 August 2019**

**FROM: Hands Off Latin America, Saskatoon, SK., Canada**

**RE: US SANCTIONS ON VENEZUELA ARE A CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY THAT THE UNITED NATIONS MUST STOP**

US sanctions on Venezuela prevent the country from purchasing urgently needed medicines, food and spare parts to maintain the infrastructure of Venezuela.

This means that the hospitals cannot function as they should because there is not enough reliable electricity or medicines. According to the report of US economists Weisbrot and Sachs **by the end of 2018 already 40,000 Venezuelans had died due to these sanctions.**

- The water distribution system doesn't work reliably so some people have to resort to unsafe sources;
- The oil production is in crisis because the diluents to make the Venezuelan crude transportable/exportable cannot be imported;
- Oil exports, the lifeline of the country are seriously impeded;
- Food production is greatly compromised because the imported equipment and supplies needed to produce it on the needed massive scale is blocked...the list goes on.

The US blockade and sanctions also block Venezuelan assets abroad that were a source of income and collateral for loans for the country. The Trump administration has threatened with fines any enterprises in the world doing business with the US if they do business with Venezuela.

The US administration and their allies want to remove the elected Venezuelan government and replace it with their chosen unelected and obedient choice. They have illegally appropriated Venezuelan assets in the USA, including the CITGO Corp. and outrageously distributed the funds to opposition leaders and agents.

The US now has tightened these sanctions with a full blockade since all the illegal attempts at removing the elected Venezuelan government so far have failed because of its solid popular support. Ironically this is happening when the US is protesting vigorously the threats by Iran to block the straits of Hormuz, stating that these straits are an international channel of trade and blocking them is a violation of International law.

These sanctions and blockade are a violation of the Charter of the UN, of the OAS Charter, and the Vienna Convention on the conduct of war. The collective punishment of populations, in this case, of the Venezuelan people, **is a crime against humanity.**

**These sanctions and blockade should be condemned by the world's nations and the venue for that is the United Nations that was founded to stop such criminal actions and safeguard world peace.**

**The world is waiting for your timely and efficient response to these outrages. The very future of the reputation and purpose of the United Nations depends on it.**

H.O.L.A. Saskatoon, SK., Canada

**E-MAILS OF THE MEMBERS OF THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL ONE AT A TIME.**

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