



His Excellency Mr. Iván Duque  
President of the Republic of Colombia

Dear Mr. President,

Venezuela suffers a non-conventional conflict, representing a risk to peace and security in the Western Hemisphere. It is not a conflict between Venezuelans. It is a conflict between criminal interest groups operating within the Country and generating instability in the whole region.

Colombia is one of the most affected countries in this conflict. This complex humanitarian crisis is evidenced by the millions of people fleeing the Country, crossing the many regular and irregular borders. Many of them settle in Colombia, while others migrate to other Andean countries. Meanwhile, the traffic of drugs and gasoline, as well as other products, are increasing, generating new mafia networks and criminal gangs that violate any national or regional security mechanism.

These mafia networks continue to support and sustain the Maduro regime. Consequently, the conflict shall not subside as long as these mafia and criminal groups remain. In a non-conventional scenario such as this one, any dialogue lacking a true intermediation and without clear conditions for an end of the regime, shall only contribute to worsen the conflict.

The world no longer has any doubts: Far from protecting the people from unnecessary suffering and death, the Maduro regime is responsible for a systematic attack against Venezuelans. Therefore, those of us who are aware of the seriousness and risk of this conflict, understand the urgent need to raise our voice before Colombia, regarding the need to implement the international principle of **Responsibility to Protect (A / RES / 60/1, paragraph 139, UN)**. The R2P is applicable in view of the ever-growing presence of crimes against humanity and threats to the people. To this day, at least seven crimes typified in the Rome Statute (OAS, 2018), have been ratified in Venezuela.

This international principle is similarly supported by the Venezuelan legal framework: Venezuelan Constitution, Article 187, number 11, concerning the powers of the National Assembly. Already, a group of Venezuelans have asked the National Assembly to request the entrance of a **humanitarian-military peace mission into the Country**.

This mission would not only promote effective aid to the Venezuelan population, but would also promote the definitive change of regime, permitting the eviction of mafias and protecting Venezuelans against the crimes and tortures of the tyranny of Nicolas Maduro.

Venezuela and Colombia share a solid republican tradition, with unbreakable western principles and values. The people of Venezuelan can no longer be alone in stopping the conflict overflowing its borders. We need Colombia and the democratic world. For this reason, those of us wishing to preserve said traditions and live in peace, freedom and security, ask you to raise this request before the corresponding international bodies, and protect Venezuelans from the criminal state that subjugates them.

Respectfully,

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Signature

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Printed Name