



Caracas, 2021

Mr. President Joe Biden

The White House

Washington, D.C.

Present.-

In 1806 a group of Americans, led by Venezuelan Francisco de Miranda, joined a military assault to promote the liberation of Venezuela, a colony under the oppression of Spain.

These Americans landed near Ocumare de la Costa, northeastern Venezuela, fighting against Spanish troops. A group of these men were killed (a total of 200 came on the boats) and at least 10 were captured and subsequently hanged by the Spanish regime.

Years later, in the government of President Cipriano Castro, a monument "Column to the Americans", is ordered to be erected in Puerto Cabello, in honor of this sacrifice, currently known as Plaza del Aguila.

Today, Venezuela, Latin America's oil power, is subjected to a new oppression. Without consultation with the country, the interests of Cuba and Russia, mainly, have isolated Venezuela, making it the Zimbabwe of the continent.

We Venezuelans need help, like the one Francisco de Miranda received from Americans, who saw in freedom a good reason for giving their lives. Although the liberation of Venezuela is a little-known matter, it has American blood.

What America is doing now to help Venezuelans is not working. An isolation policy designed for the Cold War makes little sense in the 21st century.

Sanctions on Venezuela must cease, but their lifting must be tied to strengthening democracy, and free, credible and verifiable elections. Sanctions have been a blessing to dictator Maduro at the end of the day. The U.S. should have sanctioned the entire corrupt circle of Nicolás Maduro, but never the country, ever Venezuela.

The United States in its effort to fight Maduro, has attacked Venezuela economically, and so the ones that suffer are the poor. The so-called

interim government is the best favor Washington has given to the regime's propaganda. The smear, corruption, coupled with the lack of

popular support of the interim government, has allowed the Maduro regime to ignore and minimize the efforts of entrepreneurs, the Church, as well as civil society sectors to seek democratic change in the country.

Mr. President, I think your administration must, through the State Department, promote a comprehensive national dialogue that includes all sectors that oppose the regime, as well as the representatives of the dictatorship themselves, to resume negotiations that lead towards presidential elections.

The Maduro regime should get in this negotiation, a clear future in case of an electoral defeat, and the lifting of sanctions on the country, prior to the elections event. Political opposition, for its part, should get a precise date of presidential

elections, with international observation and counting of ballots, as well as the enabling of all disabled parties and candidates.

We have recently participated in elections in Venezuela. We have demonstrated how electoral fraud operates. We know where to put the correctives, so that the regime does not mock the popular will.

If Maduro's regime tries to buy time in the negotiation and does not commit itself to the necessity of a new presidential election, its failure will be in sight of the world.

Likewise, if it is not possible to end the trial of the Interim government and the State Department, along with the White House, continue coating with formol an obviously decaying

corpse, then we would have missed the opportunity to unite the country's opposition, in the legitimate purpose of evicting Nicolas Maduro from power.

Mr. President, in the Avila, the mountain that surrounds the city of Caracas, awaits a place to erect a new monument to the Americans who help today to liberate Venezuela, as they did with Francisco Miranda more than two centuries ago.

Help us!

Leocenis Garcia

National Coordinator of ProCitizens