

November 11, 2015

His Excellency, Nicolas Maduro,
President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela
Miraflores Palace
Caracas

Dear President Maduro:

Given the importance, both to your country and to the region, of the legislative elections that will take place in Venezuela on December 6 of this year, it is our strong desire that they take place under free, transparent and democratic conditions. Given that the National Assembly plays a vital role in making decisions that affect the everyday lives of citizens in the country, it is essential that the elections reflect the interests and will of all Venezuelans.

As legislators, we recognize the importance of ensuring the legitimacy of these elections and the National Assembly, and therefore respectfully request that you allow the participation of various international bodies, particularly the Organization of American States and the European Union, as electoral observers. As citizens go to the polls, the presence of qualified international observers would permit all Venezuelans to have the highest degree of confidence in the integrity of the process and the electoral results.

Additionally, we would like to take this opportunity to express our concern about reports detailing the disqualification of several candidates. In a country that features diverse political opinions, it is troubling that the disqualifications have only targeted members of opposition parties. This situation contributes to a public perception that the current electoral climate in the country is defined by political bias and an absence of full electoral safeguards.

Lastly, it is important to recognize that this election will not include the participation of several leaders that remain imprisoned. In this context, we echo the expressions of the various foreign dignitaries, representing diverse political ideologies, who have unsuccessfully attempted to visit the imprisoned political and student leaders and we call for their immediate release. We remain concerned about the possible impact that an issue of this magnitude will have in deterring electoral participation.

In closing, we reiterate our desire for a successful outcome in the upcoming elections in Venezuela and the need for your support in facilitating the participation of international election observers to guarantee the objectivity and credibility of the process.

Sincerely,

United States Senate

Senator Benjamin Cardin (D-MD)
Senator John McCain (R-AZ)
Senator Mark Kirk (R-IL)
Senator Bill Nelson (D-FL)
Senator David Perdue (R-GA)
Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-CA)
Senator John Barrasso (R-WY)
Senator Tom Udall (D-NM)
Senator John Cornyn (R-TX)

Senator Richard Durbin (D-IL)
Senator Patrick J. Leahy (D-VT)
Senator Robert Menendez (D-NJ)
Senator Jeff Merkley (D-OR)
Senator Tim Kaine (D-VA)
Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH)
Senator Roger F. Wicker (R-MS)
Senator Christopher Coons (D-DE)
Senator Edward Markey (D-MA)

Senado Federal do Brasil

Senador Aécio Neves (PDSB-MG)
Senador Tasso Jereissati (PSDB-CE)
Senador Ricardo Ferraço (PMDB-ES)
Senador Flexa Ribeiro (PSDB-PA)
Senadora Ana Amélia (PP-RS)
Senador Wellington Fagundes (PR-MT)
Senadora Simone Tebet (PMDB-MS)
Senador José Serra (PSDB-SP)
Senador Paulo Bauer (PSDB-SC)
Senador Dário Berger (PMDB-SC)
Senador Otto Alencar (PSD-BA)
Senador Zeze Perrella (PDT-MG)
Senador Romero Jucá (PMDB-RR)
Senador Dalirio Beber (PSDB-SC)
Senador Ataídes Oliveira (PSDB-TO)
Senador Antonio Valadares (PSB-SE)

Senador Aloysio Nunes Ferreira (PSDB-SP)
Senador Álvaro Dias (PSDB-PR)
Senador Cássio Cunha Lima (PSDB-PB)
Senador Lasier Martins (PDT-RS)
Senador Sérgio Petecão (PSD-AC)
Senador Ronaldo Caiado (DEM-GO)
Senador José Medeiros (PPS-MT)
Senador Jorge Viana (PT-AC)
Senador Fernando Bezerra (PSB-PE)
Senador Cristovam Buarque (PDT-DF)
Senador Omar Aziz (PSD-AM)
Senador Antonio Anastasia (PSDB-MG)
Senador Eduardo Amorim (PSC-SE)
Senador José Agripino (DEM-RN)
Senador Walter Pinheiro (PT-BA)
Senadora Marta Suplicy (PMDB-SP)

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Senador Mauricio Aguilar (OC)

Senador Laureano Acuña (PC)
Senador Luis Andrade (MAIS)

Senador Hernán Andrade (PC)
Senador Roy Barreras (U)
Senadora Nadya Blel (PC)
Senador Bernabé Celis (CR)
Senador Jimmy Chamorro (U)
Senador Juan Corzo (PC)
Senador Edinson Delgado (PL)
Senador Jaime Duran (PL)
Senador Manuel Enríquez (U)
Senador Juan Galan (PL)
Senadora Daira Galvis (CR)
Senador Guillermo García (PL)
Senador Lidio García (PL)
Senadora Sofía Gaviria (PL)
Senador José Gnecco (U)
Senador Antonio Guerra (CR)
Senadora Claudia López (AV)
Senador Juan Merheg (PC)
Senador Martín Morales (U)
Senador Carlos Motoa (CR)
Senador Iván Name (AV)
Senadora Myriam Paredes (PC)
Senador Jorge Prieto (AV)
Senador Juan Restrepo (CR)
Senador Carlos Soto (U)
Senador Fernando Tamayo (PC)
Senador Rodrigo Villalba (PL)

Senador Marco Avirama (ASI)
Senador Armando Benedetti (U)
Senador Angel Cabrera (U)
Senador Efraín Cepeda (PC)
Senador Arturo Char (CR)
Senador Javier Delgado (PC)
Senador Luis Duque (PL)
Senador Eduardo Enríquez (PC)
Senador Mario Fernández (PL)
Senador Carlos Galán (CR)
Senadora Nora García (PC)
Senadora Teresita Garcia (OC)
Senador Andrés García (U)
Senador Roberto Gerlein (PC)
Senador Juan Gómez (PC)
Senador Mauricio Lizcano (La U)
Senadora Maritza Martínez (La U)
Senador Manuel Mora (La U)
Senadora Viviane Morales (PL)
Senador José Name (U)
Senadora Nidia Osorio (PC)
Senador Jorge Pedraza (PC)
Senador Guillermo Santos (PL)
Senador Horacio Serpa (PL)
Senadora Olga Suarez (PC)
Senadora Sandra Villadiego (U)

Senado de la República de Chile

Senador Patricio Walker (PDC)
Senador Pedro Araya (I)
Senadora Carolina Goic (PDC)
Senador Felipe Harboe (PPD)
Senador Manuel Matta (PDC)
Senador Ignacio Walker (PDC)

Senador Andrés Allamand (RN)
Senador Francisco Chahuan (RN)
Senador Alejandro Guillier (I)
Senador Hernan Larraín (UDI)
Senador Jorge Pizarro (PDC)
Senador Andres Zaldivar (PDC)

Asamblea Legislativa de la República de Costa Rica

Diputado Rafael Ortiz (PUSC)	Diputado José Alfaro (PML)
Diputado William Alvarado (PUSC)	Diputado Antonio Álvarez (PLN)
Diputado Michael Arce (PLN)	Diputado Carlos Arguedas (PLN)
Diputada Epsy Campbell (PAC)	Diputada Natalia Díaz (PML)
Diputado Abelino Esquivel (FPRC)	Diputado Rolando González (PLN)
Diputado Otto Guevara (PML)	Diputado Juan Jiménez (PLN)
Diputado Olivier Jiménez (PLN)	Diputado Johnny Leiva (PUSC)
Diputado Ronny Monge (PLN)	Diputada Karla Prendas (PLN)
Diputada Rosibel Ramos (PUSC)	Diputado Mario Redondo (FPADC)
Diputado Jorge Rodríguez (PUSC)	Diputado Julio Rojas (PLN)
Diputada Silvia Sánchez (PLN)	Diputado Ottón Solís (PAC)
Diputada Lorelly Trejos (PLN)	Diputado Gerardo Vargas (PUSC)
Diputado Luis Vásquez (PUSC)	

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Congresista Marta Pérez Tello de Roriguez (PPC)	Congresista Juan Carlos Eguren
Neueschwander (PPC)	
Congresista Cecilia Chacon de Vettori (FP)	Congresista Luz Salgado Rubianes (FP)
Congresista Carlos Tubino Arias Screiber (FP)	Congresista Mauricio Mulder Bedoya
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(SN)	
Congresista Víctor Andres García Belaúnde (AP)	Congresista Cenaida Uribe Medina (IND)
Congresista Omar Chehade Moya (IND)	