



ZENITH

MARMARAMUN'26

UNSC

Agenda Item

Stabilizing Venezuela After the
Capture of Nicolas Maduro

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Strive For Perfection

10th Anniversary

1. Table of Contents

1. Table of Contents.....	1
2. Letter from the Secretariat.....	2
3. Introduction.....	3
3.1. To the United Nations.....	3
3.2. Introduction to the UNSC.....	3
3.3. Introduction to the Agenda Item: Stabilizing Venezuela.....	4
4. Historical Background.....	5
4.1. Chávez's Bolivarian Revolution (1999-2013) and Oil Dependency.....	5
4.2. Maduro's Presidency, Hyperinflation, and Humanitarian Collapse (2013-2024).....	5
4.3. The Illegitimate 2018 Elections and the Failed 2019 Guaidó Interim Presidency.....	6
5. Current Status.....	7
5.1. On January 3, 2026, Capture of Nicolás Maduro.....	7
5.2. Interim President and the Caracas power vacuum.....	7
5.3. Humanitarian issues and sanctions in 2026.....	8
6. Previous Actions.....	8
6.1. Economic and political sanctions.....	9
6.2. Diplomatic Mediation Attempts.....	9
6.3. Judicial and Human Rights Actions.....	10
7. Additional Topics.....	10
7.1. Global Energy Markets and Venezuelan Oil Reserves.....	10
7.2. The Regional Refugee and Migration Crisis.....	11
7.3. Drug Trafficking and Cartel Dynamics.....	11
7.4. P5 Countries Disputes and Statements on the Intervention.....	11
7.4.1. The United States of America.....	12
7.4.2. The Russian Federation.....	12
7.4.3. The People's Republic of China.....	12
7.4.4. The United Kingdom and France.....	12
8. Key Terms.....	13
9. Conclusion.....	15
10. Questions to be Addressed.....	16
11. Further Readings.....	17
12. References.....	19

2. Letter from the Secretariat

Dear Participants,

On behalf of the Secretariat and Organization Team, it is my great pleasure to welcome you to MarmaraMUN'26 Zenith. Following last year's pursuit of perfection, we now gather at the Zenith, the highest point, symbolizing our collective ambition in the 10th year anniversary of MarmaraMUN Society. As the Secretary General of the MarmaraMUN'26 Zenith and the Club President of the MarmaraMUN Society I am very pleased to host you at our university'

Zenith means the highest point, it comes from astronomy, where it describes the highest point in an arc traveled by a star or a planet or another celestial body. The sun reaches its Zenith when it is as high in the sky as it is going to go on that day. MarmaraMUN always represent the highest point, now we are putting a milestone for the MUN Community. You will gain experience from the best of the business in our country, almost every single one of our board members have secretariat experiences and they contributed to the community for years. This statement also goes for our organization team and its members. You will debate, meet qualified people and of course, have fun.

Our carefully selected committees and agendas promise an exceptional academic experience. I invite you to speak with courage, think openly, and engage with respect. Every single individual present in the conference is hand-picked from 1500+ applicants, so make it count and use the opportunity wisely. At the end of the day MarmaraMUN'26 Zenith is where ideas rise, friendships form, and legacies begin.

Welcome to MarmaraMUN'26 Zenith and be prepared to strive for perfection.

Sincerely,

Korcan Musa KARAŞAHİN

Secretary General of MarmaraMUN'26 Zenith

Introduction

A. To the United Nations

The United Nations (UN) is the world's preeminent international organization, Born out of a devastating World War and intended as a replacement for the failed League of Nations, the UN was officially founded on October 24, 1945. The main aims for creating the new organization were: preventing another global war, upholding human rights, respecting international law and promoting global social and economic progress.

The UN Charter, the organisation is a vital forum for its 193 member countries to settle their differences by peaceful means. It operates with six principal bodies: the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, the Trusteeship Council, the International Court of Justice and the UN Secretariat and of these, the main debating, policymaking and representative forum is the General Assembly, the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security lies with the Security Council.

B. to the Committee (UNSC)

Arguably the UN's most potent organ, the UN Security Council, under the UN Charter, has the main responsibility for the upkeep of international peace and security. As opposed to the General Assembly, where resolutions typically have little effect except as recommendations, the Security Council can issue rulings that are legally enforceable on the member states of the UN. Under the terms of chapter 7 of the UN Charter, the Council is authorized to impose a UN boycott, economic embargo, diplomatic sanctions, and, in the last resort, war to promote peace and security.

Fifteen members make up the Council, five of which are the permanent P5 members and the other 10 being non-permanent members, which are elected on a rotational two-year basis by



the General Assembly. The P5 members consist of the winning Allied nations of World War II: the United States of America, the United Kingdom, France, the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China.

The veto power of the Council is what most defines, or even most often characterizes as a bane, the body, as all P5 members possess veto powers. This veto means that if just one of the P5 nations vetoes a Security Council proposal, the resolution fails to pass, even if the majority of the Council's members support it. To succeed, resolutions need considerable diplomacy and negotiation from the delegates to persuade each one of the P5 to agree, which often makes debates inside the Security Council heavily reflect the interests of those countries that make up the P5. The two major sides often fall along political lines, between Eastern and Western blocs of countries, that'll often lead to divisions and make the task of compromise nearly impossible.

In the course of its existence, it was able to coordinate successfully and authorize peacekeeping and observation missions that led to the eventual resolution of several long conflicts, such as the successful peacekeeping mission in Sierra Leone, Côte d'Ivoire and Liberia. The UNSC was also responsible for the creation of international criminal tribunals such as those for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda.

However, the Council also has its failures. When the veto power causes blockages, inaction occurs on occasions that could be addressed. Such inaction occurred at the hands of the UN Security Council during the 1994 Rwandan Genocide and the 1995 massacre at Srebrenica. While it has been involved and mediated some conflicts in recent years, the power balance of the P5 members often makes UNSC action impossible, such as during the Syrian Civil War, the invasion of Ukraine and many conflicts in South America.

C. to the Agenda Item: Stabilizing Venezuela After the Capture of Nicolas Maduro

The situation in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela presents one of the most complicated geopolitical, humanitarian and legal issues of the 21st century. Today, Venezuela's agenda item, "Stabilizing Venezuela After the Capture of Nicolás Maduro," is a daunting new subject for the United Nations Security Council. On January 31, 2026, the U.S. launched Operation Absolute Resolve, which intervened in Venezuela and resulted in the arrest and capture of Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro. As a result, Venezuela



has an un-elected interim administration. Millions of Venezuelans are still suffering from the consequences of Venezuela's economy collapsing and mass emigration from the nation.

For the United Nations Security Council, today's issue requires addressing humanitarian aid and the stabilization of Venezuela's economy, international law and the legality of the U.S.'s Jan. 31 U.S. intervention under Article 2(4) of the UN Charter. The Security Council will be challenged to create a diplomatic and legal consensus and an operational path to restore democracy and stability in the region of South America due to fierce disagreement among the five permanent member

Historical Background

Delegates are cautioned regarding the erosion of Venezuelan institutions over three decades, not a sudden event, but a sustained consequence of economic policies, consolidation of authoritarian power and widening political polarization.

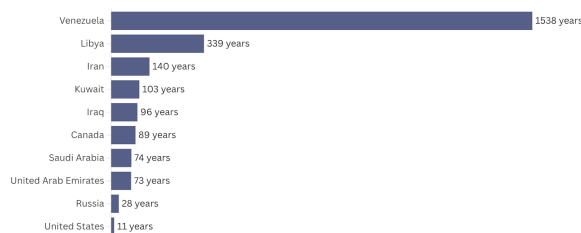
D. Chávez's Bolivarian Revolution (1999-2013) and Oil Dependency

The roots of the current crises date back to the 1989 Caracazo protests, spontaneous and massive riots in Caracas against austerity measures, followed by a brutal clampdown. This period would become instrumental for the military officer Hugo Chávez. After his leadership of two unsuccessful coup attempts in 1992 against president Carlos Andrés Pérez, Chávez captured national attention and was elected to the presidency in 1998.

This began the Bolivarian Revolution (1999, 2013). Under Chávez, Venezuela began a radical overhaul of its economic and political systems. With global oil prices reaching record highs, the government greatly expanded social programs and began to nationalize key industries, this, however, greatly increased the state's dependence on oil while severely neglecting agriculture and manufacturing.

Venezuela has an incredibly high oil reserves-to-production ratio

This is calculated by dividing proved oil reserves by its annual production. That tells us how many years proved reserves would last if production stayed constant, and no new reserves were discovered or became economic. Since these numbers can change it shouldn't be interpreted as the number of years before the country "runs out".

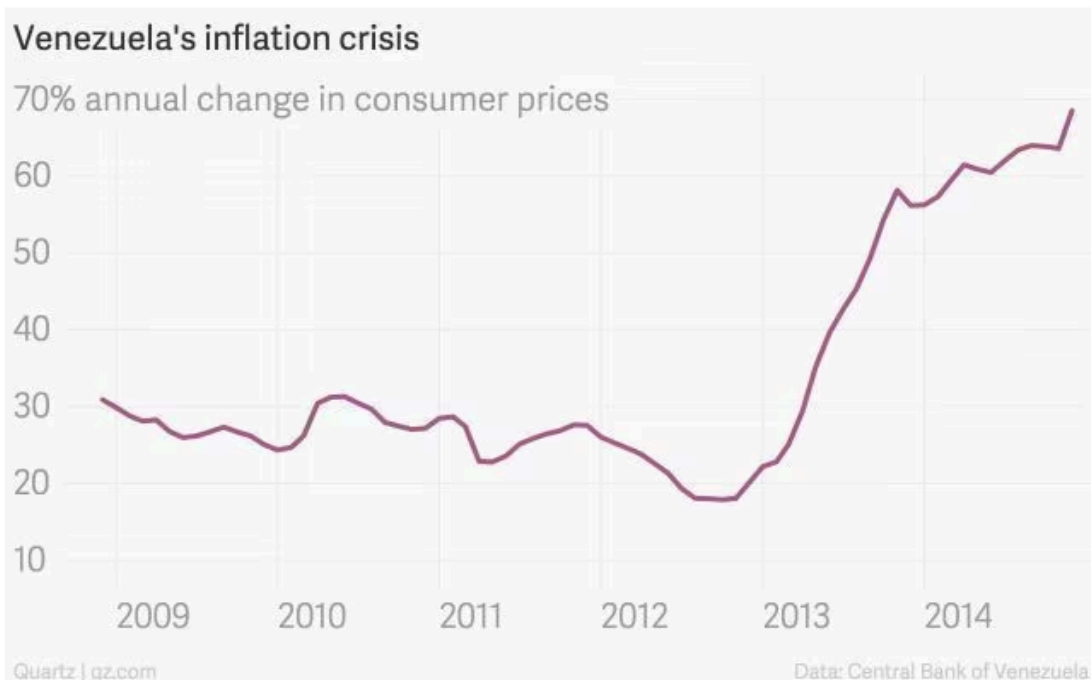


Data Source: Energy Institute, Statistical Review of World Energy (2025) • Data is for 2020; figures can vary a lot from year-to-year.

Chávez briefly fell from power in a 2002 coup d'état, lasted only 47 hours before loyal military factions, along with widespread civil protests, returned Chávez to the presidency. The brief ouster fostered intense paranoia and hostility towards the Venezuelan opposition and the United States. Chávez attempted to build loyalty internationally and hedge against the United States by launching the ambitious Petrocaribe initiative in 2005, a project providing heavily subsidized oil to Caribbean and Central American nations.

E. Maduro's Presidency, Hyperinflation, and Humanitarian Collapse (2013-2024)

Following Chávez's death in March 2013, hand-picked successor Nicolás Maduro narrowly won the ensuing presidential election. Maduro inherited a structurally fragile petrostate and under his tenure, its economic façade collapsed. The sharp fall of oil prices in 2014 was fatal for the Chavismo model. Instead of enacting reforms, the government printed money, leading to unprecedented hyperinflation, widespread shortages of food and medicine and a humanitarian disaster.



The popular outcry rose onto the streets in February 2014 with "La Salida (The Exit)" demonstrations, whose repression resulted in dozens of civilian deaths and imprisonment of key opposition leader Leopoldo López. When the democratic opposition gathered enough signatures for a constitutionally mandated Recall Referendum in October 2016, the government-aligned electoral authority blocked the process. The democratic norms had definitively ended and with them, millions of Venezuelan refugees poured into neighboring countries.



F. The Illegitimate 2018 Elections and the Failed 2019 Guaidó Interim Presidency

As of 2018, the Maduro regime controls every branch of government in Venezuela. The 2018 presidential election was boycotted by opposition and deemed illegitimate by much of the international community. On the pretext of Maduro's illegitimate January inauguration of a second presidential term, the National Assembly enacted a clause of the Constitution to claim its elected president, Juan Guaidó, the president in charge of Venezuela as of January 2019.

Guaidó received official recognition from the United States, the European Union, over 50 countries and many more non-governmental organizations worldwide. The United States imposed sanctions on Maduro and imposed debilitating sanctions against Venezuela's socialist party, United Socialist Party of Venezuela. However, in the absence of the loyalty of the military of Venezuela to the Guaidó administration and because of Venezuela's reliance on its revenue from the oil industry, Guaidó was ultimately unsuccessful in leading a regime change, leaving the country in political stalemate under an illegitimate regime. The nation remains governed by a regime recognized by many Western nations as illegitimate yet heavily entrenched by military forces and ill-gotten gains from the oil industry.

Current Status

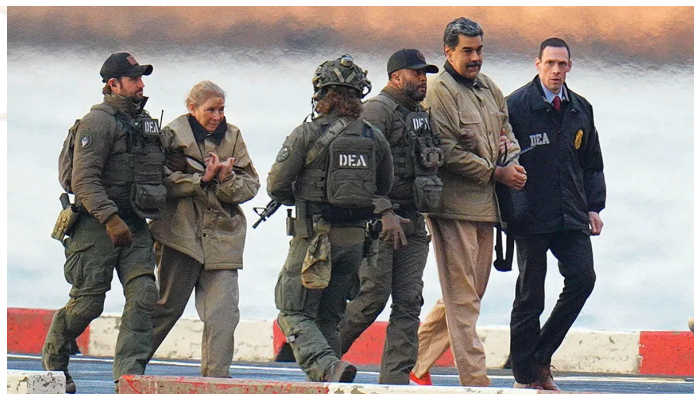
The political and domestic environment of Venezuela had been dramatically redefined since early 2026 and as of April 2026, the situation in the country was extremely tense. It characterized by constitutional issues, shifting foreign relationships and pressing security concerns across the region.

A. On January 3, 2026, Capture of Nicolás Maduro

Pressure for intervention had ramped up in the waning months of the Trump administration of 2025. After deciding that the Maduro regime was a narco-terrorist operation and not a legitimate state, the US formally labeled the Maduro-linked cartel Cartel de los Soles as a Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO) and announced sanctions. In December 2025, President Trump had initiated a major buildup of US Navy forces in the Caribbean, carried out fatal airstrikes on supposed drug smuggling vessels (such as the MS Al-Kamar, flying under Liberian registry) and seized sanctioned Venezuelan oil tankers. After September of 2025, the US started seizing oil from sanctioned tankers such as the supertanker Essequibo (flying the Venezuelan flag, en route to Trinidad). This military action culminated in a surgical US-led intervention in Caracas known as Operation Absolute Resolve on 3 January 2026, capturing Nicolas Maduro. He was promptly transferred to the custody of the U.S. Marshals in New York City. The latter were to transfer him into the custody of FBI agents for a pending trial based on wide-ranging charges, including narco-terrorism and drug trafficking charges from 2020. Maduro remains in custody at the Federal Metropolitan Correctional Center, Brooklyn, after pleading not guilty, awaiting trial.

B. Interim President and the Caracas power vacuum

Following Maduro's capture, a vacuum of authority was created in Caracas. The regime-linked Supreme



Tribunal of Justice interpreted Maduro's absence as a "forced absence" (falta absoluta) of the President under an ambiguous, Constitutionally unprecedented ruling. Based on this ruling,

Executive Vice President Delcy Rodríguez became President. Under the Venezuelan Constitution, new Presidential Elections must be called for within 30 consecutive days following such circumstances. On April 4, 2026, exactly 90 days after Maduro's abduction, President Rodríguez's interim mandate expired without any elections scheduled. The opposition's 2024 Presidential nominee, Edmundo González and Nobel Prize winner María Corina Machado, were marginalized by the military.



C. Humanitarian issues and sanctions in 2026

To ensure global energy stability, the US shifted gears. Recognizing Rodríguez's control of Venezuela's significant oil resources and considering that Delcy Rodríguez's regime would manage this oil in a manner conducive to Western interests, on April 1, 2026, the US lifted individual sanctions against her, while seeking out oil investment partnerships. The UN Security Council was blocked in any intervention of humanitarian aid or stabilization of Venezuela by disagreements, leaving regional insecurity unchanged. The lack of any organized opposition allowed rogue cartel activity, dissident military factions and widespread refugee migration to unchecked conditions, especially on Venezuela's border with Colombia.



Previous Actions

In the past decade, numerous entities, most notably the UN, have engaged in an effort to address the crisis in Venezuela through actions spanning diplomatic negotiations, stringent economic sanctions, indictments in international courts and providing aid to Venezuelan

refugees. Nevertheless, the UNSC and the P5 nations (China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States) remain divided on the issue, continuously blocking these initiatives and exercising their veto power to stop them.

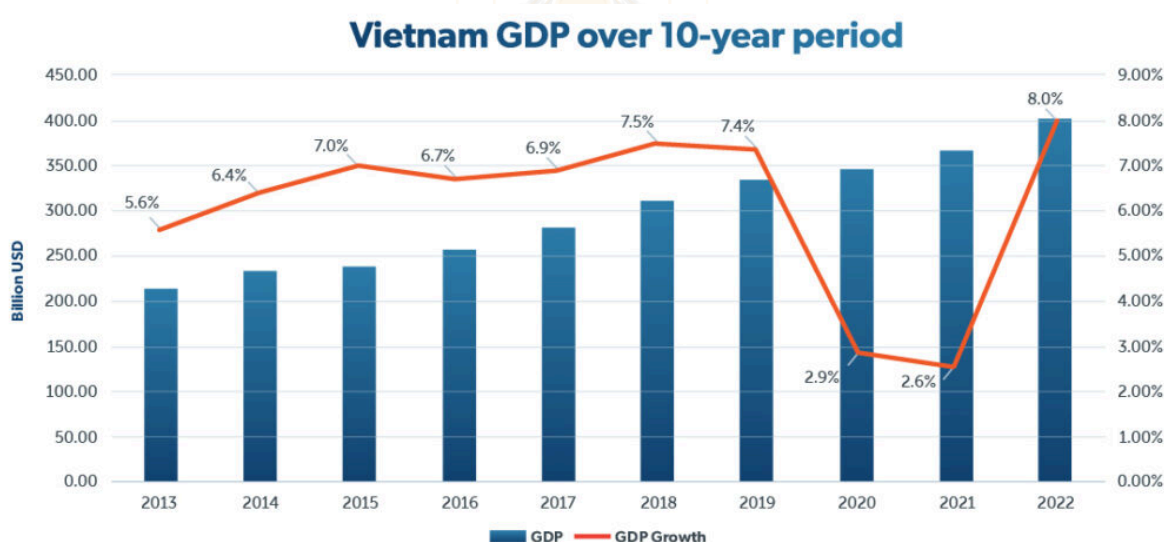
- **The 2019 Double Veto:** In February 2019, the UNSC voted down a U.S.-sponsored resolution calling for the establishment of democracy in Venezuela, new elections without Maduro as president and unrestricted access to humanitarian aid, due to a Russian veto with Chinese support. Immediately afterward, the council rejected Moscow's opposing measure, which demanded that the UN and other countries halt interference in Venezuela and defend its sovereignty. Russia vetoed its defeat as the U.S., U.K. and France vetoed its defeat.



- **January 5, 2026 Emergency Convening:** After Operation Absolute Resolve, Colombia petitioned for an emergency session of the UNSC. Russia and China vigorously backed Colombia. United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres was appalled by the violation of Article 2(4) of the UN Charter, the ban on the use of force by states against the territorial integrity or political independence of any other state. The UNSC, however, reached no decision, the council didn't adopt a resolution condemning or endorsing the operation.

A. Economic and political sanctions

- **United States:** Beginning in 2017, the U.S. ramped up sanctions against Venezuela. The U.S. freezing assets of Maduro officials, prohibiting American financial institutions from purchasing Venezuelan bonds, the imposition of sectoral sanctions on the state-owned oil company Petr leos de Venezuela, S.A. (PDVSA) and on the gold mining sector.
- **European Union:** The EU imposed a selective embargo on arms and on equipment capable of being used for internal repression. Additionally, EU member states imposed travel bans and asset freezes on about 40 Venezuelan officials deemed responsible for human rights abuses and violations of democratic order.



B. Diplomatic Mediation Attempts

There have been various attempts both domestically and internationally to ensure a peaceful transition of power, which have mostly failed due to the regime's refusal to cooperate with their terms. The attempts include:

- **The Lima Group (2017):** A group formed by 14 countries (mostly in the Americas) to mediate a peaceful transition of power in Venezuela, handle refugees fleeing the country and politically isolate the Maduro regime.

- **International Contact Group (2019):** Formed by the European Union with several Latin American countries to achieve the conditions for credible elections to a new government, which ultimately didn't produce tangible results.
- **The Mexico City Dialogues (2021-2022):** Rounds of peace talks organized by Mexico City, under Norway's mediation between Nicolás Maduro's administration and the Unitary Platform opposition coalition.
- **The Barbados Agreement (October 2023):** An agreement in partial success between the Maduro regime and the opposition on the necessary political and electoral guarantees for the 2024 presidential elections. The United States had partially eased oil sanctions as a response. However, Maduro has consistently violated these promises by disqualifying opposition politician María Corina in an unconstitutional manner.

C. Judicial and Human Rights Actions

- The UN Human Rights Council Fact-Finding Mission was formed to investigate extrajudicial killings, forced disappearances, arbitrary detentions and torture within the country and concluded that the state committed gross violations constituting crimes against humanity. The International Criminal Court launched a formal investigation in April 2021 into alleged crimes against humanity committed in Venezuela since at least 2017, investigation remains ongoing, but thus far has led to zero indictments of the former and current executives. Several UN General Assembly resolutions were introduced, bypassed the Security Council deadlock on action and, "acknowledged the severe crisis in Venezuela and urged its member States to finance assistance to Venezuelan refugees regionwide."

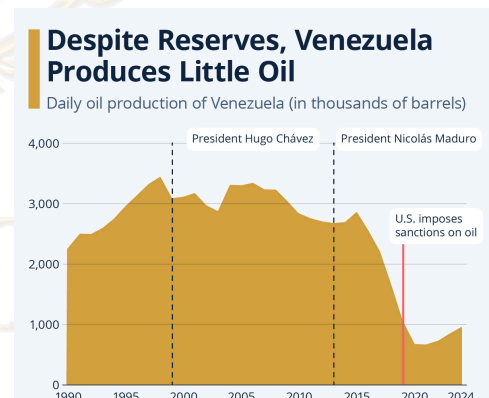


Additional Topics

A political resolution on the crisis in Caracas should be a delegates' first and most critical priority, but the crisis in Venezuela mustn't be isolated from its economic problems. A viable solution should seek to resolve the interconnected issues such as the economic collapse and the resultant dire humanitarian conditions, as well as the growing instability of the region due to the crisis.

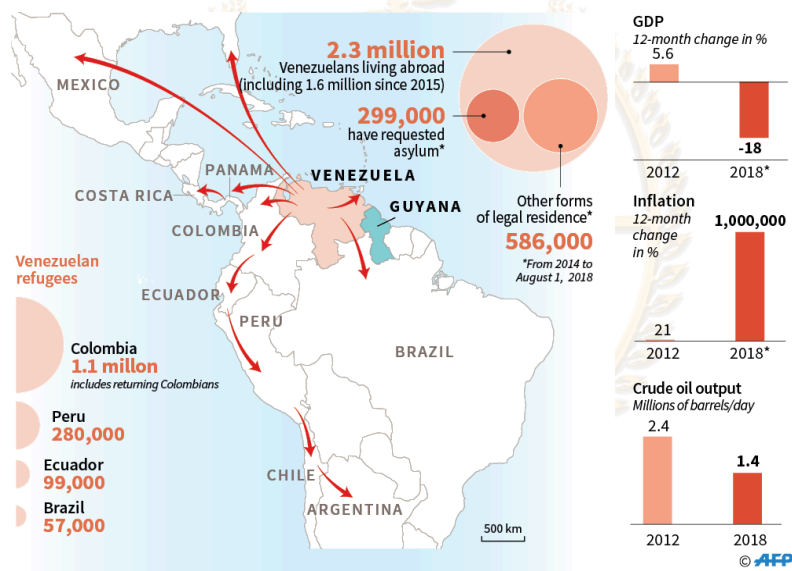
A. Global Energy Markets and Venezuelan Oil Reserves

The largest oil reserves in the world are located in Venezuela. For most of the 20th century, state-owned Petróleos de Venezuela, S.A. (PDVSA) served as the nation's primary source of economic revenue. Due to over 40 years of corruption, a complete lack of investment and upkeep on its infrastructure and the imposition of extensive US sector-based sanctions against the nation's industry in January 2019 and January 2023, production collapsed to a trickle of what it once was. As the globe turned chaotic and experienced turmoil due to Operation Absolute Resolve, the US, in April 2026, accepted acting President Delcy Rodríguez and lifted her sanctions on oil. By recognizing Rodríguez and promising bilateral oil deals, US officials stated that they sought a way to stabilize global oil prices. The UNSC, delegates should be instructed, must determine how to treat these vast quantities of oil. They must debate the option of whether or not to endorse the US strategy of working with un-elected, unofficial authorities to ensure global energy security or not, rather than to place these oil revenues into a UN managed trust, until a government recognized by the vast majority of nations is seated, democratically elected and willing to work to repair the state apparatus and to re-establish justice.



B. The Regional Refugee and Migration Crisis

The crisis in Venezuela (which began in 2010 and sharply deteriorated in 2015) has resulted in the largest displacement of people in Latin America since records began to be kept. Well over 7.7 million Venezuelans fled the country to escape dire social and economic conditions, as well as government persecution, as a result, many neighboring South Americans such as Colombia, Peru, Ecuador, Brazil, Argentina and Chile have been crippled economically and physically by the sudden large influx of people. Following the collapse in January 2026, the pace quickened significantly as desperate refugees sought to outrun a spreading conflict that stretched across Latin America. Delegates should instead focus on the UNHCR's \$2.3 billion funding crisis, create programs to better cope with social inequalities among refugees and host nations and help countries create opportunities in terms of medicine and job training, to counter the unpredictable and highly porous nature of the borders of Venezuela.

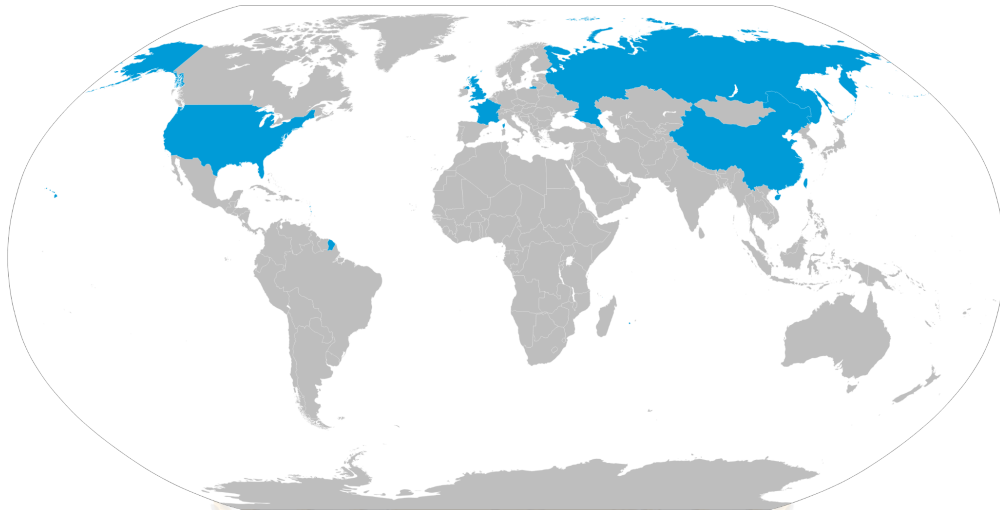


C. Drug Trafficking and Cartel Dynamics

The rule of law in Venezuela broke down completely, making it the largest transshipment point of illegal drug shipments on Earth. The US Justice Department has claimed for years that top leaders of the Venezuelan army and government controlled the Cartel de los Soles (Cartel of the Suns), which trafficked 500 tons of cocaine from Colombia to global markets. Last November, the organization, officially labeled by the US as a foreign terrorist organization, has been targeted by



the US, resulting in the former president's capture on narco-terrorism charges, since the US had now ordered naval vessels to shoot at boats moving illegal drugs in the Caribbean Sea. The organization has still not been eliminated: "We're hearing that rogue military groups are battling it out with the Colombian guerrilla group ELN for control over the drug route," said Ioan Thomas.



D. P5 Countries Disputes and Statements on the Intervention

Operation Absolute Resolve has plunged the Security Council into one of the worst diplomatic crises in recent history. The P5 members are now hopelessly divided by ideological and political differences surrounding sovereignty, non-intervention and the application of Article 2(4) of the UN Charter.

1. The United States of America

The U.S. defends the decision to launch Absolute Resolve, framing it as a national security operation aimed at eradicating a transnational narco-terrorist enterprise responsible for planning attacks targeting American lives. The White House maintains that the Maduro regime constitutes a criminal kleptocracy and has no legitimate claim to be a sovereign government.

2. The Russian Federation

Russia, an important financial and military partner of the deposed Venezuelan regime, has condemned the U.S. strike as an "illegal abduction of a constitutional president of Venezuela," deeming it a clear violation of international law. Russia viewed the intervention

as a deliberate attempt to orchestrate a regime-change. Expressing outrage at the U.S. decision to disregard diplomatic avenues, former Russian President and security official Dmitry Medvedev commented on it.

3. The People's Republic of China

China, one of the largest creditors to Venezuela and an investor in its oil industry, agrees with Russia that the United States' unilateral military operation is a violation of the UN Charter and an affront to multilateralism. At the emergency UN Security Council meeting convened in response to Operation Absolute Resolve, Ambassador Sun Lei stated in the same tone.

4. The United Kingdom and France

Although the U.K. and France had consistently been critical of the Maduro government and supported a comprehensive set of European sanctions against him following the 2018 snap election, both governments expressed shock and dismay at the U.S. action. They agree with Washington that the Maduro government was authoritarian and oppressive but stated that the strike was unilateral, extrajudicial and that an intervention of such magnitude should've required UN Security Council approval beforehand.



Key Terms

- A. Article 2(4) of the UN Charter:** The foundational UN principle stating that all Members shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state.
- B. Bolivarian Revolution:** The socialist political process in Venezuela that began in 1999 under Hugo Chávez with the goal of constructing a more inclusive, participatory form of government focused on social spending programs.
- C. Cartel de los Soles (Cartel of the Suns):** A powerful Venezuelan drug trafficking ring reportedly comprising high-ranking military officers and other government officials.
- D. Chapter VII (UN Charter):** The section of the UN Charter that provides measures and interventions that can be used to secure international security.
- E. De Facto:** Actual in fact or reality, although not necessarily in legal or official status.
- F. De Jure:** A Latin phrase meaning "by law" or "legally recognized." The former civilian government, while lacking control of the capital city due to an occupation by military rebels, remains the de jure authority of Venezuela under the eyes of the international community.
- G. Falta Absoluta (Forced/Absolute Absence):** A Venezuelan constitutional term used to describe a permanent vacant presidential office, either due to permanent physical or mental disablement, death, or resignation. Example: Using this interpretation of the Venezuelan constitution, regime loyalists on the Supreme Court justified empowering Delcy Rodríguez following Maduro's arrest and abduction.
- H. FTO (Foreign Terrorist Organization):** A legal designation used by the United States for non-US organizations that engage in terrorist activity threatening U.S. national security. *Example: The 2025 FTO designation of the Cartel de los Soles provided the U.S. with the domestic legal framework for military strikes.*
- I. Hyperinflation:** Extremely rapid and out-of-control economic inflation, causing a currency to lose its value exponentially. *Example: At the height of Venezuela's economic collapse, citizens needed wheelbarrows of cash simply to buy a loaf of bread.*
- J. ICC (International Criminal Court):** The permanent international tribunal situated in The Hague, Netherlands, tasked with prosecuting individuals for the international crimes of genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, and the crime of aggression.

- K. Interim Government:** An emergency or transitional governmental authority set up to manage a political transition, usually following a regime collapse, coup, or sudden power vacuum.
- L. Narco-Terrorism:** Terrorism associated with the illicit drug trade, where actors use drug trafficking to fund politically motivated violence, or use terrorist tactics to protect cartel operations. *Example: Nicolás Maduro faces federal charges of narco-terrorism for allegedly using cocaine as a weapon to undermine the health and security of neighboring nations.*
- M. Operation Absolute Resolve:** The January 3, 2026, United States military operation that successfully breached Venezuelan airspace and resulted in the capture of Nicolás Maduro in Caracas.
- N. P5 (Permanent Five):** The five permanent members of the UN Security Council (China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States), all of which hold veto power.
- O. PDVSA (Petróleos de Venezuela, S.A.):** The Venezuelan state-owned oil and natural gas company.
- P. Petrostate:** A nation whose economy is heavily dependent on the extraction and export of oil or natural gas, often leading to a concentration of power and neglect of other economic sectors.
- Q. Refugee:** A person who has been forced to leave their country in order to escape war, persecution, or severe natural disaster, and is protected under international law (specifically the 1951 Refugee Convention).
- R. Sanctions (Sectoral):** Economic penalties applied to an entire industry or sector of a country's economy, rather than targeting specific individuals.
- S. Sanctions (Targeted/Smart):** Penalties aimed at specific individuals, entities, or organizations, such as freezing personal bank accounts or issuing travel bans.
- T. Sovereignty:** The supreme authority of a state to govern itself free from external interference.
- U. UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees):** The UN agency mandated to aid and protect refugees, forcibly displaced communities, and stateless people, heavily involved in the Venezuelan border crisis.

Conclusion

The situation in Venezuela is unprecedented due to the constitutional crisis in addition to a humanitarian disaster and geopolitical conflict between Venezuela and other nations of South America, Africa and Middle East, to remove Nicolas Maduro by use of Operation Absolute Resolve in January 2026, in part because Maduro has been indicated by United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York for narco-terrorism. His removal led to Venezuela's first-ever power vacuum since independence. At present, the de facto leader Delcy Rodríguez of Venezuela governs under dubious legal pretenses. Due to these circumstances, millions of Venezuelan citizens are facing imminent dangers of starvation, cartel violence and expulsion due to their ethnicity or political beliefs.

To handle these pressing issues, delegates will need to tackle deep political disagreements within the Permanent Five members of the Security Council of the UN. Russia and China disagree on the principles of state sovereignty, intervention and the legitimacy of interim governments. The United States also sees no viable avenue for restoring democracy in Venezuela without an agreement being made concerning oil in addition to other resources and has abandoned its policy and moved to bilateral relations with the Maduro administration that was to be dismissed, the US sees no reason to send military troops or intervene in Venezuela as it believes its own priorities, primarily related to its oil supply in the Caribbean, be more pressing.



Finally, handling the ongoing security issues that spill into the neighboring countries, especially the armed conflicts along the border region between Venezuela and Colombia, coupled with an outflow of millions of refugees and internally displaced individuals, require a complex and robust international plan. However, the current power vacuum also provides a rare opportunity for the international community to work toward a new path in Venezuela, as the Security Council can use its broad mandates to create and implement a peacekeeping plan, institute a UN-monitored interim administration, establish a timetable for national elections and reconstruct its social programs for those who are starving. Your duty is to create effective solutions that handle the geopolitical crises of energy resources, law, human rights, not to waste this chance to restore Venezuela's right to self-determination to the people.



Questions to be Addressed

To produce comprehensive and actionable resolutions, delegates must consider the following legal, political, and socio-economic questions during their debates:

- A.** Given the contested legitimacy of the executive branch, who should the international community recognize as the sovereign state of Venezuela?
- B.** Given that Operation Absolute Resolve (a proposed foreign intervention by US and other allied nations, targeting Venezuela) has been deemed a threat to territorial integrity and political independence as a matter of fact, what reading should the UN Security Council lend to the concept of threat or use of force in accordance with Article 2(4) of the UN Charter?

- C.** What's the international legal backing and practical effect of the "forced absence" claimed by the Venezuelan Supreme Court of Justice as a justification for Delcy Rodríguez to govern in Nicolás Maduro's stead?
- D.** Without elections in sight, which Security Council tools might best facilitate peaceful and democratic political change in Venezuela?
- E.** When a country is experiencing a constitutional crisis and lacking fair elections, what are the international legal consequences for recognizing, legislating and entering into economic agreements with un-elected, de facto authorities?
- F.** Which economic reforms will be most crucial for Stabilizing Venezuela's oil-dependent economy, considering decades of decline, the impact of U.S. sanctions and decaying infrastructure?
- G.** What public sector interventions should be prioritized and adequately funded to address waning trust and boost social unity among Venezuelans, thereby ameliorating the widespread suffering caused by political turmoil and neglect?
- H.** Considering the 2019 UN Fact-Finding Mission in Venezuela's report on systemic human rights abuses, what steps should the international community pursue in the context of the post-Maduro landscape to address ongoing violations and promote justice?
- I.** What immediate macro-economic strategies and international partnerships should be adopted to stabilize Venezuela's economy, tackle runaway inflation and prudently manage its vast oil reserves beyond the Maduro era?
- J.** Which urgent social programs and financial resources should be mobilized to reverse the profound societal distrust, reinstate basic public services and alleviate the suffering stemming from the pervasive humanitarian disaster?
- K.** How can the Security Council better coordinate with the UNHCR and neighboring host countries (particularly Colombia) to secure borders, manage the massive outflow of refugees, and facilitate eventual safe repatriation?
- L.** With the leadership of the *Cartel de los Soles* disrupted but the organization still active, what international security or peacekeeping frameworks can be authorized to combat cartel violence and stabilize the deeply fractured Venezuelan-Colombian border?
- M.** How should the international community handle the systemic human rights violations previously documented by the UN Fact-Finding Mission and the ongoing ICC

investigations, balancing the need for justice with the necessity of a peaceful political transition?

- N. What international frameworks or peacekeeping measures can be established to manage regional instability, combat narco-terrorism, and secure cross-border refugee flows, particularly along the Colombian border?

Further Readings

To excel in such debate, delegates must look beyond the immediate facts of the case and understand the theoretical, legal, and economic frameworks that govern international relations. The following readings are highly recommended to provide deeper context and diverse perspectives on the agenda item at hand:

- **The Charter of the United Nations**
 - *Focus on Chapter VII and Article 2(4).*
 - This is the foundational legal text of the Security Council. Delegates must thoroughly understand the exact language regarding the prohibition of the use of force and the council's powers to maintain international peace to debate the legality of the U.S. intervention.
- **Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect (R2P): Venezuela Crisis** :
 - Provides critical insight into the debate between state sovereignty and the international community's moral obligation to intervene in humanitarian disasters, tracking the specific atrocity risks within Venezuela that preceded the 2026 intervention.
- **"The Paradox of Plenty: Oil Booms and Petro-States" by Terry Lynn Karl**
 - This classic political economy text perfectly explains the structural flaws of oil-dependent nations. It is essential reading for delegates proposing macroeconomic reforms for Venezuela's post-collapse economy.
- **Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) Backgrounder: "Venezuela: The Rise and Fall of a Petrostate"**

- A concise, highly accessible breakdown of how the Venezuelan economy transitioned from the wealthiest in South America to a state of hyperinflation and collapse under Chávez and Maduro.
- **Reports of the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela**
 - These official UN Human Rights Council documents detail the systemic, state-sponsored human rights abuses and crimes against humanity committed prior to 2026. Delegates addressing transitional justice and accountability must base their clauses on these findings.
- **UNHCR Data Portals – The Venezuelan Refugee and Migrant Crisis (R4V)**
 - Provides raw data, regional maps, and up-to-date figures on the displacement crisis across South America. Essential for delegates drafting aid distribution and border security frameworks.
- **"Disorder on the Border: Keeping the Peace Between Colombia and Venezuela"**
 - An invaluable International Crisis Group report exploring the complex, lawless dynamics of the Colombian-Venezuelan border, including the presence of the ELN, dissident FARC groups, and cartel operations. Crucial for understanding the security vacuum left by Maduro's sudden capture.
- **InSight Crime: Venezuela Organized Crime News and Profiles**
 - Offers an in-depth, continually updated analysis of the *Cartel de los Soles* and how illicit economies became deeply embedded within the Venezuelan military and state apparatus.

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