

Special Report

VENEZUELA

**GREAT NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE FOR A COUNTRY
WITHOUT SANCTIONS AND IN PEACE**



VENEZUELA
Vuela Libre

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For a Peaceful, Free of Sanctions Venezuela



A Great National Pilgrimage, launched from different parts of the country, traveled across Venezuela from April 19 and concluded on April 30 with a massive central mobilization in Caracas, the nation's capital.

“We arrived in Caracas aboard the Freedom Van! United by the same mission: to show the world this image — that of a united Venezuela, of a country that faces every challenge with a smile and adapts in order to keep growing. We fulfilled our mission and carried the message of freedom throughout the country, a nation that embraces every challenge with a smile and adapts in order to continue growing,” stated Acting President Delcy Rodríguez upon arriving in Caracas in a van driven by the Minister for Interior Relations, Justice and Peace and secretary-general of the PSUV, Diosdado Cabello, and also accompanied by National Assembly President Jorge Rodríguez.

The initiative, promoted by Delcy Rodríguez, brought together political, social, religious, and productive sectors under a banner of unity against the Unilateral Coercive Measures imposed on the country and in defense of peace. “I want to call on all political sectors to set aside their differences and join a great pilgrimage,” the leader stated when announcing the proposal.

Under that banner, the mobilization spread across all twenty-three states and the Capital District. It was organized along three routes: the western route connected Zulia with Caracas. The Andean-plains route departed from Táchira and crossed through the center of the country. The southeastern route integrated Amazonas, Bolívar, and the eastern states. The objective was to cover the entire national territory before converging in the capital.

The march began in Zulia, Táchira, and Amazonas and advanced progressively toward Caracas. Public events, sectoral meetings, and institutional statements were held throughout each stage of the journey. Territorial leadership was shared among Delcy Rodríguez, National Assembly President Jorge Rodríguez, Minister for Interior Relations, Justice and Peace and PSUV Secretary-General Diosdado Cabello, along with other national officials, who led activities in different parts of the country.

The beginning of the pilgrimage coincided with the 216th anniversary of the proclamation of independence on April 19, 1810. From the western state of Zulia, Delcy Rodríguez declared: “We are making this pilgrimage across Venezuela. No one owns this pilgrimage except the Venezuelan people.” Meanwhile, Jorge Rodríguez, speaking from Puerto Ayacucho in Amazonas state, stated that the coercive measures affect the entire population and constitute an obstacle to the country's development.

During the following days, the pilgrimage advanced through the Andean, plains, eastern, and coastal regions. In Mérida and Bolívar, business sectors, opposition lawmakers, and religious movements joined the mobilization. In Falcón, Delcy Rodríguez stated that the call was not driven by partisan disputes: “We cannot leave Venezuela’s youth a sanctioned country.” In Trujillo, Minister Diosdado Cabello highlighted the region’s productive potential.

In Guayana Esequiba, in the eastern part of the country, leader Héctor Rodríguez argued that the blockade acts as a brake on growth: “We carry a burden that does not allow us to move at the speed we would like.” In Lara, Delcy Rodríguez called for unity: “Venezuela is much greater than our differences.” In Portuguesa, Cabello emphasized the impact on the productive apparatus: “Just imagine how much we could take off without sanctions.”

Participation included communes, peasant movements, Indigenous peoples, and productive sectors. In Delta Amacuro, Indigenous communities denounced the impact of the blockade on their daily lives. In Caracas, more than 290 communes joined activities rejecting the sanctions. Meetings with workers, business leaders, and social organizations were held across different parts of the country.

The claim emerged within a context of sustained economic pressure. According to the Venezuelan Anti-Blockade Observatory, Venezuela has accumulated more than 1,080 coercive measures over the past decade. Globally, there are 37,895 active sanctions against 31 countries. Venezuela ranks among the three countries with the highest number of such measures.



The unilateral coercive measures affected the financial, energy, and commercial sectors. By 2016, the gross domestic product had fallen to 78% of its 2012 level. Exports declined from 97.669 billion dollars to 28.737 billion dollars.

As a result of dialogue with the United States government in 2026, licenses were issued authorizing limited operations in the financial and energy sectors. The general licenses allowed transactions with institutions such as the Central Bank of Venezuela and other state entities, although restrictions remained in place on certain actors and countries.

In that context, the Venezuelan government proposed the recovery of 5 billion dollars in Special Drawing Rights from the International Monetary Fund, blocked since 2020.



On April 30, Delcy Rodríguez led the caravan that marked the regional culmination of this large-scale mobilization, arriving in the capital at the head of one of the three routes that crossed the country.

Before a large crowd, the Acting President announced an increase in the comprehensive minimum income to 240 dollars, retroactive to the date of the announcement, and set pensions at 70 dollars, representing a 40% increase. The day also included the creation of comprehensive care brigades for older adults, made up of the National Institute of Nutrition, community doctors, and volunteers from the Great Venezuela Youth Mission, as well as the announcement of a professional and academic recognition bonus for strategic sectors. Rodríguez described this stage as a “rebirth of Venezuela” and highlighted the recovery of oil production, now standing at 1.2 million barrels per day. This progress responds to investments signed with international companies such as Chevron, Shell, Eni, Repsol, and Ditic Petroleum under the framework of the new Hydrocarbons Law.

On May 1, President Nicolás Maduro, kidnapped in the United States, issued a message addressed to the Venezuelan working people through his Telegram account. He underscored the need to “guarantee, as the working class, the process of peace, reconciliation, and national unity as an exercise in sovereignty and national reunification,” and added that another task is to “consolidate the process of renewal and growth of workers’ forces initiated last year.” He also expressed, on behalf of himself and Cilia Flores, gratitude for the immense solidarity expressed daily and persistently in workplaces “by the workers of all Venezuela and our brother nations around the world.” Acknowledging that “we will continue on this sacred pilgrimage, all united, us from here and you from there,” President Maduro added: “United We Will Win!”

Meanwhile, in Caracas, the Great Festival took place — a special concert for peace and national unity featuring important participation from Popular Power organizations, including communes and communal councils, as well as the participation of National Assembly President Jorge Rodríguez.

The kidnapping of President Nicolás Maduro in 2026, following a military aggression, reshaped Venezuela’s political landscape. Any analysis of this conflict must take into account Venezuela’s geopolitical centrality as an energy power in a world where access to such resources is becoming increasingly constrained. Control over its oil reserves has acquired strategic value in a global context in which the expansion of digital and technological infrastructure is increasing energy demand. To the psychological and economic war, a military dimension was added. In this context, the policy of sanctions and restrictions forms part of a broader competition: the United States has raised the need to regain control over energy resources — oil, gas, and nuclear energy — in order to reduce costs and sustain its reindustrialization process, amid tensions with China’s rise. Thus, pressure on Venezuela is not limited to the bilateral sphere, but is part of a global-scale dispute that also explains the background of the conflict addressed during the national pilgrimage.

Following the military aggression, it is relevant to underscore the extent to which the United States government recognizes Chavismo’s capacity to sustain governability in the country. In that context, the position of the Venezuelan government has been to continue the economic plan laid out by President Maduro and to dispute degrees of sovereignty over the management of resources so that they benefit the Venezuelan people.



Timeline

01

April 18

Press conference
to provide details about the activity

02

April 19

Beginning of the pilgrimage in Zulia,
Táchira, and Amazonas,
commemorating the
start of the struggle for national
liberation

03

April 20

Mobilization in Mérida and Bolívar

04

April 21

Mobilization in Falcón and Trujillo

05

April 22

Mobilization in
Guayana Esequiba and Cojedess

06

April 23

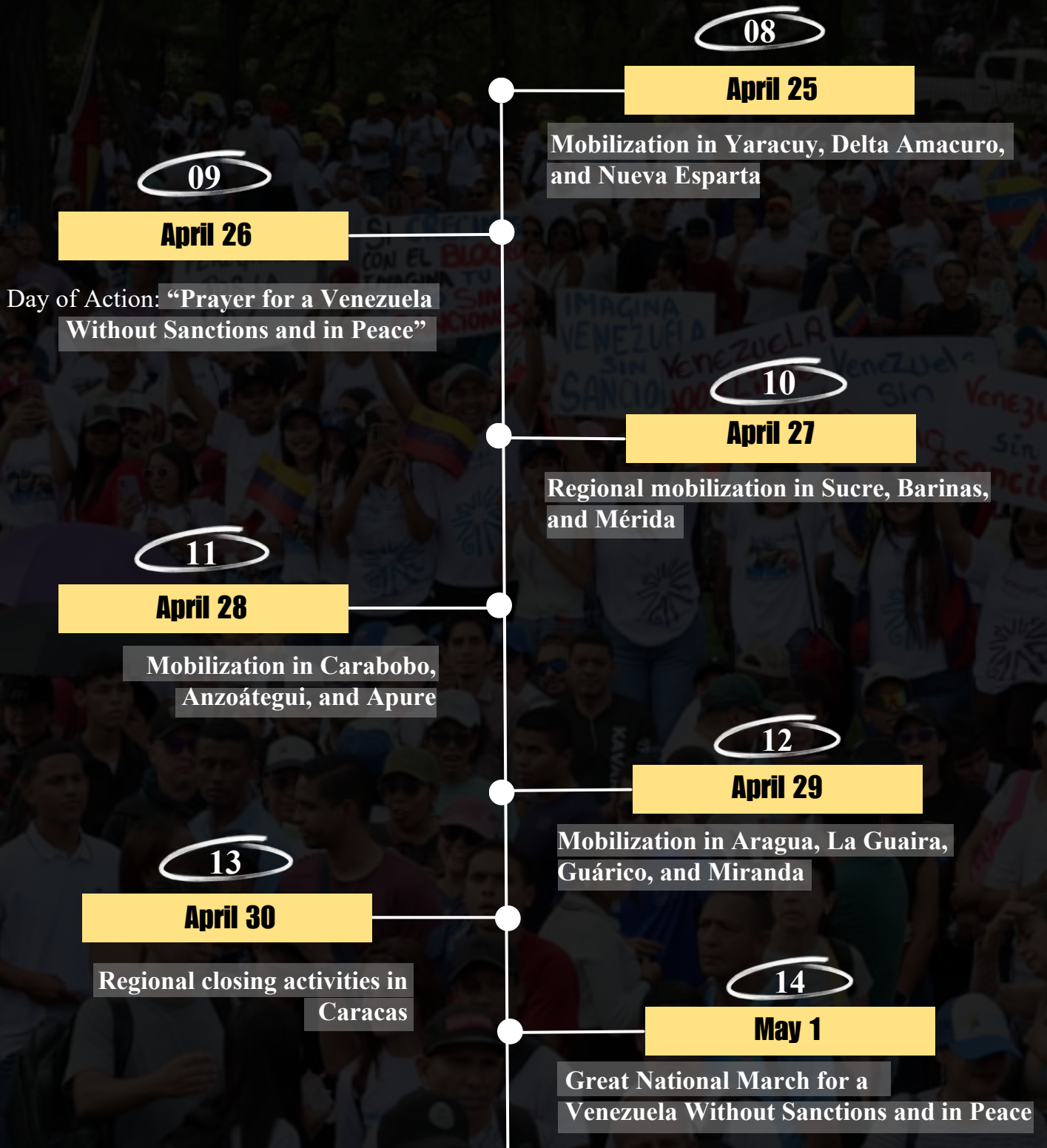
Mobilization in Lara, Portuguesa and
Monagas

07

April 24

Communal
circuits mobilize in Caracas

Timeline



THE GREAT NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE DAY BY DAY

Wednesday, April 8

As part of a series of announcements, Delcy Rodríguez declared: “I want to call on all political sectors to set aside their differences and join a Great Pilgrimage to fight together, to raise our voices as one against the blockade, so that the blockade and the sanctions against our country may come to an end. This pilgrimage will begin on April 19th, will span all of Venezuela, and will arrive in Caracas on May 1st. We ourselves will lead it.”



Saturday, April 18

A press conference was held by the Program for Peace and Democratic Coexistence together with members of parliament to discuss the Great Pilgrimage for a Venezuela Without Sanctions. A multi-day initiative was announced, beginning in the states of Zulia, Amazonas, and Táchira and concluding in Caracas.

Participants included Ana María Sanjuán, secretary of the Program for Peace and Democratic Coexistence; Ernesto Villegas, coordinator of the Program for Peace and Democratic Coexistence; and representatives of the democratic opposition Bernabé Gutiérrez and Timoteo Zambrano, who also expressed support for the initiative.

The three routes were described:



THE GREAT NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE DAY BY DAY

Sunday, April 19

The Great National Pilgrimage for a Venezuela Without Sanctions and in Peace formally began, coinciding with the 216th anniversary of the Proclamation of Independence.

The mobilization simultaneously departed from the states of Zulia, Táchira, and Amazonas in order to progressively incorporate all regions of the country.

Acting President Delcy Rodríguez, speaking from Zulia state, said: “We are making a pilgrimage across Venezuela. No one owns this pilgrimage except the Venezuelan men and women who love our country, who respect our history, and who commemorate April 19, 1810.”

Jorge Rodríguez, President of the National Assembly, speaking from Puerto Ayacucho in Amazonas state, emphasized that the coercive measures directly affect all Venezuelans and constitute an obstacle to the country’s development and prosperity, which is why such restrictions must be lifted immediately.

From Táchira, Sectoral Vice President for Politics, Citizen Security and Peace Diosdado Cabello condemned chants recently encouraged by singer Carlos Baute, describing them as a dehumanizing aggression against Venezuelan women and the Venezuelan people.



THE GREAT NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE DAY BY DAY

Monday, April 20

On the second day, the mobilization reached the states of Mérida and Bolívar.

From Bolívar, Jorge Rodríguez, President of Venezuela’s National Assembly, called for the eradication of racist discourse that extremist sectors have attempted to sow in order to fracture national identity. He noted that the mobilization brings together opposition lawmakers, business leaders, and religious movements united in demanding an end to the blockade.



Tuesday, April 21

From Falcón, Acting President Delcy Rodríguez clarified that the pilgrimage is not driven by partisan disputes, but rather by a shared effort to build a country free from sanctions in the future. “We cannot leave Venezuela’s youth a sanctioned country,” she said, while also joining a large human display in the Médanos de Coro to express: “Venezuela in Peace.”



In Trujillo, during a tour of economic and social initiatives and a motorcycle caravan that culminated in a massive popular gathering, Diosdado Cabello highlighted the country’s capacity for recovery: “Let us imagine how far we could go with the creative work of Venezuelans without coercive measures.” He added: “Those who were affected were Venezuelan men and women.”

THE GREAT NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE DAY BY DAY

Wednesday, April 22 The Great Pilgrimage for a Venezuela Without Sanctions and in Peace took place in the state of Guayana Esequiba. The event was led by Sectoral Vice President for Social and Territorial Socialism Héctor Rodríguez, along with members of the National Assembly.

Rodríguez emphasized the importance of lifting all coercive measures in order to advance the consolidation of the nation’s overall growth. “These years have been years of recovery (...) but it is not enough. There is still much to be done to recover incomes so people can live well, to restore public services and social services in health and education. And of course we will continue moving forward through the effort of work and production, but we all know that we have a constraint preventing us from moving faster, a burden that does not allow us to advance at the speed we would like,” he stressed.



From Cojedes, Diosdado Cabello denounced a “strategy of dehumanization” orchestrated from abroad, framing the Venezuelan demand within the defense of human rights and economic sovereignty in the face of sanctions.

Thursday, April 23 In Barquisimeto, Lara, Acting President Delcy Rodríguez stated: “Here, among the sunsets and the warmth of the people of Lara, a sincere invitation is born: to bring together all Venezuelan men and women in unity for a country free of sanctions and committed to national prosperity.”



THE GREAT NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE DAY BY DAY

In the afternoon, accompanied by productive sectors from the state of Portuguesa and following a large mobilization, Sectoral Vice President for Politics, Citizen Security and Peace, Captain Diosdado Cabello Rondón, stated: “What a beautiful demonstration; no one here grows tired. The struggle will be hard, it will be long, but it will be our struggle to live in peace and freedom.”

In Maturín, Monagas state, Governor Ernesto Luna and Education Minister Héctor Rodríguez joined the people in the Great National Pilgrimage. Lawmakers Tania Díaz and Pedro Infante, First Vice President of the National Assembly (AN), were also present. Minister Rodríguez emphasized that this mobilization seeks to unite all sectors, regardless of political differences, around the common goal of freeing Venezuela from the economic sanctions that affect the country’s development.



Friday, April 24

More than 290 communes and communal circuits in Caracas, Venezuela’s capital, raised their voices in an act of resistance and unity to reject the unilateral coercive measures imposed by the United States. Following this reaffirmation gathering, organized communities from the 22 parishes of Caracas began preparations to receive the Great National Pilgrimage, which is advancing through the south, west, and east of the country under the slogan “Venezuela Flies Free.”



THE GREAT NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE DAY BY DAY

Saturday, April 25

Thousands of people gathered in San Felipe, Yaracuy, to raise their voices against the economic blockade affecting families.

Through a telephone call, Acting President Delcy Rodríguez sent a message of recognition to the people of Yaracuy and emphasized that the march represents a shared objective of peace and coexistence in order to consolidate the country's social development.

Among the authorities present were Minister of the Office of the Presidency and Government Management Follow-up Juan Escalona; Sectoral Vice President for Public Works and Services Juan José Ramírez; Vice President for Mobilization and Events of the United Socialist Party of Venezuela (PSUV) Nahum Fernández; and the governor of Yaracuy state, Leonardo Intoci.



The Great National Pilgrimage also reached the river landscapes of Delta Amacuro on Saturday. In a mobilization that traveled through more than 3,000 waterways in this strategic territory, Indigenous communities and social movements raised their voices to denounce how the financial siege has affected the daily lives of Indigenous peoples.

Second Vice President of the National Assembly Grecia Colmenares led the mobilization alongside the Warao people: “We stand with our people who defend their culture and traditions. As Venezuelans, we know who we are, but above all we know where we are headed: toward consolidating peace and continuing to forge our sovereignty.”

THE GREAT NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE DAY BY DAY



In Nueva Esparta state, a massive mobilization by land and sea brought together thousands of residents and motorcyclists who traveled across the island territory to demand an end to the economic blockade and promote peace.

The event featured the participation of First Vice President of the National Assembly Pedro Infante, lawmaker América Pérez, and Governor Marisel Velásquez, who marched alongside the island’s people.



Sunday, April 26 A “Prayer for a Venezuela Without Sanctions and in Peace” was held in a peaceful and orderly manner, a characteristic that has defined the Great National Pilgrimage.

Monday, April 27 From this point onward, the Great National Pilgrimage entered its closing week.

In Sucre state, from the city of Cumaná, President of Venezuela’s National Assembly Jorge Rodríguez stated: “Although differing opinions may exist, the higher goal of preserving peace must prevail over any particular interest or external interference.”

THE GREAT NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE DAY BY DAY

The fishing communities, youth, and various social movements of the state led a massive aquatic pilgrimage in Cumaná.



In Barinas, Minister of Interior, Justice and Peace Diosdado Cabello held an important meeting with various sectors from the plains state. The Bolivarian leader emphasized that, in the face of aggressions seeking to undermine the nation's stability, the Venezuelan people have demonstrated unwavering political maturity in defense of their national sovereignty.



The Great National Pilgrimage for a Venezuela Without Sanctions and in Peace arrived in Mérida state, where various social sectors gathered to express their rejection of the unilateral coercive measures imposed against the nation.

During the journey through the Andean region, rural workers from the Páramo Axis joined the march, denouncing the direct impact that the economic blockade has had on food production and the stability of rural families. The mobilization was led by Sectoral Vice President for Politics, Citizen Security and Peace Diosdado Cabello Rondón, who highlighted the fundamental role of Mérida's peasantry in guaranteeing the nation's food supply.

THE GREAT NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE DAY BY DAY

Tuesday, April 28 Acting President Delcy Rodríguez led the arrival of the “Great National Pilgrimage for a Venezuela Without Sanctions and in Peace” to Carabobo state on Tuesday, where she declared: “In our glorious Carabobo, I was welcomed by the libertarian spirit of its people, overflowing in a beautiful caravan that accompanied us in the Great Pilgrimage for a Venezuela Without Sanctions.”



The day marked the beginning of a series of meetings with social sectors aimed at transcending political differences for the wellbeing of the country.

The mobilization traveled through strategic points in the city of Valencia alongside the state governor, Rafael Lacava, and various local leaders.

Meanwhile, President of the National Assembly (AN) Jorge Rodríguez led the mobilization in Anzoátegui state to reaffirm that the path toward developing the country’s economy is through unity and respect. “From the streets of Puerto La Cruz, we send a clear message to the world calling for an end to the sanctions that suffocate our people. This people traveled through every corner of Anzoátegui to reaffirm that the path forward is unity and respect so that we may develop our economy. It is a national call for prosperity and the right to a future without blockades,” he declared.



THE GREAT NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE DAY BY DAY

From Biruaca, Apure state, Sectoral Vice President for Politics, Citizen Security and Peace Diosdado Cabello Rondón reaffirmed that “Venezuela belongs to everyone” during a meeting with various sectors of civil and political society held within the framework of the National Pilgrimage.



Wednesday, April 29

Acting President of the Republic Delcy Rodríguez led a massive mobilization in Aragua state as part of the “Great National Pilgrimage for a Venezuela Without Sanctions and in Peace.” “The joy of the people welcomed us in Aragua during a beautiful caravan of the Great National Pilgrimage for a Venezuela Without Sanctions. We move forward united in defense of peace and in our right to build a country of prosperity free from blockades,” she said.



Later, Delcy led another massive mobilization in La Guaira state as part of the Great National Pilgrimage traveling across the country under the slogan “A Venezuela Without Sanctions and in Peace.”

THE GREAT NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE DAY BY DAY

During a march marked by popular enthusiasm, peace slogans, and cultural expressions, Acting President Delcy Rodríguez was accompanied by national authorities, productive sectors, civil society, social movements, port workers, organized youth, and the people of La Guaira, who filled the streets in a demonstration of unity for a Venezuela completely free from sanctions. “From La Guaira, we experienced a beautiful day of encounters together with productive sectors, social movements, and cultural expressions in this great pilgrimage that has traveled across all of Venezuela. We have seen a people standing strong, united in their diversity, with the firm conviction of advancing along the path of peace, sovereignty, and prosperity for our nation,” she declared.



In a massive popular demonstration, residents of the Petare parish joined Jorge Rodríguez, President of the National Assembly (AN), and Héctor Rodríguez, Sectoral Vice President for Social and Territorial Socialism. The purpose of the march was to demand the definitive end of the coercive measures imposed against the nation by the United States and several European governments.

In Guárico state, various sectors of society gathered at the Legislative Council Roundabout. Representatives from the education, university, and labor sectors shared testimonies on the importance of this mobilization and the impact of sanctions on the country’s development.



THE GREAT NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE DAY BY DAY

At a meeting with civil society in Miranda state, representatives from different productive sectors joined the initiative launched by Acting President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Delcy Rodríguez, to participate in the Great National Pilgrimage for a Venezuela Without Sanctions and in Peace.

During the gathering, Gloria Pino, Secretary General of the “For You, Venezuela” Movement, stated that the country is currently experiencing a historic moment in which it is important to remember that “there is no peace without justice,” and therefore there is no place in Venezuela for sentiments of hatred.



Thursday, April 30

Acting President of the Republic Delcy Rodríguez led a massive caravan in the city of Caracas, marking the culminating point of the Great National Pilgrimage for a Venezuela in Peace and Without Sanctions. The leader arrived in the capital at the head of one of the three routes that traveled across the country.



During the closing of this major mobilization, the Acting President announced an increase in the comprehensive minimum income to 240 dollars.

The adjustment, described by the leader as the most significant increase in recent years, will take effect retroactively from the date of the announcement. In the framework of Workers’ Day, Rodríguez also announced that pensions for older adults would be set at 70 dollars, representing a 40% increase.

THE GREAT NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE DAY BY DAY

Comprehensive care brigades for older adults were also established. Likewise, the creation of a professional and academic recognition bonus aimed at strategic sectors was announced. To strengthen support for pensioners, comprehensive care brigades will be formed, made up of the National Institute of Nutrition, community doctors, and volunteers from the Great Venezuela Youth Mission. These brigades will conduct door-to-door outreach and equip physical rehabilitation rooms, which will immediately incorporate volunteer grandchildren registered with the Venezuela Youth Mission as well as community doctors.



The Acting President described the current stage as the “rebirth of Venezuela,” after overcoming what she referred to as a lost decade resulting from international sanctions. She also renewed her call for Venezuelan youth abroad to return to the country and join the productive sector.

Rodríguez also highlighted the recovery of oil production, which currently stands at 1.2 million barrels per day. This progress is the result of investments signed with international companies such as Chevron, Shell, Eni, Repsol, and Ditic Petroleum under the framework of the new Hydrocarbons Law.

Accompanying the Acting President during the event were members of the Executive Cabinet, the Minister of Defense, and the high military command. Rodríguez also expressed gratitude for the support of opposition political parties such as Acción Democrática (Democratic Action), COPEI, Primero Venezuela (Venezuela First), El Cambio (The Change), and Primero Justicia (Justice First).

Friday, May 1

President of the National Assembly (AN) Jorge Rodríguez announced the celebration of a special concert for peace and national unity on Friday, May 1.

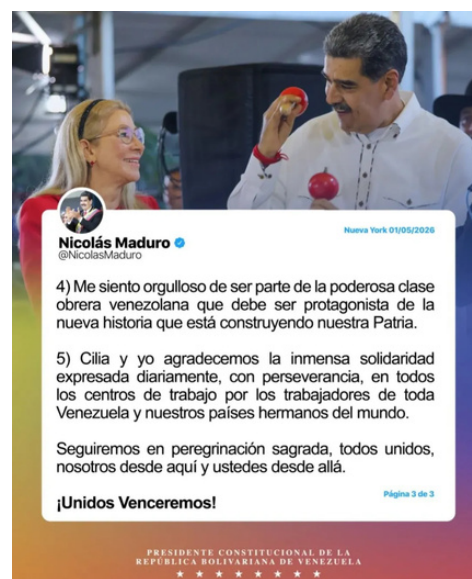
THE GREAT NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE DAY BY DAY

With strong participation from Popular Power organizations, the Festival for Peace and Without Sanctions was held starting at 9:00 a.m. at the Generalísimo Francisco de Miranda Air Base in La Carlota, Caracas, as part of the national government’s policies to strengthen national unity across all sectors.



Within the framework of the commemoration of International Workers’ Day, constitutional President Nicolás Maduro addressed a message to the nation. The head of state underscored the importance of deepening the process of renewal within workers’ organizations. He emphasized that the working class must establish itself as the principal guarantor of peace and national unity. He expressed pride in belonging to the Venezuelan workforce, which he described as an essential protagonist of the country’s present history.

He stated that “The working class is not only an economic factor, but also the political and moral engine that must lead the transformations that are necessary to ensure the well-being of future generations.” The message concluded with a call to maintain unity in what he described as a sacred pilgrimage toward victory, affirming that the bond between the leadership and the working people remains unbroken.

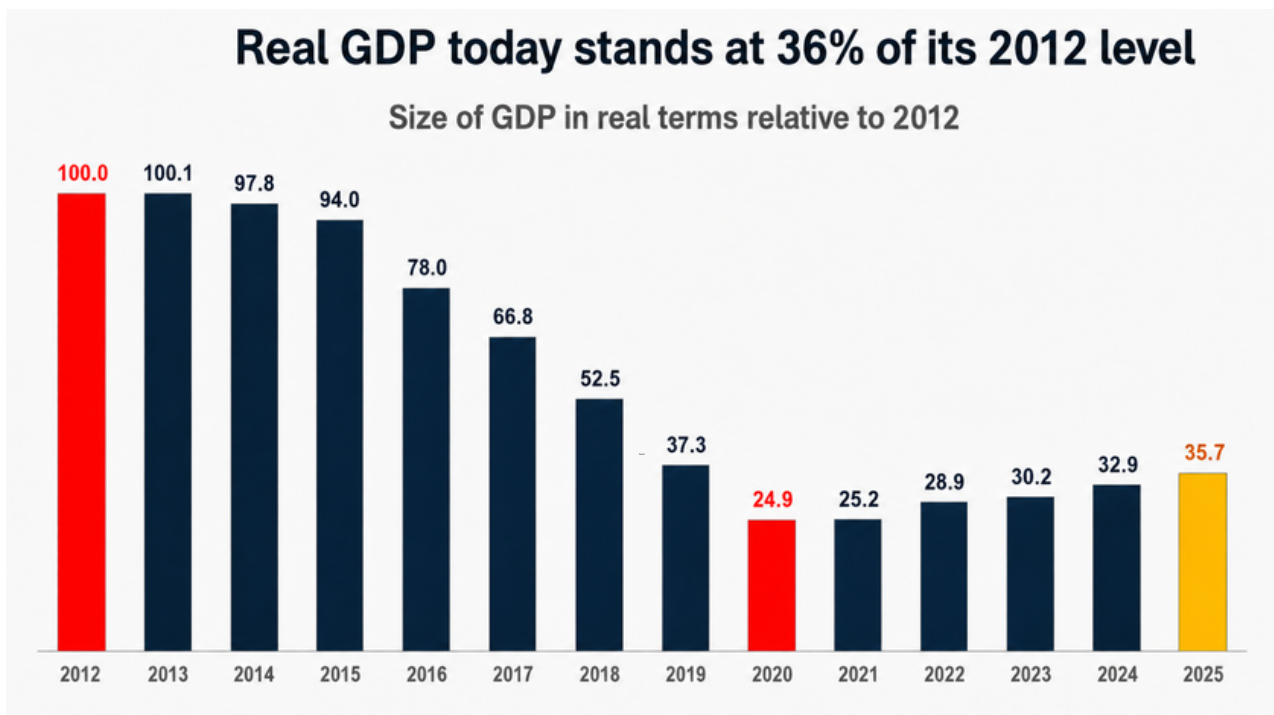


DATA ON THE BLOCKADE

According to data from the Venezuelan Anti-Blockade Observatory, as of March 2026, 37,895 unilateral coercive measures have been imposed on 31 countries by the United States, the European Union, and other states. Ninety-four percent of these measures (35,713) are concentrated on 9 countries, while the remaining 6% are distributed across 22 nations. Russia tops the list with 75% of the total. It is followed by Iran with 8%, while Venezuela is the third most sanctioned country, with 1,088 measures imposed against its economy and state institutions in just 10 years, of which 1,040 remain active.

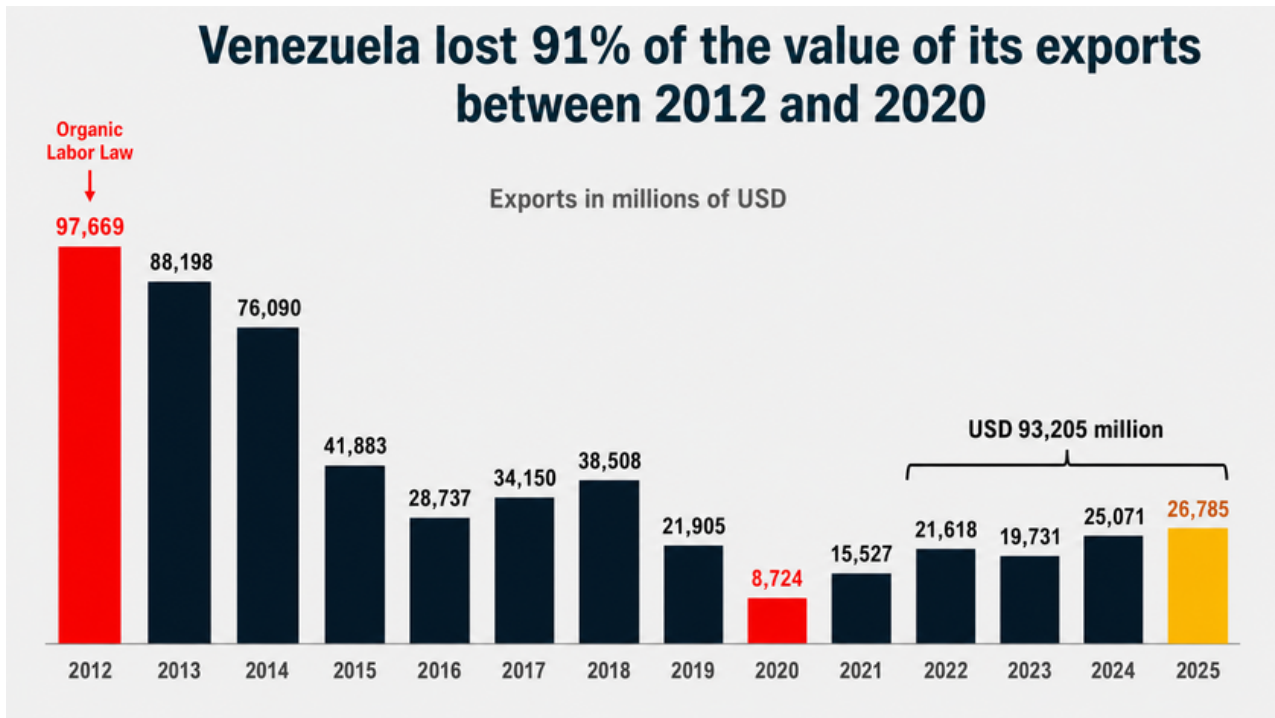
During one of the events held within the framework of the Great National Pilgrimage launched on April 19, Sectoral Vice President for Planning Ricardo Menéndez presented a historical analysis of the economic aggression, tracing its origins to 2012, when Commander Hugo Chávez denounced the first signs of economic warfare against the national currency. The official detailed that the administration identified various stages of this siege, including the political paralysis of 2013, the attempts at civil violence in 2014, and the international threats of 2015 that sought to dismantle the Republic.

Regarding the figures presented by Acting President Delcy Rodríguez, by 2016, when GDP had fallen to 78% of its 2012 level, exports had dropped by 70%, from 97.669 billion dollars to 28.737 billion dollars. By that year, 19 international sanctions had already been implemented, meaning the impact of such measures was only beginning to take effect on the national economy.



Source: Misión Verdad 2025

DATA ON THE BLOCKADE



Source: Misión Verdad 2025



Source: NODAL Report “Venezuela | The Kidnapping of President Nicolás Maduro and the End of Latin America and the Caribbean as a Zone of Peace.” January 2026

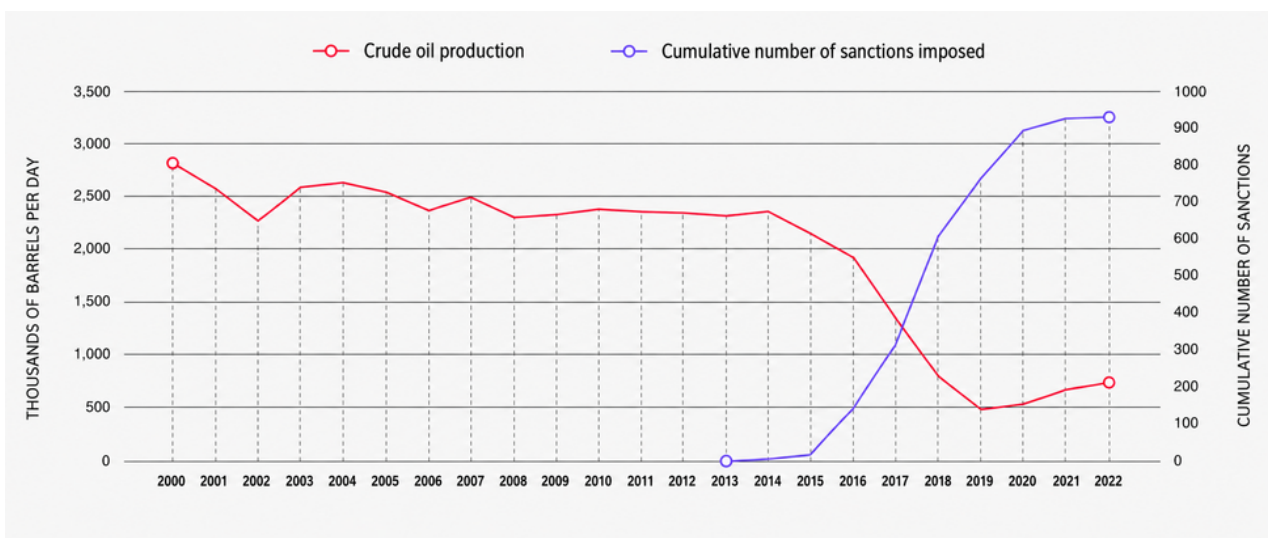
The siege against the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela intensified throughout 2025 through the escalation of Unilateral Coercive Measures (UCMs), which continued to operate as one of the principal instruments of political, economic, and financial pressure by the United States and its allies. Far from being isolated actions, these measures form part of a comprehensive strategy aimed at weakening the capacities of the Venezuelan state, eroding the living conditions of the population, and shaping the political direction of both the country and the region.

DATA ON THE BLOCKADE

Following negotiations between Acting President Delcy Rodríguez and President Donald Trump, the United States government modified some of the Unilateral Coercive Measures (UCMs) imposed on the country. In particular, on April 14, the U.S. government lifted the illegal measures imposed on Venezuela’s public banking system, a significant step that includes the Central Bank of Venezuela, the Bank of Venezuela, the Workers’ Digital Bank, and the Treasury Bank.

In this regard, General License No. 56 allows companies and individuals to negotiate commercial contracts with the Government of Venezuela, while General License No. 57 authorizes financial transactions with four key state institutions: the Central Bank of Venezuela (BCV), the Bank of Venezuela, the Workers’ Digital Bank, and the Treasury Bank. Despite granting these licenses, it is important to note that they prohibit any transaction involving entities or citizens of Russia, Iran, North Korea, and Cuba, and exclude companies controlled by the People’s Republic of China as well as individuals listed as Specially Designated Nationals (SDNs).

According to data from the outlet Misión Verdad, between January and March the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) also issued general licenses (46A, 47, 48, 49, and 50A) authorizing specific transactions with Venezuela’s energy sector. License 46A allows established U.S. companies to market Venezuelan oil; License 47 authorizes the sale of diluents; License 48 enables exploration and production services; and License 50A grants expanded operational margins to oil companies such as Chevron, BP, and Repsol.



Source: Misión Verdad 2025

DATA ON THE BLOCKADE

Within the framework of the lifting of coercive measures by the United States, Delcy Rodríguez announced that Venezuela had regained its representation at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and stated that the Bolivarian Government is fighting to access 5 billion dollars in Special Drawing Rights, blocked since 2020 as part of the economic war against the nation. “Every unilateral coercive measure is a measure that prevents the development of the Venezuelan people,” she stated.

During the launch of the Great National Pilgrimage, the Acting President denounced that the more than one thousand coercive measures currently imposed on the country directly undermine workers’ incomes and hinder national development. In the words of Diosdado Cabello, Minister for Interior Relations, Justice and Peace: “Venezuela is the target of a transnational hate campaign that uses dehumanization as a tool to justify the economic siege against the country.”

Venezuela’s situation illustrates how unilateral coercive measures, far from being instruments of political pressure directed solely at sovereign governments such as the Bolivarian one, function as weapons of mass destruction against the working population.

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