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**Human Rights Council**  
**Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**  
**Fortieth session**  
24 January–4 February 2022

## **Compilation on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela**

### **Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights**

#### **I. Background**

1. The present report was prepared pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21, taking into consideration the periodicity of the universal periodic review. It is a compilation of information contained in reports of treaty bodies and special procedures and other relevant United Nations documents, presented in a summarized manner owing to word-limit constraints.

#### **II. Scope of international obligations and cooperation with international human rights mechanisms and bodies<sup>1,2</sup>**

2. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, and that it accede to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.<sup>3</sup> The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the United Nations country team made a similar recommendation.<sup>4</sup>

3. OHCHR recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela sign and ratify the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean, which entered into force on 22 April 2021.<sup>5</sup>

4. The Human Rights Council urged the Venezuelan authorities to engage with the United Nations human rights system, in particular by submitting overdue reports to the treaty bodies and by cooperating with OHCHR and the mechanisms of the Council.<sup>6</sup>

5. The United Nations country team recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela schedule the visits requested by special procedure mandate holders and establish an OHCHR country office.<sup>7</sup> The Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order and the Human Rights Council made similar recommendations.<sup>8</sup>



6. Since the signature of the Letter of Understanding in 2019, OHCHR has gradually increased its presence in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela as part of the United Nations Resident Coordinator Office.<sup>9</sup>

7. The High Commissioner for Human Rights visited the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in 2019.<sup>10</sup> The Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order visited the country in 2017,<sup>11</sup> and a visit to the country by the Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights was announced in 2021.<sup>12</sup>

8. In 2019, the Human Rights Council established an independent international fact-finding mission to investigate extrajudicial executions, enforced disappearances, arbitrary detentions and torture and other cruel, inhumane or degrading treatment in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela since 2014 with a view to ensuring full accountability for perpetrators and justice for victims.<sup>13</sup> In 2020, the mandate of the mission was extended for two years.<sup>14</sup>

### **III. National human rights framework<sup>15</sup>**

9. The United Nations country team recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela develop and publish indicators to evaluate the national human rights plan for 2016–2019, to implement a comprehensive consultative process for the national human rights plan for 2020–2025 and to conclude the establishment of a national mechanism for the implementation of recommendations in conformity with international standards.<sup>16</sup>

10. OHCHR reported that it shared comments on the draft methodology for the development of the second national human rights plan prepared by the Government.<sup>17</sup>

11. The independent international fact-finding mission considered that the Ombudsperson’s Office of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela fell short of fulfilling its constitutional role.<sup>18</sup> The United Nations country team recommended that the country accelerate efforts to consolidate the compliance of the national human rights institution with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles).<sup>19</sup>

12. The United Nations country team reported the selective use of the “state of alarm” decree in place since March 2020 to confine popular neighbourhoods.<sup>20</sup> OHCHR added that the decree had not been approved by the National Assembly and had been extended beyond the 60-day limit established by the Constitution.<sup>21</sup>

## **IV. Implementation of international human rights obligations, taking into account applicable international humanitarian law**

### **A. Cross-cutting issues**

#### **1. Equality and non-discrimination<sup>22</sup>**

13. The United Nations country team welcomed the establishment of a special national institution for the protection of sex-diverse persons and recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela consider establishing a legal mechanism to recognize the name change of trans persons and the civil rights of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex population.<sup>23</sup>

#### **2. Development, the environment, and business and human rights<sup>24</sup>**

14. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights raised concerns about the potentially severe impact on the human rights of the people of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela by the imposition of unilateral sanctions.<sup>25</sup> Several special procedure mandate holders made similar comments and some requested that the country lift them.<sup>26</sup> OHCHR noted that sectoral unilateral coercive measures exacerbated pre-existing adverse economic

and complex humanitarian conditions, also affecting the available resources to guarantee and protect human rights.<sup>27</sup> OHCHR reported that, despite humanitarian exceptions in place, over-compliance with sectoral unilateral coercive measures had worsened shortages of medicines and limited food imports.<sup>28</sup> UNHCR expressed similar concerns.<sup>29</sup> The Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order also reported that Venezuelans were suffering from an economic crisis that had generated dysfunctions, scarcity in food and medicines, delays in distribution and accompanying violations of human rights.<sup>30</sup> The Government indicated that an average of 75 per cent of its budget was allocated to social investment.<sup>31</sup>

15. OHCHR remained concerned with the human rights situation in the Arco Minero del Orinoco region, including regarding the transparency of public companies in their operations, participation and consultation processes, environmental and sociocultural impact studies, and public action to curb illegal mining and activities by the non-State armed groups, or *sindicatos*, operating in mining areas. OHCHR stressed that it was imperative that the Government effectively implement its environmental regulatory framework applicable to the oil industry and publicly report on its implementation.<sup>32</sup> The United Nations country team also reported that the impact of illegal mining extraction was one of the major challenges to the right to a healthy environment. It recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela take the necessary measures to guarantee the preservation of protected areas and the protection of and equitable access to natural resources.<sup>33</sup>

16. In 2018, the Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela continue efforts at dialogue with opposition parties and promote national reconciliation by releasing detainees and granting commutation of sentences.<sup>34</sup> He also recommended that the country welcome humanitarian aid offered by Governments, the European Union, intergovernmental organizations and the private sector.<sup>35</sup>

### 3. Human rights and counter-terrorism

17. The United Nations country team reported that the definition of terrorism in the Law against Terrorism and Organized Crime was vague and that it could be used against human rights defenders, who were facing criminal proceedings based on weak evidence or for undertaking legitimate forms of public participation.<sup>36</sup> The Secretary-General noted that vaguely formulated criminal offences related to organized crime and terrorism had been used to stigmatize and criminalize civil society and the media.<sup>37</sup> OHCHR recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela publish the legal authority and mandate of the counter-terrorism courts and take all necessary measures to guarantee their independence, impartiality and transparency, as well as their strict compliance with international human rights standards.<sup>38</sup>

## B. Civil and political rights

### 1. Right to life, liberty and security of person<sup>39</sup>

18. After thousands of people were killed in alleged confrontations with State forces in the past several years,<sup>40</sup> available data indicated a reduction in the rate of killings in the context of security operations or protests between April 2020 and April 2021. However, the number remained high. Most of the killings were attributed to members of the Special Action Forces of the Bolivarian National Police; the Bureau for Scientific, Criminal and Forensic Investigations; and the Directorate of Criminal Investigations of the Bolivarian National Police.<sup>41</sup> OHCHR recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela revise security policies to implement international norms and standards on the use of force and human rights, in particular by restoring the civilian nature of police forces, conducting vetting, restricting the functions of “special forces” and strengthening internal and external oversight mechanisms.<sup>42</sup>

19. OHCHR indicated that there were reasonable grounds to believe that many killings constituted extrajudicial executions committed by the security forces.<sup>43</sup> The United Nations country team made a similar observation.<sup>44</sup> The independent international fact-finding

mission concluded that State actors had committed large-scale human rights violations and pointed at particular individuals and institutions.<sup>45</sup> OHCHR recommended that the country implement a comprehensive reform of security institutions and policies, to effectively address human rights concerns and provide redress to victims of human rights violations.<sup>46</sup> The country team made a similar recommendation.<sup>47</sup>

20. The United Nations country team, OHCHR, the independent international fact-finding mission and special procedure mandate holders reported cases of the disproportionate use of force to repress protests.<sup>48</sup> Pro-government armed civil groups attacked political leaders, human rights defenders, protesters and journalists. Security forces present at the scene did not protect the victims. Despite some improvements, in 2020 excessive and disproportionate use of force by security forces was still observed. The United Nations country team recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela take urgent measures to conduct fast, exhaustive and impartial investigations of arbitrary detentions, excessive use of force by security forces, including the chain of command.<sup>49</sup> The High Commissioner for Human Rights called upon judicial authorities to expedite investigations and criminal proceedings of the remaining cases of deaths in the contexts of protests.<sup>50</sup>

21. OHCHR documented restrictions to the right to liberty of demonstrators, media and health workers.<sup>51</sup> OHCHR also expressed concern about the criminalization of human rights defenders, including defenders of economic, social, cultural and environmental rights.<sup>52</sup> Some protests related to these rights resulted in human rights violations committed by security forces or pro-government armed civilian groups called *colectivos*.<sup>53</sup> OHCHR recalled its recommendations to prevent the use of force contrary to international standards, to ensure investigations into abuses involving *colectivos* and to dismantle pro-government armed civilian groups.<sup>54</sup>

22. OHCHR also documented cases of unlawful arrests, arbitrary detentions and violations to due process guarantees against individuals on the grounds of their alleged involvement in actions to destabilize the Government. OHCHR recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela release unconditionally all persons unlawfully or arbitrarily deprived of liberty.<sup>55</sup> The independent international fact-finding mission's investigations revealed criminal proceedings beset with irregularities committed by prosecutorial and judicial actors at all stages of the process, amounting to arbitrary detentions.<sup>56</sup>

23. OHCHR continued its regular dialogue with the Office of the Attorney General, and it noted some progress in judicial action for cases of serious human rights violations, including in the investigation of 79 documented cases of alleged extrajudicial executions by security forces and in 18 cases of deaths in the context of protests. OHCHR noted little progress in the establishment of a chain of command of responsibilities of senior authorities, and indicated that no final judgment on those cases had been issued.<sup>57</sup> The Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela reported on the number of security forces accused of homicide, charged, deprived of their liberty and convicted.<sup>58</sup> The United Nations country team recommended that the country continue its efforts to ensure that crimes perpetrated by civil servants were investigated in a fast, exhaustive and impartial manner and that alleged perpetrators, including those in the chain of command, were brought to justice.<sup>59</sup> OHCHR made a similar recommendation and added that the country should effectively implement a victim and witness protection programme.<sup>60</sup>

24. OHCHR and the independent international fact-finding mission reported allegations of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.<sup>61</sup> Arrests, physical and psychological torture of military or ex-military personnel and civilians linked to them were also reported.<sup>62</sup> OHCHR recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela take immediate measures to halt, remedy and prevent human rights violations, in particular gross violations such as torture and extrajudicial executions<sup>63</sup> and ensure effective investigation and sanctioning of those responsible for cases of torture and ill-treatment.<sup>64</sup> The United Nations country team and OHCHR recommended that the country strengthen the National Commission for the Prevention of Torture, Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment, in compliance with international human rights norms, and guarantee the representation of all institutions as indicated in the law.<sup>65</sup>

25. The most serious cases of persons arbitrarily deprived of their liberty and subjected to one or more forms of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, which in many cases could constitute torture, reportedly took place on the premises of the civilian intelligence agency (Bolivarian National Intelligence Service, SEBIN), the military intelligence agency (Directorate General of Military Counter-intelligence, DGCIM) and the military throughout the country. In some cases, people were held in unofficial places of detention.<sup>66</sup> The United Nations country team and the independent international fact-finding mission reported that, in May 2021, a presidential decree stated that the civilian intelligence agency and the military intelligence agency should transfer their detention functions to the Ministry of Penitentiary Services.<sup>67</sup> The mission indicated that several detainees had not yet been transferred.<sup>68</sup> OHCHR recommended that the country transfer all persons detained in premises of intelligence services to official detention centres.<sup>69</sup>

26. OHCHR reported that, despite some efforts undertaken, the conditions of detention still fell short of meeting international standards.<sup>70</sup> The United Nations country team made a similar observation.<sup>71</sup> OHCHR recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela ensure adequate conditions of detention,<sup>72</sup> in particular the rights to food, water and sanitation, health, security and dignity of all persons deprived of liberty.<sup>73</sup>

27. The United Nations country team made reference to practices that could constitute enforced disappearances and incommunicado detentions, as well as episodes that could amount to torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment.<sup>74</sup> OHCHR and the independent international fact-finding mission made similar observations<sup>75</sup> and recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela put an end to incommunicado detention.<sup>76</sup>

28. After having denounced instances of torture or ill-treatment before the courts, some detainees were returned to the custody of those allegedly responsible for the reported ill-treatment with no precautionary measures taken by judges or prosecutors to protect the alleged victims.<sup>77</sup> OHCHR highlighted the need to ensure the accountability of both direct perpetrators and those in the chain of command, in order to dismantle structures and practices that had facilitated torture and ill-treatment and to prevent their recurrence.<sup>78</sup>

## **2. Administration of justice, including impunity, and the rule of law<sup>79</sup>**

29. The authorities adopted laws and regulations that affected the rights to freedom of association and assembly, instead of reinforcing their protection; and structural challenges continued to undermine the independence of the judiciary.<sup>80</sup> OHCHR recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela prioritize a legislative agenda aimed at strengthening the promotion and protection of human rights; avoid the adoption of laws and regulations that were disproportionately restrictive of fundamental freedoms and civic space; and review adopted laws and regulations to ensure that they were consistent with human rights standards.<sup>81</sup>

30. OHCHR remained concerned about the lack of independence of the justice system as undermined by the insecurity of tenure of judges and prosecutors, the lack of transparency in the process of designation, precarious working conditions and political interference, including links between members of the Supreme Court and the Government and the ruling party.<sup>82</sup> The independent international fact-finding mission added that the selection and discipline of judges and prosecutors outside of the requirements of the 1999 Constitution and subsequent laws, in particular the appointment of provisional judges and prosecutors, and their dismissal outside of formal processes ensuring guarantees, had been especially detrimental to the independence of the justice system.<sup>83</sup> The mission described the different forms of pressure applied on judges and prosecutors.<sup>84</sup> OHCHR recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela take effective measures to restore the independence of the justice system and ensure the impartiality of the Office of the Attorney General and the Ombudsperson.<sup>85</sup> The United Nations country team and a special procedure mandate holder made a similar recommendation.<sup>86</sup> The High Commissioner for Human Rights announced that OHCHR remained ready to assist in the ongoing police and justice reforms to support compliance with applicable human rights standards.<sup>87</sup> OHCHR also recommended that the country ensure that judicial action was strictly guided by the principles of legality, due process, presumption of innocence and other national and international standards,<sup>88</sup> and it continued to request access to observe judicial hearings.<sup>89</sup>

31. OHCHR and the independent international fact-finding mission reported cases of individuals who had been arrested without an arrest warrant and in the absence of flagrancy.<sup>90</sup> OHCHR also reported that, in the majority of cases of detention, procedural time limits had not been respected, which in the most serious cases led to prolonged periods of arbitrary detention.<sup>91</sup>

32. OHCHR reported that private defence lawyers faced obstacles in conducting their work.<sup>92</sup> The United Nations country team indicated that access to justice was jeopardized by factors such as fear of reprisals, lack of economic resources and lack of gas to travel to court or meetings with prosecutors.<sup>93</sup> OHCHR reported that victims continued to face significant barriers.<sup>94</sup> OHCHR recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela guarantee the independence of the Public Defender, through the provision of sufficient resources and training, and to ensure the rights of defendants to appoint a lawyer of their own choice.<sup>95</sup>

33. The independent international fact-finding mission stated that judges routinely ordered pretrial detention.<sup>96</sup> OHCHR and the United Nations country team recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela guarantee that any individual subject to pretrial detention be held in official pretrial detention centres subject to judicial oversight, and that the country strengthen comprehensive prevention policies.<sup>97</sup>

34. The United Nations country team, OHCHR, the independent international fact-finding mission and several special procedure mandate holders expressed concern regarding the use of military courts in civilian trials and recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela end that practice.<sup>98</sup>

35. The independent international fact-finding mission indicated that, overall, the State was not taking tangible, concrete and progressive steps to remedy violations, combat impunity and redress the victims through domestic investigations and prosecutions.<sup>99</sup> OHCHR recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela review the protocols and methods of the Office of the Attorney General and restore the capacity of its criminal unit against the violation of fundamental rights to conduct independent forensic investigations.<sup>100</sup>

### **3. Fundamental freedoms and the right to participate in public and political life<sup>101</sup>**

36. OHCHR stated that detailed public information had become increasingly scarce on many aspects, affecting the capacity of the public to participate in the formulation, implementation and oversight of public policies. The national budget had not been published since 2018, and OHCHR recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela publish it.<sup>102</sup> OHCHR also recommended that the country publicly and regularly report on information produced by public institutions and on the methodologies and sources used to produce that information.<sup>103</sup> The United Nations country team, OHCHR and UNESCO also recommended that the country enact an organic law of transparency in accordance with international standards.<sup>104</sup>

37. OHCHR indicated that high-level authorities constantly discredited and attacked those who criticized or opposed the Government. Members of the political opposition, human rights activists and journalists, among others, were frequently labelled as “traitors” and “destabilizing agents”.<sup>105</sup> Successive laws and reforms facilitated the criminalization of the opposition and of anyone critical of the Government.<sup>106</sup> The United Nations country team made reference to significant restrictions on civic and democratic space, marked by acts of harassment of journalists, human rights defenders and members of the opposition.<sup>107</sup>

38. The Human Rights Council strongly condemned the widespread targeted repression and persecution on political grounds.<sup>108</sup> OHCHR recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela halt, publicly condemn, punish and prevent all acts of persecution and targeted repression based on political grounds, including stigmatizing rhetoric and smear campaigns,<sup>109</sup> and that it respect, protect and fulfil the rights to freedoms of opinion and expression, peaceful assembly and association.<sup>110</sup>

39. OHCHR recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela refrain from discrediting human rights defenders, union leaders<sup>111</sup> and media professionals, and take effective measures to protect them.<sup>112</sup> The United Nations country team recommended that the country guarantee an environment that was free and conducive to the work of civil society

organizations and that it adopt a policy for the protection of human rights defenders.<sup>113</sup> OHCHR acknowledged the establishment of dialogue forums with trade unions in May 2021 but expressed concern on the reported lack of inclusive consultations of all affected parties on labour issues.<sup>114</sup> In 2019, a Commission of Inquiry of the International Labour Organization concluded that acts of persecution, detention and defamation against trade union leaders, many committed by the State, constituted an obstacle to basic labour liberties, and contributed to creating a climate of stigmatization and intimidation highly dissuasive to the exercise of freedom of association.<sup>115</sup>

40. The United Nations country team stated that the Law against Hatred, for Peaceful Co-existence and Tolerance was used against journalists, human rights defenders and persons critical of the Government.<sup>116</sup> UNESCO stated that the vague phrasing of the Law allowed it to be used to prosecute anyone for expressing opinions and could lead to self-censorship.<sup>117</sup> OHCHR made a similar observation.<sup>118</sup> The United Nations country team underlined that authorities must stop their acts of intimidation against dissident voices.<sup>119</sup>

41. OHCHR reported that dozens of print media outlets had closed and that the Government had shut down radio stations and blocked television channels.<sup>120</sup> In some cases, members of security forces deleted footage or unlawfully destroyed journalists' equipment.<sup>121</sup> OHCHR recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela reverse closures of media outlets and cease other measures of censorship against media.<sup>122</sup> UNESCO encouraged the country to implement actions to guarantee freedom of expression and to support a plural, democratic and safe communication environment.<sup>123</sup>

42. The United Nations country team reported delays in the registration of NGOs that had limited their capacity to comply with the requisites to operate and recommended that the country limit the use of NGO registration.<sup>124</sup> OHCHR raised a similar concern and reported that several organizations carrying out humanitarian work were subjected to criminal investigations, search and seizure procedures, the freezing of assets and staff interrogations.<sup>125</sup> Several special rapporteurs urged the country to end its crackdown on civil society organizations, after many controls were placed on civil society, such as enhanced oversight of NGO funding and financial operations ordered by the office of the bank sector superintendent (SUDEBAN).<sup>126</sup>

43. The United Nations country team reported that people's confidence in voting as a measure of resolving controversies had diminished, resulting in reduced participation in the last elections. The country team recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela channel social, political and institutional conflicts through democratic participation and dialogue.<sup>127</sup> OHCHR recommended that the country ensure that all conditions were in place for free, fair, peaceful and independent electoral processes.<sup>128</sup>

#### **4. Prohibition of all forms of slavery<sup>129</sup>**

44. OHCHR documented cases of migrants who were victims of trafficking in persons, in particular women, girls and boys, for the purposes of sexual exploitation, labour and recruitment for illicit activities by criminal organizations and armed groups.<sup>130</sup> The United Nations country team reported that the cases of trafficking had increased significantly in the context of human mobility, and it welcomed the establishment of specialized institutions on the trafficking of women and unaccompanied minors and on the protection of victims.<sup>131</sup> The country team recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela properly address the identification and accompaniment of victims of trafficking, forced prostitution and sexual slavery.<sup>132</sup>

45. UNHCR recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela establish emergency shelters dedicated to survivors of trafficking in persons and provide additional human and financial resources to ensure timely, specialized psychological and legal support, inclusion in livelihood programmes and access to asylum.<sup>133</sup>

## C. Economic, social and cultural rights

### 1. Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work

46. OHCHR was concerned about the low levels of income, savings and pensions of public officials. In addition, despite the increase in the minimum wage, it was not indexed to inflation.<sup>134</sup> OHCHR recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela take all measures necessary to guarantee sufficient income to public servants and workers in sectors dependent on public funding in a transparent and participatory manner.<sup>135</sup>

### 2. Right to an adequate standard of living<sup>136</sup>

47. The Human Rights Council expressed deep concern at the range of interrelated violations of economic and social rights in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.<sup>137</sup> OHCHR reported that people in the country continued to face significant challenges related to the enjoyment of their economic and social rights, owing to pre-existing multifactorial social and economic crises. The challenges persisted owing, in part, to the misallocation of resources, lack of maintenance of public infrastructure and severe underinvestment in essential services. Sectoral sanctions and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic further increased the scarcity of available resources.<sup>138</sup>

48. OHCHR recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela continue efforts to improve access to essential services, and food, and report publicly and regularly on those efforts, paying particular attention to equality of access and non-discrimination, and to ensuring transparency, participation and public oversight.<sup>139</sup> OHCHR and special procedure mandate holders also indicated that Member States should suspend or lift the sectoral unilateral coercive measures imposed on the country that affect the Government's efforts to address the combined impact on the population of the current humanitarian situation and the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>140</sup>

49. The United Nations country team stated that public services of electricity, water, gas, fuel and transport had been deteriorating in recent years, affecting the enjoyment of rights. The purchasing power had declined owing to high inflation and the devaluation of the currency. The country team recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela adopt measures to sustainably increase the purchasing power and to continue strengthening the national electric system and the use of renewable energies in remote areas.<sup>141</sup> OHCHR also raised that issue.<sup>142</sup>

50. The United Nations country team recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela take measures to reactivate food production, establish coordination boards between public and private actors to strengthen production chains, and improve the nutritional quality of distributed food.<sup>143</sup> OHCHR made a similar recommendation.<sup>144</sup>

51. In 2016, the President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela announced the creation of a card system (*carnet de la patria*) through which all social programmes would be distributed.<sup>145</sup> As the economic crisis deepened, discrimination in social programmes reportedly increased.<sup>146</sup> OHCHR stressed that access to social benefits must not be conditioned on actual or perceived political affiliation, and transparency regarding the criteria used to determine eligibility for social protection programmes was essential in order to avoid any discrimination in practice.<sup>147</sup> The Human Rights Council strongly condemned discrimination based on political grounds in access to food assistance and other social programmes.<sup>148</sup> OHCHR recommended that the country investigate allegations of discriminatory access to social protection programmes, take all measures necessary to guarantee equal access to such programmes and publicly report on the findings and the implementation of the measures.<sup>149</sup> The main food assistance programme, managed by the Local Committees for Supply and Food Distribution, did not meet basic nutritional needs.<sup>150</sup>

### 3. Right to health<sup>151</sup>

52. While welcoming the efforts made, the United Nations country team reported that the health system was facing important challenges in a context of reduction in the capacity for public expenditures and the obstacles to imports owing to the unilateral coercive measures.



It recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela ensure the provision of basic health services.<sup>152</sup> OHCHR added that the situation was worsened by an exodus of doctors and nurses, unsanitary conditions, and severe shortages in basic medical equipment, supplies, medicines and contraceptives.<sup>153</sup>

53. The Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order reported that the effects of sanctions imposed and unilateral measures had directly and indirectly aggravated the shortages in medicines.<sup>154</sup> Several special procedure mandate holders stated that hundreds of Venezuelan cancer patients could die because they had been caught up in the excessively strict application of sanctions aimed at the country.<sup>155</sup>

54. OHCHR indicated that the Government reported publicly on the advancement of the vaccination programme, but did not report detailed information on beneficiaries, or the use of public funds, nor on post-vaccination monitoring, despite allegations of the existence of parallel markets and corruption. It also did not report on requests from civil society organizations for information.<sup>156</sup> OHCHR recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela take all measures necessary to ensure equal access to vaccines.<sup>157</sup> OHCHR also recalled that vaccines should be considered a global public good.<sup>158</sup>

55. OHCHR indicated that the access to sexual and reproductive health had worsened in 2020 with reports of increase in maternal mortality and a severe shortage of medicines and treatments.<sup>159</sup> The United Nations country team stressed that contraceptive methods were scarce in the public health system and expensive in private pharmacies. It recommended that the country take measures to expand effective access to contraceptive methods.<sup>160</sup>

#### **4. Right to education<sup>161</sup>**

56. OHCHR stated that pre-existing challenges related to the right to education had been further exacerbated by sectoral sanctions and the pandemic. Primary, secondary and higher education infrastructure reportedly suffered from a lack of maintenance and of access to basic services such as electricity and water.<sup>162</sup>

57. UNESCO recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela ensure the alignment between the end of compulsory education and the minimum age of employment to ensure that children did not drop out of school to work.<sup>163</sup>

58. OHCHR encouraged the Venezuelan authorities and autonomous universities to continue dialogue to hold free and fair elections in those universities and to ensure broad participation of communities in the elections and in the universities' budgetary matters.<sup>164</sup> The United Nations country team also recommended that the country guarantee the universities' freedom and autonomy.<sup>165</sup>

### **D. Rights of specific persons or groups**

#### **1. Women<sup>166</sup>**

59. The Human Rights Council expressed grave concern at the disproportionate and differentiated impact of the crisis in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela on the human rights of women and girls.<sup>167</sup>

60. The United Nations country team recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela produce a regulation for the implementation of the Organic Law on the Right of Women to a Life Free of Violence and an evaluation of the National Plan for Gender Equality Mama Rosa 2013–2019.<sup>168</sup> OHCHR made a similar recommendation.<sup>169</sup> The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women also recommended that the country adopt a national action plan on addressing violence against women,<sup>170</sup> and OHCHR recommended that the country amend the legislation to decriminalize abortion and ensure the provision of appropriate sexual and reproductive health services.<sup>171</sup>

61. OHCHR documented cases of sexual and gender-based violence against women and girls in detention<sup>172</sup> and against female detainees in pretrial detention.<sup>173</sup> The Human Rights Council urged the authorities to adopt appropriate measures to address reported acts of violence and harassment, sexual violence against women and girls in detention.<sup>174</sup>

## 2. Children<sup>175</sup>

62. UNHCR indicated that there were still many persons whose births had not been registered and who faced barriers to effective access to late birth registration procedures. It recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela strengthen the National Civil Registry's capacities to address the issue and simplify the acquisition of nationality for children of Venezuelan parents born abroad who were not registered at birth.<sup>176</sup> The United Nations country team made a similar recommendation.<sup>177</sup>

63. UNESCO recommended that the country increase the minimum age of marriage to 18 for both men and women, with the absolute minimum age set at 16 with judicial dispensation.<sup>178</sup> The United Nations country team recommended the adoption of a national plan on integral attention to children.<sup>179</sup>

## 3. Persons with disabilities<sup>180</sup>

64. The Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities requested that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela provide information on measures taken to recognize and explicitly punish in law discrimination on the basis of nationality and on how the members of the People's Government Presidential Council for Persons with Disabilities were appointed.<sup>181</sup>

## 4. Minorities and indigenous peoples<sup>182</sup>

65. The United Nations country team reported that, in 2020, mineral extraction was authorized in six rivers of the Arco Minero del Orinoco region; however, the representatives of indigenous peoples claimed that neither consultations with affected indigenous peoples, nor environmental or sociocultural impact studies were conducted. In addition, the presence of armed groups linked to the extracting industries increased, and those groups were responsible for murders, forced displacements and threats against leaders and indigenous peoples.<sup>183</sup> OHCHR made a similar statement<sup>184</sup> and recalled the obligation to obtain the free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples for the adoption or implementation of any decision, activity or measure that might affect them.<sup>185</sup> OHCHR recommended that the country undertake and publish key information related to the Arco Minero del Orinoco region, such as environmental and social impact studies, violence and homicide rates and socioeconomic data of the population living within that area.<sup>186</sup>

66. OHCHR continued to receive allegations of killings of indigenous persons and threats against indigenous leaders in mining areas by *sindicatos*, in particular in areas controlled by non-State actors. OHCHR stressed that killings and allegations of threats must be independently investigated and perpetrators brought to justice.<sup>187</sup> OHCHR recommended that the country dismantle criminal and armed groups controlling mining activities, tackle corruption, and prosecute and sanction those responsible for crimes and human rights violations.<sup>188</sup> The Human Rights Council strongly condemned the violation of various individual and collective rights of indigenous peoples, in particular in the Arco Minero del Orinoco region.<sup>189</sup>

67. The United Nations country team reported little progress in the indigenous territorial and environmental demarcation. It recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela reactivate the Commission for Delimitation and expedite the legalization of demarcations.<sup>190</sup> OHCHR expressed concern regarding approved demarcation processes that were still pending action by the Office of the Procurator General for issuance of the corresponding titles.<sup>191</sup> It recommended that the country take all measures necessary to implement the constitutional mandate to recognize all indigenous territories and collective land rights without delay, with particular emphasis on self-demarcation initiatives.<sup>192</sup>

## 5. Migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons<sup>193</sup>

68. OHCHR reported that lack of access to economic, social, cultural and environmental rights in recent years had been a root cause of migration out of the country.<sup>194</sup> UNHCR made a similar statement.<sup>195</sup> The Human Rights Council and two treaty bodies expressed deep concern for the millions of people compelled to leave the country.<sup>196</sup>

69. UNHCR indicated that internal displacement had occurred because of security-related matters, particularly localized armed conflict.<sup>197</sup> OHCHR made a similar statement.<sup>198</sup> The United Nations country team recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela develop policies and provide solutions to address this issue.<sup>199</sup>

70. UNHCR stated that refugees still faced administrative, economic and geographical barriers to effectively access documentation. It recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela strengthen the National Refugee Commission (CONARE) and the Administrative Service of Identification and Migration (SAIME) and that it ensure that recognized refugees had effective access to universal refugee documentation and to naturalization procedures.<sup>200</sup>

71. UNHCR recommended that the country ensure that the administrative detention of asylum seekers was used as a measure of last resort and that it put in place all the necessary procedural safeguards for irregular migrants in administrative detention in order to ensure due process in removal procedures.<sup>201</sup> The United Nations country team made a similar statement and recommendation.<sup>202</sup>

72. The United Nations country team recommended that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela strengthen institutions and mechanisms for the protection of unaccompanied minors and that it combat all forms of violence, exploitation and abuse against them. It also recommended that the country adopt a national plan for the integral protection of unaccompanied minors,<sup>203</sup> and ensure that asylum seekers and refugee unaccompanied minors had access to education.<sup>204</sup>

## Notes

- <sup>1</sup> Tables containing information on the scope of international obligations and cooperation with international human rights mechanisms and bodies for the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela will be available at <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/VEIndex.aspx>.
- <sup>2</sup> For relevant recommendations, see [A/HRC/34/6](#), paras. 133.1–133.19, 133.74–133.75 and 133.78–133.100.
- <sup>3</sup> UNHCR submission for the universal periodic review of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, pp. 3–4.
- <sup>4</sup> United Nations country team submission for the universal periodic review of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (in Spanish), p. 2; and [A/HRC/41/18](#), para. 82 (j). See also [https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/VenezuelaReport2018\\_EN.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/VenezuelaReport2018_EN.pdf) (p. 53).
- <sup>5</sup> [A/HRC/48/19](#), paras. 33 and 67 (k).
- <sup>6</sup> Human Rights Council resolution 42/25. See also Human Rights Council resolution 39/1.
- <sup>7</sup> United Nations country team submission, p. 2.
- <sup>8</sup> [A/HRC/39/47/Add.1](#), para. 65 (b) and (d); and Human Rights Council resolution 42/25. See also [https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/HCReportVenezuela\\_1April-31July2017\\_EN.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/HCReportVenezuela_1April-31July2017_EN.pdf).
- <sup>9</sup> [A/HRC/48/19](#), para. 52; and <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Countries/LACRegion/Pages/UN-Human-Rights-in-Venezuela.aspx>.
- <sup>10</sup> See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=24722>.
- <sup>11</sup> [A/HRC/39/47/Add.1](#), para. 1.
- <sup>12</sup> [A/HRC/47/55](#), para. 32.
- <sup>13</sup> Human Rights Council resolution 42/25.
- <sup>14</sup> Human Rights Council resolution 45/20.
- <sup>15</sup> For relevant recommendations, see [A/HRC/34/6](#), paras. 133.20–133.27, 133.36–133.37, 133.42–133.43, 133.50–133.51, 133.53–133.62 and 133.76–133.77.
- <sup>16</sup> United Nations country team submission, paras. 11–13.
- <sup>17</sup> [A/HRC/48/19](#), para. 59.
- <sup>18</sup> [A/HRC/48/69](#), para. 101.
- <sup>19</sup> United Nations country team submission, para. 38.
- <sup>20</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 153.
- <sup>21</sup> [A/HRC/44/20](#), paras. 30–31 and 81. See also [A/HRC/44/G/15](#), paras. 52–56 and 81.
- <sup>22</sup> For relevant recommendations, see [A/HRC/34/6](#), paras. 133.11–133.113 and 133.263.
- <sup>23</sup> United Nations country team submission, paras. 128 and 130.
- <sup>24</sup> For relevant recommendations, see [A/HRC/34/6](#), paras. 133.31–133.32, 133.41, 133.64 and 133.222–133.228.
- <sup>25</sup> See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=24882&LangID=E>.

- <sup>26</sup> See <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=27373&LangID=E>. See also <https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=24131&LangID=E>; <https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=21964&LangID=E>; and <https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=26749&LangID=E>.
- <sup>27</sup> [A/HRC/48/19](#), para. 7. See also [A/HRC/44/G/15](#); and <https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=24882&LangID=E>.
- <sup>28</sup> [A/HRC/48/19](#), para. 7. See also [A/HRC/44/20](#), paras. 9 and 11; [A/HRC/41/18](#), paras. 25–27; and [A/HRC/41/18/Add.1](#) (in Spanish only), paras. 34 and 37–39.
- <sup>29</sup> UNHCR submission, p. 2. See also <https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=24958&LangID=E>.
- <sup>30</sup> [A/HRC/39/47/Add.1](#), paras. 21–22 and 38. See also [A/HRC/39/47/Add.2](#), paras. 41 and 43.
- <sup>31</sup> [A/HRC/41/18/Add.1](#), para. 18. See also [A/HRC/39/47/Add.2](#), para. 38 (i).
- <sup>32</sup> [A/HRC/48/19](#), paras. 34–35 and 67 (k); and [A/HRC/48/69](#), para. 6. See also <https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=24958&LangID=E>; and <https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=26096&LangID=E>.
- <sup>33</sup> United Nations country team submission, paras. 81–82. See also [A/HRC/48/19](#), para. 21; and [A/HRC/44/20](#), para. 18.
- <sup>34</sup> [A/HRC/39/47/Add.1](#), para. 65 (a).
- <sup>35</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 65 (c).
- <sup>36</sup> United Nations country team submission, para. 137.
- <sup>37</sup> [A/76/273](#), para. 24.
- <sup>38</sup> [A/HRC/44/54](#), paras. 14 and 71 (c). See also Human Rights Council resolution 42/25; and the conference room paper containing the detailed findings of the independent international fact-finding mission on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela ([A/HRC/45/CRP.11](#)), p. 403.
- <sup>39</sup> For relevant recommendations, see [A/HRC/34/6](#), paras. 133.114–133.125.
- <sup>40</sup> [A/HRC/44/20](#), paras. 32–39; and [A/HRC/44/G/15](#), paras. 57–60. See also [A/HRC/45/33](#), paras. 79–82; [https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/VenezuelaReport2018\\_EN.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/VenezuelaReport2018_EN.pdf); [https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/HCReportVenezuela\\_1April-31July2017\\_EN.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/HCReportVenezuela_1April-31July2017_EN.pdf); [A/HRC/41/18](#); and [A/HRC/41/18/Add.1](#).
- <sup>41</sup> [A/HRC/47/55](#), paras. 5 and 10. See also [A/HRC/44/20](#), paras. 32–39; [A/HRC/41/18](#), paras. 32, 47–52 and 78; and [A/HRC/41/18/Add.1](#), para. 54; [https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/HCReportVenezuela\\_1April-31July2017\\_EN.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/HCReportVenezuela_1April-31July2017_EN.pdf); and [A/HRC/44/G/15](#), paras. 57–60.
- <sup>42</sup> [A/HRC/44/20](#), para. 86 (e). See also <https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=24958&LangID=E>; [A/HRC/41/18](#), para. 81 (i); and [A/HRC/45/CRP.11](#), p. 404.
- <sup>43</sup> [A/HRC/41/18](#), para. 78. See also [A/HRC/48/69](#), para. 6; and [A/HRC/45/CRP.11](#), p. 404.
- <sup>44</sup> United Nations country team submission, paras. 33–35.
- <sup>45</sup> See [https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/FFMV/Op\\_ed\\_Venezuela\\_EN.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/FFMV/Op_ed_Venezuela_EN.pdf). See also [A/HRC/48/69](#), para. 6; and [A/HRC/45/33](#), paras. 154 and 160–166.
- <sup>46</sup> [A/HRC/47/55](#), para. 84 (g). See also [A/HRC/44/54](#), para. 67.
- <sup>47</sup> United Nations country team submission, paras. 32 and 36. See also [https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/VenezuelaReport2018\\_EN.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/VenezuelaReport2018_EN.pdf).
- <sup>48</sup> United Nations country team submission, paras. 151–152 and 154; [A/HRC/48/19](#), para. 15; [A/HRC/48/69](#), para. 6; [A/HRC/45/33](#), paras. 120–150; <https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=21553&LangID=E>; <https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=24544&LangID=E>; and <https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=24386&LangID=E>.
- <sup>49</sup> United Nations country team submission, para. 154.
- <sup>50</sup> See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=24958&LangID=E>. See also [A/HRC/41/18](#), paras. 39–40; and [A/HRC/41/18/Add.1](#), para. 49; and <https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=24110&LangID=E>.
- <sup>51</sup> [A/HRC/44/20](#), para. 40; and [A/HRC/44/G/15](#), para. 61. See also [https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/VenezuelaReport2018\\_EN.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/VenezuelaReport2018_EN.pdf).
- <sup>52</sup> [A/HRC/48/19](#), paras. 46 and 66.
- <sup>53</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 12; and [A/HRC/41/18](#), paras. 39–40. See also [A/HRC/44/20](#), para. 17; and [A/HRC/44/G/15](#), paras. 43–44.
- <sup>54</sup> [A/HRC/47/55](#), para. 73; [A/HRC/45/CRP.11](#), p. 406. See also [A/HRC/41/18](#), para. 82 (h); [A/HRC/44/G/15](#), paras. 43–44; and [https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/HCReportVenezuela\\_1April-31July2017\\_EN.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/HCReportVenezuela_1April-31July2017_EN.pdf).
- <sup>55</sup> [A/HRC/44/20](#), paras. 83 and 86 (k). See also [A/HRC/44/G/15](#), paras. 83 and 93; [A/HRC/41/18](#), para. 81 (d); and [A/HRC/45/33](#), para. 34;

- [https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/VenezuelaReport2018\\_EN.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/VenezuelaReport2018_EN.pdf); and [https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/HCReportVenezuela\\_1April-31July2017\\_EN.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/HCReportVenezuela_1April-31July2017_EN.pdf).
- 56 [A/HRC/48/69](#), paras. 57–79 and 113. See also [A/HRC/45/33](#), paras. 71–78.
- 57 [A/HRC/48/19](#), para. 56; and [https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/VenezuelaReport2018\\_EN.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/VenezuelaReport2018_EN.pdf).
- 58 [A/HRC/44/G/15](#), paras. 57–60. See also [A/HRC/44/20](#), paras. 32–39.
- 59 United Nations country team submission, paras. 22 and 28.
- 60 [A/HRC/47/55](#), para. 84 (h). See also [A/HRC/44/54](#), para. 71 (e); and [A/HRC/44/20](#), para. 86 (f).
- 61 [A/HRC/47/55](#), paras. 13 and 16; and [A/HRC/48/69](#), para. 6. See also [A/HRC/44/20](#), paras. 52–53; [A/HRC/41/18](#), para. 43; [A/HRC/45/CRP.11](#), p. 404; <https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=24958&LangID=E>; and [https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/VenezuelaReport2018\\_EN.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/VenezuelaReport2018_EN.pdf).
- 62 [A/HRC/45/33](#), paras. 31 and 63. See also [A/HRC/48/69](#), para. 69; and [A/HRC/45/CRP.11](#), p. 402.
- 63 [A/HRC/41/18](#), para. 81 (b); and [A/HRC/41/18/Add.1](#), para. 69.
- 64 [A/HRC/44/20](#), paras. 53 and 86 (l); and [A/HRC/44/G/15](#) paras. 69 and 94. See also [A/HRC/41/18](#), para. 81 (c); [A/HRC/48/69](#), para. 69; and [A/HRC/45/CRP.11](#), p. 402.
- 65 United Nations country team submission, paras. 33–35; and [A/HRC/44/20](#), para. 86 (l).
- 66 [A/HRC/41/18](#), para. 81 (b) and (k); [A/HRC/48/69](#), para. 77; and [A/HRC/41/18/Add.1](#), para. 69. See also [https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/VenezuelaReport2018\\_EN.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/VenezuelaReport2018_EN.pdf) and [https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/HCReportVenezuela\\_1April-31July2017\\_EN.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/HCReportVenezuela_1April-31July2017_EN.pdf).
- 67 United Nations country team submission para. 17. See also [A/HRC/48/69](#) paras. 56 and 117.
- 68 [A/HRC/48/69](#), paras. 56 and 117.
- 69 [A/HRC/44/20](#), para. 86 (g); and [A/HRC/44/G/15](#), para. 89.
- 70 [A/HRC/47/55](#), paras. 22–23. See also [A/HRC/44/20](#), paras. 54–69, 84 and 86 (i); [A/HRC/41/18](#), para. 45; [A/HRC/41/18/Add.1](#), paras. 51–52; <https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=24958&LangID=E>; and [https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/VenezuelaReport2018\\_EN.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/VenezuelaReport2018_EN.pdf).
- 71 United Nations country team submission, para. 18.
- 72 [A/HRC/47/55](#), para. 84 (f).
- 73 [A/HRC/44/20](#), para. 86 (h); and [A/HRC/44/G/15](#), para. 90. See also [A/HRC/47/55](#), para. 84 (f); and [https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/VenezuelaReport2018\\_EN.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/VenezuelaReport2018_EN.pdf).
- 74 United Nations country team submission, paras. 33–35.
- 75 [A/HRC/47/55](#), paras. 14–15; [A/HRC/44/20](#), para. 46; and [A/HRC/48/69](#), para. 92. See also [https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/VenezuelaReport2018\\_EN.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/VenezuelaReport2018_EN.pdf) and <https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=22907&LangID=E>.
- 76 [A/HRC/44/20](#), para. 86 (g); and [A/HRC/44/G/15](#), para. 89.
- 77 [A/HRC/47/55](#), paras. 13 and 16; and [A/HRC/48/69](#), para. 77. See also [A/HRC/44/20](#), paras. 52–53; and <https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=24958&LangID=E>.
- 78 [A/HRC/47/55](#), para. 20. See also [A/HRC/44/54](#), para. 71 (e).
- 79 For relevant recommendations, see [A/HRC/34/6](#), paras. 133.71, 133.126–133.138 and 133.154–133.174.
- 80 [A/HRC/47/55](#), paras. 38 and 63. See also [A/HRC/41/18](#), para. 30; [A/HRC/41/18/Add.1](#), para. 43; Human Rights Council resolution 42/25; and [A/HRC/45/33](#), para. 12.
- 81 [A/HRC/47/55](#), para. 84 (b).
- 82 [A/HRC/44/54](#), paras. 6–9, 66 and 71. See also [A/HRC/48/69](#), paras. 15 and 33–45; [A/HRC/47/55](#), para. 38; [A/HRC/45/33](#), para. 18; [A/HRC/41/18](#), paras. 56 and 81 (j); [A/HRC/41/18/Add.1](#), para. 58; [A/HRC/44/G/14](#); [A/HRC/39/47/Add.2](#), para. 40; and <https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=24239&LangID=E>.
- 83 [A/HRC/48/69](#), paras. 15–49 and 109. See also [https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/FFMV/Op\\_ed\\_Venezuela\\_EN.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/FFMV/Op_ed_Venezuela_EN.pdf).
- 84 [A/HRC/48/69](#), paras. 22–49. See also <https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=24239&LangID=E>.
- 85 [A/HRC/41/18](#), para. 81 (j).
- 86 United Nations country team submission, para. 27; and <https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=24239&LangID=E>. See also <https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=24150&LangID=E>.
- 87 See <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=27444&LangID=E>.
- 88 [A/HRC/47/55](#), para. 84 (e).
- 89 *Ibid.*, para. 39.
- 90 *Ibid.*, para. 29. See also [A/HRC/44/20](#), para. 45; and [A/HRC/48/69](#), para. 111.
- 91 [A/HRC/47/55](#), para. 37; and [A/HRC/44/20](#), para. 45. See also [https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/HCReportVenezuela\\_1April-31July2017\\_EN.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/HCReportVenezuela_1April-31July2017_EN.pdf).
- 92 [A/HRC/47/55](#), para. 33. See also [A/HRC/48/69](#), paras. 86–90 and 115; [A/HRC/45/33](#), paras. 71–78;

- [A/HRC/45/CRP.11](#), p. 403; and [https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/VenezuelaReport2018\\_EN.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/VenezuelaReport2018_EN.pdf).
- 93 United Nations country team submission para. 25.
- 94 [A/HRC/47/55](#), para. 46. See also <https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=24958&LangID=E>.
- 95 [A/HRC/44/54](#), para. 71 (h).
- 96 [A/HRC/48/69](#), para. 112.
- 97 United Nations country team submission paras. 19 and 20 and [A/HRC/44/20](#) para. 86 (g). See also [A/HRC/45/CRP.11](#) p. 403.
- 98 United Nations country team submission, paras. 24 and 29; [A/HRC/48/69](#), para. 40; [A/HRC/44/54](#), paras. 13–14 and 71 (d); and [A/HRC/44/G/14](#). See also [A/HRC/45/CRP.11](#), p. 404; <https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=24958&LangID=E>; [https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/VenezuelaReport2018\\_EN.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/VenezuelaReport2018_EN.pdf); and <https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=21939&LangID=E>.
- 99 [A/HRC/48/69](#), para. 116.
- 100 [A/HRC/44/54](#), paras. 68 and 71 (i)–(j); and [A/HRC/44/G/14](#). See also [https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/VenezuelaReport2018\\_EN.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/VenezuelaReport2018_EN.pdf).
- 101 For relevant recommendations, see [A/HRC/34/6](#), paras. 133.28–133.30, 133.39–133.40, 133.44–133.46, 133.48–133.49, 133.65–133.66, 133.70, 133.73, 133.97, 133.181–133.218, 133.220 and 133.259.
- 102 [A/HRC/48/19](#), paras. 42–43 and 67 (g). See also [A/HRC/44/20](#), para. 86 (c).
- 103 [A/HRC/48/19](#), para. 67 (d).
- 104 United Nations country team submission paras. 131 and 133–135; [A/HRC/48/19](#), para. 67 (e); and UNESCO submission, paras. 6 and 14.
- 105 [A/HRC/41/18](#), para. 34.
- 106 [A/HRC/45/33](#), para. 22.
- 107 United Nations country team submission, paras. 136 and 138. See also [A/HRC/44/20](#), para. 27; and [A/HRC/41/18](#), paras. 34–36.
- 108 Human Rights Council resolution 42/25.
- 109 [A/HRC/41/18](#), para. 81 (e). See also [A/HRC/47/55](#), para. 57; [A/HRC/44/20](#), paras. 20, 27, 81 and 86 (d); [A/HRC/45/CRP.11](#), p. 403; and [https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/VenezuelaReport2018\\_EN.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/VenezuelaReport2018_EN.pdf) (p. 53).
- 110 [A/HRC/47/55](#), para. 47. See also [A/HRC/44/20](#), paras. 81 and 86 (b); and [https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/VenezuelaReport2018\\_EN.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/VE/VenezuelaReport2018_EN.pdf).
- 111 [A/HRC/48/19](#), paras. 13, 26, 48, 54 and 66.
- 112 [A/HRC/47/55](#), para. 57. See also [A/HRC/44/20](#), paras. 20, 27, 81 and 86 (d); and [A/HRC/41/18](#), para. 81 (f).
- 113 United Nations country team submission, paras. 136 and 138.
- 114 [A/HRC/48/19](#), para. 13.
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- 160 United Nations country team submission, paras. 51 and 54.
- 161 For relevant recommendations, see [A/HRC/34/6](#), paras. 133.219, 133.250–133.253 and 133.260.
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- 163 UNESCO submission, pp. 5–6.
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- 168 United Nations country team submission, paras. 86, 91 and 93.
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- <sup>178</sup> UNESCO submission, pp. 5–6.
- <sup>179</sup> United Nations country team submission, para. 106.
- <sup>180</sup> For relevant recommendations, see [A/HRC/34/6](#), paras. 133.261 and 133.264–133.266.
- <sup>181</sup> [CRPD/C/VEN/Q/1](#), paras. 1–2; and [CRPD/C/VEN/RQ/1](#), paras. 5–11.
- <sup>182</sup> For relevant recommendations, see [A/HRC/34/6](#), paras. 133.267–133.272.
- <sup>183</sup> United Nations country team submission, paras. 94–96, 98 and 100.
- <sup>184</sup> [A/HRC/44/54](#), para. 63; [A/HRC/41/18](#), paras. 60–67; and [A/HRC/41/18/Add.1](#), paras. 60–64.
- <sup>185</sup> [A/HRC/48/19](#), para. 36. See also [A/HRC/39/47/Add.2](#), para. 40.
- <sup>186</sup> [A/HRC/44/54](#), paras. 38–65, 69 and 71 (o); and [A/HRC/44/G/14](#).
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- <sup>188</sup> [A/HRC/44/54](#), para. 71 (p); and [A/HRC/44/G/14](#).
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- <sup>191</sup> [A/HRC/48/19](#), para. 38.
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- <sup>193</sup> For relevant recommendations, see [A/HRC/34/6](#), paras. 133.273–133.274.
- <sup>194</sup> [A/HRC/48/19](#), para. 39. See also [A/HRC/41/18](#), para. 70.
- <sup>195</sup> UNHCR submission, p. 2.
- <sup>196</sup> Human Rights Council resolution 42/25; and [A/74/48](#), para. 59. See also <https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=23505&LangID=E> and <https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=23516&LangID=E>.
- <sup>197</sup> UNHCR submission, pp. 2 and 7–8.
- <sup>198</sup> [A/HRC/41/18](#), para. 70.
- <sup>199</sup> United Nations country team submission, para. 119.
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- <sup>201</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 8.
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- <sup>203</sup> *Ibid.*, paras. 104, 106 and 108.
- <sup>204</sup> *Ibid.*, paras. 67 and 69.
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