



His Excellency Yván Gil Pinto
Minister of People's Power for Foreign Affairs
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Casa Amarilla, Avenida Urdaneta
Esquina de Carmelitas
Caracas 1010
Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

January 11, 2026

Urgent Call for Venezuela to Support ICC Action Against U.S. Complicity in Crimes Against Humanity Through Drug Prohibition in Latin America

Dear Minister Gil Pinto,

I write to you on behalf of the Alliance for Rights-Oriented Drug Policies (AROD), an organization dedicated to advocating for evidence-based drug policies grounded in human rights and the rule of law. Building on our recent communication to the International Criminal Court (ICC) dated December 29, 2025, alleging crimes against humanity perpetrated through the systemic enforcement of drug prohibition, we urge the Government of Venezuela to take decisive action in holding the United States accountable for its role in perpetuating this regime in Latin America.

As detailed in our ICC submission and supporting documents, including [Human Rising: The Prohibitionist Psychosis and Its Constitutional Implications](#) (2020), the so-called "war on drugs" has served as a tool for empire-building and social control, mirroring historical arbitrary persecutions such as the witch hunts of the 15th-18th centuries, the Nazi crusades of the 1940s, and South Africa's apartheid regime. These policies, rooted in fear, racism, and delusion rather than public health evidence, have warped natural market dynamics into a narrative of victims and aggressors, enabling atrocities and eroding open societies. In Latin America, the hypocrisy of the U.S.-led drug war is particularly stark, as outlined in Part 3 of Human Rising. While the U.S. has domestically shifted toward legalization and regulation in states like California and Colorado, it has imposed draconian prohibition on nations like Venezuela through sanctions, accusations of drug trafficking as pretexts for intervention, and military pressures, fueling economic hardship, political instability, and human rights violations. This has exacerbated Venezuela's challenges, contributing to humanitarian crises, migration flows, and a black market that undermines sovereignty—all while ignoring U.S. contributions to regional violence and corruption.



These failures are further corroborated by the Organization of American States (OAS) 2013 report, "The Drug Problem in the Americas," which criticizes the "war on drugs" as a "dismal failure" that has not reduced drug expansion or demand, instead leading to mass incarceration, violence, and institutional corruption, disproportionately impacting nations like Venezuela through sanctions and external pressures. The report highlights U.S. hypocrisy, noting that while states like Colorado and Washington legalized marijuana, federal policies continue to enforce repression abroad, contradicting domestic shifts and treating drug dependence punitively rather than as a health issue. Its companion scenarios document projected paths to 2025, including continuation of prohibition (leading to entrenched criminal empires), decriminalization (reducing social control through harm reduction), and regulation (disrupting cartel profits and US dominance), underscoring the need for international treaty reforms to allow sovereign experimentation and prevent more entrenched alliances between Machiavellian politicians and organized crime.

Venezuela's longstanding opposition to U.S. imperialism, its advocacy for sovereignty in international forums, and its critiques of the drug war as a mechanism for foreign interference align with UN recommendations (e.g., A/HRC/54/53) and demonstrate leadership in rejecting this failed paradigm. However, domestic challenges persist, and the urgency of the moment cannot be overstated: With the recent kidnapping of President Maduro and ongoing sanctions, the current U.S. administration has placed Venezuela and other nations under increasing duress. While the CIA's role in centralizing drug markets and the whitewashing associated with US banks remain ignored, the narrative of fentanyl and cartel connections is being used to forge a fascist continental order that permanently subverts the voices of individual nations and dissenting populations, consolidating power through coercion and disregarding international law. This follows a pattern of double-standards where leftist movements are demonized to divert attention from the much more prolific right-wing/CIA drug running. As long as the war on drugs serves as a cover for extra-legal interventions, threats of invasion loom large, and for open societies to survive, prohibition must be dismantled entirely, as it equips tyrants with mechanisms for control and perpetuates cycles of violence.

We implore Venezuela to build upon our ICC complaint by submitting complementary communications or evidence, focusing on U.S. complicity in crimes against humanity under Article 7 of the Rome Statute. This could include documentation of how U.S. sanctions and drug war pretexts have led to humanitarian crises, economic sabotage, and systemic violations in Venezuela, bolstered by references to the OAS 2013 report's findings on policy failures and calls for reform. By coordinating with other Latin American nations and UN bodies, Venezuela can lead a regional effort to demand accountability, advocate for the renunciation of UN drug conventions incompatible with human rights, and push for truth and reconciliation mechanisms to address decades of harm. Such actions will empower Venezuela against U.S.



dictation, safeguard sovereignty, and pave the way for responsible regulation that protects health, reduces violence, and restores the rule of law.

AROD stands ready to provide further documentation, including our full ICC submission and annexed materials, available at <https://www.arodpolicies.org/international-criminal-court-submission>. UN agencies have been notified of the urgent need to undo a regime that subverts the rule of law, with communications available at <https://www.arodpolicies.org/un-human-rights-correspondence>. We request a prompt response and opportunities for collaboration to terminate this era of systemic injustice before further threats materialize.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Roar Mikalsen'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'Roar' and last name 'Mikalsen' clearly distinguishable.

Roar Mikalsen

President of the Alliance for Rights-Oriented Drug Policies (AROD)