

Organización No Gubernamental con estatuto consultivo ante el ECOSOC y representación permanente ante la ONU de Nueva York y Ginebra

September 8, 2025

To Mr.
Volker Türk
United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
Palais des Nations
8–14, avenue de la Paix
CH–1211 Geneva 10
Suiza

From our highest consideration:

The organizations, jurists, and academics undersigned address you to express our deep concern regarding a series of recent actions that, under the pretext of regional security and the fight against drugs, **seriously compromise the Rule of Law at the international level and have a direct and harmful impact on human rights in Latin America and the Caribbean.**

Our intervention aims to draw attention to the escalation of unilateral actions that, far from adhering to an effective multilateral legal framework, undermine the principles of sovereignty, non-intervention, and peaceful resolution of disputes, which are fundamental pillars of the United Nations Charter.

We observe with alarm that under a narrative of anti-drug struggle, coercive instruments are being deployed – such as the presence of warships, a nuclear submarine, and thousands of troops in Caribbean waters – that lack any technical justification for supposed anti-narcotics police actions against a country in the region, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, which according to all technical reports from competent international organizations such as UNODC is practically unrelated to drug trafficking, and completely free from the production and cultivation of illicit substances¹, while the U.S. is the country with the highest drug consumption in the world and holds the largest flow of currency in its financial system as a

¹ <https://elordenmundial.com/mapas-y-graficos/mapa-consumo-cocaina-mundo/>

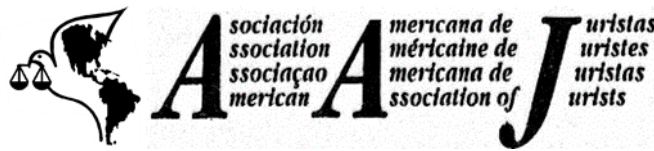
result of that criminal business². These types of actions, combined with lawfare through the offering of rewards for elected heads of state, the cruelty of the criminal application of unilateral coercive measures that are true collective punishments as has been scientifically documented and by specialized UN bodies, **undermine the Rule of Law** and create an environment of impunity, cover-up, and instability.

The true cost of this geopolitical tension is not paid by governments, **but by the inhabitants of the region**, who see how their right to development is restricted and their right to live in peace, free from external threats and coercion, is undermined; in some cases, this creates or exacerbates humanitarian emergencies. The international community must focus on ensuring that states scrupulously comply with International Law and the internal laws of States, as the only way to protect the population, who ultimately are the most affected.

It is imperative to emphasize that these policies of intimidating confrontation, constant threats, and economic suffocation have among other direct and devastating consequences: **the massive increase in migration and the displacement of the population**. The latter, far from being a choice, represents a survival strategy in the face of the collapse of livelihoods, induced hyperinflation, and the shortage of medicines and food exacerbated by the financial blockade. This displacement **not only violates the right not to be forced to emigrate**, but also undermines the rights to life, health, family integrity, and a dignified existence for millions of people. In a world already fractured by war confrontations and the dominance of the most violent, converting human beings into pawns of a geopolitical strategy represents a serious ethical compromise and a flagrant violation of international law, which obliges states to cooperate to ensure peace and the well-being of peoples, not to deepen their suffering.

In denouncing these external interventions, we cannot and must not omit that **international human rights law is indivisible and applies to everyone equally**. Therefore, we make a fervent call for international organizations to act firmly to put an end to actions that threaten the Venezuelan population in any way. Just as we reject coercive and extortionate measures that must cease immediately, we understand that neither acts of persecution, criminalization nor political violence are justifiable, regardless of their source.

² https://www.unodc.org/unodc/es/press/releases/2024/June/unodc-world-drug-report-2024_-harms-of-world-drug-problem-continue-to-mount-amid-expansions-in-drug-use-and-markets.html



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These actions openly contravene essential principles enshrined in:

- The **UN Charter (Arts. 2.1 and 2.4)**, which enshrines sovereignty and prohibits the use of force.
- the **Manila Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes Resolution A/RES/37/10 (1982)**: The settlement of disputes should be based on the sovereign equality of States. This directly contrasts with unilateral coercive measures and military deployment. **States shall not resort to the threat or use of force**, and international disputes will be resolved on the basis of the sovereign equality of States and in accordance with the principle of the self-determination of peoples.
- **The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (UN) Resolution 2200 A (XXI)**, of December 16, 1966. The State must **take all necessary measures to ensure** that rights are realized, to guarantee their effectiveness. It must also **prevent** third parties (such as businesses or individuals, or external factors) from violating the rights of others; **effectively investigate** violations when they occur; **sanction** those responsible and **provide an effective remedy** and compensation to the victims.
- **The International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families**, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 45/158 of 1990. States have an obligation to protect the dignity and rights of all migrants, ensuring that no person is forced to leave their home as the only survival strategy.
- **The Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations (1961)**, which guarantees the inviolability of Heads of State.
- **Resolution 2625 (XXV) (Principles of International Law)** that prohibits coercive acts against the political independence of States and the promotion of activities aimed at violently subverting the internal order of another State.
- **The Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Tlatelolco 1967)**. Although the USA is not a party to this treaty, it ratified Additional Protocol II of the Treaty. It was signed on May 26, 1977, ratified

on November 23, 1981, and must respect that this region is free of these weapons and cannot use them against the member countries of the Treaty.

We also remember that, as declared by the II Summit of CELAC, in 2014, Latin America and the Caribbean is a Zone of Peace, and therefore we repudiate these warmongering actions that threaten the lives of its people.

For all the above, we earnestly request that, in the exercise of your high powers:

1. Urgently reaffirm the primacy of International Law, Human Rights Law, the constitutional and domestic law of States in favor of citizens, and the principle of sovereign respect, self-determination, and non-intervention in the internal affairs of States.
2. **Call for the cessation of threats by the government of the United States** and to prioritize diplomacy, multilateral dialogue, and evidence-based cooperation mechanisms, moving away from unilateral actions that generate tension and human suffering.
3. **I urged** for the immediate cessation of any unilateral action that, outside the framework of multilateral law, escalates any tension and violates the fundamental rights of the peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean.

We appreciate your attention to this urgent matter and trust that your intervention will help to guide this situation through the rule of law and the effective protection of human rights.

Sincerely,

Organizations

American Association of Jurists/Asociación Americana de Juristas (AAJ)

Asociación Argentina de Juristas (AAJ. ARG)

Asociación Brasileña de Juristas por la Democracia (ABJD)

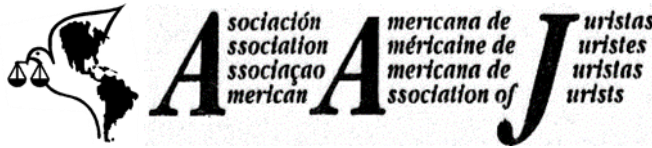
Associação Brasileira da Advocacia Trabalhista (ABRAT)

Asociación Chilena de Juristas por la Democracia (ACHJD)

Asociación Madres de Plaza de Mayo

Asociación Latinoamericana de Abogados Laboralistas (ALAL)

Asociación Latinoamericana de Jueces del Trabajo (ALJT)



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Asociación Venezolana de Juristas (AVJ)

Comité Permanente por la Defensa de los Derechos Humanos, de Guayaquil, Ecuador.

Federación Judicial Argentina (FJA)

Grupo Lawfare nunca mais

Grupo Prerrogativas

Internacional Association of Democratic Lawyers (IADL)

Instituto dos Advogados do Brasil (IAB)

Observatorio de Law Fare

Vereinigung für Friedensrecht (Asociación Alemana por el Derecho de la Paz, IALANA)

Colectivo Incluyendo Derechos (Argentina)

Colectivo de Abogados “José Alvear Restrepo” (CAJAR), Colombia.

Movimiento Nacional por los Derechos del Pueblo Peruano

Unión Nacional de Juristas de Cuba

Jurists

(First signatures)

Eugenio Raúl Zaffaroni (Ex Juez de la Corte Interamericana de Derechos Humanos)

Baltasar Garzón (Ex Juez de la Audiencia Nacional de España)

Joan E. Garcés (Premio Nobel alternativo, Right Livelihood Foundation, 1999).

Ernesto Samper (Ex Presidente de Colombia)

Juarez Tavares (Catedrático de la Universidad Federal de Río de Janeiro)

Patricio Pazmiño (Ex Juez de la Corte Interamericana de Derechos Humanos)

Rafael Correa (ex Presidente del Ecuador)

Roberto de Figueiredo Caldas (ex Juez y Presidente de la Corte Interamericana)

Vanessa Ramos (Presidenta de la Asociación Americana de Juristas Continental, Puerto Rico)

Gerardo Pisarello (Diputado del Congreso de los diputados de España, Universidad de Barcelona)

Claudia Rocca (Presidenta de la Asociación Argentina de Juristas)

Sebastian Scheerer (Universidad de Hamburgo. Alemania)

Luis Fernando Niño (Universidad de Buenos Aires. Argentina. AAJ)

Elías Carranza (ILANUD, Costa Rica)

Antonio Raudillo Martín Sánchez (Miembro de Honor de la Unión Nacional de Juristas de Cuba y Presidente de Honor de la Sociedad Cubana de Derecho Laboral y de Seguridad Social; Vicepresidente de la Asociación Americana de Juristas Continental)

Enrique Santiago (diputado de la XV legislatura de las Cortes Generales de España- CLAJUD)

Luiz Paulo Teixeira Ferreira (Professor, Advogado, y Ministro de desenvolvimento agrario de Brasil)

Virgilio Hernandez (Vicepresidente del Parlamento Andino – Perú)

Andrés Gallardo (Presidente del Comité Panamericano de Juezas y Jueces por la Doctrina Franciscana-COPAJU)

Galo Chiriboga Zambrano (ex Procurador General de Ecuador. AAJ Ecuador)

Carlos Margotta (Presidente de la Asociación Chilena de Juristas por la Democracia).

Roberto Pompa (Presidente de la Asociación Latinoamericana de Jueces del Trabajo).

Luís Carlos Moro (Secretario-General de AAJ Continental – Brasil)

Carol Proner (Consejo Latinoamericano de Justicia y Democracia – CLAJUD /ABJD)

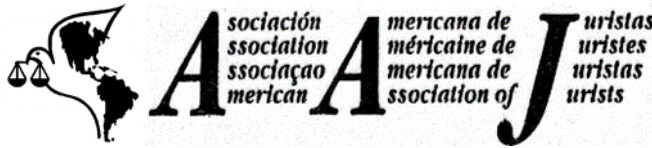
Ricardo Patiño (Ex canciller de Colombia-Grupo de Puebla)

Matías Cremonte (Presidente de la Asociación Latinoamericana de Abogados y Abogadas Laboristas ALAL)

Jorge Luiz Souto Maior (Presidente de AAJ - Rama Brasil)

Lucrecia Hernández, (Presidenta de la Asociación Venezolana de Juristas)

Nidia Díaz, (Ex parlamentaria del PARLACEN, Miembro del Consejo Consultivo de la AAJ, y de la AAJ El Salvador)



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Billy Navarrete (Director Ejecutivo, Comité Permanente por la Defensa de los Derechos Humanos, de Guayaquil, Ecuador).

Cristina Caamaño (Rectora de la Universidad Madres de Plaza de Mayo - AAJ Argentina)

Walter Antillon (Profesor Emérito de la Universidad de Costa Rica – AAJ Costa Rica)

Matías Bailone (Universidad de Buenos Aires, AAJ Argentina)

Matías Fachal (Presidente de la Federación Judicial Argentina)

José Alexis Ginarte Gato (Presidente de la Unión Nacional de Juristas de Cuba).

Rita de Cássia Sant'Anna Cortez (Presidenta do IAB)

They adhere (in chronological order of adhesion)

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Manuel Maroto Calatayud (Universidad Complutense de Madrid)

Vera Regina Pereira de Andrade (Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina. Brasil)

Nelly Minyersky (Universidad de Buenos Aires – AAJ Argentina)

Eduardo Barcesat (Universidad de Buenos Aires – AAJ Argentina)

Carlos Cruz (Universidad de Buenos Aires – AAJ Argentina)

Andrea Vlahusic (Secretaria General de la Asociación Argentina de Juristas)

Luis Dussan. (Presidente de AAJ Rama Colombia)

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Francesco Schiaffo (Universita degli Studi di Salerno. Italia)

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Fernando Henrique Cardoso (Universidade Federal Fluminense. Brasil)

Silvio Cuneo (Universidad Central de Chile)

Valentina Ripa (Università degli Studi di Salerno. Italia)

Carmela Grüne (Jornal Estado de Direito. Brasil)

Mario Marcuz (Università degli Studi di Bologna. Italia)

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Ricardo Soberón Garrido (Centro de Investigación Drogas y Derechos Humanos, Perú)

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Cristina Livitsanos (Universidad Nacional de Moreno, AAJ Argentina)

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Elizabeth Gómez Alcorta (Universidad de Buenos Aires)

Ana Inés Algorta Latorre (vice Presidente de COPAJU)

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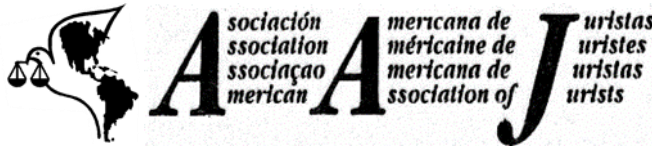
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Luciana Boiteux (UFRJ, Brasil)

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João Pedro Ferraz dos Passos. (Advogado, Brasil)

José Fernando Moro (Advogado, Brasil)

Gomercindo Clovis Garcia Rodrigues (Advogado, Brasil)

Ellen Mara Ferraz Hazan (Advogada, Brasil)

Priscila Pamela C. Santos (Advogada, Brasil)

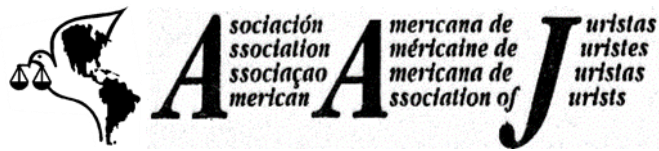
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Felipe Gomes da Silva Vasconcellos (Advogado, Brasil)

João Luís Arzeno Silva (Advogado, Brasil)

Pietro Alarcón. (Advogado - AAJ Brasil)

Bernadete Laú Kurtz. (Advogada, Brasil)



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