



PLAN PAÍS

THE DAY AFTER





INTRODUCTION

This proposal is created from the joint effort of political parties, churches, professional associations, universities in Venezuela and abroad, various business and labor sectors, experts, economists, among many other representatives of the production sector and the society in Venezuela, who set out to create a joint point of view for the future of Venezuela.

We're driven by the conviction that, sooner or later, we'll achieve political change and we have to be prepared to immediately begin with the rescue, recovery and transformation process that we all so urgently require.

To achieve this, we have devised a serious and feasible plan, which has gained consensus among the main actors in our society, and the invitation is for more political, social and economic actors, committed to the reconstruction of our country, to join in this effort.

This set of policies is oriented to empowering Venezuelans in order for them to unleash their creative and productive forces, so that they are enabled to develop their maximum

potential toward working for a democratic State based on the rule of law, which is put at the service of its citizens, provides favorable conditions, goods and services, and guarantees freedom, accountability and full respect for human rights with opportunities for all citizens.





**POLITICAL AGREEMENT TO
RESCUE VENEZUELA FROM
SOCIAL CRISIS AND
ECONOMIC COLLAPSE**





I

PREAMBLE

1. Venezuela is going through the worst economic and social crisis of its entire history, provoked by an economic and political model based on domination and social control, which has destroyed and criminalized entrepreneurship, impoverished the people, and crushed the ability of the Venezuelan State to reach its goals.

2. Wages, for most Venezuelans, aren't enough to buy calories, proteins and medicines that families need to survive. Children exhibit significant growth delays and adults have been losing weight at very alarming rates. Morbidity rate has increased and healthcare services have collapsed. Inflation is the highest recorded in the entire history of the American continent. Food, education, healthcare, power, water and public transport services have also collapsed.

3. A totalitarian political model and a failed economic system have destroyed the capacity of citizens to provide for themselves and come together to be supportive. The regime's policies, far from addressing

the necessities of the most vulnerable population sectors, have deepened the dependence and social control mechanisms by means of political prosecution instruments that have aggravated the systematic violation of human rights.





4. The country's production apparatus has been decimated; after two decades of nationalization, arbitrary expropriations and regulations oriented toward further restricting the freedom of action of economic activities and seizing their cash flow. The oil industry has been destroyed as a result of socialist policies and excessive spending, together with over-indebtedness; which could not be covered with regular revenues, due to the collapse of oil production. All this has prompted monetary financing, due to the lack of other sources of public deficit. This has led to hyperinflation and aggravated the economic disaster and complex humanitarian emergency which already existed.

5. In this context, millions of Venezuelans have fled the country, running from death, illness, widespread hunger, and malnutrition. This complex humanitarian emergency has brought about a very significant refugee crisis in several Latin American countries.

6. This disaster, which is only comparable to that of countries in a war or failed states, helps put into perspective just how severely deteriorated the capacity of the Venezuelan State to guarantee

proper public services is, particularly personal security.

7. The economic and social rescue of Venezuela requires significant changes to be made in the country's economic and political model through economic and institutional reforms oriented toward promoting the swift and sustained expansion of the production and consumption capacity of Venezuelans. To this end, free access to foreign currency on the part of the production sector should be reinstated.

Likewise, Venezuelans have to be empowered so that they are able to earn a living and meet their needs and those of their families. To attain these goals, programs should be developed to build the capacity of the State to fulfill their essential tasks, within the framework of the reestablishment of constitutional and democratic order.





8. Political forces represented in the National Assembly, representatives of professional organizations and the Academy in Venezuela are aware of the unprecedented magnitude of the deep crisis in our country and recognize that its solution requires a joint effort based on the most authentic patriotism, which makes the rescue of the wellbeing of Venezuelans a priority over partisan interests and differences, within the framework of democratic transition in Venezuela.



II

AGREEMENTS ON ECONOMIC POLICIES

9. Actions in relation to economic policies intended to improve the quality of living of Venezuelans should be undertaken in three stages: (i) addressing the complex humanitarian emergency; (ii) stabilizing the economy; and (iii) implementing structural reforms.

10. For a quick recovery, the country needs a strategy that includes extraordinary international financial aid by multilateral entities, bilateral credits, international donations, foreign debt restructuring and a significant increase in oil production.

11. The humanitarian emergency and the collapse of public services require a significant fiscal expansion financed with foreign resources, which would make it possible to put an end to the monetary financing of deficit.

12. The execution of social spending will be consistent with medium-term fiscal sustainability, removing social control and clientelist policies.

13. The treasury will be reestablished, simplifying the tax

collection mechanism and removing confiscatory para-fiscal contributions.

14. State-owned businesses will be restructured and asset transfer mechanisms, will be explored, as well as worker participation instruments, whenever this helps to increase their effectiveness and management quality.

15. A schedule will be established for the adjustment of fuel prices and utility rates, within the framework of direct subsidy social programs.





16. The independence and capacities of the Central Bank of Venezuela for the exercise of its competence in terms of monetary policy will be reestablished, as well as the constitutional control power of the National Assembly.

17. Exchange controls will be removed and freedom to trade in foreign currency will be established, with due regulation and upon application of prudential rules by the Central Bank, the National Executive Office and the National Assembly.

18. With the aim of demolishing hyperinflation, the adoption of an exchange anchoring system backed up with the funds obtained from the international financing strategy and the fiscal, monetary and reform programs to be implemented, is proposed.





III

AGREEMENTS ON POLICIES TO EMPOWER CITIZENS AND GUARANTEE ACCESS TO PUBLIC SERVICES

19. The model of centralized economic controls should be replaced with a model of freedom and market, based on the right of every Venezuelan to work under the guarantee of rights to property and freedom of enterprise.

20. The State will promote policies to bolster production through a constructive dialogue between the civil society and the organized private sector stimulating entrepreneurship as a social force that will render the economy more dynamic.

21. To attain these goals, centralized controls that demolished the entrepreneurial spirit of Venezuelans should be legislatively removed, prioritizing reactivation and stimulating healthy competition as a self-regulation mechanism of the market, understanding the medullary importance of the sectors engaged in agroalimentary, pharmaceutical and industrial production, within the framework of the other sectors of the economy. In particular, controls

derived from the Organic Law on Fair Prices, the Law on Exchange Regime and Associated Crimes, the Organic Law on Food Security and Sovereignty, the Law on Land and Agricultural Development, the organic Law of the National Financial System, and the Organic Tax Code, should be lifted.

22. Likewise, a legal framework will be developed to create confidence and boost production, which, at the same time effectively protects the rights of workers and their job-training and the freedom to form unions.

23.





Guarantee of private property should be restored so that each Venezuelan becomes the owner of the means required to guarantee their own wellbeing and the wellbeing of society. Likewise, rights of all owners affected by arbitrary expropriations and further similar measures will be restored, including fair compensations applicable. The laws regulating unconstitutional expropriation procedures will be repealed.

24. An Agricultural and Livestock Development Plan will be developed to stimulate domestic production for the supply of strategic foodstuffs for Venezuelans, and to promote the export agenda.

25. Public policies in the industrial sector will be oriented toward adding national value to create a suitable export platform that strengthens trade balance, with emphasis on the development of human talent as an instrument to advance the manufacture of products with higher added value, with businesses focused on productivity and competitiveness.

26. The reestablishment of the market mechanisms to favor production growth will be underpinned by the strengthening of

financial intermediation by the banking sector; to this effect, a regulation is required to favor the soundness, liquidity and efficiency of banks, based on inclusion criteria, eliminating suffocating controls that impair their role and unduly increase their costs. The correspondent bank agreements with global banking will be reestablished to leverage international trade and favor guarantee and trade stimulation mechanisms.





27. Public services, especially the supply of power and drinking water, will be submitted to emergency measures oriented toward their recovery, even though public-private associations guaranteeing their universal management for the benefit of all Venezuelans.

28. To build suitable state capacity, reforms intended to reconstruct Public Administration will be promoted to put Public Administration at the service of the productive development of all Venezuelans, within the framework of the principles of compliance with Law, citizen involvement and transparency.





IV

AGREEMENT ON HYDROCARBON POLICY

29. The new oil policy will be oriented toward creating a new relationship between citizens, the State, and oil, to overcome the Oil-State dynamic through mechanisms intended to empower Venezuelans in terms of their relation to oil.

30. The Nation will continue to own hydrocarbon deposits.

31. Oil and gas production will be maximized, guaranteeing the highest benefit for the Nation.

32. Given the destruction of PDVSA, the oil company has to be restructured and resized for it to be consolidated as a competitive public company focused on the hydrocarbon sector.

33. Private investment, both national and international, in the hydrocarbon sector will be encouraged, especially to allow exploration and development activities to be directly carried out by international private-capital companies.

34. The Venezuelan Hydrocarbon

Agency will be created to manage in an efficient, independent and technical manner hydrocarbon deposits, as well as to regulate and oversee the hydrocarbon sector.

35. A new Hydrocarbons Law will be passed, along with other changes to the legal framework required to implement this policy.





V

AGREEMENT ON SOCIAL POLICIES

36. Social policies are summarized in the following utterance: the Venezuelan society demands the restitution of their social rights, recovering their capacity to live a decent, productive, and healthy life in freedom and independence.

To this end, the State should prioritize its effort to assist Venezuelans to overcome the complex humanitarian emergency, promoting their creative capacities and setting the bases of a new social policy to give back Venezuelan the rights that were seized by the authoritarian regime. Venezuelans will play a star role in the process of sustained and inclusive economic growth.

37. Within the framework of this new social policy, indirect, inefficient and regressive subsidy schemes will be replaced. This policy will be implemented with the support of technology and information mechanisms that will be used to properly identify the population sectors that will be benefited from said policies.

38. The new social policy in terms of the complex humanitarian emergency will be focused on four areas: (i) basic foodstuff supply and access programs; (ii) healthcare programs; (iii) special attention programs for the most vulnerable population sectors; and (iv) program for the promotion of quality jobs and protection of family income.

39. Regarding the area of basic foodstuff access and supply programs, social policies will fulfill two objectives:

a. To promote the supply of basic products, with the assistance of the distribution mechanisms developed by the private sector and organizations that are involved in addressing the complex humanitarian emergency.



To promote access of vulnerable homes to a daily subsidy system to compensate for the drop of family consumption.

40. Concerning healthcare programs, social policies will be oriented toward the following goals:

a. To prioritize supply of medicine, medical materials and equipment, and, in general, all supplies required for the assurance of proper diagnosis and treatments, with the support of the distribution mechanisms developed by the private sector and organizations that are involved in addressing the complex humanitarian emergency.

b. To activate a direct subsidy system that allows patients to access medications for high-impact chronic illnesses, also intended to distribute high-cost drugs.

c. To promote the emergency hospital attention in clinical, surgical and para-clinical areas.

d. To promote vaccination and communicable disease prevention programs.

41. In relation to care for the most vulnerable population sectors, social policies will be aimed at:

a. Developing scholarship programs

for high-school students to promote school retention, within the framework of measures to address the emergency in the education sector.

b. Establishing universal access to the school nutrition program for public schools and subsidized private schools.

c. Developing nutritional assistance programs for children under 5 years of age and pregnant women.

42. Finally, social policies in the area of quality job promotion and family income protection will be aimed at the following goals:





a. To promote community jobs, through programs to stimulate community entrepreneurship, so as to contribute to address the complex humanitarian emergency and to overcome deterioration of public property and areas.

b. To implement transparent and consensus mechanisms to establish and update the minimum wages and pensions, as per the provisions of the International Labor Organization (ILO), to promote decent wages within the framework of the preservation and creation of quality jobs.

c. To adopt supplementary assistance mechanisms for elderly living in poverty.





NEXT STEPS

In early 2019, the following actions will be taken:

1.- To present the second part of the plan, which comprises:

- Security and Sovereignty;
- Agroalimentary supply;
- Public services;
- Justice, institutions and democracy.

2.- To submit this plan to the National Assembly for it to be included into the legislative agenda so that these initiatives are crystalized in a set of laws.

3.- To continue with a dissemination and consultation process throughout the national territory.

4.- To set up technical assistance teams for each one of the areas that are contained in the plan.

Venezuelans and the world should know that when the country retakes the road to democracy and civil and economic freedom, they will have an earnest and feasible alternative to reconstruct Venezuela through development, prosperity and progress for all.

Let's envisage the Venezuela of the day after; let's be prepared to transform it through our commitment to our talent, effort and will to transform it into that Venezuela that we can, want and are capable of being.

We will continue to share this proposal to deepen consultations and broaden debate.

The invitation is to be involved and join efforts to advance toward a great national agreement that is truly of all and for all Venezuelans.

