



Ministry of People's Power for Foreign Affairs

Weekly Newsletter / May 28th 2021

## TOPIC OF THE WEEK



## Venezuela to start a new phase of Covid-19 vaccination

To expand the vaccination plan against Covid-19 in Venezuela, the President of the Republic, Nicolás Maduro, announced the arrival of 1,300,000 new doses from China, destined for people under 60 years of age with two or more chronic conditions (kidney failure, HIV, diabetes, among others), workers in the service area and patients who can become complicated if they contract the virus.

"June, July and August are going to be months of offensive in vaccination (...) so that we can enter the last months of the year 2021 with the liberation of

social, family and economic life," said the President, who reiterated that "the 7 + 7 scheme" will remain in place, as the quarantine modality applied in Venezuela is known, which contemplates interspersing a week of general confinement with another of relaxation of some measures.

The President warned about a plan devised from Colombia, which aims to unilaterally open the border to introduce more dangerous variants of Covid-19 to Venezuela. The intention is to disrupt the border and "divert national and international attention from the enormous and tragic crisis

that Colombia is experiencing," said the head of State, after instructing that a special protection plan against Covid-19 must be developed for the border population.

Vaccination, one of the areas in which the Government focuses its efforts amid the economic blockade imposed by the US, began last February, when the first 100,000 doses of Sputnik-V arrived, destined for medical personnel who are on the front line fighting the pandemic.

With the arrival of more vaccines from Russia and China, which amounted to 1.4 million doses as of May 3, vaccination of the health sector was expanded and security personnel, teachers and people over 60 years old with two or more added risk factors.

PHOTO: ARCHIVE / COURTESY

## Support for patent waivers

At the 74th World Health Assembly, Venezuela ratified its support for the equitable distribution of vaccines, promoted by the World Health Organization (WHO), and the initiatives to release patents on these drugs.

These actions "would reduce costs and guarantee

universal access to vaccines," said the Minister of People's Power for Health, Carlos Alvarado, who also demanded the end of the criminal economic blockade against Venezuela, which violates the right to health of the population.

In addition, he appreciated the cooperation of the United Nations system and countries such as China, Russia, Turkey, Iran and Cuba to confront Covid-19.

PHOTO: MPPRE



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## DIPLOMACY

### We celebrate and honor Africa

The World Africa Week in Venezuela and the Cultural Festival with the Peoples of Africa are spaces for the diplomacy of the peoples promoted since the Bolivarian Revolution by Commander Hugo Chávez, who in 2005 redesigned the foreign policy prioritizing South-South relations and highlighting the African heritage in Latin America and the Caribbean.

This year, from 25th to 31st May, the XVI edition of the World Africa Week in Venezuela and the VII Cultural Festival will be held. Twenty-four countries of Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean are participating, with songs, dances, gastronomy, poems and fraternal greetings, which due to the pandemic also have a digital form.

Different artistic genres convey a message about the spirit of struggle, resistance, hope and love for another possible world, in an initiative co-produced with the Ministry of Popular Power for Culture.

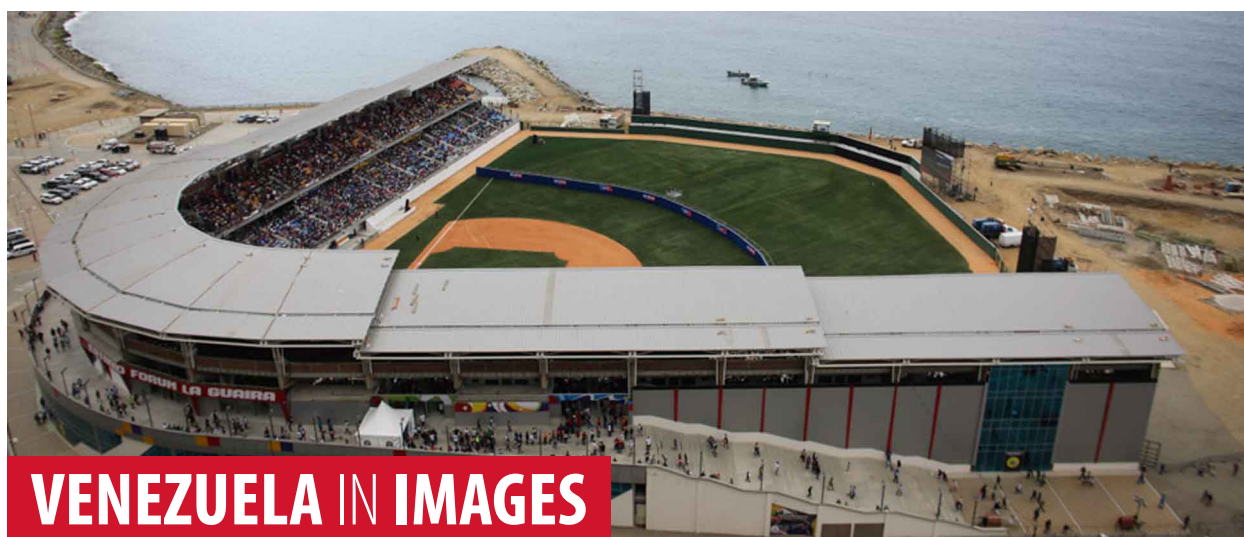
The photographic exhibition "Africa and Venezuela: dancing and singing for unity", inaugurated by the Minister of Foreign Relations, Jorge Arreaza, began this celebration, which includes

#### Integration between Venezuela and South Africa

After meeting in Caracas with South African deputy, Zolani Mkiva, President of the South Africa-Venezuela Solidarity group (Sasuve) and distinguished member of the African National Congress, President Nicolás Maduro said that the encounter was useful "to strengthen ties of solidarity and economic and commercial integration with our Mother Africa."

seminars and webinars with the University of the Arts of Venezuela, Afro-descendant organizations and the African diplomatic corps, to reflect on the cultural, political and social roots that unite us. It was Hugo Chávez who taught that Africa is our mother, said Minister Arreaza: "He clearly established the original character of Africa for our peoples and at the same time he did it with the Caribbean".

PHOTO: MPPRE



## VENEZUELA IN IMAGES

### A General of the people left his footprint in La Guaira

He won the hearts of the humble with his patriotic position facing the coup in 2002, and his work for the homeless compatriots; so when he was elected governor of La Guaira in 2008, Jorge García Carneiro already had the love of the community. His governance only increased the figure

of this General of the people who honored the compromise he assumed until his last breath on May 22. He left constructions like the stadium Forum La Guaira, the Bolívar-Chavez Square and the notorious Cinta Costera.

PHOTO: ARCHIVE / COURTESY

## NEWS BRIEF



### Mobilized in solidarity with Palestine

The Venezuelan people held a walk in Caracas to manifest their unconditional support to the people of Palestine who have been the target of a genocide by Israel, whose government assassinated at least 272 people, including women, children and elders in the latest attack against the Gaza strip. The Ambassador of Palestine in Venezuela, Fadi Alzaben, thanked this demonstration of solidarity: "The international community has to end the culture of impunity of Israel. Enough of aggressions and attacks!"

PHOTO: COURTESY / AVN

### Double discourse of imperial powers

The Ambassador of Venezuela at the UN, Samuel Moncada, condemned the double discourse of imperial powers which try to use the "Responsibility to protect" as an excuse to attack other countries, like they did in Lybia in 2011. He denounced the targeted use of the false protection as an instrument of colonial intervention.

### Just claim for the Essequibo

Venezuela rejects the false accusations of the president of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, Mohamed Irfaan Ali, who, in a speech for the 55th anniversary of the independence of his country, distanced himself "from historical reality, in order to feed a victimist matrix and refusal regarding the just Venezuelan claim" on Guayana Esequiba. In a statement, Venezuela ratifies the dialogue route and the mechanisms provided in the Geneva Agreement to put an end to the territorial dispute, which originated with the United Kingdom and therefore predates the independence of Guyana.





## HUMANITY ON THE MOVE



### Oliver came to Venezuela to grow up in the heat of love

Little Oliver Toro is connected to Venezuela. His parents, Raúl Toro and Mileidy Chacón, both Venezuelans, emigrated to Argentina six years ago. There they gave birth to their only son, who was traveling with them when the couple died on March 10th in a road accident, in which the child's Venezuelan maternal grandmother, also died.

Oliver's doctor, of Venezuelan origin, seeing that no family members came, generated the alert. Thus, the Venezuelan diplomatic mission in Argentina made contacts to find out the situation of the child, who was recovering from a fractured femur. While the baby - who turned one year old on March 16th - was in the care of his father's friend, his relatives in Caracas requested for support to search for him.

On April 13th, thanks to the efforts of the

Venezuelan and Argentine authorities, the boy met for the first time with his grandfather and maternal uncles in Buenos Aires. "He is my sister's son, he has his father's face," Milángela Chacón, twin of Oliver's mother, told an Argentine media outlet. The little boy and his relatives returned to the country in the first days of May. Here he will live with his maternal grandfather in a home of the Great Housing Mission Venezuela

"This is one of the most beautiful cases of the daily, hard and human work of our teams of Consular Relations, Embassies and Consulates of Venezuela and the entire Foreign Ministry, in coordination with other national institutions," said the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Jorge Arreaza, who days later met with Oliver and his relatives.

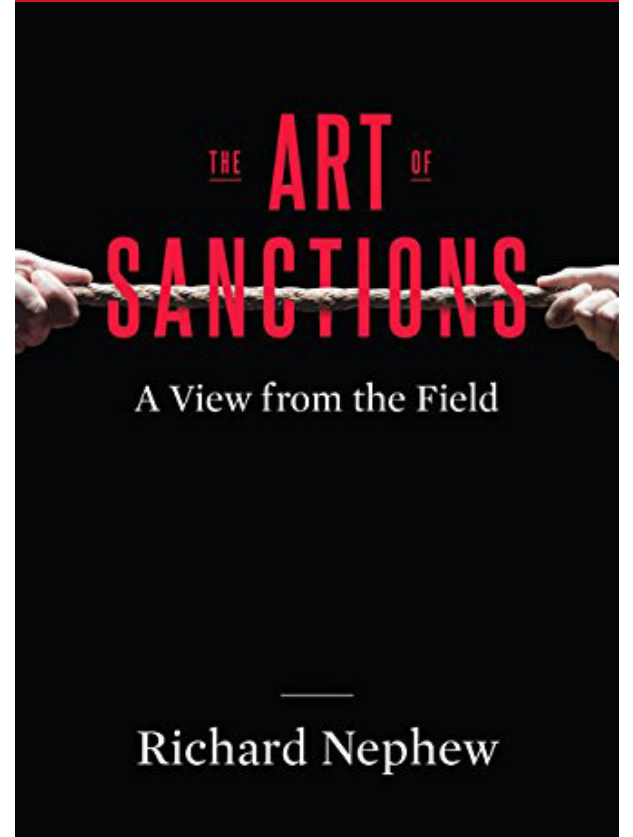
PHOTO: MPPRE

## CAPSULES OF IDEAS

*"Harnessed as they have always been to the constellation of imperialist power, our ruling classes have no interest whatsoever indetermining whether patriotism might not prove more profitable than treason, and whether begging is really the only formula for international policies. Sovereignty is mortgaged because "there's no other way." The oligarchies' cynical alibis confuse the impotence of a social class with the presumed empty destinies of their countries."*

Eduardo Galeano, Open Veins of Latin America, 1971

## UNBLOCK



### Biden's advisor admits criminal intent of the blockade

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Jorge Arreaza, presented before the International Criminal Court (ICC) two new proofs of the criminal nature of the Unilateral Coercive Measures (UCM) against the country: the book, *The art of sanctions* and the article "Evaluating the Trump Administration's Approach to Sanctions: Venezuela," both written by Richard Nephew, current advisor to the president of the United States, Joe Biden.

Nephew, who also advised Barack Obama in the imposition of the UCM, offers in both documents elements on the historical position of the United States in the face of "sanctions," one of its preferred tools of domination, and recognizes that they have a hostile nature, as they try to pressure changes without drawing on to armed means.

According to the scheme proposed by Nephew, strategies are designed in terms of "pain" and "tolerance," with the intention of placing countries and their populations in a dynamic in which suffering and restrictions are modulated according to the scope of the objectives.

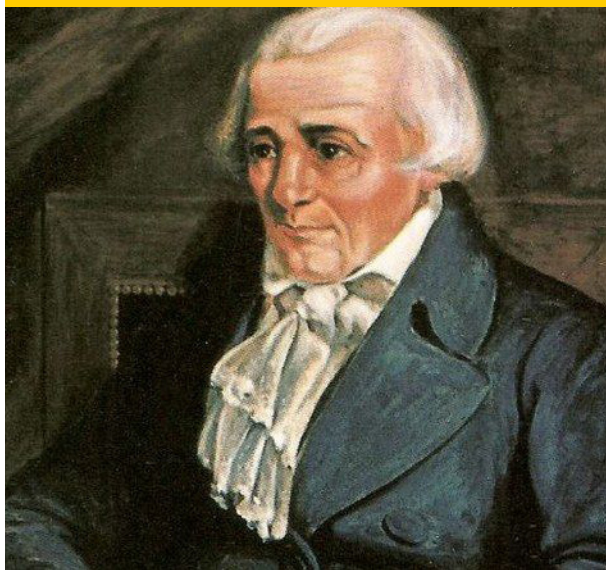
Both publications show "the criminal nature of the unilateral coercive measures, the purpose of which, as the author confesses, is to 'generate pain,'" said Arreaza, who stressed that these actions violate International Law.

PHOTO: ARCHIVE / COURTESY





## HEROIC ROOTS



### Juan Germán Roscio: illustrious son of the Homeland

Despite his credentials, Juan Germán Roscio took at least nine years to be admitted to the Bar Association. It was alleged that his mother and maternal grandmother were Indians. In a long court trial, Roscio argued that there is no difference between Europeans and mestizos and that if they let him study, then he could also practice his profession. Although he was finally admitted, he was singled out for propagating the libertarian doctrines of Manuel Gual and José María España.

This episode revealed what Roscio, born on May 27, 1763, would represent for Venezuela. He dismantled the duality between monarchy and religion to defend the republican system, and was a key figure in the April 19, 1810 revolution.

As Secretary of Foreign Relations of the Conservative Board of the Rights of Fernando VII, he seized the opportunity to give the maximum promotion to the emancipatory project outside the country. For this reason, he is considered to be the first Minister of Foreign Affairs of Venezuela.

Representative of the First Congress of the Republic and editor of the Act of Independence and the Constitution of 1811, Roscio was captured by the Spanish in 1812.

After attaining his freedom, he moved to Jamaica, then to the United States and returned to Venezuela in 1818, where he served as director of the Correo del Orinoco and served as president of the Congress of Angostura in 1819.

He was Vice-President of Gran Colombia and was preparing to take his position as President of the Constituent Congress of Cúcuta, when he died in that city on March 10, 1821, three months before the Battle of Carabobo. This year, on the bicentennial anniversary of his death, his symbolic remains were admitted into the National Pantheon.

IMAGE: COURTESY



## BEATS OF OUR PEOPLE

### Recovering technology equipment for students and communities

Faced with the brutal economic blockade imposed on Venezuela, which, among other consequences, restricts access to technological equipment, workers from the state-owned company Canaima Industries have put, at the service of the country, their ingenuity and commitment to the repair and maintenance of computers and tablets.

This initiative ensures the continuity of policies such as the Canaima Educational programme, launched in 2008 to facilitate the technological literacy of children and young people with the free distribution of computer equipment. Today, in the midst of the fight against Covid-19, these are essential to remotely educating millions of students.

Therefore, committed to the principle of technological

sovereignty, workers from the factory, opened in 2011, embarked on repair days in the midst of the pandemic and recovered up to 1,000 computers for students from one educational center.

“In the face of siege, we recycle parts and pieces of equipment out of circulation to refurbish school computers,” said The President of Canaima Industries, Isabel Piña.

The service has also been carried out in urban areas of the Great Mission Housing Venezuela, in order to facilitate teleworking in these homes. It also responds to a line of action for the maintenance of equipment, which also incorporates students from technical schools in this work.

PHOTO: ARCHIVE / COURTESY

## UNCOVERING FAKE NEWS

### Penitentiary system at the centre of lies

The matrix on the violation of Human Rights of detained persons has been one of the lines of attack against Venezuela, which was intended to be revived by right-wing sectors following the publication of Presidential Decree 4,610, which establishes the change in the registration of detention centres located in the Bolivarian National Intelligence Service (Sebin) and the Directorate of Military Counterintelligence (Dgim).

Both security bodies will transfer the custody of persons deprived of liberty to the Ministry of People's Power for Penitentiary Services. In addition, they must adapt their structure, standards, manuals and procedures to what

is established in the decree.

In the context of the issuance of this measure, right-wing agents announced alleged transfers of people deprived of their liberty in those precincts to prisons for common crimes, with the intention of feeding alleged arbitrariness without evidence.

The change of assignment, valued favourably by the Human Rights Office of the United Nations (UN), was documented by the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic in the fourth report sent to the International Criminal Court, which outlines progress in legislative and institutional renewal matters.