

We go for Constituent



for Peace and future

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Faced with the decision by a part of the Venezuelan opposition to abandon the space of democratic politics, choosing the path of violence and foreign intervention, President Nicolás Maduro took the constitutional initiative to convene a new Assembly stage of constituent process summoned by Commander Chavez, since 1999, as the option that makes an electoral route possible in all orders and that solves the problem of the unjustifiable denial of the opposition to dialogue with the legitimate and legal government of the Republic.

The objective is to achieve a new historical trigger, as happened in 1998, when we chose our Commander Chavez, that allows our people to follow the peaceful course of the deep transformations that our society needs, putting aside the threats of coup, civil war or foreign intervention.

The call of President Maduro has occupied the national political agenda, isolating those violent people more and more. In the heat of the debate the first questions have arisen, which I will try to answer in this article:



1. What is the Constituent Power?



The first thinker who gives theoretical substance to the notion of constituent power is the Frenchman Emmanuel Sieyès, who in 1788, in the framework of the pre-revolution France postulates that the Nation, understood as a common will, is the depository of an original power from which the powers of the State are constituted, for that reason it is called Constituent Power.

2. What is the National Constituent Assembly?



It is the juridical space where the representatives chosen by the constituent power are to agree on the social coexistence and the legal regulation that governs it, the Constitution.

3. Does the figure exist in the Constitution of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela?



Our Bolivarian Constitution, resulting from a constitutional process led by Commander Hugo Chavez, recognizes in its article 347 that there is an original power.

4. What are their functions?



Transform the State, create a new legal system and draft a new Constitution.

5. Why is it being called at this time?



In order to promote a great national dialogue, to stop the escalation of violence promoted by the opposition leadership, preserve the independence and peace of the Republic and leave the constitutional bases of a social model where we can live all with mutual recognition, equality, justice, peace and dignity.

6. Can the President of the Republic call the National Constituent Assembly?



Article 348 of our 1999 Constitution establishes that the President of the Republic, the National Assembly, the municipal councils or the citizens can take the initiative to call it. In this case President Nicolás Maduro has taken the initiative.

7. How are its members chosen?



By universal, secret and direct vote.

8. Why does President Maduro propose that there be two voting areas, both territorial and sectorial?



Given that our 1999 Bolivarian Constitution recognizes the multiethnic and multicultural nature of our society and establishes the participatory and protagonist role that the social sectors must play in the exercise of democracy, sectorial election is considered pertinent, as well as the territorial election.

That is why the President has stated that the main social sectors should choose their constituents in a specific way and also in the territorial scope. We are all going to vote.

9. Under what criteria are the sectors chosen?



Considering that there are institutional, historical, reliable and verifiable records that guarantee the principle of universality of the respective sector.

10. How do candidates apply?



In the two areas it will be by their own initiative, with the endorsement of a number of citizen signatures, which will determine the Electoral Power.

11. Is the duality of voting discriminatory?



No, because it deprives the principle that each person has as many votes as there are posts to elect in his circuit. It is what happens in the plurinominal circuits and in the indigenous circuits.

12. Can the established public powers keep working once the National Constituent Assembly become operational?



They may, but in no way can they oppose the decisions of the National Constituent Assembly, as expressed in Article 349 of our 1999 Constitution.

13. Does the National Assembly draft a new Constitution?



Yes, deepening and broadening the doctrinal bases of Independence, Sovereignty, Participative and Protagonist Democracy, pluriculturalism, mixed economy and social equality enshrined in our Bolivarian Constitution.

14. What will be discussed in the National Constituent Assembly?

The National Constituent Assembly will set its agenda for discussion based on national priorities. However, the President, as convener, has proposed 9 programmatic lines for the constituent debate: Peace as a necessity, right and yearning of the Nation; The improvement of the national economic system towards Venezuela Power; Constitutionalizing of Missions (social Programs) and Major Socialist Missions (social programs); The expansion of the competencies of the Justice System, to eradicate impunity for crimes; Constitutionalizing of the new forms of Participative and Protagonist Democracy; The defense of Sovereignty and the Integrity of the Nation and protection against foreign interventionism; Claiming the pluricultural character of the Homeland; The guarantee of the future, our youth, through the inclusion of a constitutional chapter to consecrate the rights of youth and the preservation of life on the planet.

In the purest Bolivarian tradition of summoning popular sovereignty to clear the horizon of the country, we go to the Constituent for the peace and future of our youth. May God and the people accompany us.