

April 18, 2016 Vancouver, Canada

Fire This Time Movement for Social Justice Statement in Solidarity with the Bolivarian Revolution & Against U.S. Intervention in Venezuela

April 13, 2002 was a day of victory for the people of Venezuela and the Bolivarian Revolution. On that day, eternal leader of the Bolivarian Revolution, Comandante Hugo Chávez, returned as the rightfully elected President after an April 11, 2002 attempted coup d'état led by right-wing forces supported by the U.S. government. Chavez and the millions of Venezuelan's who make up the Bolivarian Revolution refused to surrender. In doing so they won an important victory that inspired people around the world.

Since then the Bolivarian Revolution has continued to make huge gains in the interests of poor and working people in Venezuela, and continued to be a leader in the international struggle to build a better world.

Over 14 years after their failed coup, the U.S. has also continued their non-stop campaign of destabilization against the Bolivarian Revolution. They have poured millions of dollars into supporting so-called "opposition leaders" leading violent anti-government actions, imposed sanctions aimed at crippling Venezuela's economy and led a campaign of demonization and disinformation against Venezuela's democratically elected president Nicolás Maduro and the ongoing revolutionary Bolivarian process.

On March 6, 2016, U.S. President Barack Obama renewed an unnecessary and inflammatory Executive Order declaring Venezuela an, "unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security of the United States". This week the Washington Post newspaper also published an editorial calling for direct intervention in the internal affairs of Venezuela by surrounding governments, a threat against Venezuela's sovereignty and right to self-determination.

On Tuesday, April 19 actions will take place in 40 countries around the world to condemn the right wing and imperialist aggression against Venezuela. This day also marks 205 years since the "Signing of the Act of Independence" of Venezuela.

On this important anniversary and international day of solidarity with Venezuela, Fire This Time Movement for Social Justice is joining this important initiative to express its unconditional solidarity with the Bolivarian Revolutionary process and its democratically elected leader, President Nicolás Maduro. We will be organizing a protest in front of the U.S. Consulate in Vancouver and encouraging all peace-loving people to get involved in this action to declare with people around the world:

- > OBAMA REPEAL THE DECREE NOW!
- > U.S. HANDS OFF VENEZUELA!
- > U.S. RESPECT THE SOVEREIGNTY AND SELF-DETERMINATION OF THE VENEZUELAN PEOPLE!
- > LONG LIVE THE VENEZUELAN BOLIVARIAN REVOLUTION!
- > VENEZUELA IS A HOPE, NOT A THREAT!

In Solidarity,

Fire This Time Movement for Social Justice

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