

Statement on the Situation in Venezuela

1. In light of the motto “Justice at the heart of global transformation,” **we denounce** both the progressive deterioration of the social fabric of the sister Republic of Venezuela over the last few decades, which, among other consequences, has led to a massive displacement to “distant lands,” and the proposed solution of foreign intervention for purely economic reasons.
2. Inspired by the Word of God on this Sunday of the Epiphany, a luminous manifestation of the Lord to all peoples, **we implore God**, with the responsorial psalm, that: “may your people be ruled with justice, your humble ones with righteousness, may justice and peace flourish to the ends of the earth, may the poor who cried out be freed, the afflicted who had no protector, may the lives of the destitute be saved” (71);
3. Motivated by the insistence of the Holy Father Leo XIV on “*an unarmed and disarming peace*” (cf. first *Urbi et Orbi* blessing, May 8, 2025, first message for the World Day of Peace, January 1, 2026), **we reiterate our commitment** to defending people living in poverty, dismantling the causes that impede sustainable development, promoting rights-based justice, and advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Coordinating Team

Bogotá, January 6, 2026