



## PERSECUTION AGAINST ROCIO SAN MIGUEL AND THREATS OF LIFT PARLIAMENTARY IMMUNITY TO CORINA MARIA MACHADO.

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**\*Unofficial translation done only for the purpose of being understood.**

The Latin American and Caribbean Network for Democracy ( Redlad ) warns about the climate of violence, persecution and violation of Human Rights in Venezuela.

The figure of more than 28 deaths and hundreds of young people injured, detained and even tortured is alarming. The protests in defense of fundamental freedoms organized by the Venezuelan student movement and Venezuelan citizenship in general, are still seen marred by repression of the Bolivarian National Guard (GNB) and the actions of paramilitary groups allied to the ruling party as "Tupamaros" and "collective ". More than 1,700 people prosecuted for expressing about freedom and 48 people tortured, and hundreds of people threatened with open investigations and the militarization of cities.

Also important, the persecution of political leaders and opposition leaders , mayors , congressmen, governors and other elected people in cities continues . Political prisoners including the case of **Leopoldo López** and others persecuted by simply thinking differently. We want alert the recent case developed in ordinary session of the National Assembly (March 18, 2014) in which, with emergency motion, the ruling bloc approved a document which forces the waive the immunity of opposition lawmaker **Maria Corina Machado** and a judgment against her for crimes such as "treason"

The human rights activists also continue to be persecuted. The president of "Control Ciudadano, para la Seguridad, la Defensa y la Fuerza Armada Nacional", member of the REDLAD , **Rocío San Miguel** has again been threatened with death, this time by motorized who approached the vehicle in which her was



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traveling with her daughter. This happened in the Avenida Francisco de Miranda in Chacao, Caracas.

Other organizations and advocates for democracy and human rights are also persecuted or threatened, including several coordinators our REDLAD.

We reject violence and regret that the government did not take seriously the questions about the deterioration of democratic principles in the country and continue to respond with repression. Can not see a way out that is based the unilateral imposition of a false dialogue by the Government without any assurances independence, impartiality and guarantees of the result .

**The REDLAD, a platform of over 540 organizations, Official Member of the Civil Society Forum of the Organization of American States (OAS) and Regional Chapter of World Movement for Democracy (WMD):**

- Condemns murder, persecution, abuse, assault and violation of human rights of citizens and Venezuelan students who are protesting for more than a month against the undemocratic practices, violation of fundamental freedoms, repression, climate of insecurity, inflation and food shortages.
- Report persecution and threat of our member Rocío San Miguel and other leaders of civil society, calls for international protection bodies activists threatened, and condemn the events that occurred and the integrity of San Miguel and daughter.
- Censorship prosecuting civil society leaders , organizations, democracy and human rights activists, journalists and communicators in clear violation of the right of association and freedom of expression.
- Alert persecution of political opposition leaders like Maria Corina Machado, threatened with legal action despite having immunity and Leopoldo Lopez, who continues as a political prisoner.
- It calls for the Organization of American States (OAS) , the United Nations and the democratic governments of the world to denounce what is happening in Venezuela and take positions that demonstrate the vulnerability of human rights that exists in the country.
- Urges using nonviolent strategies but also seek opportunities to avoid the apparent increase in violence and allow the rescue of institutions and Venezuelan citizenship .



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- Reiterates the call for an international negotiation, impartial, technical agreements and generate clear consequences for non-compliance by the government, one in which all sectors of Venezuela can build a true peace agreement without conditions and impositions .

## **Latin American and Caribbean Network for Democracy (REDLAD).**



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