

UNITED FOR DEMOCRACY

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Electoral political monitoring bulletin jointly carried out by civil society organizations on issues of democracy, human rights, political participation and electoral processes in Venezuela during 2020



JULY 2020 YEAR 1 - NO. 01

El primer informe de seguimiento político electoral "Unid@s Por La Democracia" recoge las principales publicaciones y acciones registradas en el mes de julio 2020, sobre el proceso electoral parlamentario convocado para el 6 de diciembre. Invitamos a todas las organizaciones a sumarse a este esfuerzo



THE REFEREE

"The Supreme Court of Justice (TSJ) orders the illegitimate National Electoral Council (CNE) to change the so-called best electoral system in the world", points to the TSJ's overreach, not only in appointing the rectors of the CNE but also by conferring on them the power to modify the law. The piece analyzes Sentence 68 and its impact on the possibility of holding free, authentic and transparent elections. [Read more](#)



THE SCHEDULE

"Timeline in Pandemic: Less Time for More Complex Parliamentary Elections." This piece highlights that the lawful lapses of time of key activities and the electoral process in general are comparatively shorter amidst the pandemic. It is also noteworthy that the time of the electoral timeline's publication is a violation given it is done after the call for elections and certain activities of shortened time lapses. [Read more](#)



THE ELECTION REGISTRY

The Citizen Electoral Network (REC) prepared the "report on the Special Period of Registration and Updating of the Electoral Registry," an activity carried out from July 13 to 29, within the framework of the 2020 parliamentary elections. In addition to a regulatory review and the status of the Electoral Registry, as well as definitions of the Special Period, a follow-up mechanism was designed to evaluate different aspects of the process ([READ REPORT](#))

The selection of a series of bamboos as a background image is no accident. Bamboo is flexible and strong at the same time. "Bamboo prepares to triumph and on its way to the top it becomes powerful. If misfortune falls on it and someone cuts it indiscriminately, this tree is reborn and reaches the top again; even starting from scratch."

Taken from Vanguardia.com

COMPLAINTS



Civil society organizations: Voto Joven, Global Observatory of Communication and Democracy (OGCD), Center for Justice and Peace (CEPAZ), Citizen Movement Dale Letra and Education Assembly (ROAE) submitted a statement to the National Electoral Council, on the 21 July, within the framework of the Special Day of Registration and Updating of the Electoral Registry (RE) for the 2020 Parliamentary Elections, in order to request:

- 1) Extension of a minimum of forty-five (45) continuous days the period provided for the period.
- 2) Expand the number of registration centers to at least one thousand one hundred (1,100), with which at least three (3) centers per municipality guaranteed
- 3) Avoid possible acts of coercion
- 4) Solve the failures and delays in the issuance of identity cards, the only valid document to register in the RE
- 5) Extend biosanitary measures against the serious risk of COVID19

[See Voto Joven Twitter campaign](#)



HUMAN RIGHTS AND ELECTIONS

In the oral presentation of the report on "Outcomes of the investigation into allegations of possible human right violations of the human rights to life, liberty and physical and moral integrity in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela" the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet, offered a relevant message about the parliamentary elections in Venezuela: "... Above all, I regret that political actors fail to reach a negotiated solution to resolve the profound political crisis. Recent decisions of the Supreme Court of Justice reduce the possibility of creating conditions for credible and democratic electoral processes. These decisions named nine new rectors of the National Electoral Council without the consensus of all political forces and interfered with the internal organization of two of the main opposition political parties. I reiterate my call for an inclusive political negotiation, based on human rights and the restitution of political rights. My Office remains available to contribute to these efforts."

[Read article and report via Cepaz:](#)

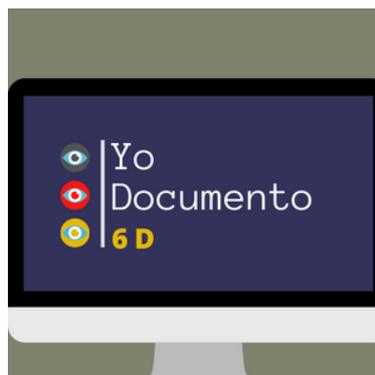
[see video Via OGCD](#)

Geneva, July 2, 2020

VENEZUELA DOCUMENTS

Within the framework of the parliamentary process, Cepaz, Voto Joven and the OGCD launched a platform "Venezuela Documenta" an application that will document irregular incidents during the electoral process and that will remain open as an instance for taking action for human rights defenders in Venezuela.

<https://venezueladocumenta.usahidi.io/view/s/map>





THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY OF THE SPECIAL RULES FOR THE ELECTION OF INDIGENOUS REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE VENEZUELAN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

According to Professor Briceño, the "Special Regulation to regulate the election of the indigenous presentation in the 2020 National Assembly violates the electoral principles established in the Constitution, including the obligation not to modify the Electoral Law prior to the election (Article 298) and the mandate to elect Deputies to the National Assembly (AN) by universal, direct, personalized and secret vote with representation (Article 186)."

It is, he says, a direct election, since spokespersons chosen in Community Assemblies are the ones who actually elect the Deputies to the AN by indigenous representation, contrary to the direct vote enshrined in the Constitution. Additionally, there is the violation of the secrecy of the vote, also a constitutional imperative, by forcing a vote by show of hands, paradoxical given there are multiple General Assemblies, the result will only be known when the CNE calculates the totals.

These norms are not only "incompatible with the Constitution, but also with voting as a human right." In his opinion, "it is discriminatory as it exclusively recognizes the indigenous population from a perspective of Eurocentric contempt."

PUBLISHED IN POST-MONITION POLITICAL. AUTHOR HÉCTOR BRICEÑO
<https://www.posmonicionpolitica.com/>



ROAE STATEMENT ON THE INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF DEPUTIES

The Electoral Observation Network of the Education Assembly, in its July 18 Bulletin, expressed its concern about increase in the number of national legislators to be elected in the 2020 parliamentary elections. It maintains that the move "is not allowed for under the provisions of Article 186 of the National Constitution. In addition to the number of deputies, the allocation of parliamentarians in each federal entity is changing significantly."

[READ THE FULL STATEMENT](#)
[Read ROAE statements](#)



VENEZUELAN ELECTORAL OBSERVATORY (OEV) BULLETINS

The bulletins of the Venezuelan Electoral Observatory present an updated X-ray of the electoral events in Venezuela.

During the month of July, they published reports on the time lapses of the election and keys to understanding the parliamentary process.

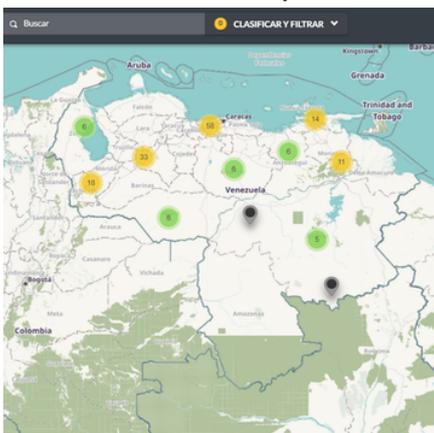
[Read OEV newsletters](#)

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Venezuela 2020
JULY 2020

VENEZUELA DOCUMENTS

Geolocated reports



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STATEMENTS AND ARTICLES

MORE THAN 100 ORGS SIGN ON

CIVIL VOICES DEMAND POLITICAL AGREEMENT IN THE COUNTRY

JULY 2, 2020

The document expresses concern about the call for an electoral process in the midst of the pandemic and without respect for the rules, guarantees and provisions contained in the Constitution. It reiterates the need for a national agreement that addresses political, economic and social situation in the country.

[READ STATEMENT](#)

OPINION

THE NEED TO BUILD ELECTORAL CONFIDENCE

JUAN MANUEL TRAK
JUAN MANUEL TRAK

The sociologist and advisor on political and electoral issues approaches the elections as a means for exercising citizenship and as a procedure through which collective decisions can be made in an inclusive manner, but for this to be a reflection of the citizenry's will, it requires, amongst other things, the trust of all those involved in the process.

[READ MORE](#)

PARTICIPACIÓN DE CEPAZ

INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE ON THE OHCHR REPORT ON VENEZUELA

JULY 15, 2020

Beatriz Borges, director of Cepaz, participated in the interactive dialogue held within the framework of the report on Venezuela presented by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

[SEE DECLARATION](#)