

## IN DEFENSE OF THE PEOPLE AND THE GOVERNMENT OF VENEZUELA AND INTERNATIONAL LAW

In Venezuela, on January 23, 2019, in a street assembly, deputy Juan Guaidó, member of the National Assembly in contempt, following the orders of US imperialism and supported by some governments, proclaimed himself president in charge of the country. lackeys of Europe and the Group of Lima, formed by Latin American governments subjects of the USA, the unworthy attitude of all of which we condemn.

In the elections of last May 20, which were advanced at the request of the opposition, 16 political parties participated supporting one of the six candidates who applied, while three parties withdrew at the urging of Trump and boycotted the elections.

In them, Nicolás Maduro won with a wide margin, obtaining 6,248,864 votes, 67.84%. He was followed by opposition leaders Henri Falcón, with 1,927,958 votes, 20.93%; and Javier Betucci, with 1,015,895 votes, 10.82%.

The electoral process and the result were supported by the Council of Electoral Experts of Latin America (CELA), whose president, the Ecuadorian Nicanor Moscoso, said: "These elections must be recognized internationally; this is the will of the Venezuelans. " They were, then, elections recognized as clean and peaceful. There were also 148 countries that recognized Nicolás Maduro as the legitimate president of Venezuela.

The participating candidates did not contest the elections in their time, recognizing that there was no fraud, but the Lima Group did not know the result by mandate of EE. UU

From here, US imperialism reinforces the criminal economic siege against Venezuela. However, the brave Venezuelan people have been able to defend the sovereignty of their decisions in the face of the multifaceted war that imperialism has unleashed since the beginning of the Bolivarian Revolution, for its defence of national sovereignty. A war that is now against Venezuela, but it is also a threat directed at any people that do not submit to the orders of imperialism.

With the self-proclamation of the lackey Guaidó as president in charge against the laws of the Republic, it was intended to give a coup d'état, unleash a civil war and intervene militarily, as it happened before in countries such as the Dominican Republic, Chile, Iraq, Libya, Syria, etc.

This process of imperialist war against Venezuela can only be stopped by the decisive action of the forces of peace and democracy, led by the international working class. The massive

mobilization against the coup and in defence of the sovereignty of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, is why the International Trade Union of Pensioners and Retired of the WFTU calls for the unity of all pensioners and workers of the world to mobilize in favour of peace in the world and, especially in these moments, support President Nicolás Maduro and enforce the right to self-determination of the Venezuelan people.

The ITU of P&R and international class syndicalism consider it necessary for the Bolivarian government of Venezuela to deepen the economic, social and political changes against the monopoly capitals and in favour of the working class and working people.