

ESEETC 067

Stockholm, April 12th of 2019

Honorable
ANE HALSBOE-JØRGENSEN
President of the Foreign Affairs Committee
Danish Parliament
Copenhagen

Ref: Colombian Position Before Russian Assembly Declaration

Ms. President:

I am glad to address the Honorable Committee of Foreign Affairs in order to communicate its Members that Colombia emphatically rejects the Declaration of the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation on the situation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, adopted in Moscow on February 27th, 2019.

The accusations contained in this declaration do not correspond to the reality and constitute a distortion of the position of Colombia, shared by several countries of the region, and of its concrete actions in relation to the illegitimate regime of Nicolás Maduro in Venezuela.

Colombia has responded to the multidimensional crisis that Venezuela is going through, and for which the illegitimate regime of Nicolás Maduro is responsible. Colombia has responded from legality, solidarity and responsibility.

Legality, in accordance with its obligations as a member of the Organization of American States, and in compliance with the inter-American democratic regime.

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Responsibility, to face the massive migratory flow coming from Venezuela and the challenges that this supposes for the national capacities.

Solidarity, before a humanitarian situation and the serious deprivations and needs in which millions of Venezuelans live. Colombia has offered itself as a channel to receive, collect, and preserve the humanitarian assistance offered by various nations, waiting for its effective delivery.

Colombia reiterates that the transition to democracy must be conducted by the Venezuelans themselves peacefully and within the framework of the Constitution and International Law, supported by political and diplomatic means, without the use of force.

The situation in Venezuela is a regional and hemispheric issue that should not be used as an instrument of any geopolitical competition.

In this regard, Colombia reiterates that any deployment or military incursion in support of Nicolás Maduro's regime jeopardizes the democratic transition and constitutional normalization in Venezuela, and constitutes a threat to peace, security and stability in the region.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to the Honorable Committee of Foreign Affairs the assurances of my highest consideration.

CAROLINA QUIJANO MALLARINO

Chargé D'Affaires a.i.

Embassy of Colombia in Sweden Concurrent for Denmark

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