

No more war! Hands off Venezuela!

In 1975 José Abreu launched “El Sistema,” a unique and spectacular program against poverty, drugs, marginalization and criminality: With training on musical instruments the children of Venezuela were rescued from misery.



Thanks to support from Hugo Chavez, the president who led Venezuela in the “Bolivarian Revolution” since 1983, the project became a priority for the whole country. Chavez allocated 29 million euros per year, and by 2008 250,000 children had learned to play an instrument. And that in a country where the average annual income was 3,100 euros.

“El Sistema” is a prominent example of humanity and cultural greatness. José Abreu received an Alternative Nobel Prize for his music project in 2001.

José Abreu and Hugo Chavez are among those who strive for peace, human rights, social security and environmental protection. They stand as David against the Goliath of a world where profit is increasingly the only criterion for decision-making and development. Often disadvantaged, persecuted and excluded. Even often threatened with attacks on their existence, their health and their life.¹

Respect Venezuela’s sovereignty!

With the “Bolivarian Revolution” the Venezuelan people chose democratically—with solid and repeatedly clear majorities since 1999—to determine their path independent from the dictates of U.S. imperialism.

Today the German government stands with other European Union nations, with the USA and with a host of right-leaning governments in Latin America on the side of the rebels in Venezuela.

The rebels have tried for years—with the USA and EU in the background—to break the will of the Venezuelan people. But their countless rebellions and murder attempts, destabilization and disinformation have not led to the desired regime change. Nor have the sanctions imposed by them.

But now a civil war is being strongly encouraged, and military intervention from the USA and other countries is openly being threatened. Venezuela’s democratic order is to

¹ José Abreu and Hugo Chavez were awarded the international ethecon Blue Planet Award in 2008 because of their outstanding support for the ethical principles in the field of ethics and economics in the fight for the preservation or rescue of our “Blue Planet.” This is how the ethecon foundation honors people who are courageous, persistent, incorruptible and of integrity. Who are willing to carry out civil resistance for their ideas, to stand against prevailing norms and laws and, in the extreme, suffer punishments and injuries to life and limb. Such people show what is commonly called civil courage, i.e., the courage to fight for the ideals of mankind without regard for the risks. They guarantee that the sensitive little plant of ethics is protected, cared for and defended.

be ended with outside interference and violence. The USA wants to take back its "backyard."

No to rebellion and civil war!

The situation is volatile and has already caused a number of deaths. Undoubtedly Venezuela faces big economic problems. But they were in large part caused by boycotts by the EU and other countries, the freezing of various Venezuelan foreign accounts by the USA, the confiscation of Venezuela's gold reserves through Great Britain and many other foreign aggressions.

Certainly the Maduro government made mistakes. But the Venezuelan people must find solutions themselves. The USA, the EU and others should not get involved. Under the guise of "humanitarian aid" they smuggle weapons into the country and arm themselves for an attack. **Again it is about oil!**

The conflict over Venezuela is not about democracy and human rights, as is often stated. It is about income and profits. And again about oil. After all, Venezuela is one of the most oil-rich nations on earth.

A robbery is taking place before our eyes. A robbery by the most powerful nations and corporations of the world. Venezuela's 30 million inhabitants are threatened with the same fate as millions of Iraqis, Libyans and Syrians: to be devoured by the voracious mouth of the resource-hungry West.

Solidarity with the people of Venezuela!

ethecon declares itself in solidarity with the people of Venezuela.

ethecon demands that the federal government respect the democratic structures of Venezuela that are based on elections and public participation, and to respect the government of President Nicolás Maduro.

ethecon demands that the USA and EU countries immediately and completely lift all sanctions, as well as all trade and finance limitations, on Venezuela.

ethecon demands that the barbarity against the Venezuelan people be ended! Those who speak of "humanitarian aid" but make it more difficult for the Venezuelan government to purchase urgently needed medicine and food are acting inhumanely and barbarously.

ethecon demands: Stop supporting violence in Venezuela! Stop the military threats! Stop the troop buildups on Venezuela's borders!

ethecon – board of direktors