



SPECIAL DECLARATION ON “THE COLONIAL QUESTION OF PUERTO RICO”

On the occasion of the Second Meeting of National Coordinators of the Group of Friends in Defense of the Charter of the United Nations, held on 13 May 2024, in Caracas, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, we declare the following on the colonial question of Puerto Rico:

1. We reaffirm the content of the “Special Declaration on Decolonization and Modern Practices of Neocolonialism”, adopted at the ministerial level, of on 23 September 2023.
2. We emphasize our support for resolution 1514 (XV) of the General Assembly of the United Nations, entitled “Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples”, adopted on 14 December 1960.
3. We recall that the period 2021-2030 was declared by the General Assembly of the United Nations as the “Fourth International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism”.
4. We take note of the 41 resolutions and decisions adopted by the “Special Committee of the United Nations on the Situation with regards to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (C-24)” on the question of Puerto Rico.
5. We take note of the declarations adopted by the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), the Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America-People’s Trade Agreement (ALBA-TCP), and the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), among other organizations and groupings, on the question of Puerto Rico.
6. We emphasize the priority we attach to putting an end to colonialism in all its forms and manifestations.
7. We further emphasize that the people of Puerto Rico constitute a Latin American and Caribbean nation, which has its own unmistakable national identity.



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8. We recognize the inalienable right of the people of Puerto Rico to self-determination and independence, in accordance with resolution 1514 (XV) of the General Assembly of the United Nations.
9. We support the call of the “Special Committee of the United Nations on the Situation with regards to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (C-24)” to the government of the United States of America to assume its responsibility to promote a process that will allow the Puerto Rican people to fully exercise their inalienable right to self-determination and independence, in accordance and in full compliance with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and the resolutions and decisions of the Special Committee concerning Puerto Rico.
10. We reiterate our full support and solidarity with the people of Puerto Rico in their struggle for the realization of their inalienable right to self-determination, as well as our firm determination to continue participating in an active and constructive manner in all efforts aimed at advancing towards the achievement of a world free of colonialism, with a view to settling once and for all our pending debt with humanity regarding the definitive conclusion of the decolonization process around the world.

Caracas, 13 May 2024