

The Honorable Antony Blinken
United States Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

July 25, 2024

Dear Secretary Blinken,

We write to you to express our deep concern over the upcoming elections in Venezuela this Sunday, July 28, 2024.

According to Transparency International Venezuela and information gathered from other civil society organization reports in the country, the campaign and pre-campaign period seem to have been marred with acts of violence against opposition candidates, parties and supporters, abuse of state resources for electoral gain, disinformation campaigns, and threats of violence if the opposition wins.¹ Such acts severely undermine the rights of Venezuelans to free and fair elections and are in contravention with the Barbados Agreement.

We urge the U.S. State Department to call on the Venezuelan government to:

1. Guarantee the right for Venezuelan citizens to vote in an atmosphere of peace and security.
2. Ensure the integrity of ballot counting, including by providing simultaneous access to the results to all party representatives.
3. Make the results available and public as soon as possible.
4. Refrain from using any state resources to favour the ruling party.
5. Not use violence or threats of violence against any voters, activists or candidates.

Further, we urge the U.S. State Department to closely monitor, document and immediately condemn any breaches of human rights and international standards of election integrity in the upcoming elections in Venezuela.

We appreciate your attention to this crucial matter.

Sincerely,

¹ [Transparencia Venezuela, 19 July 2024, "ATTACKS, THREATS AND USE OF NETWORKS OF ENTITIES AND OFFICIALS FOR ELECTORAL PROPAGANDA ARE RAMPANT IN THE 2024 PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN", Atentados, amenazas y uso de redes de entes y funcionarios para propaganda electoral en la campaña presidencial 2024 - Transparencia Venezuela](#)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Kalman', with a stylized, cursive script.

Gary Kalman
Executive Director