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Sergio Rodriguez Gelfenstein 10.10.2021

Venezuela: ignoring reality does not justify the lack of reason or farce

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The erroneous views on Venezuela that observe the country from stereotyped visions, have often led governments and international organizations to make decisions based on pre-established opinions that are based more on desires than on realities. Of course, by considering Venezuela as a threat, they have transformed the country into an enemy to be defeated.

This led the United States and Europe to devious plans based on false information that announced almost daily the imminent overthrow of President Maduro. From this and with the support of pretensions, aspirations and personal ambitions of a caterva of thugs who made politics a business, they configured phantasmagorical projects that had no hold on the national stage. Likewise, the desire for profit that put the national interest and the lives of millions of citizens on the back burner led them to provide imaginary appraisals that led Washington and Brussels to constant missteps and a colossal ridicule from which they are barely trying to get out.

The truth is that the global powers that tried to overthrow the constitutional government of Venezuela believed or wanted and were interested in believing the lies that for long years they were told. Just at the time of writing, a New *York Times*_article has been released out outlining a letter sent last week by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) to its offices in other countries in which it is stated that: "The central problem in this [refers to the growing loss of local informants] is that CIA agents underestimate the capabilities of the bodies. of counterintelligence from other countries". The letter also "criticizes the low technical competence of its own officers and their excessive reliance on their sources," according to the New York newspaper's report.

En Venezuela, además habría que decir que la absurda política intervencionista de Estados Unidos en el país y la suposición de una pronta salida del gobierno del presidente Maduro, los llevó a un nivel de injerencia sin límites al reconocer a Juan Guaidó como presidente, obligando al gobierno de Venezuela a romper relaciones en enero de 2019, quedando el país del norte ciego y sordo en su necesidad de observar la situación del país, al mismo tiempo que se vieron impelidos a ponerse a merced de informantes locales que captaron de inmediato el gran negocio que se abría paso. En este contexto, se dieron a la tarea de construir fantasiosos escenarios de lucha contra la "dictadura" que vendían a buen precio a sus desesperados empleadores. Otro tanto hacían los funcionarios de embajadas europeas, contactados para el mismo objetivo.

Una vez que los diplomáticos estadounidenses se fueron de Caracas, tal papel lo comenzaron a jugar sus colegas europeos, algunos, como los embajadores de Francia, España, Alemania y otros desataron una verdadera vorágine de actividades subversivas - ampliamente conocidas y documentadas por los servicios de inteligencia- que al hacerse públicas, se pudo saber que siempre partían de la idea de que Maduro se iría pronto. Algunos, como los embajadores de España y Alemania y la de la Unión Europea fueron declarados non gratos y expulsados del país.



Josep Borrell, Alto Representante de Asuntos Exteriores de la Unión Europea (Foto: Reuters)

They justified their activities by saying – as Josep Borrell told Spanish television – that "they were innovating in the field of international law". This is how they explained their recognition of Guaidó as interim president, at the same time that they negotiated, without it being known, all kinds of deals with the only government that has always existed in Venezuela at this time: that of Nicolás Maduro. His diplomats in Caracas secretly attended the calls of ministers and government officials, imploring that it not be made public in order to maintain the farce of recognition of the impostor. It was sad to observe veterans and honorable career diplomats making a fool of themselves on the orders of their governments.



JOSEP Borrell, opposed to an armed intervention in Venezuela: "Never has an invading army urged freedom or democracy in a country"

The ineffable Borrell when he was still Spain's minister of foreign affairs and cooperation as early as March 3, 2019, just a month and a half after Guaidó's self-proclamation, said in an interview on the digital channel *La Sexta*_that the United States, which had led to the proclamation of Juan Guaidó as president in charge of Venezuela, he did not think that Nicolás Maduro "was going to demonstrate that resilience." Describing the situation as "peculiar" and "atypical", he explained that Spain recognized as legitimate a president in charge who did not have control of the territory, knowing that the administration of the country was in the hands of a "de facto government" to whom Spain does not recognize democratic legitimacy. It was the consecration of his stultice.

Therefore, as there could not be two ambassadors, they gave Guaidó's envoy the non-existent title of "personal representative" making it clear that in case a Spaniard had any problem in Venezuela, who should be dealt with was that "de facto government", which was the one that had "control of the territory and the administration". Contradicting himself with his own statement on Spain's national television, he no longer spoke of "innovation" but of a situation not "foreseen in the manuals of International Law", because five weeks after Guaidó's self-proclamation, Maduro was still attending from Miraflores and Guaidó from the jungle protected by the paramilitary band Los Rastrojos in alliance with the government of Colombia. Five weeks! 138 more weeks have passed and Maduro continues to be the president of Venezuela because since 1810, the president of this country is elected by Venezuelans, not the king of Spain as Borrell seems to have forgotten.

Europe that quietly complied with the orders of Trump who mistreated them, spied and humiliated them as is only done with those who have no principles or ethics in life, thought that the arrival of Joe Biden to the presidency would change everything and they would return to have a relationship between equals with the older brother. Not so, the permanent affront — which for Washington is state policy towards those it considers inferior — was maintained and even deepened.

The United States did not warn them that it intended to flee Afghanistan abruptly, pursuing a "save who can" policy that left Europeans at the mercy of the "terrorists" they could not defeat and who seized power, and other rebel terrorists who continue to act despite 20 years of failed military intervention. It is worth saying that both were created by the same powers that were now sneaking through the back door of history.

The flight from Afghanistan and the most recent AUKUS agreement (Australia, the United Kingdom and the United States) against China, which among other things has meant the breaking of a contract of the oceanic country with France to build submarines in order to replace them with another with the United States, seems to be causing Europe to begin to wake up from its dream of love with Washington. The voice of General de Gaulle reverberates in their consciences and makes them return to the reality of submission, indignity and dishonor into which they have fallen.

Paradoxically, these events have influenced Europe's need to part with U.S. policy toward Venezuela and have begun to move its pieces: they have supported negotiations between the government and the terrorist opposition in Mexico and have recognized the country's institutions, while preparing to send an observation mission to the local government elections in November. We hope that, as usual, they will not have the final report prepared before arriving in the country.

As in any negotiation, the parties must be prepared to compromise. The government of Venezuela has agreed to participate in Mexico assuming a responsible attitude in the face of the great hardships that the sanctions and the US and European blockade have made fall on the shoulders of all citizens: both those who support the government and those in opposition.



MEXICO-CELAC

In this photo provided by the Miraflores Press Office, Venezuelan President Nicolás

Maduro speaks at the Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), in Mexico City, Saturday, Sept. 18, 2021. (Miraflores Press Office, via AP).

But, despite that, for the opposition it is still a staging. We all know that he is participating in the dialogue on the orders of Washington and Brussels, because they need to get out of the mess they got into in an elegant way. That is why such conversations take place abroad. Thus they continue to want to give the idea that in the country there are no conditions for dialogue. When the opposition commissioners return to Caracas, they go home and sleep peacefully protected by the police and security institutions that guarantee it. I am sure that Pope Francis would be willing to offer the facilities of the apostolic nunciature to make such meetings, or it could even be in any other institution in the country.

Finally, it is a dialogue between Venezuelans who are not persecuted or intimidated for doing so. They should not return from Mexico to go into a mountain or put on a guerrilla uniform. No, as I said they sleep safely in their beds, after showing themselves before the spotlight of the world average that tries to show that there are no conditions in the country for it.

In that sense, these negotiations in Mexico are nothing more than an export product designed in Brussels and Washington to confuse international public opinion and hide that in Venezuela there is governability and tranquility despite the fact that there are still national and foreign actors who try to destroy the peace that has cost so much to achieve.

I say this because in the aforementioned interview of March 3, 2019, Borrell denied that the Government of Spain is "following" the United States. If so, how is it understood that today, October 6, 2021, U.S. State Department spokesman Ned Price claimed that at a meeting in Paris between Secretary of State Anthony Blinken and Spanish Foreign Minister José Manuel Albares discussed plans to cooperate on human rights in Latin America "including efforts to support the Venezuelan people as they work to restore the democracy in your country"?

It is not only followership, but also subordination, absence of honor and dignity, submission, subjugation and the humiliation of the mediocre elite that has governed the peninsula for centuries and that intends to continue imposing a model from which we detached more than two centuries ago.

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