



AI Index: AMR 53/9103/2025
18 March 2025

-Check against delivery-

ORAL STATEMENT

Item 4: Interactive dialogue on the report of the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

INTERNATIONAL SCRUTINY MUST BE UPHELD AND ACCOUNTABILITY EXPEDITED IN THE FACE OF THE PERSISTING POLICY OF REPRESSION IN VENEZUELA

UN Human Rights Council
Fifty eighth session
24 February – 4 April 2025

Mr President,

We thank the Mission for its update and note the statements delivered today by states before this Council. As the situation in Venezuela deteriorates, the importance of international scrutiny and [protection](#) mechanisms cannot be understated.

As of early March, at least five [children remain arbitrarily detained](#) and at least 220 are being subjected to unfair trials and unfounded charges of ‘terrorism’ and other discretionary crimes. These children are suffering today, as we speak, the consequences of arbitrary detention, criminalization, and, often, torture. We demand unconditional release and immediate redress for all of them.

Mr President,

As Venezuelan authorities deepen their crackdown on civil society through abusive [legislation](#) and the [criminalization](#) of human rights defenders, we demand the immediate and unconditional release of [prisoners of conscience](#) Javier Tarazona, Rocío San Miguel, Carlos Julio Rojas, and Kennedy Tejada. Indeed, over a [thousand](#) people remain unfairly detained for political reasons, and they all must be released. We are alarmed by the increasing use of enforced disappearances as a weapon to silence critics.

As international crimes and grave human rights violations discussed before this Council go unchecked in Venezuela, we reiterate our call on the Office of the [Prosecutor of the ICC](#) to expedite its investigation into the situation in the country.

We ask the Mission to shed light on the ways in which this Council and states could and should cooperate with international accountability mechanisms, including your Mission and the ICC.

Thank you.