



AI Index: AMR 53/5348/2022
18 March 2022

-Check against delivery-
ORAL STATEMENT

ITEM 4: Interactive dialogue with the independent international fact-finding mission on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS ON ACCOUNTABILITY FOR GRAVE CRIMES IN VENEZUELA REMAIN CRITICAL

UN Human Rights Council
Forty-ninth session
28 February – 1 April 2022

Mr. President,

Amnesty International thanks the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (FFM) for their update on the grave human rights situation in Venezuela.

The Government's policy of repression continues to intensify, despite continued efforts by this Council, with increased attacks on human rights defenders and humanitarian workers recorded over the past year.

In one emblematic case, human rights defender and prisoner of conscience, [Javier Tarazona](#), Director of NGO FundaREDES, has been held in arbitrary detention since July 2021, accused of unfounded 'terrorism' charges. His health has seriously deteriorated due to lack of medical treatment. We call for his immediate and unconditional release.

Amnesty International, Foro Penal and Centro para los Defensores y la Justicia, recently issued [a report detailing the correlation between media attacks against human rights defenders and politically motivated arbitrary detentions](#). The data supports what many have reported in Venezuela in the last couple of years: the policy of repression includes a component of political discrimination that should be investigated as the crime against humanity of persecution.

Victims and survivors of human rights violations and crimes under international law, continue to be denied their access to truth, justice and reparation at national level, and the Government continues to refuse to cooperate with the FFM or implement their recommendations.

We encourage the FFM, the Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, and any other accountability body, to take into account the correlation between different repressive tactics when documenting the criminal responsibility of authorities in Venezuela.

We would like to ask the FFM if they have identified human rights violations that they have not yet been able to document that merit further investigations in the coming years.

Thank you, Mr. President.