

## Outside NYC courthouse

# 'Free Pres. Maduro and Cilia Flores!'

Protesters rallied outside the courthouse on Jan. 5 in New York City where heavily armed U.S. troops brought Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro and his spouse Cilia Flores for a hearing on false charges of importing cocaine into the United States. A vast number of media outlets swarmed around them seeking interviews.

Demonstrators demanded that Maduro and Flores be released and said their kidnapping and indictments are a criminal attempt to take control of Venezuela's oil and other resources.

A right-wing group of Venezuelans on the other side of a barricade, supporting the U.S. government's actions, shouted insults and raised a huge banner declaring "Trump for King."

They were drowned out by a contingent that joined the pro-Venezuela rally, drumming and chanting "Viva, Viva Chávez!" "Hands off Venezuela!" and "U.S. imperialist, number one terrorist!" Another chant was "Queremos Maduro!" — "We love Maduro!"

— Report by Brenda Ryan



New York City, Jan. 5, 2026.

WW PHOTO: BRENDA RYAN



Jan 3, 2026  
protest in  
Philadelphia  
(left) and  
Dallas (right).

WW PHOTO: JOE PIETTE



WW PHOTO: ALEX COLWELL



Portland, Oregon, Jan 3, 2026. For more coverage, see [workers.org/2026/01/89948/](https://workers.org/2026/01/89948/)

WW PHOTO: LYN NEELEY

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## Join us in the fight for socialism!

Workers World Party is a revolutionary Marxist-Leninist party inside the belly of the imperialist beast. We are a multinational, multigenerational and multigendered organization that not only aims to abolish capitalism, but to build a socialist society because it's the only way forward!

Capitalism and imperialism threaten the peoples of the world and the planet itself in the neverending quest for ever-greater profits.

Capitalism means war and austerity, racism and repression, attacks on im/migrants, misogyny, LGBTQIA2S+ oppression and mistreatment of people with disabilities. It means joblessness, increasing homelessness and impoverishment and lack of hope for the future. No social problems can be solved under capitalism.

The U.S. is the richest country in the world, yet no one has a guaranteed right to shelter, food, water, health care, education or anything else — unless they can pay for it. Wages are lower than ever, and youth are saddled with seemingly insurmountable student debt, if they even make it to college. Black, Brown and Indigenous youth and trans people

are gunned down by cops and bigots on a regular basis.

The ruthless ruling class today seeks to wipe out decades of gains and benefits won by hard-fought struggles by people's movements. The super-rich and their political representatives have intensified their attacks on the multinational, multigender and multigenerational working class. It is time to point the blame at — and challenge — the capitalist system.

WWP fights for socialism because the working class produces all wealth in society, and this wealth should remain in their hands, not be stolen in the form of capitalist profits. The wealth workers create should be socially owned and its distribution planned to satisfy and guarantee basic human needs.

Since 1959, Workers World Party has been out in the streets defending the workers and oppressed here and worldwide. If you're interested in Marxism, class solidarity, and joining us in the fight for a socialist future, please sign up at [www.workers.org/join-form](http://www.workers.org/join-form) and an organizer will get back to you. Or contact a WWP branch near you. □

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# No to U.S. intervention in Iran and elsewhere

If there was ever one iota of doubt that Donald Trump is all about regime change against any government that he opposes, the unlawful, illegal kidnapping of Venezuela President Nicolás Maduro and his spouse, Cilia Adela Flores, on Jan. 3 should have erased those doubts forever. It doesn't matter whether a country is part of Latin America like Venezuela or exists on the other side of the world in West Asia. Any government that refuses to be bullied into surrendering its sovereignty can become a target of Trump's modern day Monroe Doctrine.

Just days before the U.S. bombing of Venezuela, the White House was blatantly encouraging the anti-government protests happening in Iran, a country also rich with oil reserves. Trump stated that the U.S. would come to the defense of "peaceful" protesters in Iran. The Iranian government has acknowledged the demands of the protests while sending a strong warning that the U.S. has no right, under international law, to intervene into the internal affairs of its country.

The truth is that the U.S. has attempted to subvert the Iranian economy with sanctions, which Washington put in place since the 1979 Iranian revolution under the false pretext that Iran sponsored "state terrorism." In reality, the Iranian people had deposed the hated U.S.-backed puppet Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi during their revolution.

The organization SanctionsKill describes sanctions as "a weapon of economic war, resulting in chronic shortages of basic necessities, economic dislocation, chaotic hyperinflation,

artificial famines, disease and poverty. In every country, the poorest and the weakest — infants, children, the chronically ill and the elderly — suffer the worst impact of sanctions. U.S.-imposed sanctions violate international law and are a tool of regime change." (sanctionskill.org)

Since Trump has reoccupied the White House for over a year, not only have these sanctions been kept in place but they have been maximized, especially in the areas of oil production, exports, private sector investment and sales on the world capitalist market. Trump seeks to bring down the current Iranian government on the economic front with high inflation, targeting its nuclear energy program and punishing Iran for its unwavering solidarity with the Palestinian Resistance.

What the Trump regime has done to Venezuela and is attempting to do to Iran should be a wake-up call to the rest of the world, especially the Global South. Any country whose government seeks any measure of independent economic development or sovereignty, especially to control its resources, could find its people caught in the crosshairs of a desperate, dying imperialist system, where violence or the threat of it is its only recourse. Just ask the people of Syria, Libya, Iraq, etc., who have experienced violent regime change by U.S. and Western imperialism.

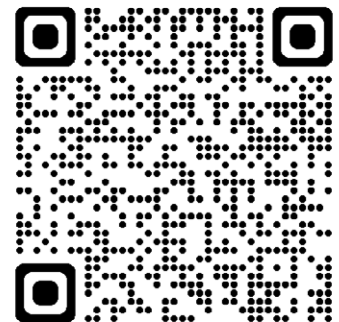
Only the people in Venezuela, Iran and other developing countries have the right to determine their destinies and to select their leaders themselves, without any kind of coercion or interference by Trump, the CIA and the Pentagon. And it is the task of the workers and oppressed based in the Global North to show anti-imperialist solidarity with our class siblings in the struggle to get the imperialists off their backs. □



Philadelphia, June 26, 2019.

PHOTO: JOE PIETTE

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# Condemn the U.S. bombing of Venezuela!

**WW STATEMENT**

## Free President Nicolás Maduro and Cilia Flores NOW!

U.S. aggression against the sovereign country of Venezuela is nothing more or less than an act of piracy with not one iota of justification. It is a war crime against the people of Venezuela, against all the peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean and in the end is also a crime against the workers and oppressed peoples of the United States.

The current White House is occupied by a particularly vile and corrupt war criminal who is surrounded by sycophants with little talent and less honor. His actions ordering a Death Fleet to bomb a peaceful country and to kidnap its democratically elected President Nicolás Maduro and that president's spouse — Cilia Adela Flores de Maduro — are an obvious crime. This represents an attempt to rely on the remaining U.S. destructive military power in an attempt to overcome U.S. imperialism's loss of economic domination and loss of authority.

It is also a continuation of U.S. aggression used not only by the current criminals in the White House, but by the executives of the U.S. imperialist ruling class of both big capitalist parties.

We in Workers World Party reject all the charges made by the White

House and repeated by the servile Congress and corporate media against the Bolivarian government of Venezuela. The slanders and lies now turned into charges against the Venezuelan leaders are the already exposed pretext — like the “weapons of mass destruction” pretext used to justify the costly invasion of Iraq in 2003 by the Republican President George W. Bush. Or the Gulf of Tonkin pretext used to justify the criminal and costly war against Vietnam in 1964 by the Democratic President Lyndon Johnson.

There are already signs from all over the world and especially from that part of the world south of the U.S. that there is mass revulsion to the criminal acts of U.S. imperialism. We salute any actions taken anywhere in the world that express opposition and hostility to the criminal actions by Washington. What we in Workers World Party want to focus on today, Jan. 3, 2026, however, is the reaction from within the United States itself.

We in WWP call upon anti-imperialist organizations and individuals, we call on all who want peace, we call on all workers who want to defend their interests as workers, we call on all who fight for human rights of all kinds within the United States to

unite in their firm resistance to this new, blatant, rogue-state aggression against Venezuela.

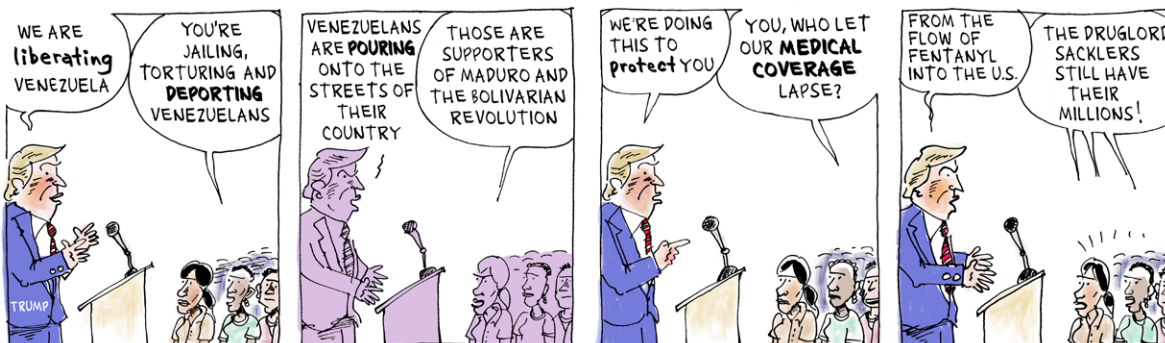
We call on all who want to resist this criminal war to join in the demonstrations, to talk to friends and explain what is behind it: A grab for the oil reserves and other precious resources of Venezuela is a violent crime by a rogue U.S. regime whose only answer is violence, and a regime that we must weaken by any effective ways we can employ.

Defend President Nicolás Maduro! Defend Cilia Flores! Hands Off Venezuela and Latin America! Stop U.S. imperialism!

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# ¡Condenemos el bombardeo estadounidense contra Venezuela!

## ¡Liberen al presidente Nicolás Maduro y a Cilia Flores YA!

**DECLARACIÓN DEL M.O.**

La agresión estadounidense contra el país soberano de Venezuela no es más que un acto de piratería sin la más mínima justificación. Es un crimen de guerra contra el pueblo de Venezuela, contra todos los pueblos de América Latina y el Caribe y, en última instancia, también es un crimen contra los trabajadores y los pueblos oprimidos de los Estados Unidos.



Ciudad de México, 3 de enero de 2026.

FOTO: ALAN ROTH

La Casa Blanca actual está ocupada por un criminal de guerra particularmente vil y corrupto, rodeado de aduladores con poco talento y menos honor. Sus acciones al ordenar a una flota de la muerte que bombardee un país pacífico y secuestre a su presidente democráticamente elegido, Nicolás Maduro, y a su esposa, Cilia Adela Flores de Maduro, son un delito evidente. Esto representa un intento de recurrir al poderío militar destructivo que le queda a Estados Unidos para superar la pérdida de dominio económico y autoridad del

imperialismo estadounidense.

También es una continuación de la agresión estadounidense utilizada no solo por los actuales criminales de la Casa Blanca, sino también por los ejecutivos de la clase dominante imperialista estadounidense de los dos grandes partidos capitalistas.

En el Partido Mundo Obrero rechazamos todas las acusaciones formuladas

por la Casa Blanca y repetidas por el servil Congreso y los medios de comunicación corporativos contra el gobierno bolivariano de Venezuela. Las calumnias y mentiras que ahora se han convertido en acusaciones contra los líderes venezolanos son el pretexto ya expuesto, como el pretexto de las «armas de destrucción masiva» utilizado para justificar la costosa invasión de Irak en 2003 por el presidente republicano George W. Bush. O el pretexto del Golfo de Tonkin utilizado para justificar la criminal y costosa guerra contra Vietnam en 1964 por el presidente

demócrata Lyndon Johnson.

Ya hay señales en todo el mundo, y especialmente en la parte del mundo al sur de los Estados Unidos, de que existe una repulsa masiva hacia los actos criminales del imperialismo estadounidense. Saludamos cualquier acción que se emprenda en cualquier parte del mundo que exprese oposición y hostilidad hacia las acciones criminales de Washington. Sin embargo, lo que en el Partido Mundo Obrero queremos destacar hoy, 3 de enero de 2026, es la reacción dentro de los propios Estados Unidos.

En el WWP hacemos un llamamiento a las organizaciones y personas antiimperialistas, a todos los que quieren la paz, a todos los trabajadores que quieren defender sus intereses como trabajadores, a todos los que luchan por los derechos humanos de todo tipo dentro de Estados Unidos, para que se unan en su firme resistencia a esta nueva y descarada agresión de un Estado delincuente contra Venezuela.

Hacemos un llamamiento a todos los que quieren resistir esta guerra criminal para que se unan a las manifestaciones, hablen con sus amigos y expliquen lo que hay detrás: el robo de las reservas de petróleo y otros recursos preciosos de Venezuela es un crimen violento cometido por un régimen de mierda estadounidense cuya única respuesta es la violencia, y un régimen que debemos debilitar por todos los medios eficaces que podamos emplear.

¡Defendamos al presidente Nicolás Maduro! ¡Defendamos a Cilia Flores! ¡Manos fuera de Venezuela y América Latina! ¡Detengamos el imperialismo estadounidense! □

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¡Proletarios y oprimidos de todos los países uníos!



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