

# María Corina Machado

Venezuela

**His Excellency Dr. Ivan Duque**  
**President of the Republic of Colombia**  
**Casa de Nariño**  
**Carrera 8 #7-2b, Bogotá.**  
**Colombia**

**His Excellency Mr. Jair Bolsonaro**  
**President elect of the Federative Republic of Brazil**  
**Brasilia DF,**  
**Brazil**

As a Venezuelan citizen, deeply committed to the restoration of freedom and democracy in my country, I am profoundly grateful the solidarity shown by Colombia and Brazil to our cause, and for the hospitality your nations have offered to the great number of people fleeing from the tyranny that has destroyed Venezuela.

This deliberately provoked exodus worsens with every passing day, and will only stop once we achieve a change in regime, which will usher in the security and prosperity needed for Venezuelans to thrive. As long as this regime remains in power, instability in our region will increase, as will the already costly threat that the Venezuelan dictatorship poses to your countries, our main neighbors. I urge you to remain firm in the path of support you have undertaken, which is essential if we are to achieve the transition to democracy in Venezuela. We urge you to continue to assert the full weight of your voices in all of the efforts that the international community has endeavored, including those of the Lima Group, the Organization of American States, the European Union and especially the United Nations Security Council.

I can assure you that, today, Venezuela is a nation refusing to perish under subjugation. Throughout my constant travels and contact with Venezuelans all across our country, I can personally attest to our people's strength and fierce determination to be free. There is an enormous creative potential ready to be unleashed, which will transform Venezuela into a safe and productive land. But in order for this to happen, we urgently require the unequivocal and coordinated support of the international democratic community.

I would like to especially convey my gratitude to President Ivan Duque for his leadership in bringing together the support of Colombia, Argentina, Chile, Paraguay, Peru and Canada in requesting the International Criminal Court (ICC) to open an investigation on Venezuela. I ask President Jair Bolsonaro and the people of Brazil to join the group of countries that are supporting this initiative before the Court, such as Costa Rica, France, Germany and the European Union. I am convinced that the Court will verify that we are dealing with a criminal regime that intentionally causes great suffering to its population, as well as enormous harm to the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. Venezuelans are not facing a political crisis, but rather, a transnational criminal conflict that has already claimed too many victims as it spreads beyond our borders.

Once we have achieved the urgently needed regime change that will restore democracy, the rebirth of Venezuela will bring about a wealth of opportunities for exchange and cooperation in economic, cultural, environmental and security matters between our peoples and our countries. You can count on my enthusiastic support in the revitalization of our regional ties.

Please allow me to convey to you my most cordial greetings from Venezuela, as I have been barred from traveling outside my country for the last four years thanks to an arbitrary and illegal measure pursued by this regime.

Most respectfully,

**María Corina Machado**