

María Corina Machado

Venezuela

November 26th, 2018

Rt. Hon. Theresa May MP
Prime Minister of the United Kingdom
10 Downing Street
London, United Kingdom

His Excellency Mr. Emmanuel Macron
President of the French Republic
Palais de l'Élysée
Rue du Faubourg Saint-Honoré
75008 Paris, France

Francisco de Miranda and Simón Bolívar, who brought freedom to several South American nations, traveled extensively to London and Paris. They took inspiration from the rich civic history and the advanced institutions of the United Kingdom and France in their conception of our future republics. It is a painful truth that our country presently suffers through a horrific totalitarian process that seeks to erase this legacy.

Today, the United Kingdom and France, as permanent members of the United Nations' Security Council, must once again assume the responsibility of adopting effective international legal protective measures (United Nations' General Assembly resolution of September 16, 2005), to end the systematic attacks on our population and to address this deliberately provoked humanitarian emergency.

We are grateful for your nations' generous hospitality in welcoming many Venezuelans fleeing from tyranny. Today, we ask for your support in addressing the cause of this massive exodus, so we can achieve the necessary and urgent transition to democracy that our people so desperately need. We are confident that the United Kingdom and France could cooperate in the reconstruction and development of our country, by promoting the investments that will be urgently required after the economic and social disaster caused by the present regime is overcome.

The Venezuelan case requires the unequivocal assertiveness of the international community. We urge the government of the United Kingdom to join France and other nations in supporting the preliminary examinations of the Venezuelan case by the International Criminal Court. We thank all the nations that already support it. We share the common conviction that we are facing a criminal regime, a fact that we are confident will be verified by the Court. The people of Venezuelan people are not in the midst of a political crisis, but rather, we are the victims of a transnational criminal conflict.

I can assure you that, today, Venezuela is a country refusing to perish. 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 nation. But in order for this to happen, we need the support of the international democratic community.

I am personally willing and available to meet and talk about the urgent change required by Venezuelans.

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