

Translated from Spanish

Bolivarian Government of Venezuela

Ministry of People's Power for Foreign Affairs

Permanent Mission of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the United Nations

No. 00427

New York, 19 July 2024

Sir,

I have the honour to write to you pursuant to paragraph 11 (a) of General Assembly resolution 77/108, adopted on 7 December 2022, to report that the premises of the Consulate-General of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in the city of New York, United States of America, have been vandalized.

As has been widely broadcast on social media, on 13 July 2024, in broad daylight, there was another set of acts of vandalism targeting the façade of the Venezuelan diplomatic headquarters in question. These acts are, without a doubt, further proof of the ongoing and flagrant lack of willingness on the part of the receiving State – the United States of America – to safeguard and protect, in accordance with its international obligations, in particular those arising from the 1961 Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations and the 1963 Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, the diplomatic headquarters under its jurisdiction, especially those of countries with whose Governments it has well-known bilateral disagreements.

Since 2019, the premises of Venezuelan diplomatic offices in the United States, which are owned by the Government of Venezuela, including those of the Consulate-General of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in the city of New York, have been seized by the United States authorities, which are deliberately preventing the Government of Venezuela from administering, maintaining and/or gaining access to them. This irregular and clearly illegal situation was duly brought to your attention on 3 July 2019 (reference No. 00258); however – it is necessary to add – it has yet to be rectified by the aggressor, the United States Government.

H.E. Mr. António Guterres
Secretary-General
United Nations
New York

In the light of the foregoing, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela categorically rejects and denounces before the international community this new attack, which joins the already long list of hostile and unfriendly acts perpetrated by the Government of the United States against the Government of Venezuela. In this case, it deliberately failed in its obligation to ensure the necessary security and protection of all diplomatic premises in its territory, including Venezuelan diplomatic premises, regardless of the current status of diplomatic relations and including in the event of the severance of diplomatic or consular ties, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the aforementioned Conventions.

On behalf of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, I respectfully appeal to you to urge the United States authorities to strictly observe, apply and enforce all the principles and rules of international law governing diplomatic and consular relations, including those relating to the inviolability of diplomatic premises and, in particular, to ensure, in accordance with their international obligations, the protection and security of the missions within their jurisdiction.

The Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela calls on the Government of the United States to urgently adopt all the measures necessary, including preventive measures, to have the events in question thoroughly investigated with a view to, firstly, bringing to justice those who encouraged, instigated, organized and/or perpetrated these criminal acts against the premises of the Consulate-General of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in the city of New York, and, secondly, ensuring due compensation for the damage to the façade of the aforementioned premises.

I therefore respectfully request your good offices to implement the procedure provided for in paragraphs 12 (b) and 12 (c) of General Assembly resolution 77/108, entitled “Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives”, and to have this communication brought to the attention of both the party concerned and all States Members of the Organization for their information and related action.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Joaquín A. **Pérez Ayestarán**
Ambassador, Deputy Permanent Representative,
Chargé d’affaires a.i.
