

# THE PRESENT VENEZUELA CRISIS: CAUSES AND SUGGESTIONS

**Ms. Naisiligaki Japhet**

M.A Public Administration Student  
Dept. of Government and Public Administration  
Lovely Professional University  
Email: naisiligakijaphet45@gmail.com

**Abstract:** *This research paper analyses the causes and way forward to curb with the present Venezuela crisis. The present situation of Venezuela is worse than the crisis that have ever happened in the past. Its roots cannot be debatable to have start in this recent era but it all started decades back from the administration of Hugo Chavez, to his predecessor Nicolas Maduro and now the situation is as worst as it was before. The civilians are the most affected in this whole situation, while some are immigrating to other countries due to economic instabilities the few are miserably suffering the unemployment, hyperinflation, hunger and all sort of poor social services such as health. International organizations, along with United Nations are now striving to find possible solutions to help the drowning country from sinking. But this research paper suggests that it's better for the Venezuelan government to resolve its crisis by own efforts. To state some of the few solutions Venezuelan government should begin by restructuring the socio-economic and political policies, make administrative reforms and enhance transparency and accountability for better functioning rather than prolonging the political chaos that is still ongoing.*

**Key Words:** *Venezuela crisis, hyperinflation, massive immigration, International organizations and United Nations.*

## 1. INTRODUCTION:

Venezuela is located in South American, a country that is rich in gas and oil with an equivalent of 0.42 percent of the total world population and yet its citizens are struggling from poverty, climbing hunger and massive immigration due to economic crisis. The root cause of Venezuela crisis can be traced on some many dimensions such as socio-economic and political but with the strong basis on how the political situation gradually escalated to the present deadly scenario of Venezuelan crisis world talk and debate in United Nations. It should be marked the rise of all these problems started in 1990's during the presidency of Hugo Chavez, continued to his predecessor Nicolas Maduro to the present dual presidential controversy.

Nicolas Maduro was firstly elected in April 2013 after the death of his socialist mentor and predecessor in office Hugo Chavez. It was during his first term in office that the economy of Venezuela started collapsing and many Venezuelans blamed him and his socialist government for the country decline and it is to present time that Venezuela is facing hyperinflation. In 2018, Venezuela had gone into elections and this what marks to the discussion of this research paper.

In January 2019, the world experienced a new phenomenon that Venezuela has two presidents; Juan Guado who sworn himself as the interim president of Venezuela and said he would assume the powers of the executive branch from there onwards. Article 233 and 333 of Venezuelan constitution, states that the head of the National Assembly takes over as an acting president. While on the other hand Nicolas Maduro who has been announcing to win the 2018 elections over the opposition and henceforth says he is the legitimate president of Venezuela and it will remain so. The National Assembly of Venezuela was not in support of the Maduro's win therefore argues that because the election was not fair Nicolas Maduro is a "usurper" and the presidency is vacant.

## 2. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM:

The Venezuela crisis is not a year outbreak problem but it gained momentum due to its last remarkable elections that conveyed to the world the dual presidency. That's when all the news and much focus was drained to Venezuela. It should be noted this crisis has been proceeding over decades since the regime of Hugo Chavez to this predecessor Nicolas Maduro and then now where the country holds both interim and constitutional president respectively.

- Venezuela crisis is not a war between poor and rich people but has its root cause on socialist ideologies. This research paper argues the crisis was enthused by the country's socialist policies from the start of Hugo Chavez to his predecessor Nicolas Maduro whose government was responsible for grossly mismanaging the economy and plunging the country into a deep humanitarian crisis. Maduro's administration denied the extent of the frequent

reported crisis and said “Venezuela is not a country of famine. It has very high levels of nutrients and access to food”. More so, his administration refused humanitarian aid from Amnesty International, the United Nations and other groups. But today it is clearly seen number of civilians are immigrating to other parts of the world due to the worst crisis that is going on in Venezuela.

- International sanctions argues that the cause of present Venezuela crisis is on years of economic mismanagement and corruption. According to world standards the level of corruption in Venezuela is high and prevalent throughout many levels. Thus, the large amount of corruption and mismanagement of Venezuelan administration has triggered to severe economic imbalances. Lack of transparency and accountability, dictatorship, poor ideologies and nepotism in the administrative government has what caused to the present Venezuela situation. Henceforth, the international committee argues that the whole total situation that is now discussed upon Venezuela was triggered off by their own leaders and government but the international agencies along with United Nations are willingly to help solve the situation even though when an attempt was made earlier Maduro’s administration refused the humanitarian aid.
- Among the countries with the largest reserve in oil around the world, Venezuela cannot be left out in any debatable round table. The Venezuelans supporters of both Hugo Chavez and Maduro blame it all to these respective government and say the outbreak of this crisis is marked from an economic war and falling of oil prices which was marked from then and thus it is not an emerged recent issue. The oil crisis intensified under the Maduro government was growing more severe due to lack of maintenance and investment as it resulted to low oil prices and drop in Venezuela’s oil production. Henceforth this crisis has affected the life of Venezuelan civilians of all levels while some live in extreme poverty with hunger, unemployment, inflation, shortage of medicines all led to massive immigration which was reported to have increased in recent years.
- The present Venezuela crisis is due to incompetence of the Chavez and Maduro’s government whose public administration respectively was characterized with presence of persistent political and financial corruption that includes violation of public interest. With no objection this doesn’t mean Venezuelan government had no corrupt leaders at all but with excessive this becomes a fighting problem. The nine years of Chavez’s presidency was marked as the highest levels of government corruption Venezuela have ever experienced. Reasons been mediocre administration team working without transparency and accountability, record oil income obtained by the nation money going direct on his pockets, and also among the grand corruption marked was on his presidential campaign and after election. The same preceded to Nicolas Maduro’s administration.
- While the opposition celebrated Mr Juan Guado move the government officials said they would defend the president from imperialist threats. Guado counts support from most international leaders with more than fifty countries recognizing him as the legitimate president of Venezuela but he doesn’t have much power in practical terms. As all the democratic powers, military, electoral, and judicial are on his hands on Nicolas Maduro with just an exception of the congress with which he lost to Juan Guado. This research paper analyses the sending of the military troops in Venezuela might cause to peace instability as the two presidents have support from different legacy countries who all believe on own ideologies henceforth even though the motive is clean to help Venezuela but the civilians have different perceptions as well that might trigger to outbreak of war which will be worse than the discussed on crisis.
- The researcher paper does point out the international interference can cause to violence and destructions among civilians though the interference is done for the positive motive to help the situation and rise back Venezuela but the perception drawn from different individual varies and henceforth this might stand as a contributing factor although the crisis is not mainly perpetuated by the international interference. The situation that is presently occurring in Venezuela ever since the last elections were held and Juan Guado sworn himself as an interim president, some countries came up on joining his side while some supporting the other party of Maduro thus the United States of America and Canada supported Guado while Russia and china were on Maduro’s side henceforth since the blocks have own legacies this might stand as the open door of further unpredicted violence among own civilians.

### 3. SUGGESTIONS:

- This research paper suggests Venezuela should structure and re-structure its socialist policies and adopt best practices that would solve the country’s problem and its civilians from unemployment, death due to hunger, massive immigration that is due to hyperinflation. There are countries such as China and Russia with socialist ideas and policies but to present they are remarkable among the world best economy as well as socio-economic and political dimension. So regardless the block either capitalist or socialist still there is an opportunity of a country to be stable in all aspects socio-economic and political.
- This research paper suggests that for Venezuela to prosper there is a need of administrative reform. The present administration is full of corruption, mismanagement, mal administrative practices and error of practices. Thus for

better administrative performance there is a need to do reforms. But it should not only be administrative reforms but also in all aspects of development and most of all have good leaders to represent the country.

- In this era there is a strong need for transparency and accountability. Most countries are performing their duties in an open way though with an exception of secrecy office like military but with normal administrative and governmental offices the citizens should be aware of what is going on. Otherwise there the form of democratic government is a myth. Henceforth this research paper suggest that there is a need of open working government that also is accountable to its people.
- This research paper suggests that in this period of time that Venezuela is facing the crisis its better if the government should think and act on how to solve the problem than to have the battle of who is or should be the president own self motive should be put aside and think of the community and poor civilians who lying down the road and die of hunger, graduates who are jobless, how to solve the hyperinflation and all the problems that are facing the country.
- This paper suggests that in case there is a need of international support. But it should be as a whole for example United Nations, Amnesty International, and other United Nations agencies. Neighbouring countries can support and other countries in the world but it should not be as a block ideology because at the end this might result to chaos as everyone has own way of interpreting issues just like what is happening in recent scenario, sending of military troops it's all positive motive but it might be interpreted in a wrong way by own natives resulting to more than a crisis.

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