



The Hands Off Venezuela Campaign was launched in December 2002. At that time, the reactionary Venezuelan opposition had launched yet another attempt to overthrow the democratically elected government of Hugo Chávez in an effort to put an end to the Bolivarian revolution. We have tirelessly organized solidarity activities around the world through public meetings, film screenings and discussions, raising the issue within the trade union movement, organizing speaking tours, moving motions in Parliaments, and sending solidarity delegations to Venezuela.

We thank you for your support and solidarity. For more information or to get involved, please write us at:
contact@ushov.org

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The U.S. HOV Campaign

Opposes all forms of intervention by the U.S. government and its agencies in Venezuela and works to:

Educate and raise awareness about events in Venezuela in order to counter the bias of the mainstream media.

Build solidarity between American and Venezuelan trade unionists and working people in general.

YES! I want to help support the efforts of the U.S. HOV campaign to spread awareness of events in Venezuela and to defend it against U.S. intervention. Enclosed is my tax-deductible donation of:

\$5 \$10 \$20 \$50 \$100
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HOV, PO Box 4244
St. Paul, MN 55104

Hands Off Venezuela!



*“Hands off Venezuela!
 Many thanks to all you fighters
 of the world who are backing
 this campaign for the freedom not
 only of Venezuela but of the
 whole world.”*

- President Hugo Rafael Chávez Frías
 (April 18, 2004 on *Aló Presidente*)

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In recent months, the U.S. media has been flooded with negative appraisals of Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez and the Bolivarian revolutionary process. Right-wing fundamentalist Pat Robertson recently called openly for Chávez' assassination and raised the specter of Venezuela using non-existent nuclear weapons against the U.S. At her confirmation hearing, Bush's secretary of State Condoleezza Rice called Chávez a "negative force" in the region.

He is often described as "anti-American", and is accused of "meddling" in neighboring states, harboring "terrorists" and "starting an arms race". Evidence of U.S. military preparations to confront Venezuela were recently reported by the *Washington Post*. CIA involvement in the failed April 2002 coup against Chávez has been confirmed by docu-



ments released under the Freedom of Information Act.

The reason for these attacks is clear: the deep-going changes taking place in Venezuela are incompatible with U.S. corporate interests in the region. How dare a country use its oil wealth to provide health care, housing, jobs, education, and hope to millions of people who formerly had no say or control over their government or economy? How dare they give land to the landless farmers and nationalize important factories under democratic workers' control in order to improve the lives of everyone in society?

Despite repeated provocations by the U.S. government, Chávez and the Venezuelan people are far from being "anti-American". Chávez always distinguishes carefully between the American people and our rulers. As he declared in a recent speech:

"One day the decay inside U.S. imperialism will end up toppling it, and the great people of Martin Luther King will be set free. The great people of the United States are our brothers, my salute to them ... The U.S. people, with whom we share dreams and ideals, must free themselves... A country of heroes, dreamers, and fighters, the

people of Martin Luther King, and Cesar Chávez."

The heroic efforts of millions of Venezuelan men and women to improve their lives proves in practice that it is possible to build a better world. For this reason, their struggle is our struggle! It is therefore vital that we counteract the lies and distortions of the U.S. government and their corporate media. They are not interested in the truth about Venezuela and will stop at nothing to demonize the struggle of the Venezuelan people to improve their lives. Having been defeated during the coup, during the oil sabotage and repeatedly at the polls, the Venezuelan oligarchy and their friends in Washington are now threatening to resort to terrorism and even the assassination of Chávez himself.

We are dedicated to telling people here in the US the truth about what is happening in Venezuela. People are powerless to act in their own interests if they lack vital information. Join us in our campaign to educate the American people about Venezuela so that we can build a broad movement to demand of the U.S. government:

HANDS OFF VENEZUELA!