

Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro Calls for Mobilizations in Response to OAS Threats



Caracas, May 31 (RHC)-- Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro's ruling United Socialist Party of Venezuela (PSUV) has called for mobilizations and rallies across the country Wednesday and again on Saturday in protest against the OAS "intervention."

On Tuesday, the secretary general of the Organization of American States, the OAS, Luis Almagro, invoked the so-called "Democratic Charter" on Venezuela, a measure that initiates a process that could end in the suspension of the South American country from the OAS.

In a 132-page report, Almagro said this unprecedented move was based on "the alteration of the constitutional order and how it gravely affects the democratic order" in Venezuela.

Almagro has become the first head of the OAS to activate the charter against a member state against the will of its government. Almagro also summoned "a Permanent Council of the state members of the OAS between June 10th and 20th of 2016."

The move comes as Venezuelan government and opposition leaders continue talks facilitated by former presidents Leonel Fernandez of the Dominican Republic and Martin Torrijos of Panama, along with former Prime Minister of Spain, Jose Luis Zapatero.

Luis Almagro has been brazen in his attacks on the government of Venezuela's Nicolas Maduro, including penning a tirade against Maduro published on the OAS website on May 19. The letter prompted OAS member state Ecuador to issue a swift rebuke, saying Almagro's statement "uses improper terms and a tone removed of equanimity and restraint required by the representative of an organization that brings together thirty-four states in the hemisphere."

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