

**Letter in defence of a political dialogue in Venezuela, guaranteeing that Latin America and the Caribe remains a Zone of Peace.**

Brussels, 04 February 2019

To the:

President of the European Council  
Presidency of the Council of the EU  
Permanent Representations of the EU Member States

In copy:

President of the European Commission  
President of the European Parliament

We, the undersigned MEPs, are addressing you in order to condemn any expression of support provided to the ongoing coup attempt in Venezuela, as portrayed by the self-proclamation of Juan Guaidó as 'Interim President' of the country. This self-proclamation finds no background in the Constitution of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and was rejected at least by the Organisation of American States, the UN Security and Humans Rights Council, and the CARICOM.

The recognition of such self-proclamation, constitutes a severe threat to international law and the UN Charter, namely in what concerns to the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of a Sovereign State.

The EU institutions and Member States must not undermine the integrity of international law and of multilateralism. Such position would only contribute to the further destabilisation and escalation of violence in a sovereign and independent country, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, thus deepening the risk of a foreign military intervention at the cost of the suffering and lives of the people of Venezuela, with unpredictable consequences both internally and in the South America and Caribbean region.

The EU institutions and Member States must commit to a position that, in respect of basic principles of International Law, affirm the need for a peaceful political solution built through political a peaceful dialogue, free from external interferences.

As such, we urge the EU Member States and the Council to embrace and support the joint invitation by Mexico and Uruguay, which reacting to the call of the UN Secretary General for dialogue, are calling for an International Conference on the 7th of February in Montevideo, aiming to establish the needed conditions for an inclusive political dialogue that could ease the tensions in Venezuela and seek solutions for a political exit of the current and dangerous situation.

The undersigned,

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