

Venezuela - The Straw that Breaks the Empire's Back?

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Global Research, February 08, 2019

Region: [Latin America & Caribbean, USA](#)

Theme: [Law and Justice, Media Disinformation](#)

Venezuela in the limelight, on practically all the written, audio and visual mainstream media, as well as alternative media. A purposeful constant drip of outright lies and half-truths, "fake news", as well as misleading information of all shades and hues about Venezuela is drumming our brains, slowly bending our minds towards believing that - yes, the US has a vital interest in meddling in Venezuela and bringing about "regime change", because of primarily, the huge reserves of oil, but also of gold, coltan and other rare minerals; and, finally, simply because Washington needs full control of its "backyard". -

BUT, and yes, there is a huge BUT, as even some of the respected progressive alternative media pretend to know: Amidst all that recognition of the AngloZionist empire's evil hands in Venezuela, their 'but' claims that Venezuela, specifically Presidents Chavez and now Maduro, are not blameless in their 'economic chaos'. This distorts already the entire picture and serves the empire and all those who are hesitant because they have no clue, whom to support in this antagonistic US attempt for regime change.

For example, one alternative news article starts,

"It is true that some of Venezuela's economic problems are due to the ineptitudes of the Bolivarian government's "socialist command" economy, but this overlooks the role played by the United States, the United Nations, and the European Union...."

Bingo, with such a low-blow beginning, the uninformed reader is already primed to 'discount' much of the interference by Washington and its minions. Some of the-so-called progressive writers have already been brain-smeared, by calling Nicolás Maduro a "dictator", when in fact, there is hardly any country farther away from a dictatorship than Venezuela.

In the last 20 years and since Comandante Hugo Chavez Frias was first elected in 1998 and came to power in 1999, Venezuela had another 25 fully democratic elections, of which 6 took place in the last year and a half. They were all largely observed by the US based Carter Institute, the Latin American CELAC, some were even watched by the European Union (EU), the very vassal states that are now siding with Washington in calling President Maduro an *illegitimate dictator* - and instead, they support the real illegitimate, never elected, US-CIA trained and appointed, Juan Guaidó. Former President Carter once said, of all the elections he and his Institute observed, the ones in Venezuela were by far the most transparent and democratic ones. By September 2017, the Carter Center had observed 104 elections in 39

countries.

Despite this evidence, Washington-paid and corrupted AngloZionist MSM are screaming and spreading lies, 'election fraud'; and Nicolás Maduro is illegal, a dictator, oppressing his people, depriving them of food and medication, sowing famine - he has to go. Such lies are repeated at nauseatum. In a world flooded by pyramid-dollars (fake money), the prostitute media have no money problem. Dollars, the funding source for the massive lie-propaganda, are just printed as debt, never to be repaid again. So, why worry? The same Zionists who control the media also control the western money machines, i.e. the FED, Wall Street, the BIS (Bank for International Settlement, the so-called Central bank of central banks), the European Central Bank, the Bank of England and the banks of London. The western public, armchair warriors, all the way to caviar socialists, believe these lies. That's how our unqualified brains apparently work.

A recent independent poll found that 86% of all Venezuelans, including from the opposition, want no interference by the US and her puppet allies, but want to remain a sovereign state, deciding themselves on how to resolve their internal problem - economics and otherwise.

Let me tell you something, if Mr. Maduro would be a dictator - and all the diabolical adjectives that he is smeared with were to apply, he would have long ago stopped the western propaganda machine, which is the western controlled media in Venezuela; they control 90% of the news in Venezuela. But he didn't and doesn't, because he believes in freedom of speech and freedom of the 'media' - even if the "media" are really nothing more than abject western lie-machine prostitute. Mr. Maduro is generous enough not to close them down - which any dictator - of which there are now many in Latin America (take your pick: Argentina, Chile, Ecuador, Brazil, Colombia, Paraguay, Uruguay, Guatemala, Honduras....) would have done long ago.

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From the very beginning, when Hugo Chavez was first elected in 1998, Washington attempted to topple him to bring about "régime change". The first real coup attempt took place on 11 April 2002. Under full command by Washington, Chavez was ousted for less than 2 days, when an on-swell of people and the vast majority of the military requested his reinstatement. Chavez was brought back from his island seclusion and, thus, the directly Washington-led coup d'état was defeated ("The Revolution Will Not Be Televised"). But the pressure mounted with economic sanctions becoming ever bolder and, in the case of Venezuela, they had severe economic and humanitarian impacts because Venezuela imports close to 90% of her food and medication - still today - and most of it from the US.

Both Chavez and Maduro had very little leeway of doing differently what they have already done. Sanctions, boycotts, outside money manipulations, driving inflation to astronomical levels and constant smear propaganda, these predicaments are biting hard. The US has a firm grip on Venezuela's dollar dependency.

Last week, Washington confiscated about US\$ 23 billion of Venezuela's reserve money in US banks, blocked them from use by the legitimate Maduro government, and, instead, handed them to their US-appointed, puppet, never elected, "president", Juan Guaidó. - He is now able to use Venezuela's money in his US-EU-and Lima-Group supported "shadow" government. Will he dare? - I don't think so. However, he has already invited US petrol companies to come to Venezuela and invest in and take over the petrol industry. Of course,

it will not happen, as President Maduro stays in power, firmly backed by the military.

All of this sounds like a bad joke. Did you ever hear of Juan Guaidó, before the US and her European vassals almost unanimously and obediently aped Washington in supporting him?

Likewise, the Bank of England withheld 1.2 billion dollars' worth of Venezuelan reserve gold, refusing to respond to the Maduro Government's request to return the gold to Caracas. Both cases represent an extreme breach of confidence. Up to now, it was ethically, commercially and financially unthinkable that reserve money and gold deposited in foreign banks would not be safe from hooligan theft - because that's what it is, what the US is doing, stealing other countries money that was deposited in good fate in their banks.

In a recent interview with RT, President Maduro, said there was absolutely no need for "humanitarian aid", as the UN suggested, prompted by the US. This so-called humanitarian aid has everywhere in the world only served to infiltrate 'foreign and destabilizing' elements into countries, just look at Syria, Libya, Iraq, Afghanistan, to name just a few. While the US\$ 23 billion blocked in New York banks could have supplied Venezuela with 20 years-worth of medication for the Venezuelan people, Maduro asserted, Venezuela has enough liquidity to feed and medicate her people.

However, what this latest Trump plunder (the money and gold confiscation) does, is hammering one more nail in the western monetary system's suicide coffin. It sends an ever-clearer signal to the rest of the world, to those that haven't noticed yet, the AngloZionist empire cannot - I repeat - CANNOT - be trusted. Ever. And the European Union is intrinsically and "vassalically" linked to the Washington rogue state - not to be trusted either. There is virtually no circumstance under which a countries' assets in western foreign lands - as bank deposits, or foreign investments - are safe. It will prompt a move away from the dollar system, away from the western (also entirely privately-owned) SWFT international transfer system by which sanctions can be enacted.

Indeed, the Russia and China and much of the SCO (Shanghai Organization Cooperation) members are no longer dealing in US dollars but in their own currencies. We are talking about half the world's population broke free from the dollar hegemony. Europe has started a half-assed attempt to circumvent the dollar and SWIFT system for dealing with Iran. Europe's special purpose vehicle, or SPV, is called INSTEX — short for *Instrument in Support of Trade Exchanges*. It is a project of Germany, France and the UK, suspiciously chaired by the latter, to be endorsed by all 28 EU members. It aims in a first instance at shipping "humanitarian aid" to Iran. Similarly, to Venezuela, Iran's foreign Minister, Javad Zarif, after learning about the details, considered the conditions of INSTEX as insulting and rejected any dealings with Europe under this system. Iran, he said, does not need "humanitarian aid", not from Europe, not from anybody. In the meantime, what was to be expected, has already happened. The Trump Administration issued a stern warning of "sanctions" to the EU, if they would attempt to deal with Iran outside of the dollar system. Europe is likely caving in, as they always do.

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Back in Venezuela, the NED (National Endowment for Democracy), the extended arm of the CIA, has for the last two decades trained funded and infiltrated 'traitor' agents into Venezuela, with the goal to assist the opposition to foment unrest, to carry out

assassinations and other 'false flags', and to simply create chaos and unrest. However, some of these agents are also lodged in Venezuela's financial institutions, as the Fifth Column, where they sabotage - often with threats - any economic policies that could rescue Venezuela from its economic predicament.

In June 2017, I was privileged to be a member of an economic advisory team to Mr. Maduro. During three days of intense discussions with government, a number of potential short-medium and long-term solutions emerged. They were well received by Mr. Maduro and his economic team. What became of these recommendations? - Well, maybe there are strong foreign-directed forces at play to prevent their implementation.

Clearly, any accusation that the Maduro Government may bear the blame for some of the economic chaos, have to be vigorously rejected. Mr. Maduro has very little space to maneuver the economy other than what he is already doing. His actions are severely limited by the ever-stronger squeeze by western claws.

With or without Venezuela's new crypto currency, the oil-based Petro, the Venezuelan economy, including a major proportion of her imports, is strongly linked to the US dollar. With military threats and sanctions left and right, there is little that the Government can do in the immediate future to become autonomous. Yes, Russia and especially China will most likely help with balance of payment support loans, with investments in the oil industry to ease Venezuela's US-dollar debt burden and vamp up oil production; and in the medium and longer run they may also help boosting Venezuela's agricultural sector towards 100% food self-sufficiency.

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What is the real reason, you may ask, behind Trump's intense 'coup d'état' attempt - aka, Bolton, Pompeo and Elliott Abrams (the 'regime change' envoy), or the diabolical troika's killer mission?

- Is it oil and other natural riches, like gold, coltan, diamonds and many more rare minerals? Venezuela with some 301,000 MMbbl (billions of barrels) of known reserves has about 12% more hydrocarbon reserves than Saudi Arabia. Shipping from the Gulf to Texas refineries takes 40-45 days and the risk of passing through the Iran-controlled strait of Hormuz. Delivering oil from Venezuela to Texas takes some 2-4 days.
- Is it that Venezuela committed a mortal sin when circumventing the petro-dollar, when trading her hydrocarbons, notably with China and Russia in other currencies, like the gold-convertible yuan? - Remember, Saddam Hussein and Muamar Gadhafi attempted similar dollar-escaping actions - and look what it brought them. The US-dollar hegemony depends very much on oil and gas trade in US dollars, as per an agreement of the seventies between the US and Saudi Arabia, head of OPEC.
- Is it that Washington cannot tolerate any socialist or socialist leaning country in its "backyard"? - Cuba and Nicaragua beware!
- Is Venezuela a crucial stepping stone to fully dominate Latin America and her resources? - And, hence, a step closer to 'full power dominance' of the world?
- Or all of the above?

I believe it's all of the above, with a strong accent on Venezuela's abandoning the US-dollar as hydrocarbon trading currency - putting the dollar-hegemony even more at risk. Once the dollar ceases to be the main reserve currency, the US economy will slowly collapse - what it is already doing. Twenty years ago, the US-dollar dominated world reserve coffers with about 90%. Today that proportion has sunk to less than 60%. The dollar is rapidly being replaced by other currencies, notably the Chinese yuan.

Now let's cut to the chase. - It is clear that the Trump Administration with these stupid actions of dishing out sanctions left and right, punishing allies and foes alike, if they deal with Russia, Iran, or Venezuela - and this special blunt regime change aggression in Venezuela, nominating a 35 year old US puppet, trained in the US by CIA as Venezuela's new 'interim president', confiscating Venezuela's reserve assets in New York and London, stopping importing petrol from Venezuela and punishing anybody who imports Venezuelan oil - except, of course, Russia and China. The 'might' of the US stops short of interfering in these non-dollar deals. With these and more ridiculous actions and military threats - Washington is actually not only isolating itself, but is accelerating the fall of the US economy. Ever more countries are seeking alternative ways of doing business with currencies and monetary systems other than the dollar-based fraudulent SWIFT, and eventually they will succeed. All they need to do is joining the China-Russia-SCO system of transfer in their local currencies and the currencies of the eastern SCO block - and dedollarization is moving a step further ahead.

Dedollarization is the key to the end of the US (dollar) hegemony, of the US economic supremacy. The arrogant Trump, plus the impunity of the unfettered diabolical and outright dumb Bolton-Pompeo-Abrams approach of military threats and intimidations, may just make Venezuela the straw that breaks the Empire's back.

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