

What is Really Happening in Venezuela?

A Speech by Steve Ellner

By [Michael Welch](#) and [Steve Ellner](#)
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Region: [Latin America & Caribbean, USA](#)
Theme: [Global Economy](#), [GLOBAL RESEARCH NEWS HOUR](#), [Media Disinformation](#), [Oil and Energy](#), [Politics](#)

"In the history of democracy... there isn't one case in which a country has been attacked on so many different fronts ... both from the internal power factors to foreign governments over such an extended period of time as in the case of Venezuela." - Steve Ellner (from this week's talk.)

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This week's Global Research News Hour features a radio version of an October 19 2018 Winnipeg talk, delivered by Steve Ellner.

The presentation, delivered at the historic Fort Garry Hotel to about 100 audience members was entitled *What is Really Happening in Venezuela*. The main sponsor of the talk was the Winnipeg-based *Venezuela Peace Committee*, a group which sprang up in 2017 in reaction to the hostile actions, including sanctions, taken by the U.S. and Canadian governments toward the Venezuelan government.

According to a recent report coordinated by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the UN Refugee, the UN Refugee Agency, and the International Organization for Migration, the outflow in recent times of more than 3 million Venezuelans to neighbouring countries and beyond constitutes "the largest in the modern history of Latin America and the Caribbean." The same report attributes this exodus to "the ongoing political, human rights and socio-economic developments in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela." Based on current trends, fully 5.3 million refugees and migrants will have left the country by the end of 2019. [1][2]

Further, a series of anti-Maduro protests have erupted inside Venezuela in the last four years with efforts to disrupt them being blamed for violence resulting in a death toll exceeding 170. [3]

Critics in the countries like the U.S. and Canada invariably use this crisis to bolster the claim that mismanagement on the part of the Maduro government and President Chavez before him. Nevertheless, such analyses conceivably ignore some of the recent historical and geopolitical context in which the Venezuelan people are now situated. [4]

Steve Ellner, who admits the Venezuelan situation is 'complex' attempts to provide that

context in this Winnipeg presentation, recorded by Community videographer [Paul Graham](#), and edited for radio by Global Research News Hour host / producer Michael Welch.

The complete unabridged presentation is included below.

Steve Ellner is Professor of Economics at the University of Oriente in Puerto La Cruz, Venezuela. His published works include '[Implications of Marxist State Theory and how they Play Out in Venezuela](#)' and an upcoming volume - 'The Pink Tide Experiences: Breakthroughs and Shortcomings in Twenty-First Century Latin America' (Rowman and Littlefield, 2019). His blogsite is steveellnersblog.blogspot.com

(Global Research News Hour episode 242)

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The [Global Research News Hour](#) airs every Friday at 1pm CT on [CKUW 95.9FM](#) in Winnipeg. The programme is also podcast at globalresearch.ca . Excerpts of the show have begun airing on [Rabble Radio](#) and appear as podcasts at rabble.ca.

The Global Research News Hour now airs Fridays at 6pm PST, 8pm CST and 9pm EST on Alternative Current Radio (alternativecurrentradio.com)

Community Radio Stations carrying the Global Research News Hour:

[CHLY 101.7fm](#) in Nanaimo, B.C - Thursdays at 1pm PT

Boston College Radio [WZBC 90.3FM NEWTONS](#) during the Truth and Justice Radio Programming slot - Sundays at 7am ET.

[Port Perry Radio](#) in Port Perry, Ontario -1 Thursdays at 1pm ET

[Burnaby Radio Station CJSF out of Simon Fraser University](#). 90.1FM to most of Greater Vancouver, from Langley to Point Grey and from the North Shore to the US Border.

It is also available on 93.9 FM cable in the communities of SFU, Burnaby, New Westminister, Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, Port Moody, Surrey and Delta, in British Columbia, Canada. - Tune in at its new time - Wednesdays at 4pm PT.

Radio station [CFUV 101.9FM](#) based at the University of Victoria airs the Global Research News Hour every Sunday from 7 to 8am PT.

[CORTES COMMUNITY RADIO CKTZ 89.5](#) out of Manson's Landing, B.C airs the show Tuesday mornings at 10am Pacific time.

[Cowichan Valley Community Radio CICV 98.7 FM](#) serving the [Cowichan Lake](#) area of Vancouver Island, BC airs the program Thursdays at 6am pacific time.

Campus and community radio [CFMH 107.3fm](#) in Saint John, N.B. airs the Global Research News Hour

Fridays at 10am.

Caper Radio CJBU 107.3FM in Sydney, [Cape Breton](#), Nova Scotia airs the Global Research News Hour starting Wednesday Morning from 8:00 to 9:00am. Find more details at www.caperradio.ca

RIOT RADIO, the visual radio station based out of [Durham College](#) in Oshawa, Ontario has begun airing the Global Research News Hour on an occasional basis. Tune in at dcstudentsinc.ca/services/riot-radio/

Radio Fanshawe: [Fanshawe's 106.9 The X \(CIXX-FM\)](#) out of London, Ontario airs the Global Research News Hour Sundays at 6am with an encore at 4pm.

Los Angeles, California based Thepowerofvoices.com airs the Global Research News Hour every Monday from 6-7pm Pacific time.

Notes:

1. <https://www.unhcr.org/news/press/2018/12/5c136d834/emergency-plan-refugees-migrants-venezuela-launched.html>
2. 'Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan for Refugees and Migrants in Venezuela: January - December 2019' (pg. 11, 14), Response for Venezuelans: Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela; https://s3.amazonaws.com/unhcrsharedmedia/2018/RMRP_Venezuela_2019_OnlineVersion.pdf
3. <https://in-venezuela.com/killed-during-the-protests/>
4. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-36319877>

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