

SUMMARY
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
Organic Law “Libertador Simón Bolívar” Against the Imperialist Blockade and in
Defense of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

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THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA
Decrees

The following:

ORGANIC LAW “LIBERTADOR SIMÓN BOLÍVAR” AGAINST THE IMPERIALIST
BLOCKADE AND IN DEFENSE OF THE BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA

Chapter I

General Provisions

Purpose

Article 1. The purpose of this Law is to protect the Venezuelan people against the actions of natural or legal persons, whether national or foreign, who promote, invoke, support, or participate in the imposition of unilateral coercive measures and other restrictive or punitive actions, as well as actions against the Nation's security that undermine the sovereignty, nationality, independence, self-determination, territorial integrity, cultural values, national symbols, interests of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and the human rights of its population, including their right to peace and to independent and sustainable economic development.

Objective

Article 2.

The purpose of this Law is to:

Establish additional mechanisms to safeguard and protect sovereignty, nationality, independence, self-determination, territorial integrity, cultural values, and national symbols as inalienable rights of the Nation, based on the independence and anti-imperialist doctrine of El Libertador Simón Bolívar.

Guarantee the full enjoyment of the human rights of the Venezuelan people and all other rights, including the right to peace, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution and the international treaties ratified by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

Protect the national economy against actions that hinder its harmonious development, erode the population's standard of living, or prevent the free management or use of the Republic's assets or those of its entities, both within and outside the national territory.

Provide the Public Powers with swift and effective legal means to establish criminal and civil liabilities for actions that undermine the Nation's inalienable rights and the human rights of the Venezuelan people.

Protect the rights of the victims of unilateral coercive measures and other restrictive or punitive actions.

Principles and Values

Article 3.

This Law is governed by the principles and values of the preeminence of human rights, justice, peace, independence, freedom, legality, proportionality, territorial integrity, sovereignty, self-determination, and shared responsibility.

Public Order and Interpretation

Article 4.

The provisions of this Law are of public order. In case of doubt in its interpretation, the interpretation that most favors the protection of the human rights of the Venezuelan people, including the right to peace, as well as the attributes of sovereignty, integrity, and independence of the Nation, shall be adopted, in accordance with Article 130 of the Constitution of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

Duty to Safeguard the Homeland

Article 5.

Any conduct or action that promotes, invokes, facilitates, supports, or implements acts against the security of the Nation and the Venezuelan people, or the imposition of unilateral coercive measures and other restrictive or punitive actions against the population, is declared contrary to the duty to safeguard and protect the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, self-determination, and interests of the Nation, as established in Article 130 of the Constitution of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

Crime Against Humanity

Article 6.

Unilateral coercive measures and other restrictive or punitive actions adopted against the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela constitute crimes against humanity, as part of a systematic and widespread attack against the civilian population.

The organs and entities of the Justice System are obligated to take all measures within their reach to investigate, prosecute, and sanction the perpetrators and accomplices subject to the jurisdiction of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela for the commission of these crimes.

Actions Contrary to the State's Inalienable Values and Rights

Article 7.

For the purposes of interpreting and applying this Law, the following actions, among others, are considered to endanger the sovereignty, independence, self-determination, and territorial integrity of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and violate the Nation's inalienable values and rights:

The promotion, request, or support of the imposition of unilateral coercive measures and other restrictive or punitive actions by foreign states, powers, or corporations.

The non-recognition of the legitimately established Public Powers in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, their acts, or authorities, as well as the recognition of illegitimate individuals, groups, or organizations acting as if they exercise the powers of Venezuelan Public Authorities, their representatives, or decentralized territorial or functional entities.

Collaboration with foreign bodies, officials, or agents aimed at imposing or worsening unilateral coercive measures or other restrictive or punitive actions, as well as the denial of recognition of Public Powers or their authorities.

Direct or indirect participation in the implementation of unilateral coercive measures or other restrictive or punitive actions, including extortionary practices against national or foreign companies or businesspeople, to hinder free investment in the Republic, obstruct the reception of investments, economic freedom, and the free international trade of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

The participation in, profit from, or benefit—whether direct or indirect—from the execution of administrative or judicial measures in foreign jurisdictions aimed at the preventive seizure, freezing, attachment, auction, or confiscation of assets belonging to the Republic or its territorially or functionally decentralized entities; when such measures result from any of the actions described in this article and lack the authorization or approval of the legitimately established authorities of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

The promotion, request, or support of armed or forceful actions against the Venezuelan people that affect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, its institutions or authorities, as well as cyberattacks carried out by foreign states, powers, corporations, or individuals.

Chapter II

Protective Measures

General Duty of Protection

Article 8.

The bodies and entities of the Public Power, within the scope of their respective competences, have the duty to adopt the legal measures that are appropriate, necessary, and proportional to protect the sovereignty, nationality, independence, self-determination, territorial integrity, cultural values, national symbols, and the interests of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, as well as the human rights of the population, against natural or legal persons, whether national or foreign, who carry out actions contrary to the inalienable values and rights of the State, as established in this Law.

Article 9. Ineligibility

The following individuals shall not be eligible to run for popularly elected positions if, at any time prior to the election, they:

Have promoted, instigated, requested, invoked, supported, or participated in the adoption or execution of unilateral coercive measures or other restrictive or punitive actions against the Venezuelan population, the Public Powers or their authorities, by a State, group of States, or foreign corporations.

Have participated in or obtained profit or benefit, directly or indirectly, from the execution of administrative or judicial measures in foreign jurisdictions aimed at the preventive seizure, freezing, attachment, auction, or confiscation of assets belonging to the Republic or its territorially or functionally decentralized entities, when such measures result from actions

contrary to the values and inalienable rights of the State established in this Law, and when they lack the authorization or approval of the legitimately constituted authorities of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

Have promoted, instigated, requested, invoked, supported, or participated in armed or forceful actions against the Venezuelan people that affect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, its institutions or authorities, as well as in cyberattacks by foreign states, powers, corporations, or individuals.

Article 10. Challenging Candidacies

The challenge of a candidate's nomination due to ineligibility, based on the grounds established in this Law, shall be filed directly before the Constitutional Chamber of the Supreme Tribunal of Justice, which shall issue a ruling with full guarantees of due process and the right to defense of the challenged candidate.

Article 11. Participation in Unilateral Coercive Measures

Any person who promotes, instigates, requests, invokes, facilitates, supports, or participates in the adoption or execution of unilateral coercive measures or other restrictive or punitive actions against the Venezuelan population, the Public Powers or their authorities, by a State, group of States, or foreign corporations, shall be punished with imprisonment of twenty-five (25) to thirty (30) years and a fine in bolivars equivalent to between one hundred thousand (100,000) and one million (1,000,000) times the highest currency exchange rate published by the Central Bank of Venezuela.

Article 12. Acts Against Sovereignty and Territorial Integrity

Any person who promotes, instigates, requests, invokes, facilitates, supports, finances, or participates in armed or forceful actions, including cyberattacks, that harm the Venezuelan people or threaten the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela or its institutions, by States, powers, corporations, or foreign individuals, shall be punished with imprisonment of twenty-five (25) to thirty (30) years and a fine in bolivars equivalent to between one hundred thousand (100,000) and one million (1,000,000) times the highest currency exchange rate published by the Central Bank of Venezuela.

Article 13. Political Disqualification

The Judge shall impose, in the conviction for the offenses established in this Law, the accessory penalty of political disqualification for up to sixty (60) years.

Article 14. Expulsion of Foreigners

All natural persons of foreign nationality who commit any of the actions contrary to the values and inalienable rights of the State established in this Law may be subject to expulsion as provided in migration laws, as well as prohibited from entering the national territory.

Article 15. Disqualification from Holding Public Office

The Office of the Comptroller General of the Republic, in accordance with the Law on the Comptroller General of the Republic and the National System of Fiscal Control, may, ex officio or at the request of a third party, order disqualification for up to sixty (60) years from holding public office for natural persons who have committed actions contrary to the values

and inalienable rights of the State established in this Law, and who have caused damage to the Republic's assets, according to the severity of the harm caused.

The disqualification shall be notified through any available means. Against the imposed measure, a request for reconsideration may be filed before the authority that issued the act, within fifteen (15) business days following the notification, or a nullity appeal may be filed before the Political-Administrative Chamber of the Supreme Tribunal of Justice, within one hundred eighty (180) days following the notification.

Article 16. Non-Statutory Limitation

Actions to investigate and punish the crimes established in this Law shall not be subject to statutes of limitation, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

Article 17. Inapplicability of Alternative Sentencing

In criminal proceedings carried out to investigate and sanction the offenses established in this Law, alternative sentencing measures shall not be applicable.

Article 18. Applicable Procedure

The procedure for investigating and sanctioning the offenses established in this Law shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Organic Code of Criminal Procedure.

If the defendant, accused in absentia, refuses to attend the preliminary hearing or trial hearings, and such refusal is recorded in the case files, it shall be understood that the person has waived the right to be heard in the process. Consequently, the respective hearing shall be held in the presence of their defense attorney, or if absent, with a public defender appointed for such purpose.

Article 19. Asset Forfeiture

The actions defined and sanctioned in this Law shall be considered illicit activities of organized crime and are subject to the asset forfeiture procedure, in accordance with the law governing the matter.

Article 20. Civil Liability

Without prejudice to and independently of criminal liability, any person who engages in actions contrary to the values and inalienable rights of the State as defined in this Law shall be civilly liable for any damages caused.

Article 21. Dissemination of Messages

Radio and television service providers that broadcast advertising, propaganda, or messages promoting the imposition of unilateral coercive measures or other restrictive or punitive actions that affect the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela shall be sanctioned with the revocation of their broadcasting license and fined an amount in bolivars equivalent to between one hundred thousand (100,000) and one million (1,000,000) times the highest exchange rate published by the Central Bank of Venezuela, in accordance with the applicable special law.

In the case of media outlets, electronic media, social networks, and print media, fines shall be imposed in bolivars equivalent to between one hundred thousand (100,000) and one million (1,000,000) times the highest exchange rate published by the Central Bank of Venezuela. For digital platforms, permission to operate in the country may also be revoked or denied.

The procedure for imposing fines on electronic media providers shall be conducted by the National Telecommunications Commission, in accordance with the applicable special law. For print media, the procedure shall be conducted by the Ministry of People's Power with jurisdiction over justice, in accordance with the summary procedure established in the Organic Law on Administrative Procedures.

The sanctions established in this article shall be imposed without prejudice to any applicable criminal penalties.

Article 22. Preventive Measures

At the beginning of the administrative procedure for the imposition of administrative sanctions under this Law, or during its course, the administration may adopt any necessary preventive measures to protect the rights and interests at stake.

Article 23. National Registry

A National Registry is hereby created, in which the identification of natural and legal persons, both national and foreign, will be incorporated, whenever there is a founded reason to consider them involved in the actions addressed by this Law.

If a person or entity included in the National Registry engages in any of the actions contrary to the values and inalienable rights of the State as provided in this Law, restrictive economic measures—temporary and administrative in nature—may be imposed, aimed at mitigating the harm caused to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and its population.

The measures that may be imposed include the following:

Preventive freezing of assets.

Prohibition from contracting with the Republic or its territorially or functionally decentralized entities.

Suspension from the National Registry of Contractors.

Prohibition from exporting or importing goods.

Prohibition from engaging in transactions for the purchase or sale of movable and immovable property, vehicles, ships, or aircraft.

Prohibition from establishing commercial or civil companies, or participating in entities with asset-related structures.

Suspension from participation in collegiate governance or administrative bodies of commercial or civil companies, or entities with asset-related structures.

Additionally, if the person or entity included in the National Registry is of foreign nationality, entry into the country may be prohibited, visas already granted may be suspended or future visa requests denied, and the individual may be subject to asset forfeiture procedures, in accordance with the applicable law. If already within the country, they may be subject to expulsion in accordance with immigration laws.

The organization and functioning of the National Registry shall be governed by the regulations of this Law.

Repealing Provision

SOLE CLAUSE. All legal or sub-legal norms that conflict with this Law are hereby repealed.

Final Provision

SOLE CLAUSE. This Law shall enter into force on the date of its publication in the Official Gazette of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

Signed and sealed at the Federal Legislative Palace, seat of the National Assembly, in Caracas, on the twenty-second day of the month of November of the year two thousand twenty-four.

214th year of Independence, 165th of the Federation, and 25th of the Bolivarian Revolution. Promulgation of the Organic Law “Libertador Simón Bolívar” Against the Imperialist Blockade and in Defense of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, in accordance with Article 213 of the Constitution of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

Given in Caracas, on the twenty-ninth day of the month of November, two thousand twenty-four.

214th year of Independence, 165th of the Federation, and 25th of the Bolivarian Revolution.
Execute and enforce,
(L.S.)