Constitution of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

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PREAMBLE

The people of Venezuela, in exercise of his creative powers and invoking God's protection, the historical example of our Liberator Simon Bolivar and the heroism and sacrifice of our indigenous ancestors and the pioneers and founders of a free and sovereign nation;

With the ultimate aim of reshaping the Republic to establish a democratic, participatory and protagonist, multiethnic and multicultural society in a state of justice, federal and decentralized State that embodies the values of freedom, independence, peace, solidarity, good common territorial integrity, peaceful coexistence and the rule of law for this and future generations, ensuring the right to life, work, culture, education, social justice and equality, without discrimination or subordination some, promote peaceful cooperation among nations promotes and strengthens Latin American integration in accordance with the principle of nonintervention and self-determination of peoples, the universal and indivisible guarantee of human rights, democratization of international society, nuclear disarmament, Ecological balance and environmental legal rights as common and inalienable heritage of humanity;

In exercising its representatives comprising the National Constituent Assembly by a vote free and democratic referendum, do enact as follows

TITLE I

FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

Article 1. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela is irrevocably free and independent, basing its moral property and values of freedom, equality, justice and international peace on the doctrine of Simón Bolívar, the Liberator.

Are inherent rights of the Nation independeicia, freedom, sovereignty, immunity, territorial integrity and national autodeterminacin.

Article 2. Venezuela becomes a democratic and social state of law and justice, which holds as superior values of its legal system and its performance, life, liberty, justice, equality, solidarity, democracy, social responsibility and in general, the preeminence of human rights, ethics and political pluralism.

Article 3. The State is essential for the protection and development of the individual and respect for their dignity, the democratic exercise of popular will, the construction of a just society and a lover of peace, promotion of prosperity and welfare of the people and ensuring compliance with the principles, rights and duties enshrined in this Constitution.
Education and work are fundamental processes for guaranteeing these purposes.

**Article 4.** The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela is a decentralized federal state in the terms established in this Constitution, governed by the principles of territorial integrity, cooperation, solidarity, attendance and shared responsibility.

**Article 5.** Untransferable sovereignty resides in the people, who exercise it directly in the manner provided in this Constitution and the law, and indirectly, by suffrage, through the organs exercising Public Power.

State bodies emanating from popular sovereignty and are subject to.

**Article 6.** The government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and political entities that compose it and shall always be democratic, participatory, elective, decentralized, alternative, responsible and pluralist, with revocable mandates.

**Article 7.** The supreme law and the foundation of law. All persons and bodies exercising public powers are subject to this Constitution.

**Article 8.** The national flag with the yellow, blue and red national anthem Glory to the brave people and the coat of arms of the Republic are the symbols of the country.

The law shall regulate their characteristics, meanings and uses.

**Article 9.** The official language is Castilian Spanish. Indigenous languages are also official use for indigenous peoples and must be respected throughout the territory of the Republic, as constituting the nation's cultural heritage and humanity.

**TITLE II**

**GEOGRAPHIC AREA AND POLICY DIVISION**

**Chapter I**

**Territory and Other Geographical Spaces**

**Article 10.** The territory and other geographical spaces of the Republic are those that belonged to the Captaincy General of Venezuela before the political transformation begun on April 19, 1810, as amended, arising from treaties and arbitral awards not null and void.

**Article 11.** The full sovereignty of the Republic is exercised on the continental and insular spaces, lake and river, territorial sea, inland sea areas, historic, vital and contained within the straight baselines adopted or adopted by the Republic, soil and subsoil thereof; the continental airspace, insular and maritime resources they contain, including genetic resources, migratory species, their derivatives and intangible components of natural causes there are.

The insular space of the Republic includes the Archipelago of Los Monjes Archipelago Las Aves, Los Roques, an archipelago of La Orchila Island La Tortuga Island La Blanquilla, Archipelago Los Hermanos, islands of Margarita and Coche Cubagua, Archipelago Los Frailes, La Sola Island, Los Testigos Archipelago, Patos Island and Aves Island, and also the islands, islets, cays and banks located or to emerge within the territorial sea, which covers the continental shelf or within the limits of the exclusive economic zone.
The water spaces consisting of the contiguous maritime zone, continental shelf and exclusive economic zone, the Republic exercises exclusive sovereign rights and jurisdiction in the terms, scope and conditions determined by public international law and the law.

The Republic has rights in outer space and in areas that are or may be the common heritage of humanity in the terms, scope and conditions determined by international agreements and national legislation.

**Article 12.** The mineral and hydrocarbon deposits, whatever their nature, existing in the country, under the bed of the territorial sea, exclusive economic zone and continental shelf belong to the Republic are public property, and therefore inalienable and indefeasible. The coastal seas are public property.

**Article 13.** The territory can never be ceded, transferred, leased or alienated in any way, even temporarily or partially, to foreign States or other subjects of international law.

Venezuelan geographical space is a zone of peace. Not be established within foreign military bases or facilities with military purposes in some way, by any power or coalition of powers.

Foreign States or other subjects of international law may only acquire property for the seat of their diplomatic or consular within the area to be determined and subject to guarantees of reciprocity, within the limitations established by law. In that case remain intact national sovereignty.

existing vacant lands within the federal dependencies and on islands in rivers and lakes can not be alienated, and its use may be granted only in ways that do not directly or indirectly, the transfer of land ownership.

**Article 14.** The law establishes a special legal regime for those territories that self-determination of its people and with the approval of the National Assembly, are incorporated into the Republic.

**Article 15.** Responsibility to establish a comprehensive policy on land border areas, islands and sea, preserving the territorial integrity, sovereignty, security, defense, national identity, diversity and the environment, according to the cultural development Economic, social and integration. Given the nature of each border region through special financial allocations, an Organic Law on Borders shall determine the obligations and objectives comprising this responsibility.

**Chapter II**

**Policy Division**

**Article 16.** In order to politically organize the Republic, the country is divided into the State, Capital District, federal dependencies and federal territories. The territory is organized into Municipalities.

The political division is regulated by an organic law which shall guarantee municipal autonomy and political-administrative decentralization. Such law may provide for the creation of federal territorial in certain areas of the country, whose validity is subject to a referendum approving the respective entity. By special law may be made a federal territory statehood, assigning all or a portion of the territorial area concerned.

**Article 17.** Federal agencies are the maritime islands not included in the territory of a State, and islands that form or appear in the territorial sea or that covering the continental shelf. His regime and administration shall be established by law.

**Article 18.** Caracas is the capital of the Republic and the seat of the organs of National Power.
The provisions of this Article shall not prevent the exercise of National Power elsewhere in the republic.

A special law shall establish the unit político-territorial of the city of Caracas to integrate into a system of two-tier municipal government the Municipalities of the Capital District and the State of Miranda. It shall establish its organization, governance, management, expertise and resources to achieve the harmonious and integral development of the city. In any case the law shall guarantee the democratic and participatory government.

TITLE III

HUMAN RIGHTS AND GUARANTEES OF DUTIES

Chapter I

General Provisions

**Article 19.** The State shall guarantee to every person, in accordance with the progressive principle and without discrimination, the enjoyment and inalienable, indivisible and interdependent human rights. Respect for and guarantees are mandatory for public bodies in accordance with the Constitution, treaties on human rights signed and ratified by the Republic and the laws that implement them.

**Article 20.** Everyone has the right to free development of his personality, no limitations other than those deriving from the rights of others and public and social order.

**Article 21.** All persons are equal before the law, and accordingly:

1. No Discrimination based on race, sex, creed, social status or those that, in general, have as their object or effect of nullifying or impairing the recognition, enjoyment or exercise, on equal rights and freedoms of everyone.

2. The law shall guarantee legal and administrative conditions for equality before the law real and effective, and take positive measures on behalf of persons or groups who may be discriminated against, marginalized or vulnerable, especially to protect those who for any of the conditions before specified, are in obviously vulnerable circumstances and punish any abuse or ill-treatment perpetrated against them.

3. shall treat only official citizen, unless the diplomatic formulas.

4. Not recognize titles of nobility or hereditary distinctions.

**Article 22.** The enunciation of the rights and guarantees contained in the Constitution and international instruments on human rights should not be construed as a denial of others which, being related to the individual, not expressly mentioned in them. a law regulating these rights does not impair the exercise of those rights.

**Article 23.** The treaties, pacts and conventions on human rights signed and ratified by Venezuela have a constitutional rank, and prevail in the domestic, as they contain provisions concerning the enjoyment and exercise more favorable than those established by this Constitution and the law of the Republic, and are immediately and directly applied by the courts and other public bodies.

**Article 24.** No legislative provision shall have retroactive effect, except where it imposes a lesser penalty. Procedural laws shall apply from the moment they go into effect even in the proceedings already under way, but in criminal proceedings, evidence already collected is estimated in terms of benefit to the accused or area.
according to the law in effect the date you were promoted.

When in doubt come under the law to benefit the offender or area.

**Article 25.** Any act on the exercise of public power that violates or encroaches upon the rights guaranteed by the Constitution and the law is void, and public officials and public officials who order or execute incur criminal, civil and administrative, as appropriate, without serve as an excuse to superior orders.

**Article 26.** Everyone has the right of access to judicial bodies to enforce their rights and interests, including collective or diffuse nature to the effective protection of themselves and obtain a prompt decision.

The State guarantees free, accessible, impartial, suitable, transparent, autonomous, independent, responsible, equitable and expeditious, without undue delay, without formalities or useless.

**Article 27.** Everyone has the right to be protected by the courts in the enjoyment and exercise of rights and constitutional guarantees, even those related to the individual and not expressly provided in this Constitution or in international instruments on human rights.

The procedure for amparo is oral, public, short, free and unencumbered by formalities, and the competent judicial authority shall have power to restore immediately the juridical situation or the situation that is closest to it. All time shall be and the court gives it preferential treatment to any other matter.

The action of the protection of liberty or security may be filed by anyone, and the arrested or detained shall be placed in the custody of the court immediately, without delay.

The exercise of this right may be affected in any way by declaring a state of exception or restriction of constitutional guarantees.

**Article 28.** Everyone has the right to access information and data about himself or his property appearing on official or private records, except as provided by law, and what use is made of the same and their purpose. And to request the competent court the updating, correction or destruction of any records that are erroneous or unlawfully affect their rights. Also, you can access documents of any nature containing information of interest to communities or groups of people. Will retain the confidentiality of sources in journalism and other professions to determine the law.

**Article 29.** The State is obliged to investigate and legally punish human rights crimes committed by its authorities.

Actions to punish crimes against humanity, gross violations of human rights and war crimes barred. Human rights violations and crimes against humanity are investigated and tried by ordinary courts. Such offenses are excluded from the benefits that can lead to punishment, including pardons and amnesty.

**Article 30.** The State has an obligation to fully compensate victims of human rights violations it incurs, and their beneficiaries, including the payment of damages.

The State shall adopt such legislative and otherwise, to enforce the compensation provided in this article.

The State shall protect the victims of ordinary crimes and ensure that offenders repair the damage.

**Article 31.** Everyone has the right, under the terms established by treaties, pacts and conventions on human
rights ratified by the Republic, to address petitions and complaints to the organs created for that purpose, in order to request protection of their human rights.

The State shall, in accordance with procedures established in this Constitution and the law, the measures necessary to comply with the decisions of the international bodies referred to in this article.

Chapter II
Of nationality and citizenship

Section One: Nationality

Article 32. Are Venezuelans by birth:

1. Every person born in the territory of the Republic.

2. Every person born on foreign soil, son or daughter of a Venezuelan father and a Venezuelan mother at birth by birth.

3. Every person born on foreign soil, son or daughter of Venezuelan father or mother born Venezuelan by birth, provided they establish their residence in the territory of the Republic or declared their intention to obtain Venezuelan citizenship.

4. All persons born in foreign territory to Venezuelan father or mother naturalized Venezuelan by naturalization, provided that before the age of eighteen years of age, up residence in the territory of the Republic and before reaching age twenty-five declared his intention to obtain Venezuelan nationality.

Article 33. Are Venezuelans by naturalization:

1. Foreign nationals who obtain a certificate of naturalization. To this end they must be domiciled in Venezuela with uninterrupted residence of at least ten years immediately preceding the date of the respective application.

The residence time was reduced to five years in the case of men and women who has the nationality originally from Spain, Portugal, Italy, Latin America and the Caribbean.

2. Foreign nationals who marry a Venezuelan from declaring their willingness to be, after at least five years from the date of marriage.

3. Foreign nationals minors to the date of the naturalization of the father or mother who exercises parental authority, provided that they declare their willingness to be Venezuelan before the age of twenty-one years old and has resided in Venezuela Without interruption throughout the five years prior to that statement.

Article 34. Venezuelan nationality is not lost upon electing or acquiring another nationality.

Article 35. Venezuelans by birth can not be deprived of their nationality. Venezuelan nationality by naturalization can be revoked only by court order, according to the law.

Article 36. You can give the Venezuelan nationality. Whoever gives up the Venezuelan nationality by birth may recover if domiciled in the territory of the Republic for a period of not less than two years, and is willing to do so. Venezuelans by naturalization to give up the Venezuelan nationality may regain it by again meeting the requirements of Article 33 of this Constitution.
Article 37. The State shall promote the conclusion of international treaties on nationality, especially with the bordering countries and those indicated in paragraph 2 of Article 33 of this Constitution.

Article 38. The law lays down, in accordance with the above provisions, the substantive and procedural rules relating to the acquisition, election, renunciation and recovery of Venezuelan nationality, and with the withdrawal and revocation of naturalization.

Section Two: Citizenship

Article 39. Venezuelans are not subject or subject to political disablement or civil interdiction, and the age limits provided for in this Constitution, exercise citizenship and therefore are entitled to political rights and duties under this Constitution.

Article 40. Political rights are exclusive to Venezuelans, except as otherwise provided in this Constitution. Enjoy the same rights of Venezuelans by birth naturalized Venezuelans who have entered the country before the age of seven years old and lived in it continuously until it reaches the highest.

Article 41. Only Venezuelans by birth and no other nationality can hold the position of President of the Republic, Executive Vice President and Executive Vice President or President and Vice-Presidents of the National Assembly, justices of the Supreme Court President or Chairperson of the National Electoral Council, the General Attorney’s Office, Comptroller General of the Republic, General Prosecutor’s Office, Ombudsman or Ombudsman, Cabinet Ministers of mails related to safety Nation, finance, energy and mining, education; Governors and Mayors of border States and Municipalities and those contemplated in the Basic Law of the National Armed Forces.

To hold the position of Deputies of the National Assembly, Cabinet Ministers, Governors * and Mayors of non-border states and municipalities, Venezuelans by naturalization must be domiciled in Venezuela with continuous residence of not less than fifteen years and meet the eligibility requirements established by law.

Article 42. Anyone who loses or renounces to nationality loses citizenship. The exercise of citizenship or any political rights can be suspended only by final judicial decision in cases specified by law.

Chapter III

Civil Rights

Article 43. The right to life is inviolable. No law shall establish the death penalty, no authority shall apply. The State shall protect the lives of people who are deprived of their liberty, military service or civilian, or under their authority in any other way.

Article 44. Personal liberty is inviolable, therefore:

1. No person may be arrested or detained except by virtue of a warrant, unless caught in flagrante delicto. In this case be brought before a judicial authority in a time not exceeding forty-eight hours from the time of arrest. Shall be deemed released, except for reasons determined by law and assessed by the judge in each case.

The bail as required by law to grant the detainee's release will not cause any tax.

2. All detainees have the right to communicate immediately with his family, attorney or lawyer or someone you trust, and these and these, in turn, have the right to be informed or informed where the detainee is to be notified.
or notified immediately of the reasons for the arrest and to leave a written record on the record about the physical and mental state of the person arrested, either by themselves or with the help of specialists. shall keep a public record of every arrest made, including the identity of the arrested person, place, time, circumstances and officials who practiced it.

Concerning the detention of foreign nationals also be observed, consular notification under the international treaties on the subject.

3. The penalty shall not be extended to the convicted person. There will be sentences to life imprisonment or infamous. The deprivation of liberty shall not exceed thirty years.

4. Any authority taking measures involving deprivation of liberty must be identified.

5. No person shall remain in detention after release order issued by the competent authority or upon completion of sentence.

Article 45. It prohibits the public authority, civil or military, even in a state of emergency or security restriction, practice, permit or tolerate enforced disappearances. An officer who receives an order or instruction to practice, has the obligation not to obey it and report it to authorities. The perpetrators or masterminds and perpetrators, accomplices and concealers of the crime of enforced disappearance and the attempted commission thereof, shall be punished in accordance with the law.

Article 46. Everyone has the right to respect for their physical, mental and moral, as such:

1. No one shall be subjected to punishment, torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment. Any victim of torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or tolerated by agents of the State, is entitled to rehabilitation.

2. All persons deprived of liberty shall be treated with respect for the inherent dignity of the human.

3. No person shall be subjected without his free consent to scientific experiments or medical or laboratory examinations, except when his life in danger, or other circumstances prescribed by law.

4. Any public official or public servant who, by reason of his office, mistreats or physical or mental suffering to any person or instigates or tolerates such treatment, shall be punished according to law.

Article 47. The home and any private premise are inviolable. Not be forcibly entered except by court order, to prevent the commission of a crime or to comply in accordance with law decisions handed down by the courts, respecting the dignity of human beings.

The health inspections are carried out in accordance with the law, only be made after notice from the officials as the ordering or carrying it out.

Article 48. We guarantee the secrecy and inviolability of private communications in all its forms. Not be interfered with except by order of a competent court, in compliance with the laws and preserving the secrecy of the private that is not related to the corresponding process.

Article 49. Due process applies to all judicial and administrative proceedings and, accordingly:

1. The legal assistance and defense are inviolable rights at all stages and levels of investigation and prosecution. Everyone has the right to be notified of the charges for which he is being investigated, to gain
access to evidence and provide time and means to conduct his defense. Are void of evidence obtained in violation of due process. Any person convicted has the right to appeal the ruling, except as otherwise provided in this Constitution and the law.

2. All persons are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

3. to be heard in any kind of process, with due guarantees and within a reasonable time determined by legally competent, independent and impartial tribunal established previously. Who do not speak Castilian, or can not communicate verbally, he is entitled to an interpreter.

4. Everyone has the right to be tried by their natural judges in ordinary courts or special, with the guarantees established in this Constitution and the law. No person shall be subjected to trial without knowing the identity of the judge, and may be prosecuted by special courts or commissions created for that purpose.

5. No person shall be compelled to confess guilt or testify against themselves, their spouse, common law spouse or relative within the fourth degree of consanguinity and second degree. The confession is valid only if given without coercion of any kind.

The confession is valid only if given without coercion of any kind. 6. punished for acts or omissions not designated as crimes, misdemeanors or violations of laws already in existence.

7. Ninguna person may be tried for the same facts under which it had been judged previously.

8. Any person may request the State to restore or repair the damaged status of judicial error, unjustified delay or omissions. Will retain the right or the particular demand the personal responsibility of the judge or magistrate, judge or the judge, and the state's right to act against them or them.

Article 50. Any person may travel freely and through any media throughout the country, change of domicile and residence, leave and return to the Republic, to move their goods and belongings in the country, bring their goods into the country or take them out, without other limitations than those established by law. In case of granting of a concession, the law establishes the circumstances in which it must be ensured using an alternate route. Venezuelans can enter the country without authorization.

No act of the General may establish the penalty of banishment from the national territory against Venezuelans.

Article 51. Everyone has the right to petition or make representations before any authority, public official or public servant on matters within their competence, and to obtain timely and adequate response. Whoever violates this law shall be punishable under the law, and may be removed from office.

Article 52. Everyone has the right to associate for lawful purposes, in accordance with the law. The State is required to facilitate the exercise of this right.

Article 53. Everyone has the right to meet publicly or privately, without permission, for lawful purposes and without weapons. Meetings in public places is governed by the law.

Article 54. No person shall be subjected to slavery or servitude. Trafficking in persons and in particular women, children and adolescents in all its forms, is subject to the penalties provided by law.

Article 55. Everyone is entitled to protection by the State through the citizen safety organs regulated by law, from situations that constitute a threat, vulnerability or risk to the physical integrity of persons, property, the
enjoyment of their rights and the performance of their duties.

citizens in programs aimed at prevention, public safety and emergency management shall be regulated by a special law.

The state security forces respect human dignity and human rights of all people. The use of weapons or toxic substances by the civil police and security will be limited by principles of necessity, convenience, opportunity and proportionality in accordance with the law.

Article 56. to a proper name, the surname of his father and mother, and the identity of them. The State guarantees the right to investigate maternity and paternity.

Everyone is entitled to be registered for free on the register after birth and to obtain public documents constituting evidence of their biological identity, in accordance with the law. These do not contain any mention affiliation qualify.

Article 57. Everyone has the right to freely express their thoughts, ideas or opinions orally, in writing or any other form of expression, and to make use of any means of communication and diffusion, and no censorship shall be established. Anyone making use of this right assumes full responsibility for everything expressed. Not allowed Anonymity, war propaganda, discriminatory messages or those promoting religious intolerance.

Censorship is prohibited to public officials or public servants to account for matters within their responsibilities.

Article 58. Communication is free and plural, and involve the duties and responsibilities prescribed by law. Everyone has the right to timely, truthful and impartial, without censorship, in accordance with the principles of this Constitution, and the right of reply and correction when directly affected by inaccurate or offensive. Children and adolescents are entitled to receive adequate information for development.

Article 59. The State guarantees freedom of religion and worship. Everyone has the right to profess their religious faith and worship and express their beliefs in private or public, by teaching and other practices, if not contrary to morals, good customs and public order. Is guaranteed, also, the independence and autonomy of churches and denominations, without other limitations than those derived from the Constitution and the law. The father and mother have the right to have their sons and daughters receive religious education in accordance with their convictions.

No one may invoke religious beliefs or discipline to avoid complying with the law or to prevent one or other of the exercise of their rights.

Article 60. Everyone is entitled to the protection of his honor, privacy, intimacy, self-image, confidence and reputation.

The law limited the use of information technology to ensure the honor and personal and family privacy of citizens and the full exercise of their rights.

Article 61. Everyone has the right to freedom of conscience and express the same except those practices affecting personality or a crime. Conscientious objection can not be invoked to evade law enforcement or inhibit any other compliance or the exercise of their rights.

Chapter IV
Political Rights and Public Referenda
Section One: Political Rights

Article 62. All citizens have the right to participate freely in public affairs, directly or through their elected representatives or elected.

People's participation in training, implementation and monitoring of governance is the necessary way of achieving the involvement to ensure their complete development, both individually and collectively. State's obligation and duty of society to facilitate the generation of more favorable conditions for its practice.

Article 63. Suffrage is a right. Be exercised through free, universal, direct and secret. The law shall guarantee the principle of personalization of suffrage and proportional representation.

Article 64. Voters or voters Are all Venezuelans who have reached eighteen years of age and not subject to political disablement or civil interdiction.

Voting for municipal elections and state and parish will be extended to foreigners who have attained eighteen years of age, with more than ten years of residence in the country, with the limits established by this Constitution and the law, and which are not subject to political disablement or civil interdiction.

Article 65. No charge shall be eligible for election, who have been convicted or sentenced for crimes committed during the course of their duties and others that affect the public property within the time prescribed by law enforcement from the condemnation and in accordance with the severity of the crime.

Article 66. The voters are entitled to have their public representatives accountable, transparent and regular management, according to the schedule submitted.

Article 67. All citizens have the right to associate for political purposes, through democratic methods of organization, operation and management. Their governing organs and their candidates or candidates for elective office shall be selected by internal elections with the participation of its members. Not allow the financing of associations for political purposes with funds from the State.

The law shall regulate matters relating to the financing and private contributions from political organizations and control mechanisms to ensure cleanliness in the home and their management. Also regulate the political and electoral campaigns, duration and spending limits pursuing its democratization.

Citizens, on their own initiative, and associations for political purposes, are entitled to attend the electoral process by postulating candidates. The financing of political advertising and election campaigns shall be regulated by law. The addresses of the associations for political purposes may not contract with public sector entities.

Article 68. Citizens have the right to demonstrate, peacefully and without arms, without other requirements as prescribed by law.

Prohibiting the use of firearms and toxic substances to control peaceful demonstrations. The law shall regulate the conduct of police and security bodies in the control of public order.

Article 69. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela recognizes and guarantees the right of asylum and refuge. It prohibits the extradition of Venezuelans.

Article 70. Are means of participation and involvement of people in exercising their sovereignty, political:
election of public officials, the referendum, the recall referendum, legislative initiative, constitutional and constituent, open forums and assembly of citizens whose decisions are binding, among others, and in the social and economic development, citizen service organs, self-management, co-management, cooperatives in all forms including financial, savings banks, community enterprises and other forms of association guided by the values of mutual cooperation and solidarity.

The law establishes the conditions for the effective operation of the means for participating in this article.

**Section II : Popular Referendum**

**Article 71.** Matters of special national transcendence may be subject to a consultative referendum on the initiative of President of the Republic in Council of Ministers, by agreement of the National Assembly approved by majority vote of its members, or at the request of an unknown number less than ten percent of registered electors in the electoral and civil registration.

May also be referred to a consultative referendum matters of special importance parish, municipal and state. The initiative lies with the Parish Council, the City Council or the Legislative Council, by agreement of the two-thirds of its members, the Mayor or Mayor, or Governor of the State, or a number not less than ten percent of enrolled and registered in the constituency concerned, requesting it.

**Article 72.** All magistrates and other offices by popular vote are revocable.

Halfway through the period for which the official or elected official, no fewer than twenty percent of the voters or registered voters in the constituency concerned may request the convening of a referendum to revoke his mandate.

When equal or greater number of voters and voters who elected the official * vote in favor of revocation, provided that the referendum has attended a number of electors equal to or greater than twenty-five percent of registered electors, the deemed revoked his mandate and will proceed immediately to fill the permanent vacancy as provided in this Constitution and the law.

The revocation of the mandate for the collegiate bodies shall be in accordance with the stipulations of the law.

which he was elected the civil servant may not become more of an application for revocation of his mandate.

**Article 73.** Be submitted to a referendum bills under discussion by the National Assembly, when decided by at least two thirds of the members * of the Assembly. If the referendum ends in an affirmative vote of approval, provided you have attended twenty-five percent of the voters enrolled or registered in the civil and electoral registration, the project shall be enacted into law.

Treaties, conventions or agreements that might compromise national sovereignty or transfer powers to supranational bodies, may be submitted to a referendum on the initiative of President of the Republic in Council of Ministers, by a vote of two thirds or the members of the Assembly, or by fifteen percent of the voters registered and recorded in the Civil and Electoral Registry.

**Article 74.** Shall be submitted to referendum, to be repealed in whole or in part, repeal the laws which was requested by the initiative of a number no less than ten percent of the voters registered or recorded in the civil and voter registration or the President of the Republic in Council of Ministers.
They may also be submitted to a referendum abrogate the decrees with the force of law issued by the President of the Republic, making use of the powers granted in paragraph 8 of Article 236 of this Constitution, when it is requested by no fewer than five percent of the voters enrolled or registered in the civil and electoral registration.

For the validity of the referendum will be necessary to abrogate the attendance of forty percent of registered electors in the electoral and civil registration.

Not be subject to a referendum abrogating the budget laws, which establish or modify taxes, public credit and amnesty, and those that protect, guarantee or developing human rights and to ratify international treaties. There may be more of a referendum on a constitutional term abrogation to the same subject.

Chapter V
Of social and family

Article 75. The State shall protect the natural association of families and society and space as critical to the development of people. Family relationships are based on equal rights and duties, solidarity, common effort, mutual understanding and mutual respect among its members. The state guarantees protection to the mother, father or other person acting as head of the family.

Children and adolescents have the right to live, to be raised or bred and develop within their family of origin. When this is impossible or contrary to their interests, are entitled to a substitute family, in accordance with the law. Adoption has effects similar to the affiliation, and is established for the benefit of the adoptee, in accordance with the law. International adoption is a subsidiary of National.

Article 76. Motherhood and fatherhood are fully protected, whatever the marital status of the mother or father. The couples have right to decide freely and responsibly the number of sons and daughters who want to conceive and have the information and means to guarantee the exercise of this right. The State shall ensure assistance and protection for motherhood, in general, from the moment of conception, during pregnancy, childbirth and the postpartum period, and ensure comprehensive family planning services based on ethical and scientific values.

The father and mother have shared and inescapable duty to raise, train, educate, maintain and support their sons and daughters, and they have a duty to assist when one or that they can not do it themselves. The law establishes the necessary and appropriate measures to ensure the effectiveness of the maintenance obligation.

Article 77. It protects marriage between a man and a woman, which is based on free consent and absolute equality of rights and duties of spouses. Stable de facto unions between a man and a woman meeting the requirements of the law produce the same effects as marriage.

Article 78. Children and adolescents are full of law and protected by law, organs and specialized courts, which shall respect, guarantee and implement the content of this Constitution, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and other international treaties in this has signed and ratified by the Republic. The State, families and society shall ensure, with absolute priority, comprehensive protection, for which take into account their interests in the decisions and actions concerning them. The State shall promote their progressive incorporation into active citizenship, and a national governing body policies lead to the comprehensive protection of children and adolescents.

Article 79. The young men and women have the right and duty to be active in the development process. The state, with the joint participation of families and society, create opportunities to stimulate their productive transition to adulthood and in particular training and access to first job, in accordance with the law.
**Article 80.** The State shall guarantee to the old men and women the full exercise of their rights and guarantees, with the joint participation of families and society, is obliged to respect human dignity, autonomy and guarantee them full care and social security benefits to improve and guarantee the quality of life. Pensions and retirement benefits granted by the social security system may not be less than minimum wage. A Senior citizens are guaranteed the right to employment appropriate to men and women who express their wish and are able to do so.

**Article 81.** Every person with disabilities or special needs are entitled to full and autonomous exercise of their capacities and their family and community integration. with the joint participation of families and society, will ensure respect for human dignity, equality of opportunity and satisfactory working conditions, and promote their training, education and access to employment appropriate to their condition, in accordance with law. It is recognized that the deaf persons the right to express themselves and communicate through sign language of Venezuela.

**Article 82.** Everyone has the right to adequate housing, safe, comfortable, hygienic, with basic services, including a habitat essential to humanize family relationships, neighborhood and community. The progressive meeting of this requirement is shared between citizens and the State in all areas.

The State shall give priority to families and ensure the means for them and especially the poor, have access to social policies and credit for the construction, acquisition or expansion of housing.

**Article 83.** Health is a fundamental social right and obligation of the State, which shall guarantee it as part of the right to life, and develop policies oriented toward improving the quality of life, common welfare and access to services. Everyone has the right to health protection and the duty to participate actively in advocacy, and to comply with health and sanitation measures established by law in accordance with treaties and international conventions and ratified by the Republic.

**Article 84.** To guarantee the right to health, the state creates, exercises guidance over and administers a national public health system, intersectoral, decentralized and participatory, integrated social security system, governed by the principles of gratuity, universality, comprehensiveness, equity, social integration and solidarity. The public health system will give priority to health promotion and disease prevention, ensuring prompt treatment and quality rehabilitation. The property and public health services are owned and can not be privatized. The organized community has the right and duty to participate in making decisions on planning, implementation and monitoring of specific policy in public health institutions.

**Article 85.** The financing of public health system is the obligation of the state, incorporating the revenue resources, mandatory contributions to social security and other sources of financing provided for by law. The State guarantees a health budget for compliance with the objectives of health policy. In coordination with universities and research centers, promote and develop a national policy for training of professionals, technicians and technical and a domestic production of inputs for health. The State shall regulate public institutions and private health care.

**Article 86.** Everyone has the right to social security as a public service non-profit organizations that ensure the health and protection in contingencies of maternity, paternity, sickness, disability, catastrophic illness, special needs, occupational risks, loss of employment, unemployment, Old age, widows, orphans, housing burdens of family life and other social welfare circumstances. The State has an obligation to ensure the realization of this right, creating a universal social security system, comprehensive, social financing, unitary, efficient and participatory, direct or indirect contributions. The lack of ability to pay shall not be grounds for excluding persons from protection. The financial resources of social security may not be used for other purposes. The mandatory assessments paid workers and workers to cover medical and welfare services and
other social security benefits shall be administered only for social purposes under the guidance of the State. The remaining net capital for health, education and social security will accrue to the purposes of distribution and contribution services. The social security system will be regulated by a special Act.

**Article 87.** Everyone has the right to work and the duty to work. A State shall take the measures necessary for the purposes of a person to obtain productive work, to provide a dignified and decent life and to ensure the full exercise of this right. End state is to promote employment. The law shall adopt measures to ensure implementation of the labor rights of non-dependent workers. Freedom of work shall be subject to other restrictions than those established by law.

Every employer shall ensure their workers safety, hygiene and adequate work environment. The State shall adopt measures and create institutions to control and promote these conditions.

**Article 88.** The State guarantees equality and equity between men and women in the exercise of the right to work. The State recognizes housework as an economic activity that creates added value and produces wealth and welfare. Housewives are entitled to social security in accordance with the law.

**Article 89.** Work is a social and enjoy the protection of the state. The law provides for improving the material conditions, moral and intellectual workers. To fulfill this obligation, the State established the following principles:

1. No law shall establish provisions that affect the sanctity and progressiveness of the rights and benefits. In labor relations, reality shall prevail over forms or appearances.

2. Labor rights are inalienable. action is void, arrangement or agreement waiving or impairment of these rights. It is only possible and settlements are at the end of the employment relationship, in accordance with the requirements established by law.

3. When there are doubts about the application or among several rules, or in the interpretation of a particular standard, apply the most favorable to the worker. apply the rule adopted in its entirety.

4. Any measure or act of the employer or employer in violation of this Constitution is void and of no effect.

5. No kind of political discrimination, age, race, sex or creed or other status.

6. It prohibits the employment of adolescents at tasks that may affect their overall development. The state will protect them against any economic and social exploitation.

**Article 90.** The Working hours shall not exceed eight hours per day or forty-four hours a week. In cases where the law permits, the night working hours shall not exceed seven hours per day or thirty-five week. No employer may require employees or workers to work overtime. It will tend to the gradual reduction of working hours within the corporate interests and the scope to be determined and it should be available for better use of leisure time to benefit the physical, spiritual and cultural workers.

Workers are entitled to weekly rest and paid vacations on the same terms as for days actually worked.

**Article 91.** Every worker is entitled to a wage sufficient to enable it to live with dignity and cover himself and his family for basic material needs, social and intellectual. Be guaranteed equal wages for equal work and the apportionment of which must correspond to the workers the benefit of the company. The salary is not subject to seizure and paid periodically and promptly in legal tender, with the exception of the maintenance,
accordance with the law.

The State guarantees workers the public sector and private sector a minimum wage will be adjusted each year, taking as a reference the cost of basic goods. The law shall determine the form and procedure.

**Article 92.** All workers are entitled to social benefits to compensate them for length of service and protect them in case of unemployment. Salary and benefits are labor immediate repayment. Any delay in payment of interest, which constitutes a debt certain and shall enjoy the same privileges and guarantees of senior debt.

**Article 93.** Stability in the labor provisions as appropriate to limit any form of unjustified dismissal. Dismissals contrary to this Constitution are null.

**Article 94.** The law determines the liability to which the natural or legal person for whose benefit the service is provided through an intermediary or contractor, without prejudice to their joint liability. The State shall establish, through the competent court, the liability to which employers or patrons in general, in case of simulation or fraud for the purpose of distorting, ignoring or impeding the application of labor laws.

**Article 95.** Workers and workers without discrimination and without prior authorization, have the right to establish and join trade unions of their choosing to better defend their rights and interests, as well as join or not to them, in accordance with law. These organizations are not subject to intervention, suspension or administrative dissolution. Workers are protected against acts of discrimination or interference against the exercise of this right. The promoters, developers and members of the executive of the union enjoy immunity from dismissal during the time under the conditions required for the exercise of their functions.

For the exercise of union democracy, the statutes and regulations establish trade unions and the rotation of the boards of directors and representatives by universal, direct and secret. And female members of the executive and union representatives who abuse the benefits of freedom for personal gain or benefit, shall be punished in accordance with the law. And female members of the executive committees of trade unions are obliged to make statements of their assets.

**Article 96.** All employees and workers of public and private sector have the right to voluntary collective bargaining and conclude collective agreements, with no other requirements than those established by law. The State guarantees this process and establish appropriate provisions to encourage collective relations and resolving disputes. Collective agreements shall protect all active workers and active at the time of subscription, and those hired thereafter.

**Article 97.** All workers of public and private sector have the right to strike, subject to conditions established by law.

**Chapter VI**

**Of Educational and Cultural Rights**

**Article 98.** Cultural creation is free. This freedom includes the right to investment, production and dissemination of creative works, scientific, technological and humanistic, including legal protection of the rights of the author or the author of their work. Protects intellectual property rights on scientific, literary and artistic works, inventions, innovations, trade names, patents, trademarks and slogans, in accordance with the conditions and exceptions established by law and international treaties signed and ratified by the Republic this matter.

**Article 99.** The cultural values are an inalienable right of the Venezuelan people and a fundamental right that
the State shall promote and ensure, by providing the conditions, legal instruments, means, and funding. It recognizes the cultural autonomy of public administration in the terms established by law. The State guarantees the protection and preservation, enrichment, preservation and restoration of cultural heritage, tangible and intangible, and the historical memory of the nation. The assets constituting the cultural heritage of the Nation is inalienable and indefeasible. The law establishes penalties and sanctions for damage caused to these assets.

**Article 100.** The folk cultures comprising of Venezuela enjoy special attention, recognition of and respect for intercultural relations under the principle of equality of cultures. The law shall establish incentives and encouragement to individuals, institutions and communities to promote, support, develop or finance plans, programs and cultural activities in the country and Venezuelan culture abroad. The State guarantees cultural workers joining the social security system that allows them a dignified life, recognizing the idiosyncrasies of cultural work, in accordance with the law.

**Article 101.** The State guarantees the issuance, receipt and transmission of cultural information. The media have a duty to contribute to the spread of the values of folk traditions and the work of artists, writers, composers, songwriters, filmmakers, scientists, scientific and other cultural creators in the country. The television media shall include subtitles and translation into sign language for the hearing impaired. The law establishes the terms and conditions of these obligations.

**Article 102.** Education is a human right and a fundamental social duty, is democratic, free and compulsory. The State assumes responsibility as an irrevocable function of most interest at all levels and modalities, and as an instrument of scientific, humanistic and technology at the service of society. Education is a public service and is based on respect for all currents of thought in order to develop the creative potential of every human being and the full exercise of his personality in a democratic society based on the assessment and work ethic in the active, conscious and joint participation in the processes of social transformation imbued with the values of national identity and Latin American and universal vision. The state, with the participation of families and society, promotes the process of civic education in accordance with the principles contained in this Constitution and the law.

**Article 103.** Everyone has the right to comprehensive education, quality, permanent, equal opportunities, without other limitations than those derived from their skills, vocation and aspirations. Education is compulsory at all levels, from kindergarten to the middle tier diversified. Education offered at State institutions is free up to university undergraduate. To this end, they make a priority investment in accordance with the recommendations of the Organization of the United Nations. The State will create and sustain institutions and services sufficiently endowed to ensure access, retention and completion in education. The law shall guarantee equal attention to people with special needs or disabilities, and those who are deprived of their freedom or who lack the basic conditions for their incorporation and permanence in the educational system.

Contributions from private individuals to public education programs and university level will be recognized as tax deductibility on income according to the respective law.

**Article 104.** Education will be provided by persons of recognized morality and proven academic qualifications, continuous updating and will maintain stability in the exercise of the teaching profession, either public or private, in response to this Constitution and the law in a regime of work and standard of living commensurate with their mission. Income, promotion and retention in the education system shall be established by law and respond to the evaluation criteria of merit, without partisan interference or other nonacademic.

**Article 105.** profession requiring a degree and the conditions to be met to practice, including licensing.

**Article 106.** Any natural or legal person, upon proof of its capacity when it meets on an ongoing basis with the
ethical, academic, scientific, economic, infrastructure and others established by law, may establish and maintain private educational institutions under the strict inspection and supervision of the State, upon acceptance of it.

Article 107. Compulsory and levels of the education system, as well as in civil education. It is mandatory in public and private institutions, to the high school program, teaching the Spanish language, history and geography of Venezuela, and the principles of the Bolivarian thought.

Article 108. Social media, public and private, should contribute to citizenship education. The State guarantees public radio, television and library networks and computing, to allow universal access to information. Schools should incorporate the knowledge and application of new technologies, innovations, in accordance with the requirements established by law.

Article 109. As a principle of university autonomy and status that allows teachers, professors, students, students and graduates in your community dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge through scientific research, arts and technology, for spiritual and material benefit of the Nation. Autonomous universities give their standards of governance and operation and efficient management of their assets under the control and monitoring for these purposes established by law. University autonomy is devoted to plan, organize, develop and update programs for research, teaching and extension. It provides for the inviolability of the campus. Experimental national universities shall attain their autonomy in accordance with the law.

Article 110. The public interest in science, technology, knowledge, innovation and its applications and information services needed to be key instruments for economic, social and political development and for national security and sovereignty. To promote and develop these activities, the State will devote adequate resources and create a national science and technology in accordance with the law. The private sector should provide resources for them. The State shall ensure compliance with ethical and legal principles that should govern scientific research, humanistic and technological. The law shall provide ways and means to comply with this guarantee.

Article 111. All persons have the right to sport and recreation as activities that benefit the quality of individual and collective life. The State assumes responsibility for sports and recreation as education policy and public health and secure the resources for its promotion. Physical education and sports play a key role in the formation of the childhood and adolescence. His education is compulsory at all levels of public and private education to the diversified cycle, with the exceptions provided by law. The State shall provide comprehensive care to athletes without discrimination, and support the sport of high competition and the assessment and regulation of sports organizations in the public and private sector, in accordance with the law.

The law shall establish incentives and encouragement to individuals, institutions and communities and to promote athletes and develop or finance plans, programs and sports in the country.

Chapter VII
Economic Rights

Article 112. All persons may freely engage in economic activity of their choice, no restrictions other than those provided in this Constitution and those established by law for reasons of human development, security, health, environmental protection and other social interest. The State shall promote private initiative, guaranteeing the creation and equitable distribution of wealth, and the production of goods and services that meet the needs of the people, freedom of work, enterprise, trade, industry, without prejudice to their ability to promulgate measures to plan, rationalize and regulate the economy and promote the development of the country.
Article 113. Not allow monopolies. Declare themselves opposed to the fundamental principles of this Constitution any event, activity, conduct or agreement of the individual and aimed at establishing a monopoly, or leading, real and its effects independently of the will of those or those, to their existence, whatever form they adopt in reality. It is also contrary to those principles the abuse of dominant position that a particular set of them or they or a company or group of enterprises acquires or has acquired a certain market for goods or services, regardless of the cause such position domain and in the case of concentrated demand. In all cases mentioned above, the State shall take the measures necessary to prevent harmful and restrictive effects of monopoly, abuse of dominant position and demands concentrated, with the aim of protecting the consuming public, producers and producing and ensuring effective competitive conditions in the economy.

In the case of exploitation of natural resources owned by the Nation or the provision of a public nature exclusively or not, the State may grant concessions for a period of time, maintaining the existence of suitable compensatory payments or public interest.

Article 114. Economic crime, speculation, hoarding, usury, cartelization and other related crimes will be punished severely in accordance with the law.

Article 115. The right of ownership, to use, enjoyment, enjoyment and disposition of its assets. The property will be subject to such contributions, restrictions and obligations imposed by law for public utility or general interest. Only for reasons of public utility or social interest by final decision and prompt payment of fair compensation, may be declared the expropriation of any kind of property.

Article 116. Not ordered and carried out confiscations of property except in cases permitted by this Constitution. By way of exemption may be subject to confiscation, in a final ruling, the assets of individuals or corporations, domestic or foreign, responsible for crimes committed against public property, the property of those who illicitly enriched under the Public Power and goods from commercial activities, financial or any other related to illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

Article 117. All persons are entitled to dispose of goods and services as well as adequate and not misleading about the content and features of products and services they consume, to freedom of choice and fair and decent treatment, the necessary mechanisms to guarantee those rights, standards of quality and quantity control of goods and services, procedures, consumer advocacy groups, compensation for damages and penalties for violation of these rights.

Article 118. It recognizes the right of workers and the community to develop associations of social and participative nature such as cooperatives, savings banks, mutual funds and other forms of association. These associations may develop any kind of economic activity, in accordance with the law. The law recognizes the specificity of these organizations, especially those relating to the cooperative, the associated work and the generation of collective benefits.

The State shall promote and protect these partnerships to improve the popular economic alternative.

Chapter VIII
On the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Article 119. The State recognizes the existence of indigenous peoples and communities, their social, political and economic, their cultures, traditions and customs, languages and religions, as well as their habitat and original rights over lands they ancestrally and traditionally occupy and which are necessary to develop and
guarantee their way of life. Correspond to the National Executive, with the participation of indigenous peoples, to demarcate and guarantee the right to collective ownership of their lands, which are inalienable, indefeasible, and transferable in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution and the law.

**Article 120.** The use of natural resources in indigenous habitats by the State shall be without harming the cultural, social and economic such habitats, and likewise subject to prior information and consultation of indigenous communities concerned. The benefits of this use by indigenous peoples are bound by the Constitution and the law.

**Article 121.** Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain and develop their ethnic and cultural identity, worldview, values, spirituality and sacred places of worship. The State shall promote the appreciation and dissemination of cultural expressions of indigenous peoples, who are entitled to their own education and an education system of an intercultural and bilingual, according to their cultural peculiarities, traditions and values.

**Article 122.** Indigenous peoples have the right to comprehensive health care to consider their practices and cultures. The State shall recognize their traditional medicine and complementary therapies, subject to bioethical principles.

**Article 123.** Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain and promote their own economic practices based on reciprocity, solidarity and exchange; their traditional productive activities, their participation in the national economy and define its priorities. Indigenous peoples have the right to professional training services and to participate in the development, implementation and management of specific training programs, technical assistance and financial assistance to strengthen their economic activities in the framework of sustainable local development. The State shall guarantee to workers belonging to indigenous peoples the enjoyment of rights under labor law.

**Article 124.** It guarantees and protects the collective intellectual property of knowledge, technologies and innovations of indigenous peoples. Any work on genetic resources and knowledge associated with them pursue collective benefits. It prohibits the registration of patents in those resources and ancestral knowledge.

**Article 125.** Indigenous peoples have the right to political participation. The State shall guarantee indigenous representation in the National Assembly and the deliberating organs of federal and local entities with indigenous populations, according to law.

**Article 126.** Indigenous peoples, as cultures with ancestral roots, are part of the Nation, the State and the Venezuelan people as unique, sovereign and indivisible. In accordance with this Constitution have the duty to safeguard the integrity and national sovereignty.

The term people can not read this Constitution in the sense that given in international law.

**Chapter IX**

**Environmental Rights**

**Article 127.** It is a right and duty of each generation to protect and maintain the environment for the benefit of themselves and the future world. Everyone has the right, individually and collectively, to enjoy life and a safe, healthy and ecologically balanced environment. The State shall protect the environment, biodiversity, genetics, ecological processes, national parks and natural monuments and other areas of special ecological importance. The genome of living beings can not be patented, and the law relating to bioethical principles regulate this matter.
It is a fundamental obligation of the State, with the active participation of society, to ensure that the population develops in a pollution free environment, where air, water, soil, coasts, climate, ozone layer living species are specially protected under the law.

**Article 128.** The State shall develop a planning policy addressing the ecological, geographic, demographic, social, cultural, economic, political, according to the premises of sustainable development, including information, consultation and public participation. An organic law shall develop the principles and criteria for this system.

**Article 129.** All activities likely to cause damage to ecosystems must be preceded by environmental impact studies and socio-cultural. The State barred from entering the country from toxic wastes and the manufacture and use of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons. A special law will regulate the use, handling, transport and storage of hazardous substances.

The contracts which the Republic enters with individuals or corporations, domestic or foreign, or permits to be granted, involving natural resources, shall be deemed included even if not expressly required to maintain ecological balance, to allow access to technology and transfer it on mutually agreed terms and to restore the environment to its natural state if it is altered, in the manner prescribed by law.

**Chapter X**

**Of Duties**

**Article 130.** Venezuelans have the duty to honor and defend the country, its symbols, cultural values, safeguard and protect the sovereignty, nationality, territorial integrity, self determination and the interests of the nation.

**Article 131.** Duty to comply and abide by the Constitution, laws and other acts in the exercise of their duties dictate public bodies.

**Article 132.** Everyone has a duty to fulfill their social responsibilities and participate together in political, civil and community in the country, promoting and defending human rights as the foundation of democratic coexistence and social peace.

**Article 133.** Everyone has the duty to contribute to public expenditure through the payment of taxes and contributions required by law.

**Article 134.** Everyone, in accordance with the law, has the duty to perform military or civilian service necessary for the protection, preservation and development of the country or to deal with situations of public emergency, to forced recruitment.

Everyone has a duty to serve in the electoral duties assigned to them in accordance with the law.

**Article 135.** The obligations incumbent upon the State under this Constitution and the law, in pursuance of the objectives of general welfare, do not exclude that, by virtue of solidarity and social responsibility and humanitarian assistance, apply to individuals as capable, provide whatever law to enforce these obligations in cases where required. Those aspiring to practice any profession have a duty to serve the community during the time, place and conditions determined by law.

**TITLE IV**
PUBLIC POWER

Chapter I
Of the key provisions

Section One: General Provisions

Article 136. Public Power is distributed among Municipal Power, the States Power and National Power. National Public Power is divided into Legislative, Executive, Judicial, Citizen and Electoral.

Each of the branches of government has its own functions, but the bodies that it is the exercise will work together in achieving the goals of the State.

Article 137. The Constitution and the law will define the powers of the organs exercising Public Power, which require support activities undertaken.

Article 138. Usurped authority is inefficient and its acts are void.

Article 139. The exercise of public power rise to individual liability for abuse or misuse of power or violation of this Constitution or the law.

Article 140. The state financially liable for the damages suffered by individuals in any of their property rights, provided that the injury is attributable to the functioning of public administration.

Section Two: Public administration

Article 141. The Public Administration serves the citizens and is based on the principles of honesty, participation, speed, effectiveness, efficiency, transparency, accountability and responsibility in the exercise of public functions, being fully subject to the law and the right.

Article 142. Autonomous institutions can be created only by law. Such institutions and public interests in corporations or entities of any nature, shall be subject to state control, as provided by law.

Article 143. Citizens are entitled to be informed and timely and accurately reported by the Public Administration on the status of actions that are directly involved and interested, and to know the final decisions are taken on the matter. They also have access to administrative files and records, subject to the limits acceptable in a democratic society in matters relating to internal and external security, criminal investigation and the intimacy of private life in accordance with the law regulating classification of documents whose contents are confidential or secret. No censorship any public officials or public servants to report on matters under its responsibility.

Section Three: Civil Service

Article 144. The law establishes the statute of the civil service through rules concerning entering, promotion, transfer, suspension and removal of officials or officials of public administration, and provide their incorporation into social security.

functions and requirements for public officials and civil servants to perform their duties.
**Article 145.** Public officials and public servants are paid by the State and not bias. Their appointment and removal shall not be determined by political affiliation or orientation. who is serving the Municipalities, States, the Republic and other legal persons under public or private law state can not enter into any contract with them, either by itself or through an intermediary, or on behalf of one or otherwise, except as provided by law.

**Article 146.** The positions of the organs of Public Administration are running. Exceptions are popularly elected, the free appointment and removal, those contracted, workers and workers in the service of Public Administration and others determined by law.

The income of public officials and public officials to fill career positions shall be by public competition, based on principles of honesty, competence and efficiency. Promotion shall be governed by scientific methods based on the merit system, and transfer, suspension and removal shall be in accordance with their performance.

**Article 147.** For the occupation of public office whether remunerated or not your pertinent compensation be provided in the budget.

Pay scales in the public be established by regulation under the law.

The organic law may establish reasonable limits on the compensation earned by public servants and municipal public officials, state and national.

National laws shall establish the system of retirement and pensions of public officials and public servants national, state and municipal.

**Article 148.** No person shall play in more of a paid public unless the case of academic appointments, incidental, or educational assistance provided by law. Acceptance of a second position not included among the exceptions in this article shall imply resignation from the first, except in the case of substitutes, while definitely not replace the principal.

No one may enjoy more than one pension or retirement benefits, except in cases expressly determined by law.

**Article 149.** Public officials and public servants may not accept employment, honors or rewards from foreign governments without authorization from the National Assembly.

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**Section Four: Contracts in the Public Interest**

**Article 150.** The conclusion of contracts of national public interest require the adoption of the National Assembly in the cases determined by law.

No contract shall be entered in the public interest any municipal, state or national, or foreign States or official bodies or companies not domiciled in Venezuela, or transferred to them without the approval of the National Assembly.

The law may require in the public interest contracts certain conditions of nationality, domicile or other matters, or require special guarantees.

**Article 151.** In the public interest contracts, unless inapplicable according to their nature, are deemed included even if not expressed, a clause that the doubts and controversies which may raise concerning such contracts and
which do not reach be settled amicably by the contracting parties shall be decided by the competent courts of the Republic, in accordance with its laws, without which no reason or cause may give rise to foreign claims.

Section Five: International Relations

Article 152. international relations of the Republic serve the ends of the State upon the exercise of sovereignty and the interests of the people, they are governed by the principles of independence, equality among states, self-determination and nonintervention in its internal affairs, peaceful resolution of international conflicts, cooperation, respect for human rights and solidarity between peoples in their struggle for liberation and the welfare of mankind. The Republic will maintain a firm and resolute defense of these principles and democratic practices in all agencies and institutions.

Article 153. The Republic shall promote and encourage Latin American and Caribbean integration, in order to move towards the establishment of a community of nations, defending the economic, social, cultural, and environmental policy in the region. The Republic may conclude international treaties and coordinate efforts to promote the common development of our nations, and to ensure the welfare of peoples and the collective security of its inhabitants. this end, the Republic may transfer to supranational organizations, through treaties, the exercise of the powers necessary to carry out these processes of integration. Within the policies of integration and union with Latin America and the Caribbean, the Republic privileged status to relations with Latin America, striving to make a common policy throughout our Latin America. The rules adopted in the framework of integration agreements will be considered an integral part of the legal force and direct application and with priority over domestic legislation.

Article 154. The treaties concluded by the Republic must be approved by the National Assembly before ratification by the President of the Republic, except for those by which they seek to perform or perfect pre-existing obligations of the Republic, apply principles expressly recognized by it, perform ordinary acts in international relations or exercise powers expressly attributed by law to the National Executive.

Article 155. In the treaties, international conventions and agreements by the Republic, to insert a clause by which the parties agree to resolve by peaceful means recognized under international law or previously agreed upon by them, if this is the case, controversies might arise between them in connection with its performance if not inappropriate and it allows the procedure to be followed to its conclusion.

Chapter II
Competence of National Public Power

Article 156. Is the responsibility of the National Government:

1. Politics and international action in the Republic.

2. Defense and supreme vigilance of the general interests of the Republic, the preservation of public peace and the proper enforcement of the law throughout the country.

3. The flag, coat of arms, anthem, holidays, awards and national honors.

4. Naturalization, admission, extradition and expulsion of foreign nationals.

5. Identification services.
6. The national police.

7. Security, defense and national development.

8. The organization and governance of the military.

9. The system of risk management and emergencies.

10. The organization and governance of the Capital District and federal agencies.

11. The central bank regulation, monetary system, exchange rate regime, the financial system and capital market and the issuance and coinage.

12. The creation, organization, collection, administration and control of taxes on income, inheritance, donations and other related areas, capital, output, value added, hydrocarbons and mines, of import duties and export goods and services, taxes imposed on the consumption of liquor, alcohol and other products containing alcohol, cigarettes and other articles of snuff, and other taxes, fees and income not allocated to the states and municipalities by the Constitution and the law.

13. Legislation to ensure coordination and harmonization of the various taxing powers and define principles, parameters and limitations, especially for the determination of rates or rates of the state and municipal taxes, as well as to create specific funds that ensure inter-regional solidarity.

14. The creation and organization of land taxes or taxes on rural land and property transactions, the collection and oversight responsibility of the Municipalities, in accordance with this Constitution.

15. The foreign trade regime and the organization and governance of customs.

16. The governance and management of mines and hydrocarbons, the system of public lands, and conservation, development and exploitation of forests, soil, water and other natural resources of the country.

The National Executive shall not grant mining concessions for an indefinite period.

The law will establish a special financial allocations for the benefit of the States on whose territory they are situated goods mentioned in this paragraph, notwithstanding the possibility of also establishing special appropriations for the benefit of other States.

17. The system of legal metrology and quality control.


19. The establishment, coordination and unification of technical standards and procedures for engineering, architecture and town planning and urban planning legislation.

20. Public works of national interest.


22. The governance and organization of the social security system.
23. National policies and legislation on health, housing, food security, environment, water, tourism, planning and shipping.

24. Policies and national educational and health.

25. National policies for agricultural production, livestock, fisheries and forestry.

26. The national transport system, navigation and air transport by land, sea, river and lake, with a national, port, airport and infrastructure.

27. The system of national roads and railways.

28. The system of mail service and telecommunications, as well as governance and administration of the electromagnetic spectrum.

29. The general scheme of public services and, especially, electricity, water and gas.

30. The policy management of borders with a vision of the country, allowing the Venezuelan presence and the maintenance of territory and sovereignty in these areas.

31. The national organization and administration of justice, the DPP and the Ombudsman.

32. The legislation concerning the rights, duties and constitutional guarantees of civil, commercial, criminal, prison procedures and private international law, the election, that of expropriation for public utility or social, the public credit, the intellectual property and industrial arts, the cultural and archaeological heritage, the land, the immigration and population, the indigenous peoples and territories occupied by them, the labor, pensions and social security, the animal and plant health; and registration of notaries public, the banking and insurance, lotteries, racetracks and betting in general, the organization and functioning of national public bodies and other bodies and institutions of the State, and on all matters of national competence.

33. Any other matters which the Constitution attributes to the National Government, or that corresponding to their type or nature.

Article 157. National Assembly by a majority of its members, assign to the States or Municipalities certain matters of national competence, to promote decentralization.

Article 158. Decentralization, as national policy should strengthen democracy, bring power closer to the people and creating optimum conditions both for the exercise of democracy and for the effective and efficient delivery of government commitments.

Chapter III
State Authority Public Power

Article 159. States are autonomous and politically equal, with full legal personality, and are obligated to maintain the independence, sovereignty and national integrity, and respect and enforce the Constitution and laws of the Republic.

Article 160. The management and administration of each State to the Governor. For Governor is required to be Venezuelan, over twenty-five and a layman.
The Governor shall be elected for a term of four years for most people who vote. The Governor may be re-elected immediately and once for a further period.

**Article 161.** Yield: Governors, annual public accounting of his work to the State Comptroller and shall report the same to the Legislative Council and the Council of Planning and Public Policy Coordination.

**Article 162.** The legislative power is exercised in each State by a Legislative Council composed of no more than fifteen nor less than seven members, who proportionally represent the population of the State and the Municipalities. The Legislative Council shall have the following:

1. Legislate matters within state competence.
3. The other powers conferred by this Constitution and the law.

The requirements for being a member of the Legislative Council, the obligation of yearly accounting and immunity within the territorial jurisdiction shall be governed by rules established by this Constitution for deputies to the National Assembly, as applicable to him. The State Authority and legislators will be elected for a term of four years and may be re-elected only for two terms. National law shall regulate the organization and functioning of the Legislative Council.

**Article 163.** Each State shall be a Comptroller who shall be organic and functional autonomy. The State Comptroller shall, in accordance with this Constitution and the law, control, monitoring and control of revenues, expenses and assets, without prejudice to the scope of the functions of the Comptroller General of the Republic. This body shall act under the direction and responsibility of a Comptroller, whose qualifications to hold the office will be determined by law, guaranteeing his capability and independence and the neutrality of his appointment, which shall be by public tender.

**Article 164.** It is within the exclusive competence of the states:

1. Promulgating their Constitution to organize public powers, in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.
2. The Organization of their Municipalities and other local and political division, in accordance with this Constitution and the law.
3. Property management and investment management of its resources, including those deriving from transfers, subsidies or special National Power, as well as those assigned to them as a share of national taxes.
4. The organization, collection, control and manage their own taxes, according to the provisions of national and state laws.
5. The governance and exploitation of non-metallic minerals are not reserved to National Power, the salt flats and oyster beds and the administration of public lands within its jurisdiction, in accordance with the law.
6. The police and the determination of the branches of the service to be assigned to municipal jurisdiction, in accordance with applicable national legislation.
7. The creation, organization, collection, control and management in the fields of sealed paper and tax...
8. The creation, governance and organization of state public services.

9. Construction, preservation, management and use of the roads the State concerned.

10. The conservation, management and exploitation of roads and highways, and ports and commercial airports, in coordination with the National Executive.

11. Everything that is not appropriate, in accordance with this Constitution, the national or municipal jurisdiction.

Article 165. Matters involving concurrent competence shall be regulated by laws enacted by National Power, and laws passed by states. This legislation will be guided by the principles of interdependence, coordination, cooperation, shared responsibility and subsidiarity.

The States shall decentralize and transfer services to municipalities and skills to manage and that they are able to provide, as well as the management of resources, in areas of concurrent jurisdiction between the two levels of public power. Transfer mechanisms are governed by the law the State concerned.

Article 166. Each state will create a Council of Planning and Public Policy Coordination, chaired by the Governor and composed of the Mayors, managers or directors of ministries and State Authority representation of legislators elected or chosen by the state legislators to National Assembly, the Legislative Council, the aldermen or councilors and organized communities, including indigenous where they exist. The same function and be organized in accordance with prescribed by law.

Article 167. State revenues are:

1. Income from their assets and property management.

2. The fees for the use of their goods and services, fines and penalties, and allocated to them.

3. The product of the proceeds from the sale of State-owned.

4. The resources allocated to them by the constitutional concept. The game is set equal to a maximum of twenty percent of total revenue estimated annually by the National Treasury, which is distributed among the states and the Capital District as follows: thirty percent of that percentage equal parts, and seventy percent in proportion to the population of each of these entities.

In each fiscal year, states must invest a minimum of fifty percent of the amount for which they are by way of revenue. The Municipalities of each State shall be entitled, in each fiscal year by not less than twenty percent of the situado and other revenue of the State concerned.

If changes in income of the National Treasury that require an adjustment of the national budget, shall be adjusted in proportion.

The law establishes the principles, rules and procedures that tend to ensure the proper and efficient use of resources derived from the constitutional and municipal participation in it.

5. Other taxes, fees and special taxes assigned to them by national law to promote the development of the state.
treasuries.

Laws creating or transferring tax revenues to the States may offset these allocations by means of changes in the income mentioned in this article in order to preserve the territorial equity. of estimated ordinary national income allocated to the constitutional will not be less than fifteen percent of the estimated revenue for which will take into account the status and financial sustainability of the National Treasury, without neglecting the ability of the state administrative authorities to provide adequately for the services of your competition.

6. Resources from the Inter-territorial Compensation Fund and any other transfer, subsidy or special appropriation, as well as those assigned as a share of national taxes in accordance with the pertinent law.

Chapter IV
Municipal Public Power

Article 168. Municipalities constitute the primary political unit of the national organization, legal personality and autonomy within the limits of the Constitution and the law. Municipal autonomy includes:

1. of their authorities.

2. Management matters within its competence.

3. The creation, collection and investment of income.

The actions of the Municipality within the scope of its powers is carried out by incorporating citizen participation into the process of defining and implementing governance and monitoring and evaluation of results in an effective, sufficient and timely according to law.

Municipalities may be contested only before the competent courts in accordance with the Constitution and the law.

Article 169. The organization of municipalities and other local entities shall be governed by this Constitution, the rules that implement constitutional principles established by the national organic laws, and laws in line with those enacted by the States.

Legislation enacted to implement constitutional principles relating to Municipalities and other local authorities, establish various structures for the organization, governance and administration, including as regards the determination of its powers and resources, taking into account population conditions Economic development, capacity to generate own tax revenues, geographical location, historical and cultural elements and other relevant factors. In particular, the legislation set out the options for organizing the system of local administration and government which corresponds to the municipalities with indigenous populations. In any case, the municipal structure shall be democratic and to the nature of local government.

Article 170. Municipalities may be associated municipalities or agree among themselves or with other local authorities, the creation of types of intergovernmental associations for purposes of public interest relating to matters within its competence. By law lay down rules concerning the grouping of two or more Municipalities into districts.

Article 171. When two or more municipalities within the same federal organ have economic, social and physical characteristics that give the group a metropolitan area, may organize themselves as metropolitan districts. The organic law for that purpose shall guarantee the democratic and participatory character of the
Article 172. The Legislative Council of the States, after a favorable decision by referendum of the affected population, define the boundaries of the metropolitan district and shall organize as provided in the national organic law, determining which metropolitan powers will be assumed by the governing bodies of the respective district metropolitan.

When the Municipalities wishing to form a metropolitan district belong to different federal entities, shall be the National Assembly creation and organization.

Article 173. The municipality may establish parishes under the conditions determined by law. Legislation enacted to implement the constitutional principles concerning municipal regime establish the premises and conditions for the creation of other local entities within the municipal territory and the resources available, depending on the functions assigned to them, including their share in the Municipality's own revenues. Its creation will serve the neighborhood or community initiative, in order to promote the decentralization of the administration of the Municipality, citizen participation and better delivery of public services. In no event shall parishes be assumed to be exhaustive or mandatory divisions of the territory of the municipality.

Article 174. The management and administration of the municipality shall correspond to the Mayor or Mayor, who is also the first civil authority. For A Mayor is required to be Venezuelan, over twenty-five and a layman. The Mayor is elected for a term of four years for most people who vote, and may be re-elected immediately and once for a further period.

Article 175. The municipality 's legislative function vested in the Council, composed of elected councilors and councilors elected in the manner prescribed in the Constitution on the number and eligibility criteria as prescribed by law.

Article 176. Corresponds to the Municipal Comptroller control, monitoring and control of revenues, expenses and municipal assets and operations relating thereto, without prejudice to the scope of the powers of the Comptroller General of the Republic and is headed by the Comptroller or Municipal Comptroller, appointed or designated by the Council through a public competition to ensure the adequacy and capacity who is appointed or designated for the position, according to the conditions set by law.

Article 177. National law may establish principles, conditions and residency requirements, prohibitions, and incompatibilities inhibition causes for the nomination and performance of the duties of Mayors and aldermen or councilors.

Article 178. Within the jurisdiction of the municipality government and administration of his interests and the management of matters assigned by this Constitution and national laws as regards local life, especially the management and promotion of economic and social development, the provision and delivery of public services, the implementation of policy on the matter Tenants with criteria of equity, justice and social interest content, in accordance with the delegation provided for in the law governing the matter, the promotion of participation, and improvement in general living conditions of the community, in the following areas:
1. Regional and town planning, heritage, social housing, local tourism, parks and gardens, plazas, spas and other recreational areas, civil architecture, nomenclature and public adornment.

2. Urban roads, traffic and traffic management of vehicles and people on municipal roads, urban public transport services and passengers.

3. Public shows and commercial advertising, as regards the specific municipal interests and purposes.

4. Environmental protection and cooperation with environmental sanitation, urban and household, including cleaning, collection and waste management and civil protection.

5. Health and primary health care, protective services for infants and children, adolescents and elderly, preschool services, family integration of the disabled community development, cultural activities and sporting facilities, prevention and protection services, surveillance and control of assets and activities relating to matters of municipal competence.

6. Potable water service, electricity and cooking gas, sewerage, drainage and sewage disposal, cemeteries and burial services.

7. Justice of peace, prevention and neighborhood protection and municipal police services in accordance with applicable national legislation.

8. Other than it has under the Constitution and the law.

The actions that Municipalities in the area of jurisdiction do not undermine the national and state powers are defined in the law under the Constitution.

**Article 179.** Municipalities shall have the following income:

1. Income from its assets, including the proceeds from its suburbs and property.

2. The fees for the use of their goods or services, the administrative charges for licenses or permits, taxes on economic activities in industry, commerce, services, or similar, with the limitations established by the Constitution, taxes on urban land vehicles, public entertainments, and lawful wagering games, propaganda and commercial advertising, and the special tax on increased property values generated by changes in use or intensity of exploitation from which they benefit because of zoning plans.

3. Or rural land tax on rural estates, participation in contributing to improvements and other national and state taxes, under the laws of creation of such taxes.

4. Derivatives of the constitutional and other transfers or national or state grants.

5. The proceeds from fines and penalties in the scope of its powers and the other allocated to them.

6. Others determined by law.

**Article 180.** The taxing power that corresponds to the municipalities is different from and independent of regulatory powers by this Constitution or the laws attributed to the National Power or State on certain subjects or activities.
Immunities from taxation powers of municipalities, on behalf of other entities políticoterritoriales, extends only to juridical persons created by them, but not dealers or other contractors of the National or State.

**Article 181.** The common lands are inalienable and indefeasible. Can be conveyed only after completing the formalities required by the bylaws and in the cases provided for thereunder, in accordance with this Constitution and legislation enacted to implement its principles.

The land within the urban area of the municipality populations, lack of ownership or owner, are suburbs, without prejudice to legitimate rights of others, validly constituted. Likewise, ejidos are in the badlands located in urban areas. Shall not include land for indigenous peoples and communities, the conversion into common other public lands.

**Article 182.** It creates the Local Public Planning Council, chaired Mayor and composed of councilors, the Chairpersons of Parish Boards and representatives of neighborhood organizations and other organized society, in accordance with the provisions set law.

**Article 183.** States and municipalities may not:

1. Create customs or import taxes, export or transit of domestic and foreign goods, or other revenue of the national competition.

2. Tax consumer goods before they enter into circulation within its territory.

3. Prohibit the consumption of goods produced outside their territory, nor tax differently from those produced in him.

States and Municipalities have the power to tax agriculture, livestock, fisheries and forestry in timing, manner and extent permitted by national law.

**Article 184.** The law will create open and flexible mechanisms for States and Municipalities to decentralize and transfer to communities and organized neighborhood groups services they manage and demonstrate the ability to provide, promote:

1. The transfer of services in health, education, housing, sports, culture, social programs, environment, maintenance of industrial areas, maintenance and upkeep of urban areas, neighborhood prevention and protection, construction works and public services. To this end, grant agreements, whose content shall be guided by the principles of interdependence, coordination, cooperation and responsibility.

2. The participation of communities and citizens, through neighborhood associations and NGOs in the formulation of investment proposals for state and municipal authorities involved in the preparation of the respective investment plans and implementing, Evaluation and control of works, social programs and public services in their jurisdiction.

3. Participation in economic processes, stimulating the expression of the social economy, such as cooperatives, savings banks, mutual funds and other forms of association.

4. The participation of workers and communities in the management of public enterprises through self-management and joint management.

5. The creation of organizations, cooperatives and community service enterprises as generators of employment.
and social welfare, providing for their stay through the design of policies where those have a stake.

6. The creation of new decentralized organs at the parish level, communities, neighborhoods and neighborhoods for the purpose of guaranteeing the principle of shared responsibility in the governance of local and state governments and developing process of self and joint management in the administration and control of state and municipal public services.

7. Community participation in outreach activities to prisons and their relationship with the population.

Chapter V
Federal Council of Government

Article 185. The Federal Council of Government is the body responsible for planning and coordination of policies and actions for the development of decentralization and devolution of National Power to States and Municipalities. Will be chaired by Executive Vice President and Executive Vice President and composed of the Ministers, Governors and Governors, a mayor or mayor from each state and representatives of organized society, in accordance with the law.

The Federal Council of Government shall have a Secretariat consisting of the Executive Vice President and Executive Vice President, two Cabinet Ministers, three Governors* and three Mayors. Federal Council of Government depends on the Inter-territorial Compensation Fund, intended for the financing of public investments aimed at promoting balanced regional development, cooperation and complementarity of policies and development initiatives of various regional public bodies, and in particular supporting the works and provision of essential services in the regions and less developed communities. The Federal Council of Government, based on regional unbalances, shall discuss and approve annually the resources to be allocated to the Inter-territorial Compensation Fund and the priority investment areas to which they apply those resources.

TITLE V

ORGANIZATION OF NATIONAL PUBLIC AUTHORITY

Chapter I
National Legislative Power

Section One: General Provisions

Article 186. The National Assembly shall be composed of deputies elected in each state or federal elected by universal, direct, personal and secret ballot with proportional representation, using a population base of one point-one percent of the total population.

Each federal district also elects three deputies.

The indigenous peoples of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela elect three deputies in accordance with the provisions of election law, respecting their traditions and customs.

Each deputy shall have a deputy or a deputy elected * by the same process.

Article 187. Corresponds to the National Assembly
1. Legislate in the areas of national jurisdiction and on the operation of the various branches of national government.

2. Propose amendments and reforms to the Constitution, in terms of this Constitution.

3. Exercise control over the government and the National Public Administration under the terms established in this Constitution and the law. The evidence obtained in the exercise of this duty has probative value, under the conditions established by law.

4. Organize and promote citizen participation in matters within its competence.

5. Amnesties.

6. Discuss and approve the national budget and any bill relating to taxation and public credit.

7. To authorize additional appropriations to the budget.

8. To approve the outline of the plan of economic and social development of the Nation, to be presented by the National Executive during the third quarter of the first year of a constitutional term.

9. To authorize the National Executive to enter into national contracts, in cases provided by law. Approve the contracts of national public interest, state or municipal foreign States or official bodies or companies not domiciled in Venezuela.

10. Take a vote of censure against the Executive Vice President and Executive Vice President and Ministers. The motion may be debated only two days after submission to the Assembly, which may decide by a three-fifths of Deputies, the vote of censure involves the removal of Executive Vice President and Executive Vice President or the Minister or Minister.

11. the use of Venezuelan military missions abroad or foreign country.

12. To authorize the National Executive to alienate property in the private domain of the Nation, except as provided by law.

13. Authorize public officials or public servants to accept positions, honors or rewards from foreign governments.

14. Authorize the appointment of General Procurator of the Republic and the heads or heads of permanent diplomatic missions.

15. Confer the honors of the National Pantheon illustrious Venezuelans, who have rendered outstanding services to the Republic, after twenty-five years after his death. This decision may be taken on the recommendation of the President of the Republic, two thirds of the Governors * State or rectors of the National Universities.

16. To protect the interests and independence

17. To authorize the President of the Republic of the country where the absence extends for a period exceeding five consecutive days.
18. Adopt by law international treaties or agreements concluded by the Executive, except as provided in this Constitution.

19. Enact its regulations and enforce the penalties set out therein.

20. Qualifications of its members and consider his resignation. The temporary separation of a deputy or deputy only be decided by a vote of two thirds of the deputies and the deputies present.

21. Organize their internal security service.

22. Agree and implement its budget, taking into account the financial constraints of the country.

23. Implement decisions relating to their operation and management organization.

24. All other powers under the Constitution and laws.

**Article 188.** The conditions to be elected deputy of the National Assembly are:

1. Be Venezuelan by birth or by naturalization with fifteen years of residence in Venezuela.

2. Being twenty-one years of age.

3. Have resided for four consecutive years in the relevant institution before the date of the election.

**Article 189.** May not be elected Deputies:

1. President, Executive Vice President and Executive Vice President, the Cabinet Ministers, the Secretary or Secretary of the Presidency of the Republic and the Chairpersons and Directors of Autonomous Institutes and State enterprises, up to three months after leaving such positions.

2. Governors or governors and secretaries in government, the states and the District Capital, until three months after leaving such positions.

3. Officers or municipal officials, state or national, autonomous institutions or state enterprises, when the election takes place in the jurisdiction in which it operates, except in the case of a temporary care, welfare, educational or academic.

Act may provide for the ineligibility of other officers.

**Article 190.** Deputies to the National Assembly may not be owners or owners, managers or administrators or directors or directors of companies that contract with state legal persons, or causes can manage private beneficial interest with them. During voting on cases in which conflicts of economic interests, and National Assembly members who are involved or involved and such conflicts must abstain.

**Article 191.** Deputies to the National Assembly shall not accept or hold public office without losing their investment, except in teaching, academic, temporary care provided they do not involve full-time.

**Article 192.** Deputies to the National Assembly last five years in the exercise of their functions and may be reappointed or reelected for two terms maximum.
Section II: Organization of the National Assembly

Article 193. The National Assembly appoints standing, ordinary and special. The standing committees, a number not more than fifteen, deal with sectors of national activity. May also establish temporary committees to research and study, all in accordance with the Rules. The Assembly may establish or abolish standing committees by the affirmative vote of two thirds of its members.

Article 194. The National Assembly shall elect from among its members one President and two Vice-Presidents, a Secretary and Undersecretary out of his breast, for a period of one year. The Regulation lays down the methods for filling temporary and permanent vacancies.

Article 195. During the recess of the Assembly is the Executive Committee composed of the President, the Vice-Presidents and Chairpersons of Standing Committees.

Article 196. The powers of the Executive Committee:

1. National Assembly to Convene special sessions when required by the importance of an issue.
2. President of the Republic to leave the country.
3. To authorize the National Executive to order additional funding.
4. Appoint temporary committees and built by members of the Assembly.
5. Exercise the powers of investigation conferred on the Assembly.
6. Authorize the Executive by the affirmative vote of two thirds of its members to create, modify or suspend public services in the event of proven emergency.
7. Other established by the Constitution and the law.

Section Three: Deputies * of the National Assembly

Article 197. Deputies to the National Assembly are bound and obliged to fulfill their dedicated work to the benefit of the people's interests and to maintain ongoing relations with their constituents, and voters taking their views and suggestions and keeping them informed or informed about management and the Assembly. Must report annually on its management to the electors of the constituency for which they were elected and elected and subject to the recall referendum on the terms provided in this Constitution and the law on the subject.

Article 198. The deputy of the National Assembly who is recalled shall not be eligible for elected office in the next period.

Article 199. Deputies to the National Assembly are not responsible for opinions issued in the exercise of their functions. Only accountable to the voters or voters and the legislature in accordance with the Constitution and Regulations.

Article 200. Deputies to the National Assembly shall enjoy immunity in the exercise of its functions since its proclamation to the end of their term or resignation. Of alleged crimes committed by and members of the
National Assembly, as the exclusive Supreme Court, the only authority that can order, upon approval of the National Assembly, their arrest and prosecution. In case of flagrant offense committed by a legislator, the competent authority or placed under house arrest and immediately notify the Supreme Court of Justice.

Public officials or public servants who violate the immunity of male and female members of the National Assembly shall incur criminal liability and shall be punished in accordance with the law.

**Article 201.** Deputies are representatives of the people and the States as a whole, not subject to mandates or instructions, but only to his conscience. Your vote in the National Assembly is personal.

### Section Four: Formation of Laws

**Article 202.** The law is an act enacted by the National Assembly in legislative session. The laws that meet the rules relating to certain matters may be referred to as codes.

**Article 203.** Organic laws are those designated as the Constitution, those enacted to organize public powers or developing constitutional rights and serve as a normative framework for other laws.

Any draft organic law, except that the Constitution itself and qualify, will be previously admitted by the National Assembly by a vote of two thirds of members present and before the start of debate on the bill. This also applies qualifying vote for the amendment of the organic laws.

The laws that the National Assembly as organic will be sent, prior to its enactment to the Constitutional Chamber of the Supreme Court of Justice to rule on the constitutionality of their organic status. The Constitutional Court decision within ten days from the date of receipt of the communication. If the Constitutional Court declares that the law is not organic lose this character.

Enabling laws are those enacted by the National Assembly for three-fifths of its members to establish guidelines, objectives and framework for matters that are delegated to the President of the Republic, with the rank and law. The basic law to set the period of its use.

**Article 204.** The initiative of the laws applicable:

1. The Executive.
2. At the Executive Committee and the Standing Committees.
3. A male and female members of the National Assembly, no fewer than three.
4. The Supreme Court, when dealing with laws concerning the organization and proceedings.
5. Citizen Power, in the case of laws relating to the organs within it.
7. The voters and electors in a number not less than zero point one percent of registered and recorded in the permanent electoral registry.
8. Legislative Council of the States, when dealing with laws relating to the States.
Article 205. of draft laws submitted by the citizens as provided in the preceding article shall be initiated no later than the next ordinary session which has been submitted. If the debate does not begin within that period, the bill will be submitted for approval by referendum in accordance with the law.

Article 206. States will be consulted by the National Assembly through the Legislative Council when legislating on matters relating to them. The law establishes the mechanisms for consultation with civil society and other institutions of States, by the Council on these matters.

Article 207. To become law, every bill shall be debated twice, on different days, following the rules established by the Constitution and the regulations. Approved the project, the President of the National Assembly shall declare the law enacted.

Article 208. In the first discussion will consider the explanatory memorandum and assess their objectives, scope and feasibility, to determine the relevance of the law, and discuss the articles. Approval at the first debate, the bill will be referred to the committee directly related to the subject matter of the law. If the bill relates to several standing committees be appointed a joint committee to conduct a study and submit the report.

The committees consider bills submitted the report within a period not exceeding thirty days.

Article 209. Received the report of the committee concerned will launch the second discussion of the bill, which was conducted article by article. If approved without amendments, shall be enacted into law. Otherwise, if unchanged, will be returned to the respective committee for inclusion in it no later than fifteen calendar days, read the new version of the bill in the plenary of the National Assembly shall decide by majority from whatever votes on articles where there is a dispute and which he has connection with them. Resolved the discrepancy, the Chair declared the law enacted.

Article 210. The discussion of the bills still pending at the end of the session may be continued in subsequent sessions or special sessions.

Article 211. The National Assembly or the Standing Committees, during the process of discussion and approval of draft laws, consult with the other organs of the state, citizens and organized society to hear your opinion on them. Have the right to speak in the discussion of the laws the Ministers representing the executive branch, the justice of the Supreme Court designated by him, representing the Judicial Branch, the branch or representative appointed or designated City by the Republican Moral Council, and members of the Electoral Power, the States through one or a representative designated by the Legislative Council and representatives of organized society, in the terms established by the Rules of the Assembly National.

Article 212. The text of the laws preceded by the following formula: " The National Assembly of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, decrees: ".

Article 213. Once enacted into law, will run in duplicate with the final draft that has resulted from the discussions. Both copies shall be signed by the President, two Vice-Presidents and the Secretary or Secretary of the National Assembly, with the date of final approval. One copy of the law will be sent by the President of the National Assembly the President of the Republic for the purpose of its enactment.

Article 214. The President of the Republic shall promulgate it within ten days after the date on which it was received. Within such period may, with agreement of the Council of Ministers, to request the National Assembly, by rationale, amend any provision of law or rescind its approval of any law or part thereof.

The National Assembly shall decide on the issues raised by the President of the Republic by an absolute
majority of deputies present and transmit the bill to enactment.

The President of the Republic shall proceed to promulgate the law within five days of its receipt, unable to comment further.

When the President of the Republic considers that the law or its articles is unconstitutional seek the ruling of the Constitutional Chamber of the Supreme Court of Justice within ten days you have to enact it. The Supreme Court decision within fifteen days from the receipt of the communication of the President of the Republic. If the Court denies the unconstitutionality invoked or not decided in the previous period, the President of the Republic shall promulgate it within five days following the decision of the Court or the expiration of the period.

Article 215. The Law shall be promulgated upon publication with the "Meet" in the Official Gazette of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

Article 216. When the President of the Republic shall not promulgate the law on the terms indicated, the President and two Vice-Presidents of the National Assembly shall proceed to promulgate without prejudice to the responsibility that that or those incurred by the omission.

Article 217. The time that should be enacted a law approving a treaty, agreement or international convention, is at the discretion of the National Executive, in accordance with international practices and the appropriateness of the Republic.

Article 218. The laws were repealed by other laws and are abrogated by referendum, except as otherwise provided in this Constitution. May be wholly or partially renovated. The law is amended in part shall be published in a single text that incorporates the amendments passed.

Section Five: Procedures

Article 219. The first period of regular sessions of the National Assembly will begin, without advance notice, on January 5 of each year or the first subsequent day possible and will last until August 15.

will begin on September 15 or the first subsequent day possible and end on December 15.

Article 220. The National Assembly shall meet in special sessions to discuss the issues raised in the call and placed upon them related. May also consider matters declared urgent by a majority of its members.

Article 221. The requirements and procedures for installation and other sessions of the National Assembly, and for the functioning of its committees shall be determined by the Regulations.

A quorum may in no case less than the absolute majority and members of the National Assembly.

Article 222. The National Assembly shall exercise its control function through the following mechanisms: parliamentary, research, questions, congressional authorizations and approvals under this Constitution and the law and other mechanisms established by law and regulation. In exercising parliamentary control, declare the political responsibility of public officials or public servants and ask the Citizen Power to try actions that may be required to enforce such liability.

Article 223. The Assembly or its committees may conduct investigations as they deem appropriate in matters within its competence, in accordance with the Regulations.
All public officials or public servants are obligated, under the penalties established by law to appear before such Committees and provide the information and documents required for the performance of their duties.

This obligation also covers individuals, without prejudice to the rights and guarantees that the Constitution enshrines.

**Article 224.** The exercise of the power of investigation does not affect the powers of other branches of government. The judges shall be obliged or forced to evacuate the evidence for which they receive commission from the National Assembly or its Committees.

**Chapter II**
**Executive Branch**

**Section One: President of the Republic**

**Article 225.** The executive power is exercised by the President of the Republic, the Executive Vice President and Executive Vice President, the Cabinet Ministers and other officials as determined by this Constitution and the law.

**Article 226.** The President of the Republic is the Head or Head of State and National Executive, as such, conducts the Government's action.

**Article 227.** To be elected President of the Republic must be Venezuelan by birth, no other nationality, over thirty years, a layman and not be subject or subject to any conviction by a final decision and comply with other requirements in this Constitution.

**Article 228.** The election of the President of the Republic shall be elected by universal, direct and secret ballot, in accordance with the law. It proclaimed elected the candidate who receives a majority of valid votes.

**Article 229.** May not be elected President of the Republic who is the exercise of Executive Vice President and Executive Vice President, Minister or Minister, Governor and Mayors, on the day of nomination or any time between now and the election.

**Article 230.** The presidential term is six years. The President of the Republic may be re-elected immediately and once for an additional period.

**Article 231.** The candidate elected or chosen candidate will take office as President of the Republic on January 10 the first year of his constitutional term oath before the National Assembly. If for any reason occurred the President of the Republic could not take possession before the National Assembly, will meet before the Supreme Court.

**Article 232.** The President of the Republic is responsible for his actions and obligations inherent in his office.

Is obligated to ensure the security of the rights and freedoms of Venezuelans, including the independence, integrity, sovereignty and defense of the Republic. The declaration of a state of emergency does not alter the principle of responsibility, or the Executive Vice-President of the Executive or the Cabinet Ministers, in accordance with this Constitution and the law.

**Article 233.** Be misconduct by the President of the Republic: the death, resignation, dismissal by decision of the Supreme Court, the permanent physical or mental disability certified by a medical board appointed by the
Supreme Court with the approval of National Assembly, the abandonment of office, he declared by the National Assembly and the recall by popular vote.

When there is the absence of the President-elect or president-elect before taking office, there will be a new election by universal, direct and secret ballot within thirty consecutive days. Pending election and inauguration of the new President will be responsible for the Presidency of the Republic President of the National Assembly.

When there is the absence of the President of the Republic during the first four years of the constitutional term, there will be a new universal and direct election within thirty consecutive days. Pending election and inauguration of the new President will be responsible for the Office of the President Executive Vice-President Executive.

In previous cases, the new President will complete the constitutional term of office.

If the failure to serve during the past two years under the Constitution, the Executive Vice President and Executive Vice President shall assume the Presidency of the Republic to complete the same.

**Article 234.** The temporary absence of the President of the Republic shall be filled by the Executive Vice-President Executive up to ninety days, extendable by a decision of the National Assembly for ninety days.

If a temporary absence continues for more than ninety consecutive days, the National Assembly shall decide by a majority of its members whether there needed to be considered absolute.

**Article 235.** National territory by the President of the Republic requires authorization of the National Assembly or the Executive Committee when it last longer than five consecutive days.

**Section II: Of the Powers of the President of the Republic**

**Article 236.** The powers and duties of the President of the Republic:

1. Comply with and enforce this Constitution and the law.

2. Direct government action.

3. Appoint and dismiss the Executive Vice-President Executive to appoint and dismiss Ministers.

4. Conduct foreign relations of the Republic and sign and ratify treaties, conventions or international agreements.

5. Direct the National Armed Forces in his capacity as Commander in Chief, exercising supreme authority over them and determining their size.

6. Exercise supreme command of the armed forces, promote officers above the rank of colonel or colonel or Navy captain or captain, and appoint them to positions they are proprietary.

7. Declare states of emergency and order the restriction of guarantees in the cases provided for in this Constitution.

8. Issue, subject to authorization by an enabling law, decrees having the force of law.

10. wholly or partially regulated by law, without altering the spirit, purpose and reason.

11. Manage the National Treasury.

12. Negotiate national loans.

13. Enact additional budget allocations, with the authorization of the National Assembly or the Committee.

14. Celebrate national contracts under this Constitution and the law.

15. Appoint, after approval of the National Assembly or the Delegated Committee, the General Attorney of the Republic and the chiefs or heads of permanent diplomatic missions.

16. Appoint and dismiss officials or officials whose appointment is conferred by the Constitution and the law.

17. Head to the National Assembly, personally or through the Executive Vice President and Executive Vice President, reports or special messages.

18. National Development Plan and monitor its implementation after approval by the National Assembly.

19. Grant pardons.

20. Determine the number, organization and competence of the ministries and other agencies of the Federal Administration, as well as the organization and functioning of the Council of Ministers, within the principles and guidelines set forth by the relevant Act.

21. Dissolve the National Assembly in the case set out in this Constitution.

22. Referendums in the cases provided for in this Constitution.


24. Other functions provided by this Constitution and the law.

The President of the Republic in Council of Ministers shall exercise the powers mentioned in paragraphs 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 18, 20, 21, 22 and that it has under the law to be exercised Likewise.

The acts of the President of the Republic, except those specified in paragraphs 3 and 5, will be countersigned by the Chief Executive Officer and Executive Vice President and the Minister or Minister or Cabinet Ministers concerned.

**Article 237.** Within the first ten days following the installation of the National Assembly in regular session, the President of the Republic personally presented each year to the Assembly a message which will cover political, economic, social and administrative management during the previous year.

**Section Three: Executive Vice President and Executive Vice President**
Article 238. Executive Vice President and Executive Vice President is the direct and immediate President of the Republic in his capacity as Chief Executive.

Executive Vice President and Executive Vice President must meet the same requirements as the President of the Republic, and may not have any relationship by blood or affinity with it.

Article 239. The duties of Executive Vice President Executive:

1. Collaborate with the President of the Republic in the direction of government action.

2. Coordinate the National Public Administration in accordance with the instructions of President of the Republic.

3. Propose to the President of the Republic the appointment and dismissal of Ministers.

4. Chair, prior authorization of the President of the Republic, the Council of Ministers.

5. Coordinate relations between the National Executive and National Assembly.


7. Appoint and remove, in accordance with the law, national government officials whose appointment is not assigned to another authority.

8. Meet the temporary absence of the President of the Republic.

9. Exercising the powers delegated by the President of the Republic.

10. The others indicated in this Constitution and the law.

Article 240. Motion to censure the Executive Vice President and Executive Vice President, by a vote of at least two-thirds of the members of the National Assembly, calls for its removal. The removed officer or officer removed shall not be eligible for the post of Executive Vice President Executive Vice President or a Minister or Minister for the remainder of the presidential term.

The removal of Executive Vice President and Executive Vice President on three occasions within a period of office as a result of the adoption of motions of censure, empowers the President of the Republic to dissolve the National Assembly. The dissolution decree includes the calling of elections for a new legislature within sixty days of its dissolution.

The Assembly can not be dissolved during the final year of his constitutional term.

ARTICLE 241. Executive Vice President Executive is responsible for their actions in accordance with this Constitution and the law.

Section Four: Cabinet Ministers and the Council of Ministers

Article 242. The Cabinet Ministers are directly under the President of the Republic, and, together with these and Executive Vice President and Executive Vice President, members of the Council of Ministers.
The President of the Republic shall preside over Cabinet meetings, but may authorize the Executive Vice President and Executive Vice President to preside when you can not attend. The decisions taken must be approved by the President of the Republic, for its validity.

The decisions of the Council of Ministers are jointly responsible for the Executive Vice President and Executive Vice President and the Cabinet Ministers who have attended, except those or those who have registered their adverse or negative vote.

**Article 243.** The President of the Republic may appoint Ministers of State, and which, in addition to participating in the Council of Ministers shall advise the President of the Republic and the Executive Vice-President Executive on matters as may be assigned.

**Article 244.** To be a Minister or Minister is required to have Venezuelan nationality and be over twenty-five years, with the exceptions established in this Constitution.

The Cabinet Ministers are responsible for their actions in accordance with this Constitution and the law, and submitted to the National Assembly within the first sixty days of each year, and substantiated a report on the management of the firm in the previous year Accordance with the law.

**Article 245.** The Cabinet Ministers are entitled to speak before the National Assembly and its committees. May take part in the National Assembly debates, without voting rights.

**Article 246.** The adoption of a motion of censure against a Minister by a vote of at least three-fifths of the members present or National Assembly, calls for its removal. The removed officer or officer removed shall not be eligible for the post of Minister or Minister, Executive Vice President and Executive Vice President for the remainder of the presidential term.

*Section Five: the Attorney General's Office*

**Article 247.** The Attorney General's Office advises, defends and represents the judicial and extra-patrimonial interests of the Republic, and is consulted for approval of contracts of national public interest.

The Act shall determine the organization, competence and performance.

**Article 248.** The Attorney General's Office in charge and under the direction of the General Attorney's Office, with the cooperation of other officials as determined by its organic law.

**Article 249.** The General Procurator of the Republic must meet the same requirements as a justice of the Supreme Court. Shall be appointed by the President of the Republic with the authorization of the National Assembly.

**Article 250.** The General Procurator of the Republic will attend, with speaking rights at Cabinet meetings.

*Section Six: The Council of State*

**Article 251.** The State Council is the highest consultative organ of the Government and Public Administration. Its responsibility is to recommend policies of national interest in matters to which the President of the Republic considers of particular importance and requires its opinion.
The law determines its functions and powers.

**Article 252.** The State Council is chaired by Executive Vice President and Executive Vice President and will comprise, in addition to five persons appointed by the President of the Republic, one representative appointed by the National Assembly, one representative appointed by the Supreme Court Justice and appointed a governor or governor appointed by the State Authority set of leaders.

**Chapter III**
**The Judiciary and the Justice System**

**Section One: General Provisions**

**Article 253.** The power to administer justice emanates from the citizens or citizens and is exercised on behalf of the Republic by authority of law.

Corresponds to the organs of the judiciary to hear cases and matters within its jurisdiction through procedures determined by law, and implement or enforce its judgments.

The justice system is constituted by the Supreme Court, other courts established by law, the Public Ministry, the Public Defender, the criminal investigation bodies, the officers and officials or officers or justice, corrections, alternative means of justice, citizens who participate in the administration of justice under the law and lawyers authorized to practice.

**Article 254.** The judiciary is independent and the Supreme Court shall have operational autonomy and financial management. To this effect, within the general government budget will be allocated to the justice system a variable annual, no less than two percent of the national recurrent budget to operate effectively, which can not be reduced or modified without prior consent National Assembly. The judiciary is not empowered to establish rates, fees, or require any payment for their services.

**Article 255.** Admission to the judiciary and the rise of the judges shall be made by public competitive examination to ensure the capability and excellence of the participants are selected by juries in circuit courts in the manner and conditions set law. The appointment and swearing in of judges shall be the Supreme Court. The law ensures public participation in the process of selection and appointment of judges. The judges shall only be removed or suspended from office by the procedures expressly provided for by law.

The law to promote the professionalization of the judges or judges and universities cooperate in this regard by organizing the university law for judicial specialization.

The Judges are personally responsible, in the manner prescribed by law, by mistake, unjustified delay or omissions by the substantial disregard of procedural rules, denial, bias, and for the crimes of bribery and breach incurred in the performance of their duties.

**Article 256.** In order to ensure impartiality and independence in the exercise of their duties, the justices, judges or judges, prosecutors and tax prosecutors and public defenders or public defenders from the date of his appointment and until his discharge from the respective office, shall not, except voting, conducting partisan political activity, union, association or similar nature, or private for-profit activities incompatible with their function, either by itself or through another person, or engage in any other except public education activities.

Judges shall not be able to associate with each other.
Article 257. The process is a fundamental instrument for the realization of justice. Procedural laws provide for the simplification, uniformity and efficiency of procedures and take a brief procedure, oral and public. Justice will not be sacrificed for the omission of nonessential formalities.

Article 258. The law organizes justice of the peace in communities. Judges or judges of the peace shall be elected by universal, direct and secret ballot, under the law.

shall encourage arbitration, conciliation, mediation and any alternative means of conflict resolution.

Article 259. The administrative jurisdiction for the Supreme Court and other courts established by law. The bodies of the administrative courts are competent to cancel the general and individual administrative acts contrary to law, including misuse of power, order the payment of sums of money as compensation for damages caused in the responsibility of government; know claims for the provision of public services, and provide for the restoration of legal situations harmed by administrative action.

Article 260. The legitimate authorities of indigenous peoples in their habitat may apply instances of justice based on ancient traditions and only affecting their members, according to its own rules and procedures, provided they are not contrary to this Constitution, the law and public order. The law shall determine the form of coordination of this special jurisdiction with the national judicial system.

Article 261. The military criminal jurisdiction is part of the judiciary and its judges will be selected through competition. Its sphere of competence, organization and modes of operation shall be governed by the accusatory system and in accordance with the provisions of the Organic Code of Military Justice. The commission of crimes, human rights violations and crimes against humanity be tried by ordinary courts. The jurisdiction of military courts is limited to military offenses.

The law shall regulate matters relating to the special jurisdiction and the competence, organization and functioning of the courts in matters not provided for in this Constitution.

Section Two: Supreme Court

Article 262. The Supreme Court shall sit in plenary and in the Constitutional, Political and Administrative, Electoral, Civil Appeals, Criminal Appeals Court and Social Cassation, whose composition and competence shall be determined by its organic law.

The Social Appeals regarding the appeal land, labor and children.

Article 263. To be a justice of the Supreme Court requires:

1. Have Venezuelan nationality by birth.

2. Being recognized citizen of repute.

3. Being a lawyer of recognized ability, be of good repute, having practiced law for a minimum of fifteen years and have graduate degree in law; or have been a university professor or professor in legal science for a minimum of fifteen years and have the class teacher or professor, or being or having been a judge or Superior Court Judge in the specialty of the room which you are applying, with a minimum of fifteen years in the exercise of the judicial career and recognized expertise in the performance of their duties.
4. Any other requirements established by law.

**Article 264.** The justices of the Supreme Court shall be elected for a single period of twelve years. The law determines the procedure of choice. candidates may be proposed candidates to the Judicial Nominations Committee, on its own initiative or by organizations involved in legal activity. The Committee heard the views of the community, will make a shortlist for presentation to the Citizen Power, which will make a second screening to be submitted to the National Assembly, which made third preselection for the final decision.

Citizens may file objections to any of the candidates before the Judicial Nominations Committee, or to the National Assembly.

**Article 265.** The justices of the Supreme Court may be subject to removal by the National Assembly by a qualified majority of two thirds of its members, given the prevalence audiencia concerned if serious offenses by the Citizen Power in the terms established by law.

**Article 266.** The powers of the Supreme Court:

1. constitutional exercise jurisdiction under Title VIII of the Constitution.

2. To determine whether or not grounds for impeaching the President of the Republic or his substitute, and if so, to continue hearing the case prior authorization of the National Assembly, until final decision.

3. To determine whether or not grounds for impeaching the Vice-President of the Republic or the members of the National Assembly or of the Supreme Court of the Cabinet Ministers, the Procurator General, the Prosecutor or Public Prosecutor General, the Comptroller General of the Republic, the People's Defender, the Governor, officers or general officers and admirals of the National Armed Forces and of the chiefs or heads of diplomatic missions of the Republic and, if so, refer the case to the General Prosecutor of the Republic or his substitute, if applicable, and if the crime is common, to continue hearing the case until the final decision.

4. Settle administrative disputes that arise between the Republic, a State, municipality or other public body when the other party is one of these entities, unless the case of disputes between municipalities of the same State, in which case the law may assign to another court.

5. Declared invalid in whole or in part, regulations and other general and individual administrative acts of the National Executive, where appropriate.

6. Hear appeals of interpretation of the content and scope of legal texts, on the terms contemplated in the law.

7. Decide on conflicts of jurisdiction between courts, whether ordinary or special, when no other superior court or common to them in the pecking order.

8. Hear the appeal.

9. Other than provided for by law.

powers set forth in paragraph 1 shall be exercised by the Constitutional Court, those identified in paragraphs 2 and 3, in Plenary, and those contained in paragraphs 4 and 5 in Political-Administrative Chamber. Other powers are exercised by the various divisions as provided for by this Constitution and the law.
Section Three: Government and Judicial Administration

Article 267. The Supreme Tribunal of Justice to address the governance and administration of the judiciary, the inspection and supervision of the courts of the Republic and the Public Defenders. Also charged with preparing and executing its own budget and the budget of the judiciary.

The judicial disciplinary jurisdiction will be responsible for disciplinary tribunals established by law.

The discipline of justices and judges shall be based on the Code of Ethics of Venezuelan Judge or Justice of Venezuela, who will dictate the National Assembly. Disciplinary proceedings shall be public, oral and brief, according to due process under the terms and conditions established by law.

To exercise these powers, the Supreme Court en banc shall create an Executive of the Judiciary, with its regional offices.

Article 268. The law establishes the autonomy and organization, performance, discipline and fitness of public defense services in order to ensure service efficiency and ensure the benefits of the career of defenders.

Article 269. The law shall regulate the organization of judicial circuits and the creation and competence of regional courts and to promote administrative and judicial decentralization of the judiciary.

Article 270. Judicial Nominations Committee is an advisory body to the Power on the selection of candidates or candidates for justices of the Supreme Court. Also, advise the court polling for the election of judges or judges of disciplinary jurisdiction. Judicial Nominations Committee composed of representatives of different sectors of society in accordance with the stipulations of the law.

Article 271. In no event shall be denied the extradition of foreign nationals responsible for the legitimization of capital crimes, drugs, international organized crime, acts against public property from other states and human rights. Not prescribe the Judicial proceedings to punish crimes against human rights, or against public property or drug trafficking. In addition, after court decision, be confiscated goods from activities related to offenses against public property or drug trafficking.

The procedure relating to the crimes mentioned will be public, oral and brief, respecting due process, being the competent judicial authority empowered to issue the necessary preventive precautionary measures against property owned by the defendant or a third party, for the purpose of ensuring their eventual liability.

Article 272. The State guarantees a penitentiary system to ensure the rehabilitation of the offender and respect for human rights. To do this, prisons have areas for work, study, sport and recreation, are run by professional prison staff with academic credentials, and governed by a decentralized administration by state or municipal governments. They may be subject to privatization. In general, be preferred in the open regime and the nature of prison farms. In any case the formulas for serving non-custodial sentences freedom will be applied in preference to measures that restrict. The State shall create the institutions needed for after-care assistance to enable social reintegration of the inmate* and encourages the establishment of a prison as an autonomous entity and exclusively technical personnel.

Chapter IV
Citizen Power

Section One: General Provisions
**Article 273.** Citizen Power is exercised by the Republican Moral Council, composed of the People's Defender, the Public Prosecutor General and the Comptroller General of the Republic.

Citizen Power organs are: the Ombudsman, the Public Ministry and the Comptroller General of the Republic, one or one of whom is appointed by the Republican Moral Council as its Chairman for periods of one year and may be reelected.

Citizen Power is independent and its organs enjoy operational autonomy and financial management. To this effect, within the general government budget will be allocated a variable annual.

Its organization and operation shall be established in Act.

**Article 274.** The organs exercising civic power are responsible, in accordance with this Constitution and the law, preventing, investigating and punishing actions that undermine public ethics and administrative morals, ensuring good governance and legality in the use public property, compliance and implementation of the principle of legality in all administrative activities of the State, and also promote education as a creative process of citizenship and solidarity, freedom, democracy, social responsibility and work.

**Article 275.** The Republican Moral Council representatives formulated to the authorities or officials of public administration, warnings about the shortcomings in fulfilling their legal obligations. These warnings are not heeded, the Republican Moral Council, may impose the penalties provided by law. In case of absence, the president or chairman of the Republican Moral Council shall report to the body or agency to which is attached the official or public official, for instance, to take the corrective measures that according to the case without prejudice to the sanctions that place in accordance with the law.

**Article 276.** The President of the Ethics Council and or the owners of the organs of popular power shall report annually to the National Assembly in plenary. Also, submit reports any time they are requested by the National Assembly.

Both ordinary and extraordinary reports were published.

**Article 277.** All officers or officials of public administration are obliged, under the penalties provided by law, to cooperate with an urgent priority basis with representatives of the Republican Moral Council in its investigations. This may ask the statements and documents deemed necessary for the performance of its functions, including those that have been classified or labeled as confidential or secret in accordance with the law. In any case, Citizen Power can only release information contained in confidential or secret documents by the procedures established by law.

**Article 278.** The Ethics Council promote all educational activities aimed at understanding and study of this Constitution, patriotism, civic virtues and democratic, the transcendental values of the Republic and the observance and respect for human rights.

**Article 279.** The Ethics Council shall convene a Nominating Committee Assessment of Citizen Power, which shall consist of representatives from various sectors of society to advance a public process whose outcome will produce a shortlist to be submitted for consideration by the National Assembly, by the favorable vote of two thirds of its members, chosen in a period not exceeding thirty consecutive days or the owner of the Citizen Power organ that is under consideration. If completed this time there is no agreement in the National Assembly, the Electoral Power shall submit the slate of referendum.

Should not have been called the Nomination Evaluation Committee of Poder Ciudadano, the National Assembly
shall, within the time prescribed by law, the appointment of the holder of the corresponding Citizen Power.

And female members of the Citizen Power will be removed by the National Assembly, following a ruling of the Supreme Court, in accordance with the provisions of the law.

Section Two: Ombudsman

Article 280. The Ombudsman's Office is responsible for the promotion, protection and monitoring of the rights and guarantees established in this Constitution and international human rights treaties, as well as the legitimate, collective and broad citizen.

The Ombudsman will act under the direction and responsibility of the Ombudsman or Ombudsman, who shall be designated for a single term of seven years.

For People's Defender is required to be Venezuelan, over thirty years, with proven and demonstrated competence in the field of human rights and comply with the requirements of honesty, ethics and morality provided by law. The misconduct by the People's Defender will be filled in accordance with the provisions of the law.

Article 281. The powers of the People's Defender:

1. To ensure full respect and guarantee human rights enshrined in the Constitution and treaties, conventions and international human rights agreements ratified by the Republic, officially or at the request of any complaints brought to its attention.

2. To ensure the proper functioning of public services by supporting and protecting the legitimate rights and interests, collective and diffuse interests of individuals against arbitrary acts, abuses of power and errors committed in providing them, filing when appropriate, any actions necessary to demand compensation from the State managed damages to them caused by the operation of public services.

3. Bring actions of unconstitutionality, amparo, habeas corpus, habeas data and the other actions or resources needed to perform the duties outlined in the preceding paragraphs, as and when appropriate in accordance with the law.

4. To urge the General Prosecutor's Office to bring such actions or remedies that may lie against public officials or public servants, responsible for the violation or impairment of human rights.

5. Ask the Republican Moral Council to take measures as may be appropriate for public officials or public servants responsible for the violation or impairment of human rights.

6. To request the competent authority to apply the appropriate corrective measures and penalties that apply for the violation of the rights of consumers and users, in accordance with the law.

7. Submit to the national legislature, state or municipal bills and other progressive initiatives for the protection of human rights.

8. Ensure the rights of indigenous peoples and take the actions necessary to guarantee and effective protection.

9. Visit and inspect offices and establishments of the state bodies in order to prevent or protect human rights.
10. Make to the relevant bodies for comments and recommendations necessary to better protect human rights, it will develop mechanisms for ongoing communication with public or private bodies, national and international protection and defense of human rights.

11. Promote and implement policies for the dissemination and effective protection of human rights.

12. Other established by the Constitution and the law.

**Article 282.** The People's Defender shall enjoy immunity in the exercise of their functions and, therefore, may not be prosecuted, arrested or prosecuted for acts involving the exercise of their functions. In any such case, so depriving the Supreme Court.

**Article 283.** The law shall determine matters relating to the organization and functioning of the Ombudsman at the national, state, municipal and special. Its activities are governed by the principles of free, accessible, dispatch, and promotion of trade.

### Section Three: Public Prosecutor

**Article 284.** The Public Ministry is under the direction and responsibility of the General Prosecutor's Office, who performs his duties with the direct assistance of the officials specified by law.

For General Prosecutor of the Republic require the same eligibility criteria of the justices of the Supreme Court. The General Prosecutor of the Republic shall be designated for a period of seven years.

**Article 285.** The powers of the Attorney General:

1. judicial processes Ensure respect for constitutional rights and guarantees as well as treaties, international conventions and agreements signed by the Republic.

2. Guarantee the speedy and smooth functioning of the administration of justice, trial and due process.

3. Order and direct the criminal investigation of the commission of offenses to register their commitment to all the circumstances that may affect the skill and responsibility of the authors and other participants, and the securing of material assets and liabilities related to the commission.

4. Conduct on behalf of the State criminal prosecutions in cases in which to try it or continue it not necessary to request, except as otherwise provided by law.

5. To bring such actions as may be appropriate to implement the civil, labor, military, criminal, administrative or disciplinary liability incurred by officers or servants of the public sector, during the course of their duties.

6. other powers under the Constitution and the law.

These attributes do not affect the exercise of the rights and actions pertaining to individuals or other officers or under this Constitution and the law.

**Article 286.** The law shall determine matters relating to the organization and operation of the Public Prosecutor at the national, state and municipal levels, provide the necessary measures for ensuring the adequacy, integrity and stability of tax or Public Prosecutor's Office. Also set standards to ensure a career
system for the exercise of its function.

Section Four: Comptroller General of the Republic

Article 287. The Comptroller General of the Republic is the body control, monitoring and control of revenues, expenditures, public goods and national assets and operations relating to them. Functional autonomy, administrative and organizational, and conducts its activities on the inspection functions of the agencies and entities under its control.

Article 288. The Comptroller General of the Republic is under the direction and responsibility of the Comptroller General of the Republic, who must be Venezuelan, over thirty years and with proven ability and experience to hold the office.

The Comptroller General of the Republic shall be designated for a period of seven years.

Article 289. The powers of the Comptroller General of the Republic:

1. To control, surveillance and control of revenues, expenditures and public goods, and the transactions relating thereto, without prejudice to the powers assigned to other bodies in the case Municipalities, in accordance with law.

2. Control the public debt, without prejudice to the powers assigned to other bodies in the case of States and Municipalities, in accordance with the law.

3. Inspecting bodies, entities and public sector legal entities under its control, conduct inspections, arranging for investigations into irregularities against public property and order measures, objections and impose administrative sanctions to be applied there place in accordance with the law.

4. Urge the Prosecutor or prosecutor to exercise legal actions that might arise by reason of offenses and crimes committed against public property and which has knowledge in the exercise of its powers.

5. Exercise management control and evaluate the implementation and outcome of public policies and decisions of the organs, institutions and public sector legal persons under their control, relating to income, expenses and assets.

6. other powers under the Constitution and the law.

Article 290. The law shall determine matters relating to the organization and functioning of the Comptroller General of the Republic and the national system of fiscal control.

Article 291. The Comptroller General of the Armed Forces is an integral part of national control. You will be responsible for monitoring, control and monitoring of revenues, expenditures and property allocated to the National Armed Forces and their dependencies, without affecting the scope and competence of the General Comptroller’s Office. Its organization and operation will be determined by the relevant law and will be under the direction and responsibility of the Comptroller General of the Armed Forces shall be appointed by competitive examination.

Chapter V
Electoral Power
Article 292. Electoral Power is exercised by the National Electoral Council as governing body and, as the latter’s subordinate agencies, the National Electoral Board, the Committee on Civil and Electoral Register and the Commission on Political Participation and Financing, with organization and operation established pertinent organic law.

Article 293. The electoral branch whose function:

1. Regulate the electoral laws and resolve doubts and unregulated areas raised by or contained.

2. Prepare its budget, which negotiates directly with the National Assembly and administered independently.

3. To issue guidelines on financing and political and electoral advertising and impose penalties when they are not followed.

4. Declare the total or partial annulment of the elections.

5. Management and oversight of all actions relating to the election of the elected positions of government as well as referenda.

6. Organize elections for labor unions, professional associations and political organizations in the manner provided by law. Likewise, they may organize elections for other civil society organizations at their request or by order of the Electoral Division of the Supreme Court. Corporations, institutions and organizations concerned shall cover the costs of their election processes.

7. Maintain, organize, direct and supervise the Civil and Electoral Registry.

8. To organize the registration and registration of political organizations and ensure that they comply with the provisions governing their status under the Constitution and the law. In particular, decide on applications for creation, renewal and termination of political organizations, the determination of their lawful authorities and provisional names, colors and symbols.

9. Control, regulate and investigate the funding for the political organizations.

10. Other matters stipulated by law.

Electoral Power organs guarantee the equality, reliability, impartiality, transparency and efficiency of the electoral process and the implementation of the personalization of suffrage and proportional representation.

Article 294. Electoral Power organs are governed by the principles of independence organic, functional and budgetary autonomy, electoral bodies partisanship, impartiality and citizen participation, decentralization of electoral administration, transparency and speed of the act of voting and polling.

Article 295. The Election Nominations Committee candidates or candidates for members of the National Electoral Council, composed of representatives of different sectors of society, in accordance with the stipulations of the law.

Article 296. shall consist of five persons not related to political organizations, three of them or they will be nominated by civil society, one or the faculties of law and political science at national universities and one or one for Citizen Power.
The members nominated by civil society will have six deputies in ordinal sequence, and each appointed or designated by the universities and the Citizen Power has two alternates, respectively. The National Electoral Board, the Committee on Civil Registration and Electoral Office and the Commission on Political Participation and Financing, will each headed by one or members nominated by civil society. The members of the National Electoral Council last seven years in office and shall be elected separately, the three nominated by civil society at the beginning of each period of the National Assembly and two in the middle of the.

The members of the National Electoral Council shall be designated by the National Assembly with a vote of two thirds of its members. The National Electoral Council members selected from among its members its Chairman, in accordance with the law.

And female members of the National Electoral Council will be removed by the National Assembly, following a ruling of the Supreme Court.

**Article 297.** Electoral law jurisdiction will be exercised by the Electoral Supreme Court and other courts established by law.

**Article 298.** The law regulating the electoral process cannot be changed in any way in the period between the election day and the six months immediately preceding it.

**TITLE VI**

**SOCIO ECONOMIC SYSTEM**

**Chapter I**

**Socio-Economic Regime and the Role of State in the Economy**

**Article 299.** The economic regime of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela is based on the principles of social justice, democratization, efficiency, competition, environmental protection, productivity and solidarity, in order to ensure human development and a dignified and profitable for community. The State, jointly with private initiative will promote the harmonious development of the national economy to generate jobs, higher domestic value added, raising the standard of living of the population and strengthen the economic sovereignty of the country, guaranteeing the legal certainty strength, dynamism, sustainability, continuing and equitable economic growth, to ensure a fair distribution of wealth through participatory democratic strategic planning with open consultation.

**Article 300.** National laws shall establish the conditions for the creation of functionally decentralized entities to carry out social or entrepreneurial activities, in order to ensure reasonable economic and social public resources invested in such activities.

**Article 301.** The State reserves the use of trade policy to protect the economic activities of the national public and private companies. Not be given to companies and organizations or foreign persons regimes more advantageous than those provided to nationals. Foreign investment is subject to the same conditions as domestic investment.

**Article 302.** The State reserves through organic law, and for reasons of national expediency, the petroleum industry and other industries, farms, services and public goods and strategic. the domestic manufacture of raw materials from the exploitation of nonrenewable natural resources, in order to assimilate, create and innovate technologies, generating employment and economic growth and creating wealth and wellbeing for the people.
Article 303. For reasons of economic and political sovereignty and national strategy, the State shall retain all shares of Petróleos de Venezuela, SA or the organ created to manage the oil industry, with the exception of subsidiaries, joint ventures, companies and any other that is incorporated or established as a consequence of business development at Petroleos de Venezuela.

Article 304. All waters are public property of the nation, essential to life and development. The law shall establish the measures necessary to ensure the protection, utilization and recovery, respecting the phases of the hydrological cycle and land use criteria.

Article 305. The State shall promote sustainable agriculture as the strategic basis for overall rural development and thus ensure food security of the population, defined as the sufficient and stable availability of food at the national level and the timely and uninterrupted access to them by the public consumer. Food security must be achieved by developing and prioritizing internal agricultural production, meaning that from agricultural activities, livestock, fisheries and aquaculture. Food production is of national interest and fundamental economic and social development of the nation. To this end, the State shall adopt the measures of financial, commercial, technological transfer, land tenure, infrastructure, manpower training and others that were necessary to achieve strategic levels of self-sufficiency. It will promote actions in the framework of national and international economy to offset the disadvantages inherent to agricultural activity.

The State shall protect the settlements and communities in industrialized fishermen and their fishing in inland waters and near the coastline, as defined in the law.

Article 306. The State shall promote conditions for overall rural development, with the aim of generating employment and ensuring the rural population an adequate level of welfare as well as their incorporation in national development. Likewise promote agricultural activity and optimum land use through the provision of infrastructure works, supplies, loans, training services and technical assistance.

Article 307. The large land estates is contrary to their interests. The law provides conducive to tax on idle lands and establish the measures necessary for their transformation into productive economic units, likewise recovering arable land. The Farmers and other producers and agricultural producers are entitled to own land, in the circumstances and manner specified by the respective law. The State shall protect and promote associative and private forms of ownership to ensure agricultural production. The State shall ensure the sustainable management of arable land to ensure its food producing potential.

Exceptionally create quasi-tax contributions to provide funds for financing, research, technical assistance, technology transfer and other activities that promote productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector. The law shall regulate matters leading to this area.

Article 308. The State shall protect and promote small and medium enterprises, cooperatives, savings banks, as well as family businesses, small businesses and any other form of community association for work, saving and consumption under collective ownership. In order to strengthen the country’s economic development, based on the popular initiative. Ensure training, technical assistance and appropriate financing.

Article 309. The typical folk crafts and industries of the Nation, enjoy special protection by the State to preserve its authenticity, and receive credit facilities to promote production and marketing.

Section 310. Tourism is an economic activity of national interest, a priority for the country's strategy of diversification and sustainable development. Part of the foundation of the socioeconomic regime contemplated in this Constitution, the State shall adopt measures to ensure its development. The State shall ensure the establishment and strengthening of the national tourism sector.
Chapter II
Tax and Monetary

Section One: Budget System

Article 311. Fiscal management is governed and implemented based on principles of efficiency, solvency, transparency, accountability and fiscal balance. This must be balanced in the multiyear budget framework, so that revenue should be sufficient to cover recurrent costs.

The National Executive shall submit to the National Assembly for enactment by a multiyear framework for budgeting that establishes the maximum limits of expenditures and indebtedness to be contemplated in national budgets. The law establishes the characteristics of this framework, the requirements for modification and the terms of compliance.

The revenues generated by exploiting underground wealth and minerals, in general, be used to finance real productive investment, education and health.

The principles and provisions established for national economic and financial management, governing the States and Municipalities, where applicable.

Article 312. The law set limits on public debt according to a prudent level in relation to the size of the economy, reproductive investment and the ability to generate revenues to cover debt service. Public credit operations require for their validity, a special law that authorizes, except as established by the Act. The special law shall indicate the modalities for operations and authorize the budget appropriations in the pertinent budget law.

The annual special indebtedness law will be submitted to the National Assembly together with the Budget Law.

The State does not recognize any obligations other than those assumed by lawful National Authority organs in accordance with the law.

Article 313. The economic and financial management of the state is governed by a budget approved annually by law. The National Executive shall submit to the National Assembly at the time prescribed by the Basic Law, the draft budget law. If the Executive for any reason, had not submitted to the National Assembly the budget bill within the statutory deadlines, or the same was rejected by him, will force the budget for the fiscal year.

alter budget items, but not authorize measures leading to declining public revenues or expenses that exceed the amount of estimated revenue in Budget Bill.

In submitting the multiyear budget framework, the special law on debt and annual budget, the Executive shall explicitly state the long-term objectives for fiscal policy, and explain how these objectives will be achieved, according to the principles of accountability and fiscal balance.

Article 314. There will be no type of expenditure that has not been provided for in the budget law. Additional Items may be ordered to the budget appropriations for necessary expenses or items not provided are insufficient, provided that the treasury has resources to meet the expenditure concerned and to this end, the vote, requires prior approval by the Council of Ministers and the approval of National Assembly or, failing that, of the Committee.
Article 315. In the annual expenditure budgets at all levels of government, clearly established for each budget appropriation, the purpose for which it is directed, the concrete results expected and the government officials or civil servants responsible for achieving these results. These will be set in quantitative terms, using performance indicators, wherever technically possible. The Executive, within six months following the expiration of the financial year, submit to the National Assembly accountability and balance of budget implementation for that year.

Section Two: Taxation System

Article 316. The tax system seek a fair distribution of public burdens according to the economic capacity or the taxpayer, following the principle of progressivity, and the protection of the national economy and raising the living standards of the population, and will be supported for this an efficient system for the collection of taxes.

Article 317. You can not tax, fee or any contributions that are not set in law, or granted exemptions, abatements or other types of tax incentives, but in the cases provided by law to create the appropriate tribute. No tax shall be confiscatory.

There may be no tax obligations payable in personal services. Tax evasion, subject to other penalties provided by law, may be punished criminally.

In the case of public officials or public servants shall be double the penalty.

Every tax law shall determine the period of enactment. In the absence of the means set in sixty consecutive days. This provision does not limit the extraordinary powers by the National Executive as provided by this Constitution.

The national tax administration shall enjoy technical autonomy, functional and financial as approved by the National Assembly and its maximum authority shall be appointed by the President of the Republic, in accordance with the rules laid down by law.

Section Three: National Monetary System

Article 318. The monetary competence of National Authority shall be exercised exclusively and binding by the Central Bank of Venezuela. The primary object of the Central Bank of Venezuela is to achieve price stability and preserve the internal and external value of the currency. The currency of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela is the Bolivar. If a common currency is instituted within the Latin American and Caribbean integration, may adopt the currency which is under a treaty signed by the Republic.

The Central Bank of Venezuela is a legal entity under public law with autonomy to formulate and implement policies within its jurisdiction. The Central Bank of Venezuela shall work in coordination with general economic policy to achieve the higher goals of the State and the Nation.

For the proper implementation of its objective, the Central Bank of Venezuela will have among its functions to formulate and implement monetary policy, participate in designing and implementing foreign exchange policy, currency regulation, credit and interest rates, managing international reserves, and any others established by law.

Article 319. The Central Bank of Venezuela shall be governed by the principle of public accountability, to
which end will report on the actions, goals and outcomes of their policies to the National Assembly in accordance with the law. He also issue periodic reports on the behavior of the country's macroeconomic variables and other matters as requested, and will include analysis for evaluation. Failure without just cause of the purpose and goals will result in the removal of board and administrative penalties in accordance with the law.

The Central Bank of Venezuela will be subject to further control the Comptroller General of the Republic and the inspection and supervision by the public for banking supervision, which shall transmit reports of inspection activities to the National Assembly. The budget for operating expenditure and investment of the Central Bank of Venezuela require discussion and approval of the National Assembly, and your account balances will be subject to external audits in the manner prescribed by law.

Section Four: Macroeconomic Coordination

Article 320. The State shall promote and defend economic stability, prevent the vulnerability of the economy and ensuring monetary and price stability to ensure social welfare.

finance and Central Bank of Venezuela will contribute to the harmonization of fiscal policy with monetary policy, thereby facilitating the attainment of macroeconomic objectives. In exercising its functions, the Central Bank of Venezuela shall not be subject to directives of the Executive and may not endorse or finance deficit fiscal policies.

The coordinated actions of the executive and the Central Bank of Venezuela shall be given by an annual policy agreement, which will establish the final growth objectives and its social, external balance and inflation, as regards fiscal, monetary and exchange. And the levels of intermediate and instrumental variables required to achieve those ultimate goals. This agreement will be signed by the President of the Central Bank of Venezuela and the head of the ministry or responsible for finance, and public at the time of budget approval by the National Assembly. It is the responsibility of the signatories to the agreement or policy actions that are consistent with its objectives. This agreement shall distinguish the expected results, policies and actions designed to achieve. The law establishes the features of the annual economic policy and mechanisms of accountability.

Article 321. Legislation shall provide for a stabilization fund aimed at ensuring macroeconomic stability in government expenditure at the national, regional and municipal levels to fluctuations in revenue. The operating rules of the fund shall observe basic principles of efficiency, equity and non-discrimination between the public organs contributing resources to it.

TITLE VII

SECURITY OF THE NATION

Chapter I

General Provisions

Article 322. The national security is an essential competence and responsibility of the State, based on the development of this and your defense is the responsibility of all Venezuelans, also of natural persons and legal entities, both public law and private law, which are in the national geographical space.

Article 323. National Defense is the highest consultative organ for planning and advising the Public Power in
matters related to the overall defense, sovereignty and integrity of its geographical space. To this end, it is also to establish the strategic concept of the nation. Chaired by the President of the Republic, which form also the Executive Vice President and Executive Vice President, the President of the National Assembly, the President of the Supreme Court of Justice, the President and Republican Moral Council the Ministers of the fields of defense, internal security, external relations and planning, and others whose participation is deemed appropriate. The organic law shall determine the organization and powers.

**Article 324.** Only the State may possess and use weapons of war, all they exist, are manufactured or imported into the country, will become the property of the Republic without compensation or proceedings. The National Armed Forces will be the competent institution to regulate and control, in accordance with the legislation, the manufacture, import, export, storage, transit, registration, control, inspection, marketing, possession and use of other weapons, ammunition and explosives.

**Article 325.** The National Executive reserves classification and disclosure of matters directly relevant to the planning and execution of operations concerning national security, in the terms established by law.

**Chapter II**
**Principles of National Security**

**Article 326.** The security of the Nation is based on the correspondence between the state and civil society to implement the principles of independence, democracy, peace, freedom, justice, solidarity, promotion and environmental conservation and affirmation of human rights and as in the progressive satisfaction of individual and collective needs of the Venezuelan people, on the basis of a sustainable and productive development of full coverage for the national community. The principle of responsibility applies to the economic, social, political, cultural, geographical, environmental and military.

**Article 327.** The attention of the borders is a priority in the implementation and application of the principles of national security. To this end, establishing a border security zone, with width, special economic systems and social, population and shall be regulated by law, special protection for national parks, the habitat of indigenous peoples and others living there areas under special administration.

**Chapter III**
**National Armed Force**

**Article 328.** The National Armed Forces constitute an essentially professional institution, no political orientation, organized by the State to ensure the independence and sovereignty of the nation and ensure the integrity of the geographical space, through military defense, cooperation in maintaining internal order and active participation in national development, in accordance with this Constitution and the law. In carrying out its functions, is the exclusive service of the nation and in any case, the person or political partisanship. Its pillars are discipline, obedience and subordination. The National Armed Forces consist of the Army, Navy, Air Force and National Guard, which function in an integrated manner within the framework of its competence to fulfill its mission, with a comprehensive social security system itself, as determined the pertinent organic law.

**Article 329.** The Army, Navy and Air Force have as their essential responsibility the planning, execution and control of military operations required to ensure the defense of the Nation. The National Guard shall cooperate in carrying out these operations and will have primary responsibility for the conduct of operations required to maintain internal order within the country. The National Armed Forces shall carry out activities of administrative policing and criminal investigation which it has under the law.
Article 330. The members * of the National Armed Forces on active duty are entitled to vote in accordance with the law, without being not permitted to elective office, or participate in acts of propaganda, militancy or political proselytizing.

Article 331. Military promotions with merit, hierarchy and vacancies. Exclusive competence of the National Armed Forces and shall be governed by the pertinent law.

Chapter IV
Bodies of Public Safety

Article 332. The National Executive to maintain and restore public order, protect the citizen, homes and families, support the decisions of the competent authorities and ensure the peaceful enjoyment of constitutional guarantees and rights, in accordance with the law, organize:

1. A national police uniformed civilian.

2. A body of scientific research and Criminal.

3. A body of fire department and emergency management of civil.

4. An organization of civil protection and disaster management.

The role of security organs are civil and respect the dignity and human rights without discrimination.

The role of security organs constitute a concurrent competence with the states and municipalities in terms of this Constitution and the law.

TITLE VIII
PROTECTION OF THE CONSTITUTION

Chapter I
Warranty of the Constitution

Article 333. This Constitution shall not lose its effect if it ceases to be observed due to acts of force or because or repeal in any manner other than as provided for herein.

In such eventuality, every citizen or citizen vested or not vested with authority, have the duty to cooperate in restoring its effective force.

Article 334. All judges or judges of the Republic in the sphere of its competence and in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution and the law, are obliged to ensure the integrity of this Constitution.

In case of inconsistency between the Constitution and a law or other rule of law, the relevant constitutional provisions, corresponding to the courts in any case, even ex officio, decide to leading.

Lies exclusively with the Constitutional Chamber of the Supreme Court as a constitutional court to declare the nullity of laws and other acts of the organs exercising Public Power issued in direct and immediate implementation of the Constitution or have the force of law, when they collide with that.
Article 335. Justice shall guarantee the supremacy and effectiveness of laws and constitutional principles, is the supreme and ultimate interpreter of the Constitution and ensure its uniform interpretation and application. Interpretations established by the Constitutional Court on the content or scope of constitutional rules and principles are binding on the other chambers of the Supreme Court and other courts of the Republic.

Article 336. The powers of the Constitutional Chamber of the Supreme Court:

1. Declared invalid in whole or part of national laws and other acts having the force of law in national legislative bodies that conflict with this Constitution.

2. Declared invalid in whole or part of the Constitutions and laws, municipal ordinances and other acts of the deliberating bodies of the States and Municipalities which are issued direct and immediate implementation of the Constitution and are in conflict with it.

3. Declare the total or partial nullity of the acts having the force of law issued by the National Executive that conflict with this Constitution.

4. Declare the total or partial nullity of the acts in direct and immediate implementation of this Constitution, dictated by any other government organ exercising Public Power when collide with it.

5. Check, at the request of the President of the Republic or the National Assembly, under the Constitution to international treaties signed by the Republic prior to ratification.

6. Review, in any case, even ex officio, the constitutionality of decrees issued states of emergency declared by the President of the Republic.

7. To declare the unconstitutionality of omissions of the legislature or the national legislature, state or municipal, if it no longer dictate the rules or measures essential to ensure compliance with the Constitution, or promulgating an incomplete, and set the term, and If necessary, guidelines for correcting.

8. Resolve the conflicts existing between different laws and declare which of them should prevail.

9. Resolve constitutional controversies arising between any of the organs of public power.

10. Review decisions of constitutional protection and control of the constitutionality of laws or legal rules established by the Courts of the Republic, in the terms established by the Act.

11. Other established by this Constitution and the law.

Chapter II
States of Emergency

Article 337. The President of the Republic in Council of Ministers may declare a state of emergency. Expressly defined as such the circumstances of social, economic, political, natural or ecological nature which seriously affect the security of the nation, institutions and citizens, for which insufficient powers which are arranged to respond to events. In this case, may be temporarily restricted the guarantees enshrined in the Constitution, except those relating to the rights to life, prohibition of incommunicado detention and torture, the right to due process, the right to information and other intangible human rights.

Article 338. May be declared a state of alarm when catastrophes, public calamities or other similar events
occur, seriously endangering the security of the nation or its citizens or citizens. Such a state of emergency will last up to thirty days, may be extended for thirty days.

May be declared state of economic emergency when extraordinary economic circumstances arise which seriously affect the economic life of the nation. Its duration shall be sixty days extendable for a similar period.

May be declared state of internal or external if internal or external conflict, which seriously jeopardizes the security of the nation, its citizens or its institutions. Be extended up to ninety days, be extended for ninety days.

extension of states of exception is the National Assembly. An organic law shall regulate states of exception and determine the measures to be adopted based on them.

**Article 339.** The decree declaring a state of emergency, which regulates the exercise of the right whose guarantee is restricted, must, within eight days following its promulgation in the National Assembly or the Executive Committee for consideration and approval, the Constitutional Chamber of the Supreme Court of Justice to rule on their constitutionality. The Decree shall comply with the requirements, principles and guarantees established in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the American Convention on Human Rights. The President of the Republic may request its extension for a similar period, and will be revoked by the National Executive or National Assembly or its Executive Committee, before the period mentioned, to stop the causes behind it.

The declaration of a state of emergency does not interrupt the functioning of public bodies.

**TITLE IX**

**CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM**

**Chapter I**

**Of Amendments**

**Article 340.** The amendment concerns the addition or modification of one or more articles of the Constitution without altering its basic structure.

**Article 341.** Amendments to the Constitution shall be as follows:

1. The initiative may emanate from fifteen percent of citizens registered in the Civil and Electoral Register, or thirty percent of the members of the National Assembly or the President of the Republic in Council of Ministers.

2. When the initiative emanates from the National Assembly, the amendment shall require approval by a majority of its members and will be discussed, according to the procedure established in this Constitution for the enactment of laws.

3. Electoral Power shall submit amendments to a referendum within thirty days after formal receipt.

4. Amendments shall be deemed approved in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution and the law concerning the approval referendum.

5. Amendments shall be numbered consecutively and published beneath the Constitution without altering the
Chapter II
Constitutional Reform

Article 342. The Constitutional Reform aims at a partial revision of this Constitution and the replacement of one or more of the provisions that do not change the fundamental principles and structure of the Constitutional text.

The initiative for the reform of the Constitution is exercised by the National Assembly, by resolution approved by majority vote of its members, by the President of the Republic in Council of Ministers or at the request of no fewer than fifteen percent of registered voters and voters registered in the Civil and Electoral Register request.

Article 343. The constitutional reform initiative will be processed by the National Assembly as follows:

1. The Constitutional Reform Project will have a first discussion in the session for the presentation.

2. A second reading by title or chapter, as the case.

3. A third and final debate article by article.

4. The National Assembly approved the draft constitutional reform in a period not exceeding two years, counted from the date on which he met and approved the application of reform.

5. constitutional reform shall be approved with a vote of two thirds of the members * of the National Assembly.

Article 344. The Constitutional Reform Bill passed by the National Assembly shall be submitted to a referendum within thirty days from its approval. The referendum will decide together on the Reformation, but may be voted on separately to a third of it, if approved by no fewer than a third of the National Assembly or if the reform effort so requests the President or President of the Republic or a number no less than five percent of registered voters and voters registered in the Civil and Electoral Registry.

Article 345. Shall be declared approved the constitutional amendment if the number of affirmative votes exceeds the number of negative votes. The revised constitutional reform initiative may not be tabled again in the same constitutional term of the National Assembly.

Article 346. The President of the Republic is required to promulgate Amendments and Reforms within ten days of its approval. Failure to do so, shall apply the provisions of this Constitution.

Chapter III
National Constituent Assembly

Article 347. The people of Venezuela is the original constituent power rests. In exercising this power, may convene a National Constituent Assembly in order to transform the state, create a new law and draft a new constitution.

Article 348. The initiative for calling a National Constituent Assembly can be made by the President of the Republic in Council of Ministers, the National Assembly, by resolution of the two-thirds of its members, the
Municipal Councils in, by a vote of two thirds of them, and fifteen percent of registered voters and voters in the Civil and Electoral Registry.

**Article 349.** The President of the Republic may not object to the new Constitution.

The powers that may in any way to obstruct the Constituent National Assembly.

Once promulgated the new constitution, it is published in the Official Gazette of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela or in the Gazette of the Constituent National Assembly.

**Article 350.** The people of Venezuela, true to their republican tradition and their struggle for independence, peace and freedom, shall disown any regime, legislation or authority that violates the values, principles and democratic guarantees or encroaches upon human rights.

**REPEALING PROVISION**

**Single.** Repealed the Constitution of the Republic of Venezuela decreed on January 23 of 1961. legal system remain in effect to everything that does not contradict this constitution.

**TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS**

**First.** The special law on the rules of the Capital District, under Article 18 of this Constitution shall be approved by the National Constituent Assembly, and preserve the territorial integrity of Miranda State. Pending approval of the special law remains in effect the system under the Organic Law of the Federal District and the Organic Law of Municipalities.

**Second.** Pending enactment of the law under Article 38 of this Constitution, concerning the acquisition, election, renunciation and recovery of nationality, be considered domiciled in Venezuela, the foreigners who, having entered and remained lawfully in the country, have declared their intention of establishing residence in the country, are legitimate means of living and have resided continuously in Venezuela for two years.

Residence shall mean stay in the country with the intention of staying there. Statements of intent as provided in Articles 32, 33 and 36 of this Constitution shall be made in authentic form by the person concerned when I grow old, or his legal representative, if not twenty-one years.

**Third.** The National Assembly within the first six months of their installation, shall:

1. A partial reform of the Penal Code to include the crime of forced disappearance of persons, as provided in Article 45 of this Constitution. Pending enactment of this amendment shall apply as possible, the Inter-American Convention On Forced Disappearance of Persons.

2. An organic law on states of emergency.

3. A special law to establish the conditions and characteristics of a special regime for the Municipalities of Jose Antonio Páez and Rómulo Gallegos, Apure State. To carry out this law, must hear the opinion of the President of the Republic, the National Armed Forces, representation identifying the region in question and other institutions involved in border issues.

**Fourth.** Year from the date of installation, the National Assembly approve:
1. Legislation on penalties for torture, either by special law or reform of the Penal Code.

2. An organic law on refugees and asylum-seekers, according to the terms of this Constitution and international treaties ratified by Venezuela.

3. By reforming the Organic Labor Law, a new scheme for social welfare entitlements enshrined in Article 92 of this Constitution, which will integrate this fee in proportion to the length of service calculated in accordance with the latest salary earned by establishing a limitation period for ten years. During this period, while the reform into effect the law will apply on a transitional regime established seniority provision in the existing Labor Law. Likewise a set of standards regulating the working day and promoting a progressive reduction in the terms set forth in the agreements and conventions of the International Labor Organization signed by the Republic.

4. A Labour Procedure Act to ensure the functioning of an autonomous and specialized labor jurisdiction and protection for workers on the terms provided in this Constitution and the laws. The Labour Procedural Law will be guided by the principles of free, speed, orality, immediacy, priority on the reality of the facts, equity and stewardship of the judge in the process.

5. The legislation relating to the Judicial System, the National Public Administration, Citizen Power, Electoral Power, tax laws, the Budget System Law and Public Credit Law.

An organic law on public defense. Until such time as this law is passed, the Commission on the Functioning and Restructuring of the Judicial System, will oversee the development and effective operation of the Autonomous System of Public Defense, in order to guarantee the right to defense.

6. A law developing the public finances States, establishing, in conformity with the principles and rules of this Constitution, the taxes that make up the mechanisms for its implementation and the provisions regulating.

7. Legislation developing the constitutional principles concerning municipal regime. Under it, the legislatures of the States shall proceed to enact the policy instruments that correspond to the organizational powers assigned to them with regard to municipalities and other local, territorial and political division in each jurisdiction. Maintaining the existing municipalities and parishes to their adaptation to the new arrangements provided for in that order.

8. The law which will govern the Central Bank of Venezuela. This law shall, inter alia, the scope of the functions and manner of organization of the institute running, period, method of election, removal, incompatibilities, regime and requirements for the appointment of its Chairman and Directors, the accounting rules for establishing its reserves and the fate of their profits, the annual independent audit of the accounts and balances by firms of specialists selected by the National Executive and subsequent monitoring by the Comptroller General of the Republic in regard to the legality, sincerity, timeliness, effectiveness and efficiency of the administration of the Central Bank of Venezuela.

The law establishes that the President and other members of the Board of Central Bank of Venezuela represent exclusively the interests of the nation, for which set a public process of evaluating the merits and credentials of candidates for the aforementioned charges.

The law establishes that the Executive shall be at least half the appointment of the director and the President or Chairman of the Central Bank of Venezuela and establish the terms of participation of the legislature in the appointment and ratification of these authorities.
9. The law of national police. This law shall establish the mechanism of integration of the Technical Monitoring Traffic and Land Transportation to national police.

**Fifth.** The term not exceeding one year from the entry into force of this Constitution, the National Assembly shall enact a reform of the Tax Code to establish, inter alia:

1. Strict interpretation of tax laws and rules, taking the end of them and their economic significance, in order to remove ambiguities.

2. The elimination of exceptions to the principle of non-retroactivity of the law.

3. Extending the concept of imputed income so as to provide better tools to the tax authorities.

4. Eliminate the statute of limitations for serious tax offenses, which must be defined in the Tax Code.

5. The expansion of the penalties for advisors, law firms and lawyers, auditors or external auditors and other professionals who act in complicity to commit tax offenses, including periods of suspension from the practice of the profession.

6. The expansion of the penalties and the severity of sanctions against tax evasion crimes increasing the periods of limitation.

7. The review of mitigating and aggravating circumstances to make them more stringent sanctions.

8. The expansion of the powers of the Tax Administration in the control.

9. The increase in interest arrears to deter tax evasion.

10. The extension of the principle of solidarity, to allow managers or directors, or consultants or advisors meet with their property in cases they validate tax offenses.

11. The introduction of more expeditious administrative procedures.

**Sixth.** The National Assembly within two years legislate on all matters relating to this Constitution. Priority is given to organic laws on indigenous peoples, education and borders.

**Seventh.** For the purposes of Article 125 of this Constitution, pending approval of the pertinent organic law, the election of indigenous representatives to the National Assembly and State and Municipal Legislative Councils shall be governed by the following nomination requirements and mechanisms:

All indigenous communities or organizations may nominate candidates who are indigenous.

Is a prerequisite for being a candidate to speak their native language, and meet at least one of the following conditions:

1. Have exercised position of traditional authority in their community.

2. Have an established record in the social struggle for recognition of their cultural identity.

3. Taking action to benefit indigenous peoples and communities.
4. Belong to a legally constituted native organization with a minimum of three years of operation.

Will be three regions: West, consisting of the states of Zulia, Merida and Trujillo, South, comprising the states of Amazonas and Apure, and East, consisting of the States of Bolivar, Delta Amacuro, Monagas, Anzoategui and Sucre.

Each of the states comprising the various regions shall elect one representative. The National Electoral Council shall declare elected the candidate who receives a majority of votes in their respective region or constituency.

Candidates and indigenous candidates will be on the ballot in their state or district and all of the voters of this State may vote for them or vote for them.

For the purposes of indigenous representation in the Legislative Council and the Municipal Councils with indigenous people, will take the official census of 1992, the Central Bureau of Statistics and Informatics, and elections are conducted in accordance with the standards and requirements established herein.

to ensure support of indigenous and indigenous organizations meeting the requirements herein.

**Eighth.** the new election laws enacted under this Constitution the elections will be called, organized, directed and supervised by the National Electoral Council.

For the first time the National Electoral Council provided for in this Constitution, all members shall be designated simultaneously. In half of the period, two of its members will be renewed in accordance with the provisions of the pertinent organic law.

**Ninth.** While issuing the laws pertaining to chapter IV of Title V, shall remain in effect Organic Laws of the Public Ministry and the Comptroller General of the Republic. As to the Ombudsman, the holder or shall be designated temporarily by the National Constituent Assembly. The People Defender * shall move forward as the organizational structure, integration, establishing of budget and physical infrastructure, taking as basis the powers the Constitution.

**Tenth.** The provisions of paragraph 4 of Article 167 of this Constitution concerning the obligation of States to allocate at least fifty percent of the constitutional investment will come into effect from January first, two thousand one.

**Eleventh.** Pending enactment of national legislation on the rules of public lands, the administration of these continue to be exercised by the National Power under the law.

**Twelfth.** The demarcation of indigenous habitat, referred to Article 119 of this Constitution shall be carried out within two years from the date of entry into force of this Constitution.

**Thirteenth.** Until the States assume under State law the powers referred to in paragraph 7 of Article 164 of this Constitution shall continue the existing arrangement.

**Fourteenth.** Pending enactment of the legislation developing the principles of this Constitution concerning municipal regime, remain in full effect the ordinances and other regulations of the municipalities, concerning matters within its jurisdiction and to taxation itself they possess under the law applicable law before the enactment of this Constitution.

**Fifteenth.** Pending the passage of the legislation referred to in Article 105 of this Constitution, shall remain in
effect the law applicable before the enactment of this Constitution

Sixteenth. To enrich the historical heritage of the nation, the chronicler of the National Constitutional Assembly shall arrange necessary to safeguard written documents, videos, digital photographs, periodicals, audio and any other form of document produced.

All these documents shall remain under the protection of the Archivo General de la Nación.

Seventeenth. The name of the Republic after approval of this Constitution will be "Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela," as provided in section one. It is the duty of the authorities and institutions, both public and private, are required to issue records, certificates or any other document, use the name "Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela" effective immediately.

For routine administrative units use up stationery documentary, its renovation will be phased with the name has, in a period not to extend beyond five years.

The circulation of coins and notes issued under the name "Republic of Venezuela" will be regulated by the Law Reform Central Bank of Venezuela referred to the Eleventh transitional provision of this Constitution, in terms of making the transition to the name "Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela."

Eighteenth. For the purpose of ensuring the observance of the principles laid down in Article 113 of this Constitution, the National Assembly shall enact a law establishing, among other things, the monitoring agency, control and monitoring that should ensure the effective application of these principles and the provision and rules developing them.

The person presiding or directing such entity shall be appointed by majority vote of the Deputies of the National Assembly, following a favorable report from a special commission appointed from among its members for the purpose.

The law establishes that the officers or officials of public administration and the judges shall be called to hear and determine disputes relating to the matters referred to in Article 113 of this Constitution, observed as a priority and exclusive the principles there defined, and shall refrain from implementing any provisions which may generate adverse effects for them.

The law shall regulate the concessions of public services, the utility for the concessionaire and the financing of investments closely related to the provision of service, including upgrading and expanding the authority considers reasonable and approved in each case.

DISPOSAL

Single. This Constitution shall come into force on the day of its publication in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Venezuela, after approval by the people through referendum.

Approved by the people of Venezuela, through constitutional referendum, on the fifteenth day of December 1999, and proclaimed by the Constituent National Assembly in Caracas, on the twentieth day of December 1999. Year of Independence 189° and 140° of the Federation.

THE PRESIDENT Luis Miquilena
First Vice President Isaias Rodriguez
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT, Aristobulo Isturiz

http://pdba.georgetown.edu/Constitutions/Venezuela/ven1999.html
CONSTITUENTS,

NATIONAL CONSTITUENCY
ALFREDO PEÑA
Allan Brewer Carias
ANGELA ZAGO
EARLE HERRERA
EDMUND CHIRINOS
Eustace CONTRERAS
Guillermo Garcia Ponce
Hermann Escarrá
RAFAEL JESUS SULBARAN
Leopoldo Puchi
LUIŠ VALLENILLA
Manuel Quijada
Marisabel CHAVEZ
PABLO MEDINA
PEDRO ORTEGA DIAZ
REYNA GARCIA ROMERO
RICARDO Combelles
TAREK WILLIAM SAAB
VINICIO ROMERO MARTÍNEZ

CONSTITUENTS BY FEDERAL DISTRICT
DESIREE SANTOS AMARAL
REINALDO Eliezer Otaiza CASTILLO
Ernesto Alvarenga
BERNAL FREDDY ALIRIO ROSALES
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