

UN Human Rights Council

September 22, 2025 | Geneva, Switzerland

*Remarks by Commissioner **Gloria de Mees**, Rapporteur for Venezuela*

Members of the Council,

I address you in my capacity as Rapporteur for Venezuela of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights.

More than a year has passed since the presidential elections, yet the Electoral Council has not released the tally sheets needed to verify the results declared in favor of Nicolás Maduro. This refusal undermines the credibility of the process.

Meanwhile, repression has escalated. Reliable reports confirm that 808 people remain arbitrarily detained, including four children. Many families have received no information about the whereabouts of their loved ones—circumstances that may constitute enforced disappearances. Furthermore, no one has been held accountable for the 25 killings, acknowledged by the State itself, of men who protested electoral opacity.

The Venezuelan crisis is rooted in the lack of legitimacy of Maduro's regime. Lacking independence, State institutions operate primarily as instruments designed to secure the regime in power.