

General Secretariat, Organization of American States
Hearing on Corruption and the Humanitarian Crisis in Venezuela

March 1, 2019, Hall of the Americas
Organization of American States, 17th and Constitution Ave, N.W.,
Washington, D.C.

The General Secretariat of the OAS will hold a one day hearing on government corruption in Venezuela and its aftermath, generating the largest humanitarian crisis seen in the history of Latin America, and systematically violating the human rights of millions of Venezuelans. Witnesses will present evidence to a Panel of Experts that will be responsible for evaluating the information presented as well as other information compiled by the General Secretariat, and issue a report and recommendations to the Secretary General for the possible prosecution of those responsible in national and international courts.

9:00 am. Opening Session:

- Luis Almagro, Secretary General, Organization of American States
- Ambassador Michael Kozak, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor, US Department of State

9:30 am. Fighting Corruption in Venezuela

- Marshall Billingslea, Assistant Secretary, US Department of the Treasury

9:45 am. Corruption by the Venezuelan State

- Mercedes De Freitas, Executive Director, Transparency Venezuela, Odebrecht Corruption Case
- Alek Boyd, Editor of Infodio, a digital platform for investigative journalism
- Roberto Deniz, Journalist with Armando Info, Corruption of the CLAP Boxes
- Pedro Lupera Zerpa, National Prosecutor No. 55 in Exile, Ministry of Public Prosecution of Venezuela, PDVSA Corruption
- Almudena Bernabeu, Spanish jurist, Trying Massive Corruption cases as Human Rights Violations

12:30 -2:00 Break for lunch

2:00 pm. The Humanitarian Crisis in Venezuela

- Ambassador Gustavo Tarre Briceño, Representative of the Interim President of Venezuela to the Organization of American States

2:30 pm. Consequences of Corruption: the Humanitarian Crisis in Venezuela

- Ambassador Carlos Trujillo, Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the OAS, and Ambassador Alejandro Ordoñez Maldonado, Permanent Representative of Colombia to the OAS – Visit by the Member States to the Colombo-Venezuelan border, November 18-21, 2018
- Francisco Valencia, Director of the Coalition of Organizations for the Right to health and life, Codevida, Health Crisis
- Marianela Herrera, Bengoa Foundation, Nutrition Crisis

4:00 pm Next Steps and Conclusions

- Marisol Blanchard, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, Corruption and Human Rights
- José Ugaz, Peruvian jurist, National and International Persecution of Cases of Corruption
- Santiago Canton, former Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, and Secretary for Human Rights of the Province of Buenos Aires