



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

September 5, 2024

The Honorable
Charles E. Grassley, Senator
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Grassley:

Thank you for your August 13 letter to Secretary Blinken regarding the Biden-Harris Administration's stance and actions concerning Nicolás Maduro and the Venezuelan elections. The United States believes that our discussions to date supported the efforts of the democratic opposition to contest the July 28 presidential election, and that we must continue to explore every avenue as we press Maduro and representatives to cease their repression and recognize the real outcome of the election.

The United States has not made any offers of amnesty to Maduro or others in Venezuela. In coordination with our international partners and the democratic opposition, we continue to explore a range of options to incentivize and pressure Maduro to accept that Edmundo González Urrutia received the most votes, and to engage in negotiations on a peaceful, democratic transition. However, the responsibility lies with Maduro and Venezuela's electoral authorities to be transparent about election results and take steps to return to a democratic path.

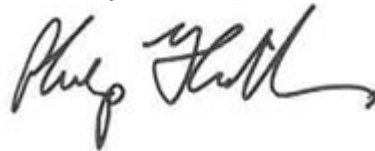
The United States and our international partners continue to monitor the situation closely and support an inclusive, Venezuelan-led process to restore democracy in Venezuela. We believe that regional partners can play a crucial role on Venezuela. We will continue to support ongoing diplomatic engagement through the Organization of American States, as well as diplomatic efforts led by Brazil, Colombia, and others to pursue discussions with Maduro and the democratic opposition on a democratic way forward. The United States continues to assess our sanctions policy toward Venezuela in light of actions taken by Maduro and his representatives and in line with

broader U.S. interests. We regularly assess how best to utilize these authorities and tools to in support of our goal of restoring democracy in Venezuela.

The Biden-Harris Administration strongly condemns any loss of life, political violence, or repression, and remains resolutely committed to exploring every diplomatic avenue to restore democracy in Venezuela.

We hope this information is helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Philip G. Laidlaw". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Philip G. Laidlaw
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary
Bureau of Legislative Affairs