## 117TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

## H. RES. 377

Condemning Nicolás Maduro's regime for its ongoing human rights abuses and crimes against humanity in Venezuela.

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

May 7, 2021

Ms. Malliotakis (for herself, Ms. Salazar, and Mr. Gimenez) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

## **RESOLUTION**

Condemning Nicolás Maduro's regime for its ongoing human rights abuses and crimes against humanity in Venezuela.

Whereas in September 2020, a United Nations mission found that Nicolás Maduro and his regime have carried out thousands of extrajudicial murders of peaceful dissidents and political opponents since Maduro's rise to power in 2013;

Whereas the Maduro regime is currently detaining at least 300 political prisoners in dangerous and inhumane conditions across Venezuela, including in the notorious El Helicoide in Caracas;

Whereas the Maduro regime's security forces continue to engage in torture and sexual abuse of political prisoners

and members of their families to stoke terror and repress prodemocracy efforts in Venezuela;

- Whereas the Maduro regime has increased arbitrary detention and intimidation of journalists, frontline workers, and legislators to silence criticism of the regime's mishandling of the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Whereas Venezuela's kleptocratic elite, including the family of Hugo Chavez, possess a fortune estimated at over \$4,000,000,000;
- Whereas the average Venezuelan lost 24 pounds of body weight in 2017 due to widespread poverty and food shortages;
- Whereas the Maduro regime has consistently restricted the ability of nonprofits and humanitarian aid organizations to assist Venezuelans in need of basic foodstuffs and hygiene items; and
- Whereas over 5,000,000 of Venezuela's 32,000,000 people have fled Venezuela as refugees due to the failures and mass human rights violations of the Maduro regime: Now, therefore, be it
  - 1 Resolved, That the House of Representatives—
  - 2 (1) strongly condemns Nicolás Maduro's regime
  - 3 for its violation of the basic human rights of count-
  - 4 less Venezuelans;
- 5 (2) recognizes that the Maduro regime's pattern
- 6 of gross human rights violations amounts to crimes
- 7 against humanity;
- 8 (3) supports the people of Venezuela and their
- 9 fight to achieve freedom and democracy; and

(4) calls on President Biden to take substantive
action to ensure Maduro's resignation and a peaceful
transition to democracy in Venezuela.

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