



THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
Department for External Church Relations

The Russian Orthodox Church supports the statement of the General Secretary of the World Council of Churches on the situation in Venezuela



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On 3 January 2026, a statement by the General Secretary of the World Council of Churches, Rev. Prof. Dr. Jerry Pillay, dedicated to the events in Venezuela, was published. The document states:

“The attacks conducted by the United States of America in Venezuela and the capture and detention of President Maduro and his wife are stunningly flagrant violations of international law. These actions set a dangerous precedent and example for others who seek to shrug off all constraints against the use of armed aggression and brute force to achieve political objectives.

The World Council of Churches calls urgently for the cessation of such attacks, for respect for the principles of international law and sovereignty of States, for the resolution of disputes through dialogue and diplomacy rather than by armed violence, and for the United Nations and the Organization of American States to take swift action to ensure all members respect the

relevant charters and conventions. In these dangerous and uncertain times, the world needs wise and courageous leaders for peace, rather than the proliferation of conflicts and the normalization of international illegality risking a deeper descent into chaos. We pray for wisdom and peace to prevail in this context and in other parts of the world.

“Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it.” Psalm 34:14”

The Department for External Church Relations of the Moscow Patriarchate states that the Russian Orthodox Church shares the position of the General Secretary of the World Council of Churches on the situation in Venezuela.

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