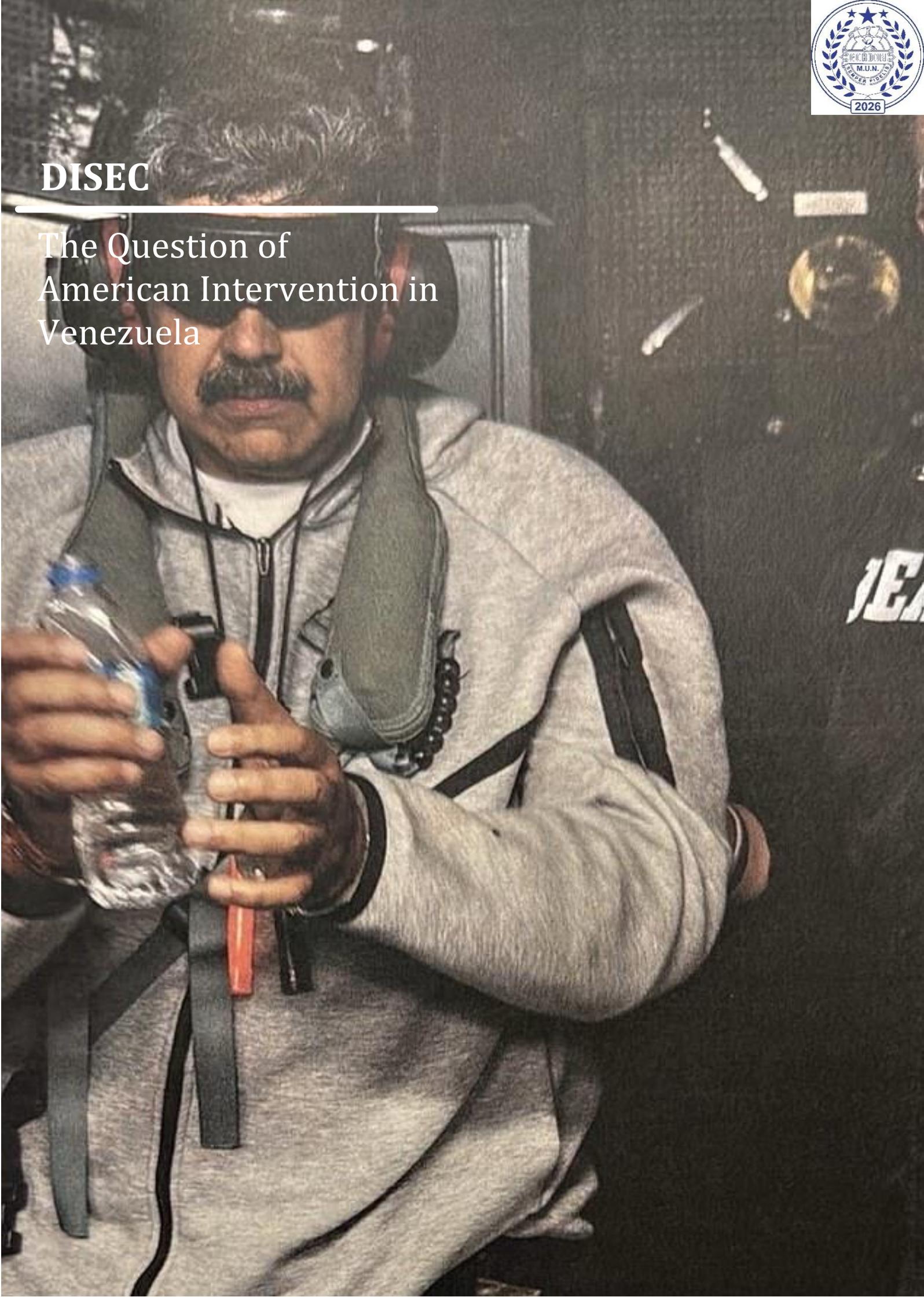




# DISEC

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## The Question of American Intervention in Venezuela





**Committee:** DISEC

**Topic:** The Question of American Intervention in Venezuela

**Chair:** Hamish Donaldson-Sinclair and Grace Gerrish

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## Summary:

In January 2026, the United States carried out a military operation called Operation Absolute Resolve against Venezuela. They used airstrikes and special forces to capture President Nicolás Maduro and fly him to the USA to face criminal charges in New York. This caused a lot of backlash because of the force used on another country's territory without the UN's approval. Many member nations see it as a breach of Venezuelan sovereignty and of the UN Charter, among many other complaints.

## Origins:

The intervention grew out of years of crisis in Venezuela, such as their economic collapse, monetary hyperinflation, shortages in basic necessities, accusations of authoritarian rule and human-rights abuses, as well as US sanctions and indictments accusing Maduro and allies of narco-trafficking. The US government claims that due to the diplomatic pressure and sanctions failing, they were required to use military force to protect US security and end what it called a criminal regime.

The Government of Venezuela has been under much political pressure from all around the globe, due to the supposedly illegitimate nature of Maduro's presidency. The 2024 Venezuelan election has been much disputed, with the opposition leader Maria Machado asserting that the election was rigged and stolen by Maduro to extend his rule. This does not give any other member state the right to intervene in the governing of another member nation.

Donald Trump, the President of the US, has publicly stated that the US will be governing Venezuela for a transitional period of time, in which he will permit and encourage American oil companies to enter the country and exploit Venezuela's vast oil fields. This has raised concerns of modern-day colonialism and may potentially embolden the US in their military efforts, and could lead to the American invasion of Greenland, something that Donald Trump and his regime has taken a great interest in under the guise of protecting national security.



## Who the topic effects:

- **Venezuelan civilians**, who face the effects of the invasion.
- **Neighbouring Latin American countries**, who can face economic struggles with overflowing refugees.
- **The United States**, who captured and forcefully extradited Nicolas Maduro

## Previous attempts at solutions:

Before the 2026 operation, various actors tried to address the Venezuelan crisis through regional talks, EU-backed dialogue, targeted sanctions, and calls for new elections. None of these fully resolved the political deadlock or humanitarian emergency, which is one reason why the US claimed more drastic action was necessary, while critics argue this shows why stronger multilateral diplomacy and UN-led solutions are needed instead of unilateral force.