

(2026.1.3) Minute on attack on Venezuela

As Albuquerque friends gather in worship to attend to the needs and concerns of our neighbors and ourselves, the United States has kidnapped Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro and his wife, Cilia Flores and is threatening to take over the country of Venezuela and even to exercise authority over Venezuelan oil fields. This illegal action by our own government increases the risk of violence in and with Venezuela, already heightened by U.S. attacks on Venezuelan vessels, and presents a clear violation of international law, international humanitarian law and human rights treaties. It has already resulted in the killing of Venezuelan citizens, including those killed when Mr. Maduro and his wife were kidnapped by US. Personnel.

As a Quaker faith community committed to peace and justice, we oppose violence in all its forms and condemn this armed invasion of another country by forces connected to and directed by our own government.

As this situation develops in the next few days and weeks, Albuquerque Friends ask all Friends to raise their voices in appropriate and effective nonviolent ways to bring this abuse of U.S. military and global power to an end and to secure the return to legally and morally acceptable standards of conduct by our own government.

We understand and support the prayerful choices our presiding Clerk may feel led to make on our behalf to assert and uplift the principles and values stated here in the days ahead and hold in the Light all those who work peacefully to bring this government violence and imperial overreach to an end.