

Hands Off Venezuela  
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London, N17 9PL

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# HOV NATIONAL CONFERENCE, SATURDAY 24th NOVEMBER, 10.30am-5.30pm ULU, Malet STREET, LONDON WC1E 7HY

**To all trade union branches, regional committees,  
national committees, shop stewards committees,  
HOV groups, and other affiliated organisations.**

Dear Brother and Sister,

The need for international solidarity with the Venezuelan Revolution has never been greater. While the government of Hugo Chávez continues to carry out important measures in favour of the masses in Venezuela, the imperialists and local oligarchy are busy plotting to overthrow the revolution.

Since the resounding victory of Chavez in the Presidential election last December, there has been a growing media barrage in an attempt to isolate Chavez and the Venezuelan Revolution. The imperialists are grinding their teeth waiting for an opportunity to strike. The Revolution needs our support.

We are therefore writing to invite you to send delegates to the third National Conference of the Hands Off Venezuela Campaign on Saturday, 24th November 2007 in London.

Invited speakers to address the conference include guest speaker from Venezuela, including Guadalupe Rodrigez Coordinaadora Simon Bolivar, 23 Enero, also John McDonnell MP, Jeremy Corbyn MP, Jeremy Dear, general secretary National Union of Journalists, Matt Wrack, General Secretary Fire Brigades Union, Alan Woods, author 'The Venezuelan Revolution', Derek Wall from the Green Party and others.

The Hands Off Venezuela Campaign was established in 2002 to promote solidarity with the Venezuelan Revolution. Since that time we have managed to raise the issue of Venezuela throughout the British trade union movement, where we have received enthusiastic support for our stand. Our campaign has gained the support or affiliation from unions representing 5.7 million of trade unionists: the Transport and General Workers Union, Amicus, USDAW, GMB, RMT, FBU, NUJ, UCU, PCS, ASLEF, CWU and others. We have gained further affiliations at a branch and regional level.

The HOV Campaign scored a great victory at the 2005 Trades Union Congress, when motion 79 on Venezuela was unanimously passed, giving support to the progressive policies of the Chávez government and establishing links with the new trade union confederation, the UNT. Furthermore, motion 79 stated: "Congress will build and work with trade union endorsed organisations in the UK working to provide solidarity to Venezuela."

The successes of the Venezuelan Revolution have witnessed growing support for President Hugo Chavez. For the first time, free health care has been introduced and illiteracy abolished. The struggle for socialism has been put on the agenda and Chavez has promised to renationalise all those companies privatised by the old regime.

This conference will discuss solidarity with the revolution and how best to deepen the links with the Bolivarian movement. Come and play your part!

The Hands Off Venezuela Campaign is calling for your support. Please ask your union branch or organisation to send a delegate to our national conference. We need to urgently step up the solidarity work with Venezuela and this conference will provide an important milestone in the campaign. We look forward to your participation on 24th November.

On behalf of the conference organising committee,

Rob Sewell  
Jeremy Dear, general secretary of the NUJ (personal capacity)  
John McDonnell MP

# Application form

Please note that Hands Off Venezuela individual members can attend the conference for a charge of £2  
For all other delegates from trade unions and affiliated organisations, there is a charge of £10 per delegate.

**Please enroll me as a delegate to the Hands Off Venezuela Conference.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Organisation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Post Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Return to: HOV Conference  
100 Armadele Close,  
London N17 9PL

**Please find enclosed a cheque for £\_\_\_\_\_ as payment  
for \_\_\_\_\_ delegates to the HOV national conference  
(Please make cheques payable to Hands Off Venezuela)**