



Asamblea de los Pueblos del Caribe
Assembly of Caribbean People
Assemblée du Peuple Caraïbe
Assemblee van het Caraibisch Volk
Asamblea Pep Karayib La

2025 December 2.

**We Must Continue to Raise our Voices and Oppose US Military Aggression
Against Venezuela**

Caribbean Sisters and Brothers and to all who oppose the US colonial and imperial agenda,

Greetings!

We are now in a critical moment in the history of the region. In the last few weeks we have seen:

- The arrival of the USS Gerald Ford – the world’s largest battleship with 100 fighter planes on board– and its accompanying flotilla of destroyers to the Caribbean, adding to the other seven destroyers with guided missile capabilities and amphibious landing vessels, a nuclear submarine and any number of fighter jets and B52 bombers stationed in Puerto Rico. 10% of the US Navy is now in the Caribbean.
- The presence of US Marines (the US 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit) in Trinidad for the second time in three weeks (the first was the USS Gravely a destroyer with guided missile capability) and the incursion of several other US destroyers in the Gulf of Paria – the small body of water that separates Trinidad from Venezuela
- The US Federal Aviation Authority warning to commercial airlines of flights by non-commercial planes (that is military aircraft) at all altitudes in the Caribbean area and Trump subsequently announcing a “no fly zone” for Venezuela and areas surrounding it
- The designation of the so-called “Cartel of the Suns” and President Maduro as its head as a “Foreign Terrorist Organisation” (FTO) which the US believes gives them the authority to attack Venezuela. In the words of President Trump himself “*it allows us to do that...*”
- The visit to Trinidad and Tobago by General Caine, the Chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff – the first ever, which was not a tourist trip – to meet with the Prime Minister. The job responsibilities of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff include: to advise the US President, Secretary of Defence and the National Security Council; to assess the preparation of US troops for missions and combat; to conduct strategic planning which includes scenario planning for military actions and in the process conducts risk assessments for war. The General also visited Puerto Rico to assess the readiness of the US air forces and at least one US naval ship in the Caribbean. Caine’s visit to Trinidad and Tobago was part of the preparations for war.

- Secretary of Defence Pete Hegseth visit to the Dominican Republic and as a result the President agreeing to locate a US base in the Dominican Republic. This is another piece in the war preparations of the US.
- The arrival of US military aircraft to Tobago on several occasions and US military troops in Tobago for the purpose of installing and operating a US military radar at the airport in Tobago. This is most likely the same radar system that the US had requested to be installed at the Maurice Bishop International Airport in Grenada and which request the Grenadian government wisely has not agreed to. This radar in Tobago is another piece in the war preparations.
- The announcement on “Thanksgiving Day” by President Trump in addressing US troops, that land strikes against Venezuela will start “very soon”

The US military deployment was never about stopping “narco-trafficking”. Trump’s pardoning of a convicted felon Juan Orlando Hernandez, former President of Honduras, who was found guilty of trafficking hundreds of tons of cocaine into the US, puts a lie to that. This isn’t about the drug trade, it’s about regime change and getting control of Venezuela’s oil and mineral wealth. There is also no doubt that the US attacks on boats in the Caribbean and the killing of all on board is “extra-judicial” – that is murder. With the expose that the US killed two survivors of the first boat strike on September 2nd and that the order to “kill them all” may have come directly from the US Secretary of Defence, Hegseth, to crime of murder must be added “war crime”. Those who have supported these killings such as the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago who said - “kill them all violently” - are now complicit as the information in the international media is that this crime was committed in waters “off Trinidad”.

It is obvious that CARICOM has been rendered incapable of taking a strong collective position to tell the US to stop its military aggression against Venezuela. We congratulate those CARICOM leaders and others in the region who have stood firm in defence of “The Caribbean as a Zone of Peace” and who opposed any military action against the sovereign nation of Venezuela. We condemn the Prime Minister and government of Trinidad and Tobago for turning its back on CARICOM and repudiating the long established principle that the Caribbean is a Zone of Peace and allowing US troops to operate in the country thus making a mockery of the sovereignty of Trinidad and Tobago.

We denounce the President of the Dominican Republic for his agreement with Washington which is a betrayal of sovereignty and applaud the democratic and popular forces in the Dominican Republic for their acts of condemnation of President Abinader’s shameful position.

We also congratulate all the organisations – social movements, civil society and faith based organisations – and individuals who have made statements affirming that the Caribbean is a Zone of Peace and warning against war or military intervention by the United States. We applaud the initiatives for online petitions and the signing of Declarations: the one initiated by the Assembly of Caribbean People obtained 600 signatures; the one initiated by leading Caribbean feminists received signed support from more than 110 organisations; and an online petition initiated by the organisers of the Vigils for Peace in Trinidad and Tobago that has to date gotten 2,000 signatures.

We recognise the tremendous efforts by many in the region and progressive individuals and organisations regionally and internationally, through countless interviews, podcasts, seminars, webinars and commentaries in both traditional and social media, to engage in the work of informing and educating the public to counter the false narratives pushed by the US and its surrogates including the Prime Minister of

Trinidad and Tobago. Through all of this work the colonial and imperial agenda of the US has been exposed and this work has also forced persons who hold various political offices in the US to challenge Trump.

However, this is not enough. At this critical moment we need to do more. Our Comrades in Trinidad and Tobago are in the forefront of the battle in the Caribbean given both that it is Venezuela's closest neighbour in the Caribbean and also because they are battling against the position of the government of Trinidad and Tobago which has become Washington's lackey in its imperialist agenda. On Sunday December 7th, there will be the Vigil for Peace II in Port of Spain, Trinidad.

We are calling on all social movements and civil society organisations to stand in solidarity with our Sisters and Brothers in Trinidad and Tobago as we say with one voice:

- **A US Military Attack - Not in Our Name!**
- **War in the Region – Not in Our Name**
- **Extra-judicial Killings (murder) in the Caribbean Sea - Not in Our Name**
- **US Troops and Radar in T&T - Not in Our Name**

You can do this by:

- Sending a statement that can be shared during the Vigil for Peace on Sunday 7th and which will be posted to the social media of the Vigil for Peace. Send via email: davidabdulah@gmail.com or WhatsApp: +1(868) 382-8629.
- Getting more signatures to the petition <https://www.change.org/p/support-caribbean-as-a-zone-of-peace-stop-us-militarisation-of-the-region>

In solidarity,

**Assembly of Caribbean People
Regional Executive Committee**

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|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. David Abdulah, Trinidad & Tobago | 5. Hilda Guerrero, Puerto Rico |
| 2. David Denny, Barbados | 6. Cuban chapter of ACP, Cuba |
| 3. Camille Chalmers, Haiti | 7. Claudette Etnel, Suriname |
| 4. Robert Sae, Martinique | 8. Pedro Franco, Dominican Republic |