



## Prosecutor's Office Asks Supreme Court to Declare Political Party as Terrorist Organization

By Holland & Knight

Venezuela's Attorney General Tarek William Saab, the head of the country's investigative body, asked the Constitutional Chamber of the Supreme Court of Justice to declare the Popular Will party as a criminal organization with terrorist ends, and in so doing, to seek the dissolution of this political movement as a result of its failure to comply with the Law of Political Parties, Public Meetings and Demonstrations. This political movement, according to the Prosecutor's Office, is devoted to the permanent attack and destruction of the Venezuelan state. Among the accusations declared by the Prosecutor's Office is one that states that the Popular Will party has instigated destabilizing actions during the COVID-19 pandemic.

For its part, the Supreme Court of Justice:

1. Ratified the directive of the National Assembly, according to which the ruling party representative Luis Parra was elected as the new president of the legislative branch in Venezuela, thus annulling the parliamentary presidency of Juan Guaidó.
2. Prohibited the execution and establishment of a virtual parliament. Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, the National Assembly – presided over by Guaidó – had been holding virtual meetings.

Finally, Venezuela President Nicolás Maduro announced the arrival of three ships from the Islamic nation of Iran, in which there is gasoline cargo (approximately 1.5 million barrels) and supplies to guarantee Venezuela's supply during the pandemic. So far, no plan has been announced for the distribution of either the gasoline cargo or supplies.

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