



## Venezuelan Opposition Refuses to Participate in December 2020 Elections

By Holland & Knight

The National Communication Center on Aug. 2, 2020, issued a press release – an Official Account of the Presidency (E) of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela – that states that 27 organizations and political parties will not participate in the upcoming legislative elections convened by President Nicolás Maduro for December 6, 2020.<sup>1</sup> Among the various organizations and political parties that have refused to participate is the Venezuelan Popular Will party led by interim President Juan Guaidó.

In this regard, the 27 parties and organizations announced that they would not run or participate in the elections called by the Maduro government, because this government does not meet the conditions stipulated by the opposition, among others:

1. restoration of the right to vote for all Venezuelans
2. guarantee the right to vote freely, without coercion or intimidation
3. prohibition of voter migration from their natural polling stations
4. in relation to political leaders, the waiver of disqualifications and the termination of prosecutions, together with the full restoration of their rights
5. full participation of all political parties and authorization of the use of their party symbols and colors
6. independent National Electoral Council (CNE), appointed by the Election Nomination Committee of the Venezuelan National Assembly, as indicated by the National Constitution and the Law
7. an election schedule must be established from the beginning of the electoral process, guaranteeing the right to vote and times for each of the electoral process activities, and
8. qualified national and international electoral observation for all electoral process stages

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<sup>1</sup> [National Communication Center release](#), via Twitter, Aug. 2, 2020

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