



Current Legal and Institutional Situation in Venezuela

By Tinoco Travieso Planchart & Nuñez

The Venezuelan regulatory agenda has continued to advance in key areas for economic activity and investment, including institutional reforms, changes in strategic sectors and adjustments to the legal framework applicable to certain international transactions. Below is a summary of some of the most relevant developments.

Reform of the Organic Law of the Supreme Court of Justice

On May 22, 2026, the Organic Law of Partial Reform of the Organic Law of the Supreme Court of Justice was published. This new legislation modifies the composition of the country's highest court, increasing the number of justices from 20 to 32.

Bill for the Partial Reform of the Organic Law of the Electric System and Service

On June 2, 2026, the National Assembly approved, in its first discussion, a bill reform of the Organic Law of the Electric System and Service.

The proposal contemplates the participation of the private sector in electricity generation, transmission, distribution and commercialization activities – areas that in recent years have been primarily managed by the National Electric Corporation, S.A. (Corpoelec).

If approved, the reform bill could represent one of the most significant changes in the Venezuelan electricity sector in the last two decades and open new opportunities for private investment in electrical infrastructure. The initiative must continue through the corresponding legislative process before its eventual implementation.

Amendments of OFAC General Licenses for Venezuela

On June 10, 2026, the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) amended several general licenses related to Venezuela, including General Licenses 46, 47, 48, 50, 51, 52 and 54, applicable to the hydrocarbon, petrochemical, mining, electricity and other strategic economic sectors.

Among the most relevant changes is the expansion of jurisdictions available for the resolution of contractual disputes, allowing proceedings to take place in the U.S., United Kingdom, France and Singapore.



Additionally, the amendments expressly recognize that certain aspects of Venezuelan legislation may be considered in the performance of contracts authorized under these licenses, particularly in matters related to permits and administrative authorizations, labor, environmental, health and safety regulations, as well as other mandatory regulatory requirements.

These modifications seek to align certain aspects of the licenses with requirements derived from the Venezuelan legal system and could facilitate the structuring of investments and contractual relationships in regulated sectors.

Presidential Commission for the Restructuring and Reengineering of the National Government

In May 2026, the Presidential Commission for the Restructuring and Reengineering of the National Government was created with the purpose of evaluating and proposing measures for the reorganization of the National Public Administration.

According to official information, the Commission will have 90 days to submit recommendations aimed at optimizing and reducing the administrative structure of the state, as well as promoting greater efficiency in government management.

Consultation on the Regulations of the Organic Hydrocarbons Law and Discussion of New Contractual Models

Venezuelan authorities continue to advance the implementation of the Organic Hydrocarbons Law by drafting regulatory provisions, as well as a contractual model intended to govern future investments in exploration and production activities. The regulations and contractual model are currently under review and in consultation with industry stakeholders. The energy sector is closely monitoring these instruments, as they will help define key aspects of the framework applicable to private investment in the Venezuelan hydrocarbons industry.

Learn more about our [Venezuela Strategic Advisory Team](#).

Information contained in this newsletter is for the general education and knowledge of our readers. It is not designed to be, and should not be used as, the sole source of information when analyzing and resolving a legal problem, and it should not be substituted for legal advice, which relies on a specific factual analysis. Moreover, the laws of each jurisdiction are different and are constantly changing. This information is not intended to create, and receipt of it does not constitute an attorney-client relationship. If you have specific questions regarding a particular fact situation, we urge you to consult the authors of this publication, your Holland & Knight representative or other competent legal counsel.