



Bolivaria's Allies

OE Watch Commentary: The four accompanying excerpted references compose an efficient and informative series from a major Colombian daily about the broad, if not Western, international support enjoyed by the regime of Nicolás Maduro in Caracas. The title to this article does not have a misspelling of Bolivian, but alludes to the broadly held opinion that none of these international dealings we see Maduro complete would happen without coordination and approval from leaders in the nucleus of the Communist Party of Cuba. The suggestion of the series is that the Bolivarians have an adequate answer to the sanctions brought to bear against the regime in Caracas. That answer, however, has the Bolivarians falling farther and farther into debt, a debt they owe to a rogues gallery of United States' adversaries, which all appear to be gaining strategic advantage in the process. **End OE Watch Commentary (Demarest)**



Vladimir Putin met with President of Venezuela Nicolás Maduro on the sidelines of the Third Summit of the Gas Exporting Countries Forum. (2015).

Source: President of Russia, <http://en.kremlin.ru/events/president/news/50768>, CC 4.0.

“...Maduro shows that he does have diplomatic relations...”

Source: Editors, “Rusia invertirá 6 mil millones de dólares en Venezuela (Russia will invest 6 billion dollars in Venezuela),” *El Colombiano*, 6 December 2018. <http://www.elcolombiano.com/internacional/venezuela/como-apoya-rusia-a-venezuela-YD9775133>

Venezuela completed agreements to receive 6,000 million dollars of Russian investments in the petroleum and mining sectors, according to an announcement from Moscow by Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro...Without specifying timeframes, the ruler asserted that the Russian investment in the petroleum sector will focus on ruso-venezuelan ‘mixed enterprises’, with the objective of raising the production of the South American country by ‘almost a million barrels’...Before traveling to Moscow, he [Maduro] met Monday in Caracas with the president of Turkey, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, and in days prior had received the Iranian foreign minister, Hojattolah Soltani, and the leader of the North Korean Supreme Assembly, Kim Jong Nam, representative of State of Kim Jong Un...

Source: Editors, “Las alianzas de Nicolás Maduro con Vladimir Putin (The alliances of Nicolás Maduro with Vladimir Putin),” *El Colombiano*, 5 December 2018. <http://www.elcolombiano.com/internacional/venezuela/venezuela-y-rusia-tejen-alianzas-tras-encuentro-de-nicolas-maduro-y-vladimir-putin-EG9769327>

The Russian President, Vladimir Putin, expressed his support to his Venezuelan counterpart, Nicolás Maduro...‘We support your efforts to attain social peace and all your actions to harmonize relations with the opposition...And naturally we condemn all the actions, evidently of a terroristic character, all attempting to bring down’ the government of Maduro ‘with the help of force’...The heir to the deceased Hugo Chávez (1999-2013) claimed in Moscow that in spite of having been ‘submitted to all kinds of aggressions, threats’, in Venezuela ‘we are standing and winning’. We are talking about ‘a learning process.’

Source: Editors, “Rusia y Turquía, los aliados de Maduro ante crisis en Venezuela (Russia and Turkey, Maduro’s allies in facing the crisis in Venezuela),” *El Colombiano*, 4 December 2018. <http://www.elcolombiano.com/internacional/venezuela/nicolas-maduro-presidente-de-venezuela-viaja-a-rusia-para-reunion-con-vladimir-putin-FJ9759272>

Although the Venezuelan ruler did not specify his agenda in that country, relations between Russia and the South American country have turned on support in the energy and military sectors....The trip comes after the support he received on the part of the President of Turkey...which rejects the sanctions against Venezuela by the United States...The commercial interchange with Turkey and Venezuela will reach 800 million dollars this year, according to Maduro...

Source: Editors, “Maduro y sus tres aliados estratégicos (Maduro and his three strategic allies),” *El Colombiano*, 5 December 2018. <http://www.elcolombiano.com/internacional/venezuela/cuales-son-los-paises-que-apoyan-a-venezuela-y-nicolas-maduro-GX9761448>

In September he visited China, where the government of Xi Jinping promised 5 billion dollars to combat the crisis.... Therefore, while the governments of the region attempt to corral the regime, the Organization of American States or the United States exercising pressure and some members of the European Union condemning the government, Maduro shows that he does have diplomatic relations, but with those countries that are outside the western sphere. But they are not new alliances...