

January 6 2026 Irish Centre meeting on the Global Sumud Flotilla - RN

Just want to give a short statement that Newcastle and South Tyneside stop the war gave at our emergency rally yesterday evening in Newcastle.

Standing at the monument yesterday it took us back 25 years ago to a dark winters evening in October when similar numbers gathered spontaneously at the Monument to oppose Bush and Blair's attack on Afghanistan with the start of so called war on terror. Of course since then this Anglo-US warmongering axis has invaded Iraq, threatened Iran regime changed in Libya and Syria and has carried on with its bombings and killings and proxy wars and destruction everywhere.

Now and then always in the forefront our dear comrade Yvonne as well as Ruhi today speaking about the heroic flotilla for Gaza. Yet it was 25 years ago Yvonne was captured as a journalist by the Taliban but then was one of the first to stand out against the Anglo-US attack on Afghanistan. This reminds us of the tremendous legacy we have and the urgent responsibility of the peoples movements and their continued heroic resistance to take on and bring about an end to these pro-war governments in the US, in Britain and elsewhere.

Stop the war Stands with Venezuela! We stand with the Bolivarian republic and their resistance to US state terroism

Once again we see an act of state terrorism launched by the US. We condemn the violence unleashed against Venezuela and its people to arrest and kidnap the President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela Nicolás Maduro and First Lady Cilia Flores. Maduro's indictment in the Southern District of New York on charges of narco-terrorism, cocaine trafficking and weapons-related conspiracies is a complete fraud. UN investigatory bodies show that Venezuela is not the source of narcotics so the charges are ridiculous to try and fool the gullible and Maduro has already dismissed them and demanded that he be recognised as a political prisoner as a kidnapped President of Venezuela.

The BBC and others say Maduro was captured not kidnapped and try to claim that this was a bloodless coup. According to latest reports 80 people were killed by the US forces and 32 of them Cubans many of them defending Maduro. More than a hundred more have been killed with bombing of fishing boats claiming they were running illegal drugs with not even a fig leaf of a judicial process and then there was also the illegal seizure of two Venezuelan oil tankers in international waters and chasing another that got away across the Atlantic.

These are illegal and desperate acts of extreme violence and state terrorism against Venezuela, acts that are also endangering the calls for peace in the entire region of the Caribbean and Latin America. It is aimed particularly against those countries like Venezuela that support the worlds people that want an independent path and have

taken the stanchest path standing with the Palestinian people. Venezuela and Cuba and many other countries in the Caribbean, are countries that oppose the Anglo-US backed Israeli genocide in the West bank and Gaza. It is these countries that Trump is attacking

I think it is important to note what is changing. Since the war on terror was launched and even before that with the attack on Yugoslavia by Clinton and Blair, Blair had announced then that the rules of the game had changed, had replaced International law, if it ever existed for them, by the so-called “rules base order”. Rules that served the interests of their unipolar world to interfere in sovereign countries. What we see today is a further counter revolution even over their so-called rules base order. These are acts of destruction of all rule of law and all lawfully constituted states and institutions, shows that the United States will do the same against any country it so decides. There can be no compromise, or conciliation with such reaction.

This is why we must hold the British government to account must unequivocally oppose the lawlessness and destruction which the US is carrying out. Nothing less is acceptable. The British government must stand with the people and with other governments in their call for an immediate cessation of military action by the US and the return of Maduro to his country. Now is the time that the British government should break with the wanton violence and war of the United States. It must break its own warmongering actions in supporting Israel's genocide of the Palestinians and it must end its proxy war in Ukraine against Russia and support a genuine peace between Russia and Ukraine

Emergency actions were held across the country last night, with demonstrations and online rallies so that the people, their anti-war organisations, trade unions to demand an end US state terrorism. The Bolivarian Republic is resisting. The reason the US have not been able to carry out a full invasion so far is that the people are armed. Chavistas live and will defend their sovereignty.

We join the people Venezuela and the peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean in denouncing the US actions against Venezuela and US state terrorism at home and abroad.

Our call is support the resistance of the Venezuelan people! Not a single youth for imperialist war! All out to support the people of Venezuela, their government and their fight to defend their sovereignty!