



A COUNTRY THAT WORKS

*Why Venezuela needs to change the system
—not just the people— and what stays yours.*

Carlos Santaella

BEFORE WE BEGIN

Let's talk straight.

This little book isn't about parties or candidates.

It's about something simpler: why it's so hard to live well in Venezuela... and what we could do differently.

No fancy words. No magic formulas.

Just an honest conversation about our country.

Take your time with it. Talk it over at home. Make up your own mind.



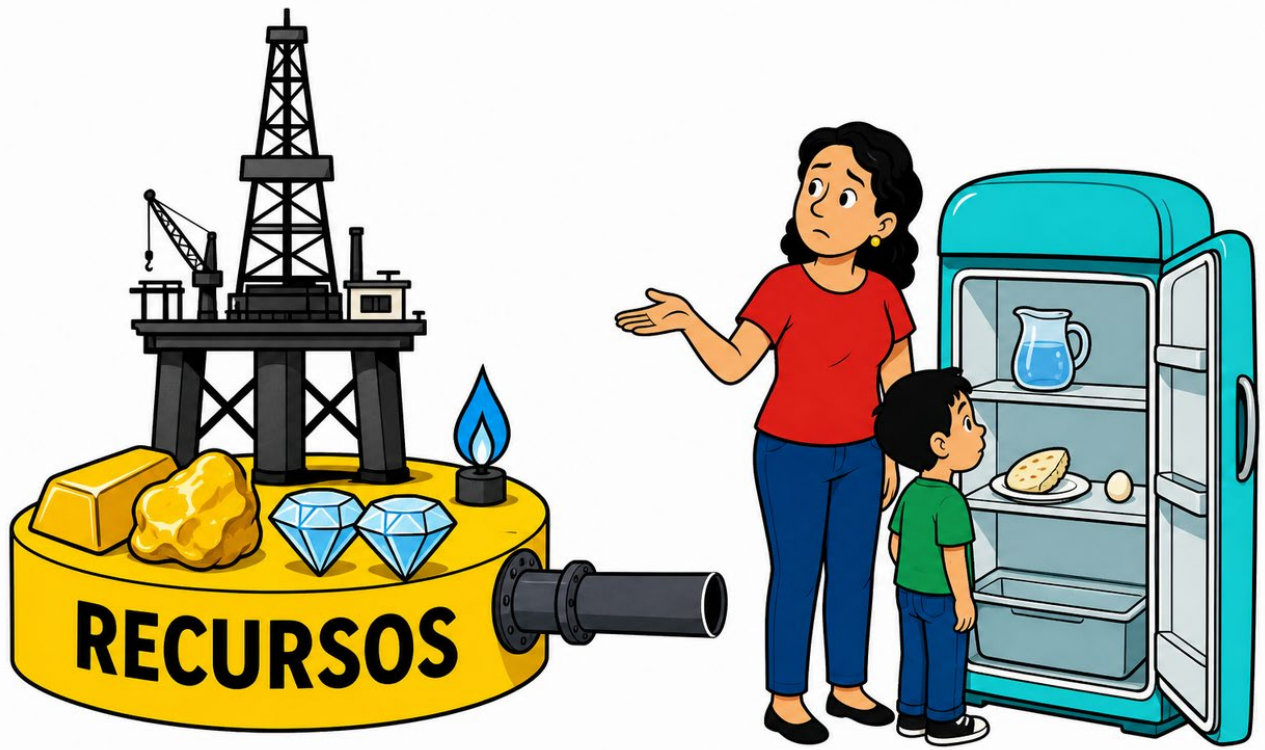
THE STARTING POINT

Venezuela is rich in resources. So why do we live like this?

Venezuela has the largest proven oil reserves on earth. It also has gas, minerals, fertile land, water, and hardworking people.

And still, for millions of families, every single day is a struggle just to get the basics.

Something doesn't add up.



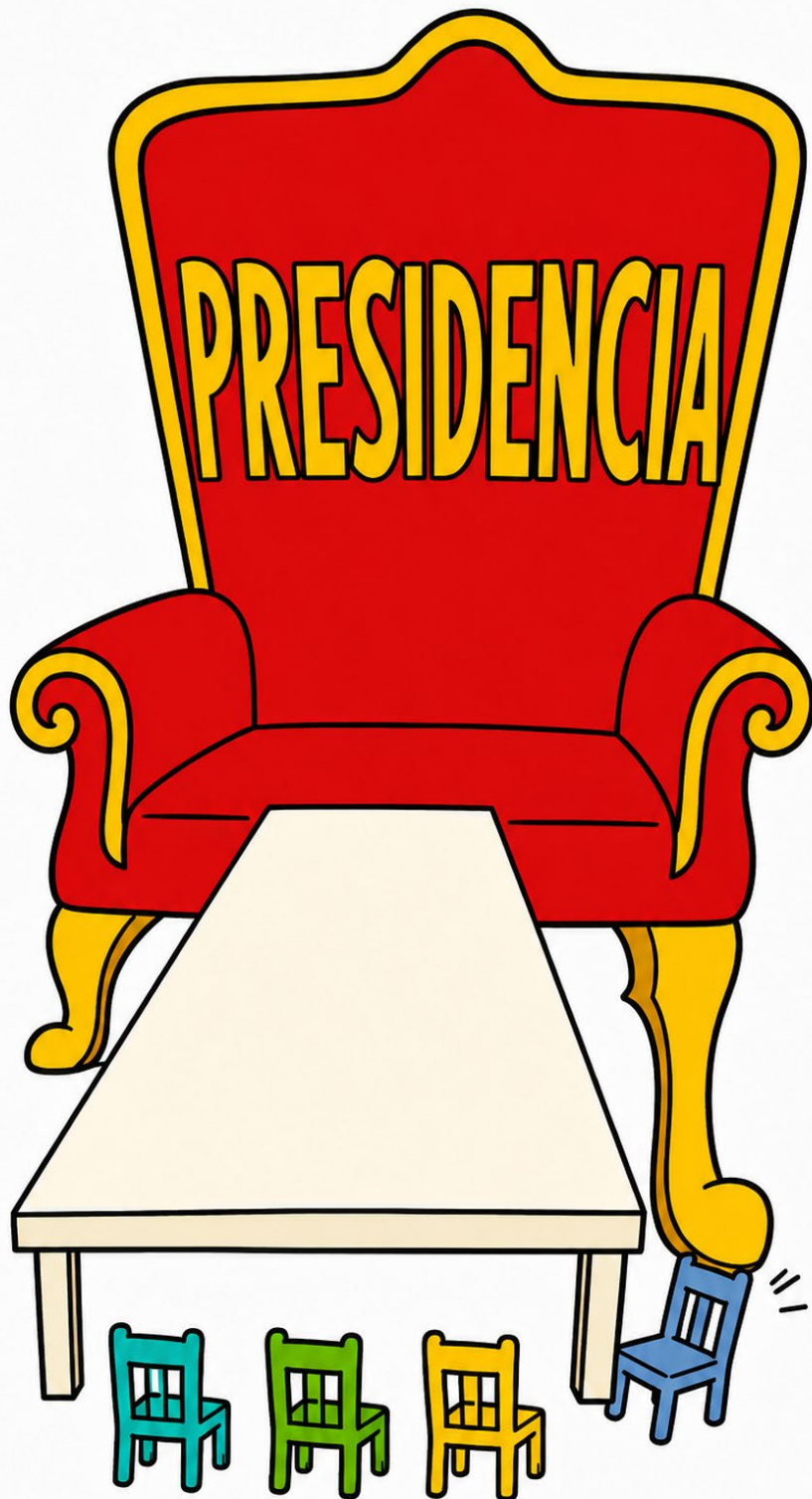
THE DIAGNOSIS

Let's just say it: the system we have is broken.

Over and over, too much power ended up in the hands of a single Presidency.

And when that one office fails, the whole country goes down with it.

The problem isn't just who's been in charge. It's a system that lets too much power pile up in a single Presidency.



We kept swapping out the people. We never changed the system.

Venezuela changed leaders plenty of times. The names changed. The promises changed.

But underneath, one thing stayed the same: almost all the power still sat in the hands of one person.

Painting the house a new color doesn't fix the cracks in the foundation.

The problem wasn't just who was governing. It was how the power itself was built.



Picking the best driver isn't enough.

We could hire the best driver in the world.

But if the tires are flat, the brakes are shot, the engine's blown, and the radiator's leaking, even the best driver can't get us where we need to go.

What can they do? Nothing.

The car stalls out on the first hill... or ends up over a cliff.

Come on! You've got to be kidding me!

First we fix the car. Then we let the best driver take the wheel.

That way we actually get there—safe, comfortable, and on time.

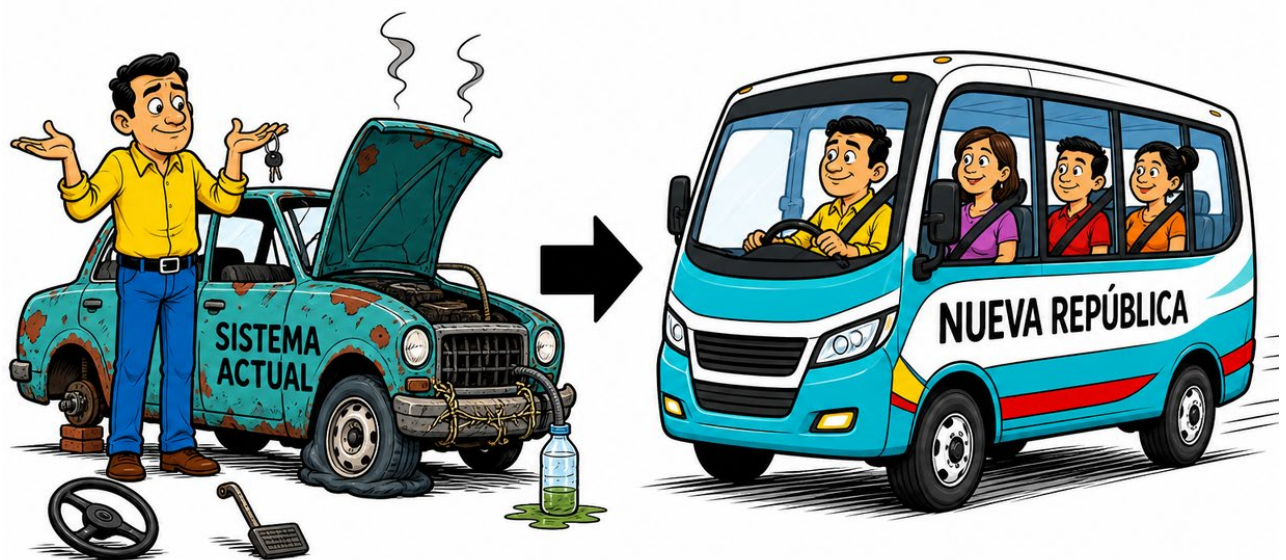
It's the same story with Venezuela.

The car isn't the country. The car is the system we govern with.

Picking a better person isn't enough.

We have to rebuild the system that person is going to have to drive.

Even the best driver can't steer a broken system.



THE BREAKING POINT

This can't go on.

We can't keep hoping the next person will finally be different.

We have to build a system where no one can control everything—even if they wanted to.

It's not just about changing who's in charge. It's about changing the system.



THE PROPOSAL

The proposal has a name: a Constitutional Parliamentary Republic.

Constitutional, because nobody gets to be above the rules.

Parliamentary, because the government comes from the Parliament you elect—and has to answer to it.

A Republic, because the power belongs to the people.

This isn't about swapping one man for another. It's about building a better system.



Other countries already work this way.

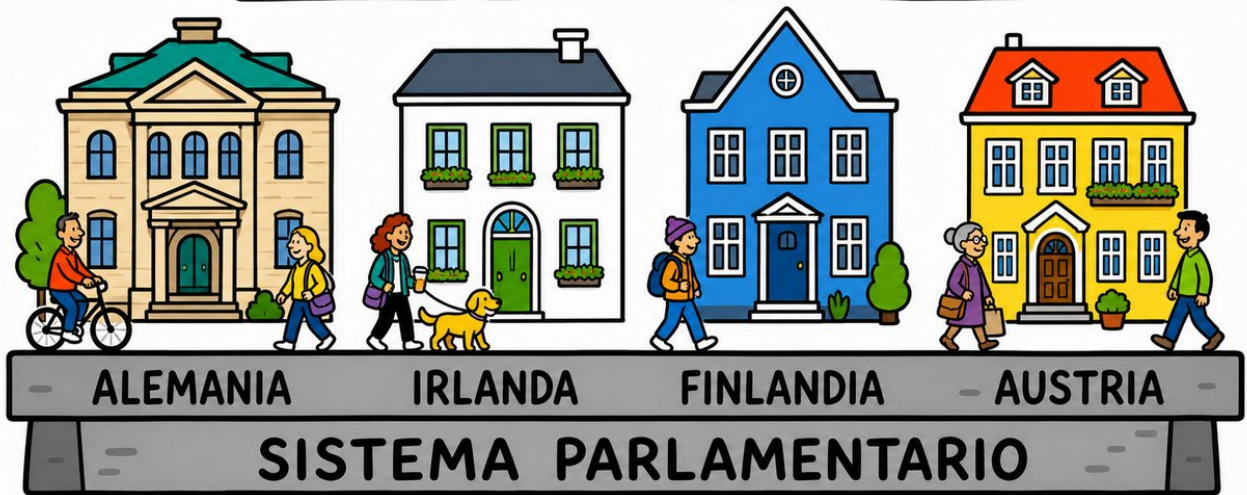
This isn't an experiment. Stable, prosperous democracies like Germany, Ireland, Finland, and Austria run on parliamentary systems.

Each one adapts it to its own history. None is exactly like the model we're proposing for Venezuela.

But they all follow one proven principle: the government answers to Parliament, and it can change without tearing down the State.

We're not out to copy anyone. We want to take a principle that works and build something Venezuelan.

NO ES UN EXPERIMENTO

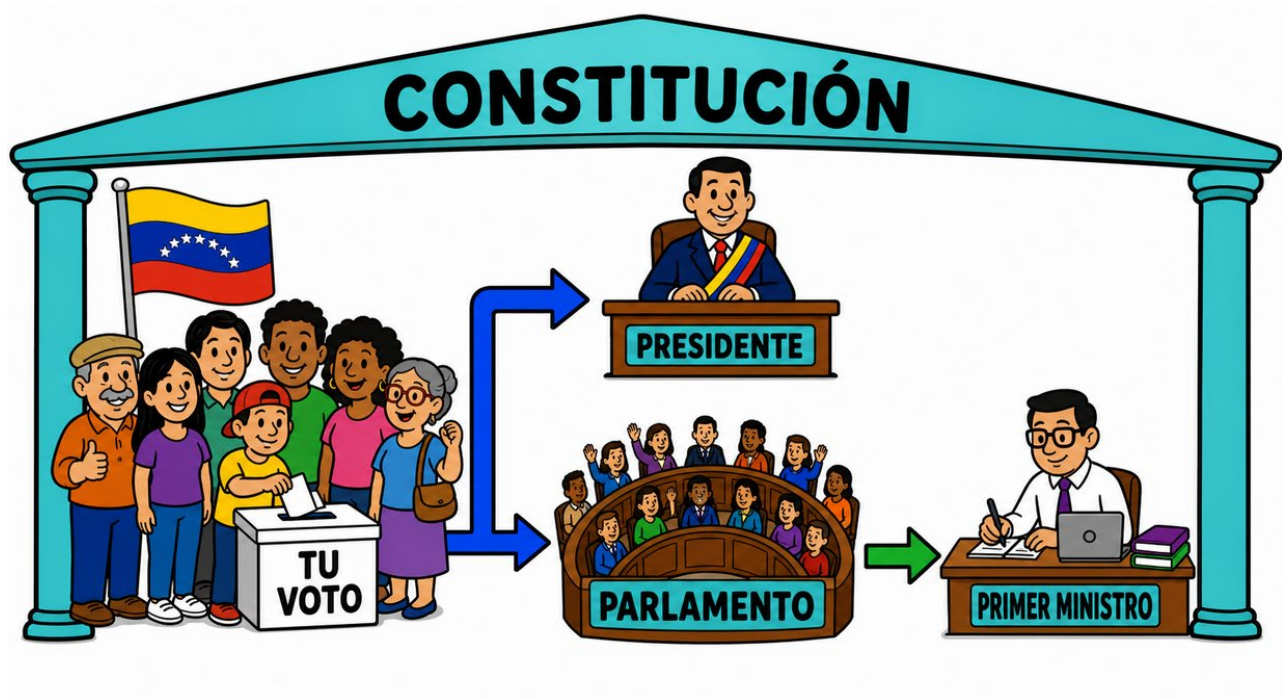


THE PROPOSAL IN PLAIN WORDS

What does it mean, in plain terms?

- You elect the President directly.
- You elect the Parliament directly.
- Parliament chooses the Prime Minister, who runs the day-to-day government.
- The President protects the Constitution and represents the country.

No one controls everything.



You're still in charge. You still vote.

Changing the system doesn't take a single thing away from you.

Just the opposite—it gives you more control.

Venezuela is still yours. The power still starts with your vote.

You'll keep electing, directly:

- your President
- your representatives in Parliament

None of that changes.

¡TÚ SIGUES ELIGIENDO!



PRESIDENTE



PARLAMENTO

HOW IT WOULD WORK

Parliament, and who does what.

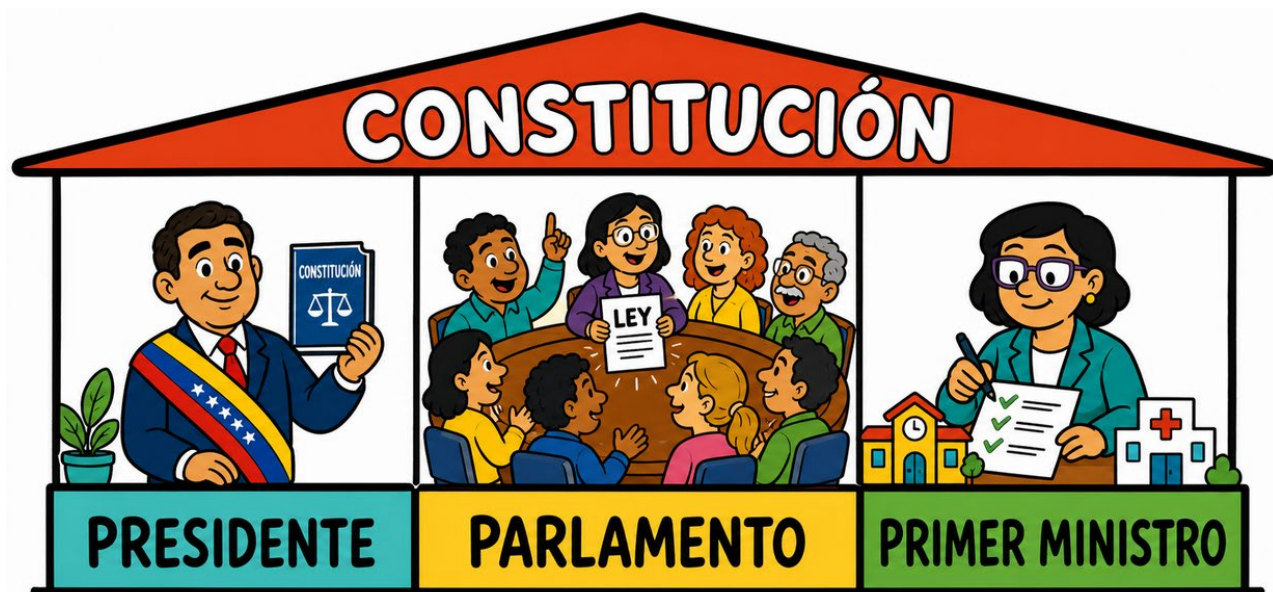
Parliament is made up of the people you elect to represent you.

It stands for the regions and the different voices of the country, writes the laws, and keeps an eye on the government.

Parliament also chooses the Prime Minister.

The President, the Parliament, and the Prime Minister each have their own jobs and their own limits.

No one runs the whole show.



NADIE MANDA SOBRE TODO

The President looks after the country. The Prime Minister runs it.

The President is the Head of State.

He makes sure the Constitution is respected, and he represents Venezuela to the world.

He doesn't handle the day-to-day—that's the Prime Minister's job.

The Prime Minister doesn't replace the President, and neither one is above the Constitution.

The President is elected for five years and can hold the office twice at most—back-to-back or not.

Nobody gets to keep power forever.

CONSTITUCIÓN



PRESIDENTE

CUIDA LAS REGLAS



PRIMER MINISTRO

DIRIGE EL GOBIERNO

DOS FUNCIONES. UNA REPÚBLICA.

A government can change without bringing the country to a stop.

When something shorts out in your house, the breaker trips. The problem stops right there. The house is protected and keeps running.

The new Republic works a lot like that:

- You elect the President.
- You elect the Parliament.
- Parliament chooses the Prime Minister, who runs the day-to-day government.
- If that government fails, Parliament can replace it—without stopping the Republic.

SI EL PRIMER MINISTRO FALLA



EL PARLAMENTO LO CAMBIA



CAMBIA EL PRIMER MINISTRO. LA REPÚBLICA SIGUE DE PIE.

No one controls everything. Not even the President.

To keep power from piling up all over again, you need independent referees:

- courts that take orders from no one
- a clean election system you can audit
- public books that anyone can check

When power is being watched, it's a lot harder to abuse.

EL PODER TAMBIÉN SE VIGILA



NADIE TIENE TODAS LAS LLAVES.

Venezuela produces wealth. The question is: where does it go?

There's a difference between what the country earns... and what actually makes it to your home.

For years, way too much got lost along the way—to corruption, to chaos, to the wrong hands.

Wealth reaching families isn't a handout. It's just what's fair.

LA RIQUEZA TIENE QUE LLEGAR A **TU CASA**



NO BASTA TENERLA. TIENE QUE LLEGARTE.

Wealth by itself isn't enough. Institutions are what make the difference.

Plenty of countries struck oil. For some it changed everything; for others it didn't.

The difference wasn't luck. It was how they built their institutions.

This isn't about copying anyone. It's about learning something simple:

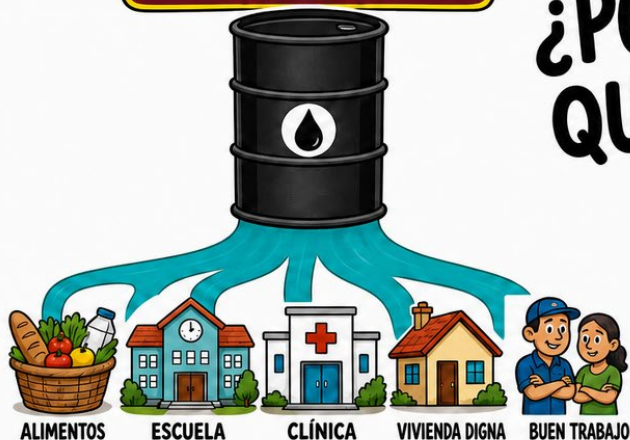
wealth doesn't turn into a better life on its own.

A new Constitution won't fill the fridge overnight. But without honest institutions, Venezuela's wealth will keep disappearing before it ever reaches your home.

UN BARRIL ES UN BARRIL. ¿POR QUÉ ALLÁ RINDE MÁS?

QATAR

**≈US\$8,70
AL AÑO**



VENEZUELA

**≈US\$0,40
AL AÑO**

¿POR QUÉ?



**ALLÁ SABEN CONVERTIR Y HACER LLEGAR LA RIQUEZA. AQUÍ NO.
EL PROBLEMA NO ES EL PETRÓLEO. ES LO QUE HACEN CON ÉL.**

Comparación económica, no política. No es un pago directo al ciudadano.
Fuentes: OPEP, Annual Statistical Bulletin 2025; Banco Mundial, datos 2024.

WHAT CAN GET BETTER

What would actually change in your life?

With institutions that work, it becomes possible to improve what matters most:

safety, justice, schools, hospitals, housing, a steady economy, and real jobs.

Not overnight. Not by magic.

But for the first time, on a foundation that doesn't cave in with every new government.

What works, lasts.

UN PAÍS QUE FUNCIONA SE NOTA EN TU VIDA



NO ES MAGIA. ES CONSTRUIR INSTITUCIONES QUE FUNCIONEN.

So how do we get there? You decide first.

None of this starts by force, and none of it happens behind closed doors.

Our Constitution recognizes that the power to transform the State belongs to the people.

First, the country's different sectors publicly agree on the rules and the schedule.

Then it all gets explained, in plain language.

And then you get asked: do you authorize starting this process?

Without your say-so, nothing begins.

TÚ DECIDES PRIMERO



NADA EMPIEZA SIN TU PERMISO.

You vote.

The whole thing is decided by your vote, in a referendum.

Here's the question you'd be asked:

Do you authorize convening a National Constituent Assembly to design a new Constitution and transform Venezuela into a Democratic, Constitutional, and Parliamentary Republic?

On the ballot, the name shows up in full: a Democratic, Constitutional, and Parliamentary Republic. It's the same model.

You answer Yes or No.

And whatever you decide is respected.

TÚ TIENES LA PALABRA.



SÍ O NO: LA DECISIÓN ES TUYA.

Whatever the result, it's respected.

If No wins, the process stops. No tricks, no punishment, no forcing it through anyway.

If Yes wins, representatives are elected to write the new Constitution, the country is consulted, and the text comes right back to the people.

That's the difference between a proposal and something forced on you.

DOS RESPUESTAS. DOS CAMINOS.

NO

SE RESPETA LA DECISIÓN.



SÍ

EL PROCESO CONTINÚA
Y VUELVE A TI.



EN AMBOS CASOS, TU DECISIÓN MANDA.

THE PATH

Even if you say Yes, you still get the last word.

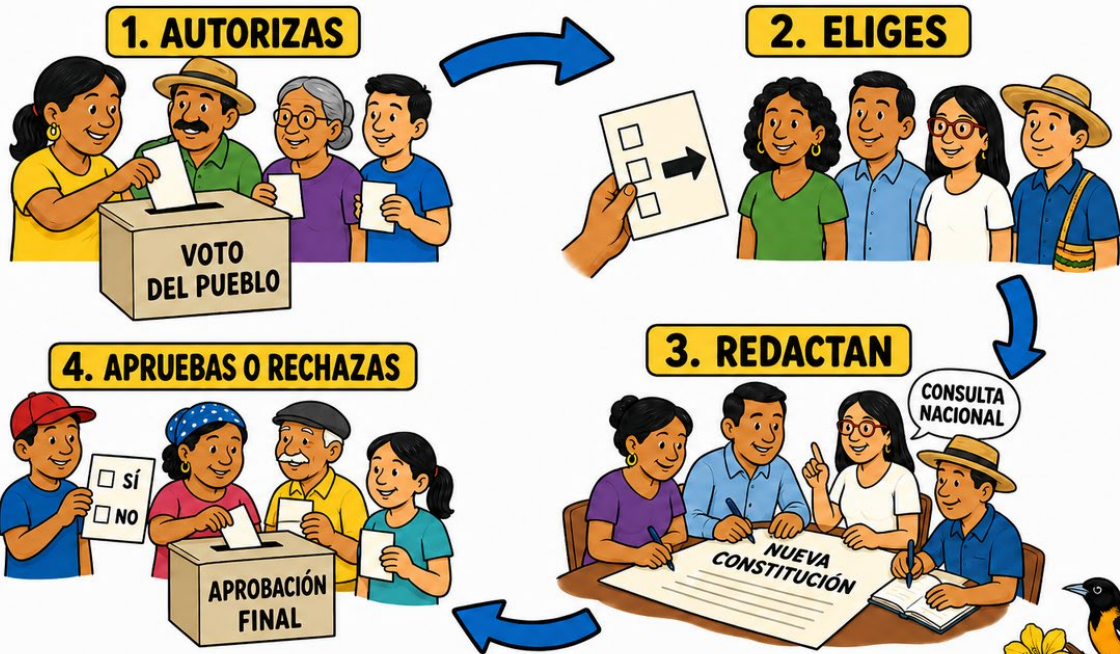
A Yes is not a blank check.

Elected representatives write the new Constitution.

The whole country is consulted.

Nothing takes effect automatically—the finished text comes back to you for the final yes.

TÚ TIENES LA ÚLTIMA PALABRA. DOS VECES.



EL PUEBLO ABRE EL PROCESO. EL PUEBLO LO CIERRA.



When would we vote under the new Republic?

The path is clear, and it comes with a deadline.

First: a national agreement.

Then: your authorization in the referendum.

Next: writing and approving the new Constitution.

And then: elections under the new Republic.

Sixteen months after the people give the go-ahead for the Constituent Assembly, Venezuela would hold its first elections under the new Republic.

UNA RUTA CLARA. UN COMPROMISO CLARO.



PRIMERO AUTORIZAS. DIECISÉIS MESES DESPUÉS, VUELVES A VOTAR.

Nobody saves Venezuela alone. This is a start.

No leader, no matter how good, can fix a country alone.

Venezuela gets rebuilt by millions of people—and by institutions that outlast any one leader.

I can't promise it'll be easy. What I'm offering is a clear path—rules out in the open, a public timeline, and the decisions in your hands.

I'm writing this as someone who's spent his life building things, not as a party politician.

I'm not asking you to trust me. I'm offering you a system where you don't have to blindly trust anyone.

NADIE VA A SALVAR A VENEZUELA SOLO.

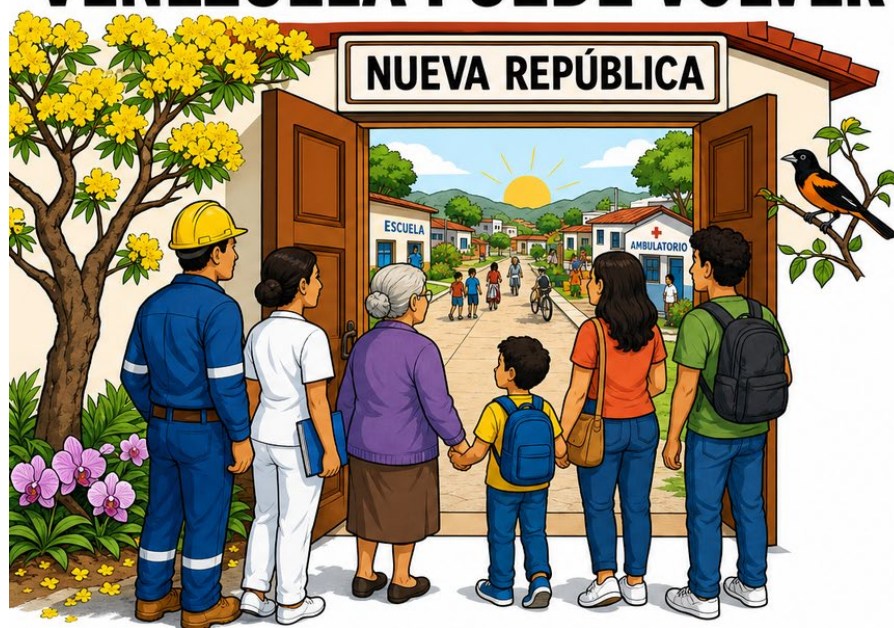


HACEMOS FALTA MILLONES DE NOSOTROS.

Planta

Carlos Santaella
2026

VENEZUELA PUEDE VOLVER A EMPEZAR.



ESTA VEZ, CON UN PAÍS QUE FUNCIONE.