

URGENT ACTION

REFUGEES IN PERU FACE IMPOSSIBLE DEADLINE

As of November 10, 2023, Venezuelan nationals in Peru will no longer be able to apply for temporary protection. This status is essential for refugees to have a regular migratory status, access to basic rights, and protection against forced returns to Venezuela. Survivors of gender-based violence face heightened risks if excluded from this status. Venezuelan refugees should be granted temporary protection through programs that are fully accessible. We call on the Superintendent of Migrations to repeal this deadline, or at least extend it, to ensure all Venezuelans can apply for the permit.

TAKE ACTION:

- Write a letter in your own words or using the sample below as a guide to one or both government officials listed. You can also email, fax, call or Tweet them.
- [Click here](#) to let us know the actions you took on **Urgent Action 106.23**. It's important to report because we share the total number with the officials we are trying to persuade and the people we are trying to help.

Mr. Armando García Chunga
Superintendente Nacional de Migraciones
Av. España 734, Breña Lima, Perú
Email: agarcia@migraciones.gob.pe
Twitter: [@Armando1703](https://twitter.com/Armando1703)

Peruvian Embassy in the United States
Ambassador Gustavo Adolfo Meza-Cuadra Velásquez
1700 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington DC
20036
Phone: (202) 833-9860
Email: webadmin@embassyofperu.us
Salutation: His Excellency Mr.

Dear Mr. Armando García Chunga,

I am alarmed by the imminent deadline Venezuelan refugees are facing to request a regular migratory status, or temporary protection in Peru. This deadline, set to November 10, 2023, contravenes the Peruvian state's obligation to protect refugees in the country.

While we acknowledge the challenges implied in welcoming unprecedented numbers of people seeking protection, we remind Peruvian authorities of their obligations under international refugee and human rights law to protect those fleeing massive human rights violations in Venezuela. Peru must guarantee the right to request recognition of refugee status for all Venezuelans based on the definition of refugee enshrined in your national laws and the Cartagena Declaration of 1984.

While the Peruvian asylum system remains inadequate to comply with such obligations, all complementary and temporary protection measures must be fully accessible to all Venezuelans without limitations. These measures must protect basic rights, including work, health, and education.

We call on you to ensure Peru fully complies with its international obligations and to immediately repeal the undue deadline imposed on Venezuelans who seek a regular migratory status through the CPP program.

Yours sincerely,

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

By August 2023, over 25% of the population of Venezuela (more than 7.71 million Venezuelans) has fled massive human rights violations and 1.4 million more Venezuelans have fled since May 2022. More than 80% of these people are in Latin America and the Caribbean. Specifically, 70% are in Colombia (2.9 million), Peru (1.5 million), Ecuador (475,000), and Chile (444,000). Outside of Latin America and the Caribbean, the US ranks third, with 545,000 Venezuelan nationals in its territory (September 2021 figure). This figure is grossly outdated, as Venezuelans continue to be one of the top nationalities arriving to the US daily.

Amnesty International believes that Venezuelan nationals fleeing the country need international protection and should be formally recognized as refugees, given the threat to their lives, their safety, and their freedom because of human rights violations in Venezuela. Consequently, they cannot be returned to Venezuela or to places where their lives are at risk. However, a growing number of countries, including the US, have resumed deportation flights to Venezuela, violating international human rights and refugee law.

This crisis has impacted Venezuelan women and girls disproportionately. In 2022, Amnesty International published “Unprotected: Gender-based violence against Venezuelan refugee women in Colombia and Peru”, revealing how the lack of access to international protection and migratory regularization, and obstacles in accessing health and justice services and shelters, showed that Peru, Ecuador, and Colombia breached their obligations to prevent and remedy gender-based violence against Venezuelan refugee women. In a September 2023 report, “Regularization and protection: International obligations for the protection of Venezuelan nationals”, Amnesty International concluded that Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Chile do not comply with their obligations to protect Venezuelans.

The Peruvian state has repeatedly taken actions that put Venezuelan refugees at risk. In 2020, Amnesty International issued an urgent action given the risk of forced evictions Venezuelan nationals and others faced during the Covid pandemic, when many Venezuelan refugees were in a situation of heightened vulnerability. In November 2021, Amnesty International issued another urgent action to demand Peruvian authorities grant emergency humanitarian status to Venezuelan children in Peru, after Peruvian authorities unduly denied them such status. Both actions were eventually successful.

PREFERRED LANGUAGE TO ADDRESS TARGET: Spanish

You can also write in your own language.

PLEASE TAKE ACTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE UNTIL: December 29, 2023

Please check with the Amnesty office in your country if you wish to send appeals after the deadline.

NAME AND PREFERRED PRONOUN: Venezuelan refugees (they/them)