Contribution to the Fourth Cycle of the Universal Periodic Review of the United Nations Human Rights Council on Venezuela

The Right to Science in Venezuela: Systematic Annihilation of National Scientific Capacity (2022-2026)

B41 / D43 / E21 / E51 / E55

This report is a contribution to the 4th cycle of the Universal Periodic Review of Venezuela submitted by the Epikeia University Human Rights Observatory, the Human Rights Observatory of the University of Los Andes (ODH-ULA), the Women's Commission of the University of Los Andes, and the Council for Scientific, Humanistic, Technological and Artistic Development of the University of Los Andes. It is intended to provide information on violations of the right to science, in accordance with the obligations of the Venezuelan State under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. The report was prepared based on pronouncements and studies published by the Academy of Physical, Mathematical and Natural Sciences (ACFIMAN) between 2022 and 2026, on ODH-ULA research conducted during the period under review, and on data from international organizations.

Report prepared by: Epikeia University Human Rights Observatory. Established in 2017 and dedicated to the promotion and defense of academic freedom, university autonomy, and the right to science.

Contact email: epikeiaddhh@gmail.com

July, 2026

Executive Summary

This report follows up on the allegations presented during the Third Cycle of the UPR in 2021 and assesses the state of the right to science in Venezuela during the 2022-2026 period. The evidence gathered —from the Academy of Physical, Mathematical and Natural Sciences (ACFIMAN), the Human Rights Observatory of the University of Los Andes (ODHULA), and international organizations— demonstrates that the Venezuelan State demonstrates that the Venezuelan State has consistently failed to comply with all recommendations made in the previous Cycle and has deepened the policies of defunding, persecution, ideological control, and institutional destruction that constitute a systematic violation of Article 15 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR). The scientific community has been reduced by more than 87%, knowledge production has fallen to 0.64% of the Latin American total, and Venezuela ranks 136th out of 139 countries in the Global Innovation Index. The recent inauguration of the National University of Sciences, conceived as an instrument of ideological control and devoid of autonomy, confirms the consolidation of an official science model that replaces free research with political indoctrination.

I. Introduction and Follow-up to the Previous Cycle

1. This report is submitted by the Human Rights Observatory of the University of Los Andes (ODHULA) as a contribution to the Fourth Cycle of the Universal Periodic Review of Venezuela. It follows up on the document presented in June 2021, entitled "Right to Culture: Institutional Erosion, Disinvestment and Criminalization of Scientific Work in Venezuela," which documented the centralization of science policy, the elimination of research grant programs, the persecution of academics, and the collapse of university infrastructure [1].

2. The 2021 report made seven recommendations to the Venezuelan State. After five years, the balance is one of absolute non-compliance. The norms that centralize and politicize science were not repealed. Grant programs were not restored. Funding for scientific infrastructure was not guaranteed. Persecution of researchers did not cease. Censorship and official disinformation were not eliminated. International cooperation was not promoted. Access to the benefits of science without political discrimination was not guaranteed.

3. This report is based on pronouncements and studies published by the Academy of Physical, Mathematical and Natural Sciences (ACFIMAN) between 2022 and 2026, on ODHULA research conducted during the period under review, and on data from international organizations such as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), and the Interagency Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants of Venezuela (R4V).

II. National Context: A Country in Structural Collapse

4. The violation of the right to science in Venezuela is not an isolated phenomenon but rather part of a broader context of human development collapse. According to UNDP, Venezuela's Human Development Index (HDI) stands at 0.709 points, placing the country 113th worldwide. When adjusted for inequality, the country suffers a loss of more than 17% of its overall score [2].

5. In the economic sphere, the IMF projects inflation of 387.4%, which destroys long-term scientific planning capacity and keeps 82.8% of the population below the poverty line [3]. The reported GDP growth of 4.0% is misleading, as it occurs after a previous contraction of more than 70% of the national productive apparatus and is driven by short-term factors, not by sustainable productive development [4].

6. The International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) has documented that Venezuela registers the largest accumulated decline in compliance with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ranking 120th out of 163 countries assessed [5]. This regression is particularly severe in SDG 9, which includes targets for increasing scientific research and developing national technologies.

7. In the WIPO Global Innovation Index 2025, Venezuela ranks 136th out of 139 economies assessed, due to the systematic collapse in its infrastructure, institutional development, and technological knowledge production pillars [6]. In the Fund for Peace Human Flight and Brain Drain Index, the country scores 6.4 out of 10, well above the global average of 4.98 [7].

III. Assessment of Compliance with Third Cycle Recommendations

8. The report submitted during the Third Cycle of the UPR in 2021 made seven recommendations to the Venezuelan State. More than four years later, none have been fulfilled. The norms that centralize and politicize science were not repealed; on the contrary, control was deepened with the creation of the National University of Sciences, devoid of autonomy and aligned with the objectives of the Organic Law of the Homeland Plan (2019-25) [8]. Research grant programs were not restored: the Innovation and Research Stimulus Program (PEII), a government program created to recognize, stimulate, and fund researchers, innovators, and technologists, was eliminated without being replaced, and the Councils for Scientific, Humanistic and Technological Development (CDCHT), advisory and governing bodies responsible for promoting, coordinating, funding, and evaluating academic research in Venezuela's main autonomous and experimental universities, receive no state funding [9]. Scientific infrastructure was not guaranteed: Funvisis seismological stations were reduced from 250-300 to only 3-5 operational, with tragic consequences in the seismic emergency of June 2026 [10]. Persecution of researchers did not cease, nor were censorship and official disinformation eliminated [11].

9. Neither was international cooperation promoted: it was politically conditioned and restricted to politically aligned States such as China, Russia, and Iran, while the NGO Oversight Law

criminalizes external funding for independent research [12]. Access to the benefits of science without discrimination was not guaranteed: 82.8% of the population lives below the poverty line, and research centers as well as health centers lack basic supplies [13]. The independent scientific community remains excluded from science policy decision-making, which is reserved for politically aligned actors [14].

IV. The Destruction of the Scientific System: Quantitative Evidence

IV.1. The Decline in Scientific Production

10. A study published in 2023 by the Bulletin of the Academy of Physical, Mathematical and Natural Sciences on knowledge production in Venezuela between 1970 and 2022 constitutes the most compelling quantitative evidence of the collapse. Its findings are unequivocal: as of 2009, Venezuela became the only country in Latin America and the Caribbean with a negative production rate throughout the entire period studied. Venezuela fell from fifth place in the region in 2006 to eleventh in 2022, while the largest economies of South America and Mexico showed superlative growth in the same period [15]. The origin of the decline is the "severe political, economic and social deterioration of the Venezuelan State" [16]. By 2024, the country's relative contribution to knowledge production in Latin America had been reduced to one-sixth in 25 years: from 4% of regional scientific articles in 1999 to barely 0.64% [17].

IV.2. The Massive Loss of Talent

11. Up to 2020, 2,869 researchers were recorded as having left the country while in the full productive stage of their careers [18]. These researchers were responsible for the production of 19,505 publications, equivalent to 34% of those produced from the country [19].

12. The qualifications of the researchers who left the country are exceptionally high: 44% of them hold a doctorate, while another 21% hold a master's degree [20]. The most affected institution has been PDVSA and its subsidiary Intevep, which proportionally lost more of its talent than the others: 41% of its research staff [21].

13. Bibliographic records show that in 2010 there were nearly 8,000 researchers in Venezuela, and that by 2024 this number had been reduced to just over a thousand [22].

14. Nationally, the R4V Platform estimates that approximately 2.6 million qualified professionals and technicians have emigrated, representing nearly 30% of the total migratory balance, which exceeds 8.7 million people [23].

IV.3. Aging and Lack of Generational Replacement

15. The Venezuelan scientific system not only loses researchers but also ages without the possibility of replacement. The average age of the active researcher reached 52 years in 2020: the community's aging phenomenon amounts to one month per calendar year, an alarming rate [24].

Added to this is that new researchers entering the system represent barely 5% of the community [25].

16. This trend was dramatically corroborated by researcher Raúl Estévez, founder of the ULA Geophysics Laboratory, who after the earthquakes of June 24, 2026, declared: "The replacement generations in the area have left. Only we retirees remain. [26].

V. Financial Asphyxiation as State Policy

17. In November 2022, ACFIMAN convened a public forum with the heads of the CDCHTs of the country's seven main public universities. The conclusion was unanimous: "These universities, which historically produce a very important percentage of the scientific publications generated by Venezuela, have not been receiving financial assistance from the State for the promotion of science activities for some 17 years" [27].

18. The Academy noted that "mainly for the above reason, in addition to the massive faculty exodus and student desertion that our higher education institutions are suffering, their contribution to the country's scientific development has been alarmingly decreasing, as demonstrated by a series of unquestionable statistical indicators" [28].

19. In a second pronouncement issued that same month, the Academy addressed the situation of the Faculties of Science and concluded that they face: "serious physical deterioration of facilities caused by acts of vandalism and lack of resources for maintenance; [...] decrease in the number of professors and undergraduate and graduate students, which on average is between 30% and 40%; alarming reduction of full-time professors as a result of the exodus to other countries or to the private sector; [...] substitution of professors by hired professionals who lack experience and academic training" [29].

20. The Academy described the situation as a "systematic destruction of both the infrastructure and the academic and faculty base of the national universities" [30]. This is not a collateral effect of the crisis, but a deliberate policy.

21. The Academy also denounced "the vandalistic aggressions that their institutions have suffered in recent years, largely due to inadequate public security. These actions have damaged, among other facilities, important laboratories where different research projects are carried out" [31]. ODHULA has also denounced in various reports the vandalization of university scientific infrastructure since 2021.

22. This pattern of defunding and abandonment is not limited to the scientific sector but extends to other dimensions of Article 15 of the ICESCR, such as the right to culture. ODHULA documented in 2026 that, despite the national government having approved more than 190 million

dollars between 2015 and 2016 for the recovery of museums, most of these institutions are in a state of abandonment [32]. In the state of Mérida, the Archaeological Museum "Gonzalo Rincón Gutiérrez," attached to ULA, operated in 2023 on a budget of just 1,200 bolívars—approximately 36 dollars— for the entire year [33]. The Museum of Contemporary Art of Zulia (MACZUL) operated in 2022 with barely 30% of the budget needed for its maintenance, in addition to facing constant theft of its electrical wiring [34]. Added to these facts is the political instrumentalization of museums, frequently used for partisan events, distorting their function of study, education, and contemplation [35].

V.1. The Dismantling of University Experimental Stations

23. The destruction of scientific infrastructure has not been limited to urban laboratories. University experimental stations, dedicated to agricultural, environmental, and climate change research, have been subject to systematic dismantling during the 2022-2026 period. In 2022, the Judibana Experimental Station of ULA, in El Vigía, suffered violent invasions by armed civilians; despite judicial complaints filed by university authorities, State security forces ignored eviction orders, in contravention of the obligation to protect scientific infrastructure against third parties established in General Comment No. 25 of the CESCR [36]. That same year, the El Laurel Experimental Station of the UCV Faculty of Agronomy, in Miranda, was looted: the total theft of high-voltage electrical wiring paralyzed undergraduate and graduate projects, due to the lack of government budget to hire surveillance personnel [37].

24. In 2023, the Experimental Stations Committee of the UCV Faculty of Agronomy declared itself in operational emergency after receiving a budget of less than 5% of what was required, making it impossible to replace stolen or damaged inputs, tractors, and reagents [38]. In 2024, a special report by Aula Abierta documented that the lack of regular electricity supply and fuel definitively paralyzed laboratories and stations in outlying areas such as San Eusebio (ULA), causing the irreversible loss of germplasm banks and climate data accumulated over several years [39]. By 2025, the salaries of research and technical staff at the experimental stations remained frozen and pulverized through the Patria System, causing a massive desertion that left the facilities vulnerable to cattle rustling and illegal logging [40]. In 2026, forums of the Venezuelan Society of Agronomist Engineers have described these facilities as "ghost infrastructure", noting the breaking of the thread of long-term research —such as climate change adaptation records— and the impossibility for new students to access practical scientific training [41].

VI. The Dismantling of Applied Science: The FUNVISIS Case

25. The connection between the violation of the right to science and the loss of human lives was tragically demonstrated after the earthquakes that occurred in the Venezuelan central coast on June 24, 2026. ODHULA documented that the Venezuelan Foundation for Seismological Research (Funvisis) was dismantled due to lack of resources: "There came to be between 250 and 300 seismological stations throughout the country. In Mérida there were about 25. Funvisis has 3 or 5 stations left operating. All that infrastructure disappeared because they were not given resources" [42].

26. Funvisis remained silent for more than four hours after the earthquake precisely because of this deficiency: "Seismographs are what allow evaluating and monitoring aftershocks" [43]. This was not an ordinary earthquake; it struck at a time when the country lacked the institutional capacity to respond effectively. The objective of risk management is to prevent accidents from becoming disasters [44].

27. The approach to the emergency situation caused by the double earthquake evidenced the lack of urban search and rescue (USAR) equipment: "A light team composed of 30 people needs, among other things, an impact hammer, a search camera [...]. Rescuers are working with very precarious equipment that prevents giving a good response" [45].

VII. The Political Instrumentalization of Science: From the Science Mission to the National University of Sciences

VII.1. The Failure of the Science Mission: Waste, Opacity, and Politicization

28. The Science Mission, launched in 2006 with an initial investment exceeding 700 million dollars, was originally presented as the flagship project to guarantee technological sovereignty and curb the flight of talent in Venezuela [46]. However, despite coinciding with the period of greatest oil boom in the country's contemporary history —without international sanctions or commercial blockades—, the program lacked efficient execution: by 2008 it had barely executed 30% of the allocated resources, and by 2009 it disappeared from national budgets without public explanation [47].

29. The main ideologue of the Science Mission, sociologist Rigoberto Lanz, publicly admitted its failure in a letter addressed to President Chávez in April 2010, where he spoke of "the slow disappearance of the Science Mission" and emphasized that "it was swallowed up by ministerial bureaucracy" [48]. Academics and former university rectors agree that the project prioritized the ideologization and politicization of scientific activity. Benjamín Scharifker, rector of Simón Bolívar University during its implementation, summarized it thus: "There was a narrative that science was elitist. That is why the objectives of the Science Mission were to transform science into something popular, and that is a deformation. The Science Mission attempted to do away with scientific disciplines and with the distinction between scientific knowledge and popular knowledge. It was the substitution of scientific institutions by organisms of Venezuelan state hegemony" [49].

30. The consequences of this policy were devastating and measurable. Since the start of the Science Mission, the country fell from fifth to eleventh place in the regional ranking of scientific production, becoming the only country in Latin America with a sustained negative growth rate in its academic publications [50]. Venezuela also suffered a collapse in patent registration, which went from an average of 23 per year in 1999 to practically disappearing at present, this decline occurring prior to the imposition of international sanctions [51].

31. While the State allocated hundreds of millions of dollars to parallel structures that did not meet their objectives, autonomous universities suffered a systematic budgetary siege. By November 2024, the University of Los Andes (ULA) had received barely 3.09% of the requested annual budget [52]. This financial asphyxiation caused the deterioration of the Science Faculties of the country's main universities [53]. The most dramatic consequence was the forced migration of more than 2,200 researchers —25% of the total for 2023, according to official data—, who produced 34% of national science and were forced to emigrate due to insecurity and low salaries not reaching four dollars per month [54].

VII.2. The National University of Sciences: The Institutionalization of Ideological Control

32. The recent creation of the Great Science Mission and the Dr. Humberto Fernández-Morán National University of Sciences (UNC) in 2024 does not represent a rectification of the previous failure, but rather the consolidation of the model of centralized control and exclusion. In December 2024, the National Executive inaugurated the UNC, whose institutional design constitutes a condensation of the violations of the right to science documented in this report [55].

33. The UNC is a university belonging to the parallel university system and lacks university autonomy, a principle enshrined in Article 109 of the Venezuelan Constitution: its rector is the Minister of People's Power for Science and Technology, directly appointed by the National Executive [56].

34. The academic offer does not respond to freedom of research, but rather "the 16 degree programs were chosen with a work agenda carried out in 2023 with the 18 engines of the Bolivarian Economic Agenda" [57]. The institutional vision is declared "perfectly aligned with the spirit of the Constitution (Venezuela, 1999) and the Plan of the Homeland of the 7T, 2025-2031" [58].

35. International cooperation is limited to politically aligned States: "There is also cooperation from China, Russia, and Iran in careers such as nanotechnology, atomic engineering, cybersecurity, biotechnology" [59]. This exclusive alliance excludes the global scientific community and violates the principle of universal scientific cooperation established in General Comment No. 25 of the CESCR.

36. The UNC University Gazette (2025) reveals the ideological conception that animates the institution. Research is defined as "a political, cultural, and emancipatory act" [60] and the "epistemic decolonization" approach is adopted as an institutional mandate, being an empty narrative that attempts to conceal political control over the management of science [61].

37. General Comment No. 25 of the CESCR establishes that freedom of research is "an essential component of the right to science" and that States must "respect the freedom indispensable for scientific research," which implies guaranteeing the autonomy of academic institutions from political interference and ensuring that decisions on funding and evaluation are based on scientific

merit and not on ideological criteria [62]. In direct contravention of this standard, the National University of Sciences has been conceived as an instrument of political control. As the Academy has noted, "without strong and autonomous institutions, no science is possible. Research requires continuity, freedom of thought, and institutional stability. When the university loses its autonomy, [...] when merit is replaced by ideological or sectarian loyalty, science becomes a sterile territory" [63].

38. While modern facilities are inaugurated for propaganda purposes, traditional science faculties operate with a student enrollment reduced by half and departments where 40% of professors are of retirement age, with no replacement generation [64]. The UNC operates on the premises of the Venezuelan Institute for Scientific Research (IVIC), whose budget and research capacity have been reduced by more than 70% according to evidence gathered since 2021 [65]. The State has not revealed the amount of investment allocated to this new institution, while maintaining zero funding for the autonomous universities that produce 75% of the national scientific knowledge [66]. This system evidences a policy of premeditated budgetary asphyxiation, where funding is allocated on a discretionary basis rather than through open competition, condemning free research to a state of "resistance" or to definitive extinction.

VIII. Science as Resistance: Testimonies of the Collapse

39. The scientific community has offered the most eloquent testimony of what it means to do science in present-day Venezuela: "Continuing to do science in that context was, and continues to be, an act of resistance. [...] In the last decade, little by little, they all emigrated. [...] Until I was left alone. Simón Bolívar University in general is today desolate; its student population is less than a third of what it was five years ago" [67].

40. Under the regime established in the 21st century, "the notion and nature of the researcher as a subject and actor of the creative act was disrupted by questioning the principle of the Scientific Method, embracing postmodernist conceptions sprinkled with tropicalized Marxism and actively promoting political clientelism, glorifying mediocrity, and rejecting excellence from the presidency of the Republic" [68].

41. The same study concludes: "Without exception, all sectoral indicators in 2020 point downwards, being in many cases comparable to those the country exhibited in the 1960s. [...] All indicators have collapsed" [69].

IX. Conclusions

42. During the 2022-2026 period, the Venezuelan State has contumaciously failed to comply with all recommendations made in the Third Cycle of the UPR. The right to science, enshrined in Article 15 of the ICESCR, has been systematically violated through:

a) The consolidation of a legal and institutional framework that subordinates science to ideological control, whose most accomplished exponent is the National University of Sciences, devoid of autonomy and aligned with the Homeland Plan, and whose direct antecedent is the failure of the Science Mission, which squandered more than 700 million dollars on a project of ideologization and substitution of scientific institutions.

b) The total suppression of state funding for research in autonomous universities, which historically have generated more than 75% of the country's scientific knowledge, while opaque resources are allocated to parallel system institutions. By 2024, ULA had received barely 3.09% of its requested budget.

c) The massive loss of talent: the number of active researchers has fallen from approximately 8,000 to just over 1,000. Approximately 2.6 million qualified professionals and technicians have emigrated. More than 2,200 researchers left the country, due to salaries not reaching four dollars per month.

d) The dismantling of applied scientific infrastructure, as evidenced by the case of Funvisis, whose seismological stations were reduced from 250-300 to only 3-5, with tragic consequences in the management of the seismic emergency of June 2026, as well as the destruction of university experimental stations, which has broken the thread of long-term research in agriculture and climate change.

e) The extension of this pattern of abandonment to other dimensions of Article 15 of the ICESCR, such as the right to culture, where university and national museums survive on symbolic budgets while being instrumentalized for partisan purposes.

f) The instrumentalization of the scientific narrative for propaganda purposes, through programs such as the "Scientific Seedbeds," the "Scientific-Peasant Alliance," and the "Heroic Cayapa Plan," which replace formal research with subsistence inventiveness and conceal the destruction of the real scientific system.

43. As a consequence of these policies, Venezuela has fallen from 5th to 11th place in scientific production in Latin America, its contribution to regional science fell from 4% to 0.64%, and it ranks 136th out of 139 countries in the Global Innovation Index. The collapse in patent registration —from 23 per year in 1999 to practically zero today— confirms that the origin of the crisis predates international sanctions and lies in the deliberate dismantling of national scientific-technical capacities. ACFIMAN has described this situation as a "systematic destruction." Science in Venezuela has been described as "an act of resistance" at risk of disappearing if State policies do not change.

X. Recommendations

Based on the evidence presented, the following is recommended to the Venezuelan State:

44. Repeal the LOCTI reforms of 2010 and 2014, as well as any other norm that subordinates scientific work to political doctrines or centralizes in the National Executive the administration of resources destined for science and technology.

45. Immediately restore funding to autonomous universities and their CDCHTs to implement sustainable financing models based on the diversification of sources, autonomy in asset management, and accountability.

46. Recover national research grant programs, eliminating all political or ideological bias and restoring evaluation by scientific merit with transparent criteria, recognizing with real incentives researchers to encourage their scientific production.

47. Restore full university autonomy, repealing provisions that allow the appointment of authorities by the Executive and guaranteeing the democratic election of university governance bodies.

48. Rebuild destroyed scientific infrastructure, including the Funvisis seismological station network, IVIC laboratories, university experimental stations, university libraries, and museums attached to universities, also guaranteeing the security of all facilities.

49. Immediately cease the stigmatization, persecution, and criminalization of the scientific community, and establish an independent protection mechanism for researchers and academics, allowing the safe return of exiled scientists.

50. Guarantee transparency in the allocation and execution of resources from the Organic Law of Science, Technology and Innovation (LOCTI) and all funds destined for science, technology, and culture, publishing complete and verifiable audits.

51. Restore open international scientific cooperation, eliminating legal and administrative obstacles that criminalize collaboration with foreign institutions and organizations.

52. Implement the necessary reforms to strengthen research and university extension, orienting academic efforts toward solving national and regional problems, through alliances with the productive sector, civil society, and international organizations.

References

[1] Human Rights Observatory of the University of Los Andes (2021). Right to Culture: Institutional Erosion, Disinvestment and Criminalization of Scientific Work in Venezuela. Report for the 3rd cycle of the UPR. https://www.uladdhh.org.ve/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Derecho-a-la-cultura-erosio%CC%81n-institucional-desinversio%CC%81n-y-criminalizacio%CC%81n-de-la-labor-cienti%CC%81fica-VENEZUELA.pdf

[2] UNDP (2025). Human Development Index Trends: Venezuela. Statbase / UNDP Data. https://statbase.org/data/ven-human-development-index/

[3] IMF (2026). República Bolivariana de Venezuela and the IMF: Real GDP growth and Consumer Prices projections. https://www.imf.org/en/countries/ven

[4] Ibid.

[5] ITUC (2023). The 2030 Agenda and Venezuela: Trade union report on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. https://www.ituc-csi.org/IMG/pdf/sdg_report_venezuela_2023_en.pdf

[6] WIPO (2025). Global Innovation Index 2025: Venezuela ranking. https://www.wipo.int/edocs/gii-ranking/2025/ve.pdf

[7] Fund for Peace (2024). Venezuela Human flight and brain drain. The Global Economy. https://theglobaleconomy.com

[8] UNC (2025). University Gazette Year 2025. First Quarter No. 1, p. 41.

[9] ACFIMAN (2022). Pronouncement on the Financing of Scientific Research in Venezuela. 03/11/2022. https://acfiman.org/pronunciamientos/ Cf. Requena, J. (2022). State of Science and Technology in Venezuela. ACFIMAN Bulletin. Vol. LXXXII, No. 1.

[10] ODHULA (2026). Earthquakes in Venezuela | Dismantling of Funvisis, Vulnerable Constructions and Lack of Rescue Equipment. 02/07/2026. https://www.uladdhh.org.ve/terremotos-en-venezuela-desmantelamiento-de-funvisis-construcciones-inadecuadas-y-falta-de-equipos-de-rescate/

[11] Cf. UPR Report 2021, paragraphs 8-12 and 36-42

[12] ONCTI (2024). National University of Sciences Dr. Humberto Fernández-Morán Inaugurated. 15/12/2024. https://www.oncti.gob.ve/inaugurada-universidad-nacional-de-las-ciencias-dr-humberto-fernandez-moran/

[13] IMF (2026), op. cit. Cf. ACFIMAN (2022), Pronouncement on Financing, op. cit.

[14] ACFIMAN (2022), Pronouncement on Financing, op. cit.

[15] Bonalde, I. & Montañes, B. (2023). Knowledge Production in Venezuela 1970-2022. ACFIMAN Bulletin. Vol. LXXXIII, No. 2, p. 1.

[16] Ibid., p. 9.

[17] Scharifker, B. (2025). Crisis and Hope: Science in Venezuela and the Challenges of the Present. ACFIMAN Bulletin. Vol. LXXXV, No. 2, p. 34.

[18] Requena, J. (2022). State of Science and Technology in Venezuela: Update to 2020. ACFIMAN Bulletin. Vol. LXXXII, No. 1, p. 13.

[19] Ibid., p. 14.

[20] Ibid., p. 15.

[21] Ibid., p. 16.

[22] Scharifker, B. (2025), op. cit., p. 34.

[23] R4V Platform (2024). Refugee and Migrant Needs Analysis 2024. https://rmrp.r4v.info/rmrp-2025-2026/

[24] Requena, J. (2022), op. cit., p. 11.

[25] Ibid., p. 10.

[26] ODHULA (2026). Earthquakes in Venezuela, op. cit.

[27] ACFIMAN (2022). Pronouncement on the Financing of Scientific Research in Venezuela. 03/11/2022. https://acfiman.org/pronunciamientos/

[28] Ibid.

[29] ACFIMAN (2022). Pronouncement on the Situation of the Faculties of Science. 28/11/2022. https://acfiman.org/pronunciamientos/

[30] Ibid.

[31] ACFIMAN (2022). Pronouncement on Financing, op. cit.

[32] ODHULA (2026). Right to Culture: Millionaire Funds Have Not Stopped the Deterioration of Museums in Venezuela. 29/05/2026. https://www.uladdhh.org.ve/derecho-a-la-cultura-fondos-millonarios-no-han-detenido-el-deterioro-de-museos-en-venezuela/

[33] Ibid.

[34] Ibid.

[35] Ibid.

[36] Human Rights Observatory of the University of Los Andes (2023). Report on Sanitation, Right to Property and Healthy Environment in University Regions of Venezuela. Technical Report No. 7, 07/01/2023. https://www.uladdhh.org.ve/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/7.-Reporte-Saneamiento-y-ambiente.pdf Cf. Aula Abierta Latinoamérica (2022). Invasions, Logging, Abandonment and Thefts Endanger ULA Experimental Stations. 28/01/2022. https://aulaabiertalatinoamerica.org/tag/universidad-de-los-andes/

[37] Marrero Castro, J. F. (2023). Experimental Stations as Centers for Research, Development and Extension for Agriculture: The Case of the UCV Faculty of Agronomy. Saber UCV; Institutional Repository of the Central University of Venezuela. https://saber.ucv.ve/jspui/handle/10872/22172

[38] UCV Faculty of Agronomy [fagroucv] (2023). Extraordinary Meeting of the Experimental Stations Committee of FAGRO UCV in the Face of the Fiscal Year Budget Crisis. 23/10/2023. https://instagram.com/fagroucv

[39] Aula Abierta Latinoamérica (2024). Affectations to Quality Environmental Education and Biodiversity in Venezuelan Public Universities. Special Report. Central Commission for Environmental Coordination of the University of Los Andes. http://web.ula.ve/ambiente/indicadores-ambientales-y-de-sostenibilidad/biodiversidad/

[40] ODHULA (2025). Monthly University Reports, February-March 2025. Cf. Sinergia & Cepaz (2023). Sustainable Development Goals in Venezuela 2016-2022: Mid-term Review and the Impact on Scientific Infrastructure. https://cepaz.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/SINERGIA-ODS-en-Vzla-Revision-a-medio-termino-2023_230719_135745.pdf

[41] UCV News (2026). Fagro UCV Commemorates 60 Years of its Biological Station with Forum on Accumulated Climate Impact. 15/06/2026. https://ucvnoticias.ucv.ve/ucv/fagro-ucv-henri-pittier/

[42] ODHULA (2026). Earthquakes in Venezuela, op. cit.

[43] Ibid.

[44] Ibid.

[45] Ibid.

[46] Network of Investigative Journalists of Venezuela and CONNECTAS (2025). Failed Experiment: The Failure of the Science Mission in Venezuela. https://ipysvenezuela.org/red-de-periodistas/experimento-fallido-el-fracaso-de-la-mision-ciencia-en-venezuela/ Cf. Ministry of Communication and Information (2006). The Science Mission is on the Street. Caracas, Venezuela.

[47] Network of Investigative Journalists of Venezuela and CONNECTAS (2025), op. cit. Cf. Science Mission Strategic Analysis Monthly Management Report as of 03.04.2008.

[48] Network of Investigative Journalists of Venezuela and CONNECTAS (2025), op. cit.

[49] Ibid.

[50] Bonalde, I. & Montañes, B. (2023), op. cit., p. 1. Cf. SCImago Journal and Country Rank (2023).

[51] Network of Investigative Journalists of Venezuela and CONNECTAS (2025), op. cit. Cf. United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

[52] Radio Fe y Alegría Noticias (November 1, 2024). ULA Rector Denounces Budget Cuts. Cf. Network of Investigative Journalists of Venezuela and CONNECTAS (2025), op. cit.

[53] ACFIMAN (2022). Pronouncement on the Situation of the Faculties of Science, op. cit.

[54] Requena, J. (2022), op. cit., p. 16. Cf. ONCTI (2023). Bulletin of Science, Technology and Innovation Indicators of Venezuela. ONCTI Bulletin, Vol. 10, Tome 1. Cf. Network of Investigative Journalists of Venezuela and CONNECTAS (2025), op. cit.

[55] ONCTI (2024). National University of Sciences Dr. Humberto Fernández-Morán Inaugurated. 15/12/2024. https://www.oncti.gob.ve/inaugurada-universidad-nacional-de-las-ciencias-dr-humberto-fernandez-moran/

[56] Ibid.

[57] Ibid.

[58] UNC (2025), op. cit., p. 41.

[59] ONCTI (2024), op. cit.

[60] UNC (2025), op. cit., p. 44.

[61] Ibid., p. 42.

[62] Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of the United Nations (2020). General Comment No. 25 relating to Article 15 of the ICESCR: Science and Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. E/C.12/GC/25.

[63] Scharifker, B. (2025), op. cit., p. 36.

[64] Network of Investigative Journalists of Venezuela and CONNECTAS (2025), op. cit.

[65] ONCTI (2024), op. cit. Cf. UPR Report 2021, paragraphs 21-22.

[66] Bonalde, I. & Montañes, B. (2023), op. cit., p. 1. Cf. ACFIMAN (2022), Pronouncement on Financing, op. cit.

[67] Scharifker, B. (2025), op. cit., p. 33.

[68] Requena, J. (2022), op. cit., p. 16.

[69] Ibid.