



CTU RESOLUTION TO OPPOSE THE INVASION OF VENEZUELA

1 **WHEREAS**, the principal of “sovereign equality” is a fundamental notion of the UN
2 (United Nations) Charter of Nations and the UN has stated in this document’s
3 Preamble that nations come together in that body “*to unite our strength to maintain*
4 *international peace and security, and to ensure, by the acceptance of principles and*
5 *the institution of methods, that armed force shall not be used, save in the common*
6 *interest ...*”; and

7 **WHEREAS**, Article 2 (4) of the Charter of the United Nations states that, “All
8 *members shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force*
9 *against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state, or in any other*
10 *manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations*”; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the current Trump administration, various European nations, and the
12 Lima Group in South America, has recently made menacing pronouncements against
13 the sovereign state of Venezuela by discrediting the result of the May 20, 2018,
14 Venezuelan presidential election of Nicolas Maduro, and have backed the self-
15 declared “Presidency” of Juan Guaido, President of the National Assembly of
16 Venezuela; and

17 **WHEREAS**, President Trump’s current Special Envoy to Venezuela, Elliot Abrams
18 was involved in the April 11, 2002, attempted coup in Venezuela that removed then
19 Venezuelan Hugo Chavez from power for less than 48 hours before a popular
20 uprising put him back in office; and the current National Security Advisor John
21 Bolton has accused Venezuela of being part of a “troika of evil” that includes Cuba
22 and Nicaragua; and another major actor in this U.S. foreign adventure, U.S. Secretary
23 of State Mike Pompeo along with Elliot Abrams was a key player in the so called
24 “dirty wars” in Latin America 1980s that involved Nicaragua, El Salvador, and Chile;
25 and

26 **WHEREAS**, the U.S. has recently attempted to provoke a border incident with the
27 Maduro government by moving \$20 million worth of “aid” to Venezuela after it has
28 frozen the foreign assets of that country, discouraged other countries from doing
29 business with Venezuela, and imposed sanctions that increase the poverty and
30 misery of the general population by costing the Venezuelan government billions
31 ever year; and

32 **WHEREAS**, the United Nations, the International Red Cross, and other international
33 relief organizations refused to work with the U.S. on delivering this “aid” to
34 Venezuela, which they say is politically motivated; and the Venezuelan government
35 considers a Trojan Horse for an eventual military invasion’; and

36 **WHEREAS**, U.S. President Donald Trump, U.S. National Security Advisor John Bolden,

(OVER)

37 and U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo have all explicitly stated that U.S.
38 corporations should control the oil resources in Venezuela, which implies that this
39 will be a war for oil; and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo stated that the elected
40 Venezuelan President, Nicolas Maduro’s “days in office are numbered”; and

41 **WHEREAS**, the world is still reeling from the war for oil in Iraq, which has left that
42 country in shambles and continues to destabilize the middle east to this day;
43 therefore, be it

44 **RESOLVED**, that the Chicago Teachers Union (CTU) publicly states its opposition to
45 any military invasion of the sovereign state of Venezuela, and insists on dialogue,
46 diplomacy, and negotiation as the means to resolve this crisis; and

47 **RESOLVED**, that the CTU advocate for the suspension of the current sanctions
48 against Venezuela, and for the U.S. to cease all threats, military mobilization, and
49 interference in the economic and internal politics and affairs of the Venezuelan
50 people; and respect the right of self-determination of this sovereign nation in
51 accordance with U.S. stated commitment to the rule of law; and be it finally

52 **RESOLVED**, the CTU stands in solidarity with the Venezuelan labor organizations
53 Sindicato Nacional Fuerza Magisterial (SINAFUM)ⁱ, Colectivo Clasista de
54 Trabajadores y Trabajadoras de la Educación.ⁱⁱ, “Carmen Conzoño” y al Frente
55 Nacional de Lucha de la Clase Trabajadora (FNLCT)ⁱⁱⁱ, and other organizations that
56 oppose the interference in Venezuela’s sovereign affairs and the consequent threat
57 of military intervention.

Adopted *Adopted as Amended* *Defeated* *Tabled* *Other*

ⁱ National Teachers Union

ⁱⁱ Class Collective of Educational Workers

ⁱⁱⁱ Carmen Conzoño and the National Front for the Struggle of the Working Class