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## In Defense of Democratic Principles in Venezuela Analysis of the Presidential Election Process of July 28

The recent presidential election in Venezuela took place in a country whose institutions are controlled by an authoritarian regime that has attempted to stay in power for over 25 years, disregarding the Constitution and the laws.

In this scenario, the Venezuelan people have mostly opted for the democratic and constitutional path to seek change, following the leadership of María Corina Machado and presidential candidate Edmundo González Urrutia. However, Nicolás Maduro's regime is attempting to annul this decision through fraud, which poses a threat both regionally and internationally.

### Commitment of Casa Venezuela Arizona

Casa Venezuela Arizona is firmly committed to defending democracy in Venezuela and the United States. To clarify our position, we have compared 14 universal principles of Western democracies that have been violated by Nicolás Maduro's regime and the National Electoral Council, constituting a violation of Venezuelans' human rights.

### Analysis of the 14 Principles of Democracy:

1. *Citizen Participation*: Citizen participation in the election was massive and clear. The electoral authority must respect the people's mandate.
2. *Equality*: There was no equality in the electoral process. Bias and media control were evident.
3. *Accountability*: The electoral authority must publish detailed results to ensure transparency.
4. *Transparency*: Results must be based on voting records and published transparently.
5. *Political Tolerance*: Statements that intimidate opponents show authoritarian, not inclusive, leadership.
6. *Multiparty System*: The party system is restricted, with advantages only for the government party.
7. *Control of Power Abuse*: The government controls all powers and commits abuses without consequences.
8. *Economic Freedom*: Strong communities or real economic opportunities are not developed.
9. *Bill of Rights*: Although the Constitution includes fundamental rights, they are not respected due to power abuse.
10. *Human Rights*: Numerous reports of human rights violations exist, with cases in the International Criminal Court.
11. *Free and Fair Elections*: Elections were not free or fair due to abuses and bias.
12. *Independent Judiciary*: The judiciary serves the regime, imposing arbitrary sanctions.
13. *Acceptance of Election Results*: On July 28, the people expressed themselves peacefully, but the results were yet to be respected.
14. *Rule of Law*: Laws are not applied fairly, and peaceful protests are violently repressed.

In summary, these principles need to be legitimately upheld in Venezuela, making it challenging to consider that there is a government that respects and guarantees the Constitution and the established laws. Democracy is at risk, and it is urgent to recover it with international support and the unity of Venezuelans.

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