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**Venezuela: US Blocks Flights to Repatriate Citizens Amid COVID-19**

By: Telesur  
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Arreaza reiterated that the request for humanitarian flights responds to a request made by Venezuelans themselves to the Venezuelan Attention System in the United States.

Venezuela's Foreign Affairs Minister Jorge Arreaza denounced Tuesday that the United States refuses to authorize humanitarian flights to bring back the [stranded](#) Venezuelans in the North American nation.

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"We denounce that the U.S. insists on its air blockade of Venezuela and still refuses to authorize direct humanitarian flights from Conviasa or other airlines, to bring back the more than 800 compatriots stranded in the U.S.," the diplomat said.

Arreaza reiterated that the request for humanitarian flights responds to a request made by Venezuelans themselves to the Venezuelan Attention System in the United States.

The U.S.'s position is part of the illegal sanctions imposed on Feb. 7, on the Venezuelan airline Conviasa.

These measures not only affect the airline's commercial activities, but also the humanitarian governmental initiatives like the 'Return to the Homeland' program and the medical 'Miracle Missio', both on behalf of Venezuelan people.

Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro has requested that the U.S. government lift its sanctions due to the COVID-19 outbreak. The head of state called on the Venezuelan people to help demand the end of the economic blockade, especially during this "worldwide crisis period."

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