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**Maduro Announces Implementation of People's Defense System**

29/12/2017



Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro said today that in 2018 the people's defense system for peace will be implemented.

This system, along with the people's militias, encourage the participation of the people in favor of peace, something that according to specialists, is a concern for some sectors in the United States that promote an armed aggression against Venezuela.

During the ceremony of the year-end celebration of the Bolivarian National Armed Forces (Fanb) at the Ministry of Defense, Maduro said that 2017 was a heroic year, in which Venezuela demonstrated that 'it is capable and that no one will be able to defeat us'.

Maduro also pointed out that 2017 was the year of the unity against oligarchy, as well as the 'triumph of peace over the oligarchic guarimba, it was the year of the people's unity in the Bolivarian National Armed Force, of farmers and workers, a Fanb made up of people. A year of victory for peace.'

He also urged Fanb to develop in 2018 a 'bold deployment and training plan to tune our defensive capacity, our people, and keep on winning respect for our country'.

He said that U.S. imperialism and the Government of U.S. President Donald Trump reached a dangerous point of despair for their failures in 2017, attempting to overthrow the Bolivarian Revolution, so he urged the Venezuelan people not to lower their guard.

Maduro also tackled the smuggling affecting the country and urged Fanb to strengthen the fight against that scourge that affects the population.

'They are taking basic products and diamonds, gold, Venezuela's mineral wealth. We are going to make decisions. I expect recommendations to implement them during the first days of January,' he said.

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