

IAB CONDEMNS INJUNCTION IN VENEZUELA

The International Association of Broadcasting -AIR- condemns the decision of Judge María Eugenia Nunez of Venezuela that prevents the departure from the country of more than twenty directors, journalists and media owners as a result of a lawsuit filed by President of National Assembly, Diosdado Cabello.

This measure constitutes a new restriction and severe impairment to Freedom of Expression in Venezuela, and is contrary to the most accredited inter-American jurisprudence which determines that the media and their leaders cannot be accused of reproducing information which was first published or broadcasted in other countries.

In these grave circumstances, IAB reiterates the provisions of the "Doctrine of Panama on Freedom of Expression", signed jointly with the Inter American Press Association, on March 23, 1952, by which both organizations stated that: "Any aggression to the freedom or the dignity of the individual, or any act which suppresses or curtails the freedom of expression of any person or entity, defending or practicing said freedom by means of the press or radio, shall constitute an act of aggression against all members of the Inter American Press Association and the International Association of Broadcasting".

May 15, 2015