

To: IAB Members and Board of Directors

On the occasion of the Decision of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights ordering to restore the granting of Channel 2 to RCTV in Venezuela, following please find a statement from Radio Caracas Television to public opinion. We appreciate your consideration and circulation.

Caracas, September 10, 2015



TO PUBLIC OPINION

This Monday, September 7, 2015, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights formally notified the Venezuelan government and RCTV the Decision by which it settled the case presented by the shareholders and a group of workers and journalists of RCTV for the arbitrary closure of the signal that took place on May 27, 2007.

The Decision established conclusively that the State must restore the granting of the frequency corresponding to Channel 2 television and must return their property.

This decision results from the corroboration by the Court of a series of violations of the American Convention that occurred with the closure of RCTV.

In this regard it was established that the State violated the right to Freedom of Expression, the obligation of non-discrimination, the right to due process and the rights to be heard and to reasonable deadlines in administrative and judicial proceedings, all contained and guaranteed in the American Convention.

With RCTV case, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights reaffirms and deepens its valuable jurisprudence on the protection of Freedom of Expression and Democracy. We always sustained that the closure of RCTV violated not

only the rights of those who work here but also the right of Venezuelans to receive plural information. This fundamental principle of Freedom of Expression and Democracy was violated with the closure of RCTV and this significant and historic decision vindicates it and opens the door for the recovery of Freedom and democratic institutions in Venezuela.

This decision, rendered by an impartial and independent court, has no appeal and is definitely firm, delivers justice and must be complied with as established by International Treaties.

This decision is a victory for all in RCTV and for every decent and honest citizen, regardless of their political convictions.

It is important to point out that the Venezuelan State and National Government representatives litigated the case from its beginning to its conclusion and committed themselves before the Court to respect the decision it would dictate, in fulfillment of the obligations previously assumed by Venezuela before the international bodies.

Consequently, it is a great opportunity for the Venezuelan State to demonstrate it is able and willing to respect the internationally established rules of coexistence, to comply with its international legal obligations and to honor the word pledged to multilateral organizations.

Likewise, compliance with the decision and the return of RCTV to the homes of all Venezuelans will mark the beginning of the reunion, reconciliation and reconstruction of the country that the vast majority deserves, claims and demands. Therefore, we are more than ever committed to continue working for the good of the entire nation, hoping that the right path is that of respect and the rule of Law and Justice and the fundamental principle must always be Freedom.

RCTV has been determined, courageous and innovative in adversity. Now we face new challenges for which we must prepare and put all our energy, skills, knowledge and enthusiasm.

When you act with truth, tolerance, principles, coherently. When we fight for Freedom, when we do not give in and stand firm. When we resist to abuse and we do not surrender to obstacles. When we honor those who preceded us, we respect those who are with us and those who oppose us and we care for the future of those who come. When all this involves us and we simply fulfill our duty, certainly, Justice, sooner or later proves us right.

We want to dedicate this transcendental and historic decision to Venezuela, a beautiful country, a country filled with future, a country that always inspires us to live in a responsible, dignified and free way.

**Board of Directors and Workers
Radio Caracas Televisión RCTV, C.A.**