## Simón Bolívar Peasant Socialist Communal City Apure-Venezuela

Vast and green plains, wide and flowing rivers, dense forests, lots of heat and humidity. In a territory of 116,000 hectares where 1,800 families live grouped together in small villages, hamlets and peasant settlements scattered in the immense plain, there is a history of resistance, constancy, audacity and tenacity: a solid experience of popular self-government called the Socialist Peasant Communal City "Simón Bolívar," which groups together 38 communal councils organized in 8 communes that were the first registered in the country.

Its first steps date back to the 1990s, when the struggle was to defend the human rights of the peasants, a large part of this territory was land rescued from the landlords. 20 years of struggle, sacrifice and organizational effort have been behind this experience, which at the end of 2018 marked 10 years since the founding of its first self-government.

It is vital, then, to build a society based on the power of the people and a model of revolutionary democracy based on popular participation and protagonism in order to shape the fabric of a more horizontal and fair society. It is a question, as Chávez said, of building a new architecture of power, balanced and polycentric, unitary but deconcentrated, which guarantees the people the guidance of their destiny and no longer to be governed by elites. In this strategic direction, experiences such as this communal city, Simon Bolivar, accompanied and oriented by the Revolutionary Block of Bolivar and Zamora, are advancing day by day in Venezuela.



