

Celsa Bautista Ontiveros
Ministra del Poder Popular para Asuntos Penitenciarios
Avenida Venezuela, Edificio Platinum
Urbanización El Rosal, Municipio Chacao
Caracas
VENEZUELA

Berlin, September 2023

Emirlendris Benitez

Dear Minister,

I am greatly concerned about 42-year-old Emirlendris Benitez, who has been unjustly detained for almost five years now after being arbitrarily arrested on 5 August 2018 on fabricated grounds. She was accused of having performed acts of violence against high-profile political leaders, which she has strictly denied and of which no proof has been presented. In 2022, she was sentenced to a 30-year prison sentence by a partial and politically motivated court.

Since her arrest, she has been a victim of countless human rights violations such as torture, an unfair trial, and inhuman detention conditions.

I urge you to immediately release Emirlendris Benitez as she has been unfairly imprisoned. In the meantime, please allow her to contact her friends and lawyer and to have access to full medical care.

Yours sincerely,