APPENDIX — INSTRUMENTS

APPENDIX

Instruments

This appendix contains the texts this book proposes and which anyone may use without permission.

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The four instruments that follow are independent of one another. Whoever can use only one should use one. None requires the consent of the authorities it addresses, and none requires agreement with the arguments of the book that contains it.

Appendix I — The five questions

These are addressed to the authorities exercising functions in Caracas, to the Government of the United States and to the contracting companies. None requires information restricted for security reasons. They may be put at a press conference, at a parliamentary hearing, in a formal request for information or in a newspaper article.

First. The text. What is the complete text of the concessions granted to North American Blue Energy Partners, with its annexes, and who are the beneficial owners of that company?

Second. The law. What is the text of the new Venezuelan hydrocarbons law referred to in the State Department fact sheet of 31 August 2026? Which body adopted it, by what procedure, on what date, and what did the United States support mentioned in that document consist of?

Third. The inventory. How many contracts has the Caracas administration entered into with domestic or foreign hydrocarbons companies since 3 January 2026? Over which blocks, for what terms, under what fiscal regime and with what consideration?

Fourth. The lock. What clauses on legal stability, international arbitration, waiver of sovereign immunity or compensation for regulatory change do those contracts contain?

Fifth. The people. What participation, direct or indirect, do sanctioned or investigated persons, or persons linked to the apparatus that governed Venezuela until January 2026, hold in any of these structures?

If these questions have good answers, publishing them strengthens the agreements and disarms their critics. If they do not, silence will not make them disappear: it will merely transfer the conflict to the arbitral tribunals of the coming decade.

Appendix II — Advance declaration of ratification

Model text for endorsement by a legislative body, a political party, a professional association or a group of citizens. The bracketed passages are to be completed by whoever endorses it.

> *The undersigned, in our capacity as [elected representatives / members of organisation X / Venezuelan citizens], publicly declare the following.*
>
> >
>
> ***First.** We shall promote the submission, by the legislative body resulting from the next election, of all contracts, concessions and long-term commitments over the natural resources of the Nation entered into between [initial date] and the date of its installation by authorities that did not derive their mandate from a verifiable popular election, to a formal procedure of ratification.*
>
> >
>
> ***Second.** That procedure shall apply public and uniform criteria, known from this moment: full publication of the text and its annexes; conformity with the constitutional framework in force at the time of signature; proportionality of the fiscal conditions relative to international standards in the sector; the existence of verifiable national development obligations; transparency as to beneficial ownership; and the absence of clauses unduly limiting the regulatory capacity of the State.*
>
> >
>
> ***Third.** Contracts satisfying these criteria shall be ratified, and shall thereby acquire greater legal security than they presently have. Those failing to satisfy them shall be subject to renegotiation in good faith, in accordance with applicable law and respecting investments actually made.*

>

***Fourth.** This declaration constitutes neither annulment, nor repudiation, nor threat of expropriation of any right. It constitutes the announcement of a procedure.*

>

***Fifth.** It is issued in advance, and not after the fact, precisely so that every contracting third party may know the rules before committing capital and may incorporate them into its risk assessment.*

>

[Place and date]

[Signatures]

The fifth point is what gives it legal force and political legitimacy. Nobody will be able to claim surprise.

Where to sign it. This declaration can be signed online, with name, city and country, at **territorionorepublica.com**. Signatures are held in a public register, and anyone who prefers may appear with initials and country only. The purpose of that register is not to accumulate symbolic endorsements: it is so that, on the day a legitimate parliament exists, it can be demonstrated with a date that the warning was made beforehand and not afterwards.

Appendix III — Minimum clauses for contracts over strategic resources

Addressed to legislators in any country of the hemisphere now negotiating hydrocarbons, lithium, copper, rare earths or critical minerals. It may be incorporated into a statute, into procurement regulations or into a framework agreement.

One. Full prior publication. The complete text, with annexes, published before signature and not afterwards. An agreement whose text is not published has already been badly negotiated, because opacity never protects the weaker party.

Two. Mandatory legislative ratification for every commitment beyond a specified term. It does not frighten investment away: it protects it. A contract approved by parliament survives a change of government; one signed by decree is the first thing the next government annuls.

Three. Development obligations in the contract, not in the communiqué. Plants, timeframes, minimum percentages of processing on national territory, verifiable technology transfer and penalties for non-compliance. What is not in the text does not exist.

Four. Limited terms with review windows. A country that signs long-term agreements at its moment of greatest economic weakness is taxing its grandchildren with its grandparents' urgencies.

Five. Transparency of beneficial ownership, with an obligation to declare and update the chain of ownership of the counterparty.

And a rule of sequence, which is the most important of all. Never grant access to the resource first and negotiate the technology, the industrialisation or the political guarantees afterwards. What is negotiated with a card in hand cannot be negotiated again once the card has been handed over.

Appendix IV — Model letters

Four recipients, four short texts. They are drafted to be sent as they stand, replacing whatever appears in brackets.

To a legislative body or a political party

Sirs,

>

I write to request that you publicly endorse an advance declaration of ratification in respect of long-term commitments over natural resources entered into in Venezuela since [date] by authorities that do not derive their mandate from a verifiable election.

>

I am not asking you to annul anything or to take a position on the merits of those agreements. I am asking you to declare, from now and with known criteria, that they will be submitted to a ratification procedure when a legitimate parliament exists.

>

Issuing that declaration has no cost, breaks no negotiation under way, requires no other party's consent and produces effects from the day it is published, because it introduces legal risk into the signature of new opaque contracts. Its omission, by contrast, does have a cost, and it will be paid by those who inherit those commitments.

>

I attach a model text. I remain at your disposal.

To a contracting company

Sirs,

>

Your company has entered into, or is preparing to enter into, agreements over natural resources in Venezuela whose text has not been published.

>

I request the publication of the essential terms: duration, area conceded, fiscal regime, investment obligations, and clauses on legal stability and arbitration. No legitimate commercial confidentiality clause requires those elements to be withheld when the subject matter of the contract is a public asset.

>

I would further note that the legitimacy of origin of the granting authority is the subject of documented public dispute, and that this dispute constitutes a risk your shareholders and your regulators are entitled to know about and to assess. Publication of the terms reduces that risk. Opacity increases it.

To a multilateral body or a financing institution

Sirs,

>

In the framework of your due diligence obligations, I request that you verify, before committing financing connected with the hydrocarbons sector in Venezuela, the following matters: the identity of the beneficial owners of the concession-holding companies; the procedure by which the applicable legal framework was adopted; and the existence of parliamentary oversight of the commitments entered into.

>

I would note that none of those three elements is public as of today.

To a news organisation

Dear colleagues,

>

I propose that you put the five questions attached in your next piece of coverage. None requires confidential sources, leaks or prior investigation: all can be put

directly to those responsible, and all rest on official documents already published by the governments involved.

>

As of today, none of the five has received a public answer.

Appendix V — What to do with this

If you are a Venezuelan parliamentarian or political leader: endorse the declaration in Appendix II before the cycle of legislative reforms announced for December 2026 closes. It is the only faculty a body without territory, without budget and without a current mandate retains, and it loses value with every month that passes.

If you are a legislator in any other country of the hemisphere: incorporate the clauses of Appendix III into your legislation on strategic resources, and propose to your counterparts in the region that they be adopted as a common standard. Twelve countries with the same transparency requirements obtain better terms than twelve countries negotiating separately.

If you are a journalist: put the five questions. Nothing more is needed.

If you are a citizen: sign the declaration yourself at territorionorepublica.com, demand that those who represent you sign it, and reproduce this appendix. You are authorised to do so and you need nobody's permission, the author's included.

And if you are none of the above, which is the case for almost everyone, two useful things remain. The first is to send any of the letters in Appendix IV, which are written to be sent by anyone. The second is more modest and probably more important: keep the archive. Save the tally sheets of 28 July 2024, the fact sheets, the figures, the dates and the documents that are public today and might not be in a few years' time. Reconstructions are made with inventories, and inventories are made beforehand and not afterwards.