

# **Connolly Youth Movement**

## **Press statement**

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The Connolly Youth Movement condemns without reservation the flagrant intervention policy of US imperialism in violating Venezuela's sovereignty.

CYM general secretary, Gareth Murphy, said: "It is no surprise that the US are behind attempts in Venezuela to overthrow Chávez. Not for the first time has the national sovereignty of Venezuela been violated by US imperialism in their effort to remove Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez. In 2002 the right wing in Venezuela, alarmed at the massive consciousness of the working class and the nationalisation programme of Hugo Chávez, sought to protect their business interests by removing a democratically elected president. They were afforded US backing and direct support in the form of money, media manipulation, and CIA advisers. The US recognised the new "government" immediately, despite the unhidden fact that they had dissolved the National Assembly and flouted the 2000 constitution, which was approved with 71.78% of electoral support.

"This is coupled with the engineered strife in Bolivia against progressive President Evo Morales. Having been dealt a heavy blow in the August 14 referendum, the US-backed right wing are prepared to strike back against those fighting to defend the interests of the working class, despite two-thirds (67.4%) of the Bolivian electorate voting to keep Morales in power."

Concluding, Mr Murphy said: "The people of Latin America as a whole are building a genuine alternative to the economic model of big business. Since President Chávez has come to power we have witnessed a substantial decrease in illiteracy, poverty, and hunger. The strategy of imperialism is to channel the profits from Venezuela's massive oil reserves and Latin American resources as a whole away from those who need it most and into the pockets of the wealthy."

Gareth Murphy

CYM Gen. Sec.

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