

Over 8 Million Vote in Venezuela's National Constituent Assembly Election

The National Electoral Council announced that voter turnout for the National Constituent Assembly was over 41 percent.

By [Telesur](#)

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Featured image: CNE President said Venezuela voted "massively" for the National Constituent Assembly. (Photo: EFE via teleSUR)

The president of the National Electoral Council Tibisay Lucena has announced that turnout in Venezuela's historic [National Constituent Assembly](#) was over 41 percent, indicating that over 8 million people voted in the elections.

"Peace has won. If peace has won, Venezuela has won," she said at a televised press conference. "Despite the violence and threats, Venezuelans were able to express themselves."

Lucena said the CNE had to relocate some voting centers to avoid violence, and that on Tuesday the Indigenous communities will choose its eight remaining representatives.

President Nicolas Maduro spoke to a large crowd in Caracas and thanked their support to reach peace in the country. Maduro said it was one of the highest voter turnouts of the Bolivarian Revolution with 8,089, 320 voting for their representatives

"Eight million in the middle of threats, there were states where they crossed rivers and mountains, and they voted," Maduro said.

“The people of Venezuela have given a lesson on democracy,” President Maduro said.

Maduro thanked Latin America and the Caribbean countries for their support against what he called interventionist moves by the United States. Referring to President Donald Trump’s promise that he would not accept the results of this election, Maduro said:

“We don’t care what Trump says, we care about what our people say”

“This election will mark the future years of the independence of Latin America,” Maduro said. “Latin America will begin a new wave of struggle.”

The Venezuelan president repeated that the first step before the legislative body begins the Constituent process will be to call, yet again, for a dialogue with the right-wing opposition in the country. Maduro also called on the opposition to abandon violence and return to doing politics.

Voting hours were extended by one hour due to the overwhelming response, as hundreds of thousands of Venezuelans from across the country lined up long before dawn to cast their ballots for the 545 candidates.

The voting process has been peaceful with the exception of a few [isolated incidents of violence](#) as opposition supporters protested and staged guarimbas in a bid to shut down the election.

A feeling of excitement filled the crowds in the center of Caracas, as citizens sang, danced and laughed after the end of the process to choose its delegates to the legislative body that

will draft the new Constitution.

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