

Venezuela Opposition Founded by Wall Street Alumni

US prepares to "restore democracy" with Wall Street-groomed opposition

By [Tony Cartalucci](#)

Region: [Latin America & Caribbean](#)

Global Research, October 09, 2012

In "[US Prepares for Overthrow of Venezuela](#)," US policy papers and US State Department National Endowment for Democracy (NED) funding was exposed as openly conspiring to meddle in and manipulate upcoming Venezuelan elections.

The opposition party which includes the defeated presidential contender, Henrique Capriles Radonski, called Primero Justicia (Justice First) was co-founded by Leopoldo Lopez and Julio Borges, who like Radonski, have been backed for nearly a decade by the US State Department. Primero Justicia and the network of foreign-funded NGOs that support it have been recipients of both direct and indirect foreign support for at least just as long.

ACTION AID-00 UNCLASSIFIED RELEASED IN PART E7
B1, 1.4(D)

INFO LOG-00 NP-00 CIAE-00 INL-00 DODE-00 WHA-00 SRPP-00
DS-00 EB-00 EUR-00 VC-00 H-00 TEDE-00 INR-00
VCE-00 AC-00 DCP-00 NSAE-00 NIMA-00 PA-00 ACE-00
FMPC-00 SP-00 ECA-00 DSCC-00 PRM-00 DRL-00 NFAT-00
SAS-00 /000W

-----27D060 022033Z /38

P 022019Z JUN 04
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6547
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LIMA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY QUITO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO PRIORITY
USINT HAVANA PRIORITY
USCINCSO MIAMI FL PRIORITY
NSC WASHDC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 001880

NSC FOR CBARTON
USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD
USAID DCHA/OTI FOR REPORTER

E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/25/2014
TAGS: PHUM, PGOV, KDEM, VE
SUBJECT: STATUS OF CAPRILES AND SUMATE CASES

Classified By: POLITICAL COUNSELOR ABELARDO A. ARIAS FOR REASONS 1.4 (d
)

SUMMARY

1. (U) Maria Corina Machado, of the electoral NGO Sumate told reporters June 1 that the hearing to charge her with treason and conspiracy had been rescheduled for the second time until June 10. Another Sumate leader, Alejandro Plaz, is scheduled to have his hearing June 2. On May 31, a Caracas court rejected a request from Baruta Mayor Henrique Capriles Radonski (Primero Justicia) for release pending trial. He has been held since May 11. He is being charged with allegedly

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: OSCAR J. OLSON
CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL REASON: 1.4(D)
DECLASSIFY AFTER: 25 MAY 2019
DATE/CASE ID: 19 FEB 2009 200705281

UNCLASSIFIED

Image: [US State Department document \(archived\)](#) illustrating the role NED-funded NGOs play in supporting US-backed opposition figures in Venezuela. The US regularly fails to transparently list who is included in extensive funding NED provides opposition groups in Venezuela, so documents like this give a rare glimpse into the names and dynamics actually involved. As was suspected, NED money is going into networks providing support for current presidential candidate, Henrique Capriles Radonski. In this particular document, NED-funded Sumate's legal trouble is described in relation to its attempted defense of Radonski. At the time this document was written, Radonski was in jail pending trial for his role in facilitating the 2002 US-backed failed coup against President Hugo Chavez. The document may still be online at the US State Department's [official website here](#).

....

All three co-founders are US educated – Radonski having [attended New York's Columbia University \(Spanish\)](#), Julio Borges attending [Boston College and Oxford \(Spanish\)](#), and Leopoldo Lopez who attended the Harvard Kennedy School of Government (KSG), [of which he is considered an alumni of \(and here\)](#).

The Harvard Kennedy School, which hosts [the notorious Belfer Center](#), includes [the following faculty and alumni](#) of Lopez, co-founder of the current US-backed opposition in Venezuela:

John P. Holdren, Samantha Power, Lawrence Summers, Robert Zoellick, (all as faculty), as well as Ban Ki-Moon ('84), Paul Volcker ('51), Robert Kagan ('91), Bill O'Reilly ('96), Klaus Schwab ('67), and literally hundreds of senators, ambassadors, and administrators of Wall Street and London's current global spanning international order. Harvard's Kennedy School of Government (KSG) is clearly one of several universities that form the foundation of both creating corporate-financier driven globalist-international policy, as well as cultivating legions of administrators to execute it.

To understand fully the implications of Lopez' education it helps to understand the leadership and principles guiding Harvard's mission statements, best exemplified by KSG' Belfer Center, which to this day, [lends its public support](#) to Lopez and his Primero Justicia opposition party.



Image: John P. Holdren (bearded, left), an advocate for population reduction through forced sterilization overseen by a “planetary regime,” is just one of many “colorful” characters to be found within the halls of Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government from which Primero Justicia co-founder Leopoldo Lopez of Venezuela graduated. To this day, [KSG provides forums in support](#) of US-backed opposition bids at seizing power in Venezuela.

....

Named after [Robert Belfer](#) of the Belco Petroleum Corporation and later, [director of the failed Enron Corporation](#), the Belfer Center describes itself as being “the hub of the Harvard Kennedy School’s research, teaching, and training in international security affairs, environmental and resource issues, and science and technology policy.” Robert Belfer still sits in as an [International Council Member](#).

Belfer’s director, [Graham Allison](#) provides an example of self-serving corporatism steering

US policy. He was a founder of the Trilateral Commission, a director of the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR), [a consultant to the RAND Corporation](#), Director of the Getty Oil Company, [Natixis](#), Loomis Sayles, Hansberger, Taubman Centers, Inc., and Belco Oil and Gas, as well as a member of the advisory boards of Chase Bank, Chemical Bank, Hydro-Quebec, and the shady [International Energy Corporation](#), all according to his official [Belfer Center bio](#).

Other questionable personalities involved as Belfer alumnus are Goldman Sachs, CFR member, and former-World Bank president Robert Zoellick. Sitting on the board of directors is CFR member and former Goldman Sachs consultant, [Ashton Carter](#). There is also former director of [Citigroup and Raytheon](#), former Director of Central Intelligence and CFR member [John Deutch](#), who [required a pardon by Clinton](#) to avoid prosecution over a breach of security while fumbling his duties at the CIA. Meanwhile, [Nathaniel Rothschild](#) of Atticus Capital and RIT Capital Partners, [Paul Volcker](#) of the Federal Reserve, and former DHS Secretary [Michael Chertoff](#) all serve as Belfer Center's "[advisers](#)."

Last but not least, there is [John P. Holdren](#), also a Council on Foreign Relations member, science adviser to both President Clinton and President Obama, and co-author with Paul Ehrlich, of the now notorious "[Ecoscience](#)." When Holdren isn't brand-building for "[Climate Disruption](#)," he is dreaming of a Malthusian fueled totalitarian global government that forcibly sterilizes the world's population. He feared, erroneously, that overpopulation would be the end of humanity. He claimed in his hubris filled, fact deficient book, "[The No Growth Society](#)," that by the year 2040, the United States would have a dangerously unsustainable population of 280 million he called "much too many." The current US population is over 300 million, and despite reckless leadership and policies, it is still sustainable.

One could argue that Lopez' education is in his past, independent of his current political activities, however, the interests driving the agenda of the Belfer Center are demonstrably still backing his Primero Justicia party's bid for seizing power in Venezuela. Lopez, Radonski, and Borges are to this day still receiving substantial funding and support through NGO networks funded directly by the US State Department's [National Endowment for Democracy](#), and is clearly favored by the Western press. Furthermore, the [CFR](#), [Heritage Foundation](#), and other corporate-financier driven think-tanks have all come out in support of Radonski and Primero Justicia, in their bid to "restore democracy" American-style in Venezuela.

Whatever one may think about current Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez and his policies, he has nationalized his nation's oil, [forcing out foreign multinational corporations](#), diversified his exports to reduce dependency on Western markets ([with US exports at a 9 year low](#)), and has openly opposed corporate-financier neo-imperialism across the globe. He is an obstruction to Western hegemony and provides a point of leverage against the West's continued assault on the nation-state.

And while many critics are quick to claim President Chavez' policies are a "failure," it would be helpful to remember that the US, on record, has arrayed its vast resources both overtly and covertly against the Venezuelan people over the years to ensure that any system outside the West's sphere of influence inevitably fails.

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Tony Cartalucci](#)

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: publications@globalresearch.ca

www.globalresearch.ca contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: publications@globalresearch.ca