

United Socialist Party of Venezuela

The **United Socialist Party of Venezuela** (Spanish: *Partido Socialista Unido de Venezuela*, **PSUV**) is a socialist political party in Venezuela which resulted from the fusion of some of the political and social forces that support the Bolivarian Revolution led by President Hugo Chávez.^[11]

At the 2015 parliamentary election, PSUV lost its majority in the National Assembly for the first time since the unicameral legislature's creation in 2000 against the Democratic Unity Roundtable, earning 55 out of the National Assembly's 167 seats.^[12]

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History

The process of merging most of the unidentified parties involved in the pro-Bolivarian Revolution coalition was initiated by Venezuelan president Hugo Chávez after he won the Venezuelan presidential election of 2006.^[13] The process was led by Chávez' own party, the Fifth Republic Movement, and was supported by a range of smaller parties such as the People's Electoral Movement (MEP), Venezuelan Popular Unity (UPV), the Tupamaro

United Socialist Party of Venezuela Partido Socialista Unido de Venezuela



President	Nicolás Maduro
Vice President	Diosdado Cabello
Founder	Hugo Chávez
Founded	24 March 2007
Preceded by	Fifth Republic Movement
Headquarters	Mariperez, Caracas
Newspaper	<i>Cuatro F</i>
Youth wing	United Socialist Party of Venezuela Youth
Membership (2014)	7,632,606 ^[1]
Ideology	Chavismo ^[2] Bolivarianism ^[3] Socialism of the 21st century ^[4] Left-wing populism ^{[5][6]} Marxism ^[3]
Political position	Left-wing ^{[7][8]} to far-left ^[9]
National affiliation	Great Patriotic Pole
International affiliation	<i>None</i>
Regional affiliation	COPPPAL, São Paulo Forum
Colors	█ Red
Anthem	"La Hora del Pueblo" ^[10] "People's Hour"
Seats in the National Assembly	31 / 167 █
Seats in the Latin American Parliament	4 / 12 █
Governors	19 / 23 █
Mayors	303 / 335 █

Movement, the Socialist League and others ^[14] which all together added up 45.99% of the votes received by Chávez during the 2006 election.^[15] Other pro-Bolivarian parties like the Communist Party of Venezuela (*Partido Comunista de Venezuela*, PCV),^[16] Fatherland for All (*Patria Para Todos*, PPT)^[17] and For Social Democracy (PODEMOS),^[18] that cast 14.60% of the votes from that election, declined to join the new party.

On 7 March 2007, Chávez presented a phased plan for founding the new party until November 2007.^[19] PODEMOS, PPT and PCV initially stated they would wait until PSUV had been founded and decide their membership in the new party based on its program.^[20] On 18 March 2007, Chávez declared on his programme *Aló Presidente* that he had "opened the doors for the For Social Democracy, the Fatherland for All, and the Communist Party of Venezuela^[21] if they want to go away from Chávez's alliance, they may do so and leave us in peace". In his opinion, those parties were near to be on the opposition and they should choose wisely, between going "in silence, hugging us or throwing stones".^[22] PPT, at its 2007 congress on 10 and 11 April, decided not to join but re-affirmed its support for Chávez and the Bolivarian Revolution.^[23]

Seats in the 2017	503 / 545
Constituent	<div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background-color: red;"></div>
National Assembly	
Party flag	
	
Website	
psuv.org.ve (http://www.psuv.org.ve/)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Politics of Venezuela Political parties Elections 	

Parties joining PSUV	Parties not joining PSUV
<u>Fifth Republic Movement</u> (MVR)	<u>For Social Democracy</u> (PODEMOS)
<u>People's Electoral Movement</u> (MEP) ^[24]	<u>Fatherland for All</u> (PPT)
<u>Everybody Wins Independent Movement</u> (MIGATO)	<u>Communist Party of Venezuela</u> (PCV)
<u>Venezuelan Popular Unity</u> (UPV) ^[25]	<u>Revolutionary Middle Class</u> (CMR)
<u>Revolutionary Movement Tupamaro</u> (MRT) ^[26]	<u>Emergent People</u> (GE)
<u>Socialist League</u> (LS) ^[27]	<u>Action Networks of Community Change</u> (REDES)
<u>Movement for Direct Democracy</u> (MDD) ^[28]	<u>Community Patriotic Unity</u> (UPC)
<u>Union Party</u> ^[29]	<u>New People Concentration Movement</u> (MCGN)
<u>Militant Civic Movement</u> (MCM) ^[30]	<u>Active Democracy National Organization</u> (ONDA)
<u>Action Force of Base Coordination</u> (FACOBA)	<u>National Independent Movement</u> (MNI)
<u>Independents for the National Community</u> (IPCN) ^[31]	<u>Labor Power</u> (PL)
	<u>Venezuelan Revolutionary Currents</u> (CRV)

The party held its founding congress in early 2008,^[32] from 12 January to 2 March, with 1681 delegates participating.^[33] Chávez was proclaimed President of the new party on 14 March.^[33]

As of 2014, the party has been described as "fracturing" and "weakening" due to the loss of Hugo Chávez, the poor state of Venezuela's economy and falling oil prices.^[34] Internal issues also appeared in the party, with an email address and telephone hotline created to report "internal enemies".^[34] In 23 November PSUV elections, it was reported by party

dissidents that very few individuals participated, with less than 10% of the supposedly 7.6 million members casting a vote.^[34]

Overview

Chávez said that "[i]t's a very young party" with an average age of 35 among members. Analysts agreed, saying: "The assumption is that the younger people are going to be *Chavistas* (in support of Chávez), they are going to be the ones whose families have benefited from Chávez's social programs."^[35]

With the creation of PSUV, relationships greatly soured with former coalition parties that chose not to join. By the 2008 regional election campaign in October, Chávez declared that "Patria Para Todos and the Communist Party of Venezuela will disappear from the political map because they are liars and manipulators."^[36]

In April 2010, an Extraordinary Congress of the PSUV resulted in the endorsement of a range of "general principles", including among others socialism, Marxism, and Bolivarianism; humanism, internationalism, and patriotism; and the defense of participatory democracy and use of internal party democracy. It also defined the party as the "political vanguard of the revolutionary process".^[37]

The party held its 3rd Congress in 2014, which elected Nicolás Maduro as the 2nd party president and honored Hugo Chávez posthumously as the party's eternal president and founder, and party policies were updated. It was followed by the 4th Party Congress in 2018.^[38]

Symbolism

Party builds on cult of personality of the Hugo Chávez, with revolutionary symbols like Chávez eyes sometimes sited with the party symbols.

Party symbols



Official logo,
2007–present



Electoral logo,
2010 election



Street painting of Hugo
Chávez in Punta de
Piedras



A billboard of Chávez
eyes and signature in
Guarenas

Structure

Party Congress

The party is headed at the national level by the Eternal President Hugo Chávez (a posthumous title), the president (currently Nicolas Maduro), vice-president (Jorge Arreaza), and a 29-member national board of directors:

- Adán Chávez
- Alí Rodríguez Araque
- Ana Elisa Osorio
- Antonia Muñoz
- Aristóbulo Istúriz
- Carlos Escarrá
- Darío Vivas
- Cilia Flores
- Elías Jaua
- Érika Farías
- Freddy Bernal
- Héctor Navarro
- Héctor Rodríguez
- Jacqueline Faría
- Jorge Rodríguez
- Luis Reyes Reyes
- María Cristina Iglesias
- María León
- Mario Silva
- Nicolás Maduro
- Nohelí Pocaterra
- Rafael Ramírez
- Ramón Rodríguez Chacín
- Rodrigo Cabezas
- Tarek El Aissami
- Vanessa Davies
- Willian Lara
- Yelitza Santaella



Party meeting in Maracaibo in December 2012

Units of Battle Hugo Chávez (UBCh)

The Units of Battle Hugo Chávez (UBCh) is a collection of organizations with multiple members of PSUV involved that has both military and political characteristics.^[39] The UBCh originated as a group to defend the Bolivarian Revolution and support the party through electoral processes in Venezuela, and were transformed into their current name in 2013.^[39] They form the basic party unit in Venezuelan communities, and 4 or more of them form a *People's Struggle Circle* (*Círculo de Lucha Popular*) in the community level. The Unit itself is divided into 10 Unit Patrols serving various functions for party members in various sectors.

Other assisting groups include:

- PSUV National Political Bureau
- PSUV Regional Departments, led by Regional Vice Presidents
- PSUV Sectors Organizations, led by Sectoral Vice Presidents
- United Socialist Party of Venezuela Youth

Election results

Presidential

Election year	Name	First Round		Second Round	
		# of overall votes	% of overall vote	# of overall votes	% of overall vote
<u>2012</u>	<u>Hugo Chávez</u>	8,191,132	55.1 (#1)		
	Major party in "Great Patriotic Pole".				
<u>2013</u>	<u>Nicolás Maduro</u>	7,587,579	50.6 (#1)		
	Major party in "Great Patriotic Pole".				
<u>2018</u>	<u>Nicolás Maduro</u>	6,205,875	67.8% (#1)		
	Major party in "Great Patriotic Pole".				

Parliamentary

Election year	# of overall votes	% of overall vote	# of overall seats won	+/-	Leader
<u>2010</u>	5,451,419 (#1)	48.3	96 / 165 <div><div style="width: 58%;"></div></div>	▼ 22	<u>Diosdado Cabello</u>
<u>2015</u>	5,599,025 (#2)	40.9	55 / 167 <div><div style="width: 33%;"></div></div>	▼ 44	<u>Diosdado Cabello</u>

See also

- Revolutionary Marxist Current

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External links

- [Official website \(http://www.psuv.org.ve\)](http://www.psuv.org.ve)

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