

Celsa Bautista Ontiveros
Ministra del Poder Popular para
Asuntos Penitenciarios
Avenida Venezuela, Edificio Platinum
Urbanización El Rosal, Municipio
Chacao
Caracas
VENEZUELA

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- Dear Minister,

I am greatly concerned about **Emirlendris Benitez**, who has been unjustly detained for almost five years now.

The 42-year-old tradeswoman and mother was arbitrarily detained on 5 August 2018 on fabricated grounds. Authorities falsely linked her to acts of violence against high-profile political leaders, an accusation which she has consistently denied. In 2022, she was sentenced to a 30-year prison sentence by a partial and politically motivated court. Since her arrest in August 2018, she has been a victim of countless human rights violations; including arbitrary detention, torture, gender-based violence, discrimination, unfair trial, and inhuman detention conditions.

As member / sympathizer of Amnesty International, I urge you to immediately release Emirlendris Benitez as she has been unfairly imprisoned. In the meantime, please guarantee her personal integrity.

Yours sincerely,

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Cc:

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