



Carabobo, with a population of 2 million inhabitants who reside in 14 municipalities, being its capital the city of Valencia, is the third most populous state in Venezuela that in its entirety lives a Complex Humanitarian Emergency, which affects and violates severely the right to education of all children and adolescents of the entity. As in the rest of the country, in Carabobo the emergency has a large-scale profile due to its extensive and multiple effects in high absenteeism and school desertion, the indoctrination of teaching and academic evaluation, the resignation or the abandonment of qualified teachers to their positions, the closure and merger of schools that do not offer adequate conditions of space, hygiene and facilities due to the severe deterioration of the educational infrastructure, coupled with high insecurity within and in the environments of the state's educational centers.



## Damage and loss of capabilities due to the Emergency in the Right to Education

1. 70% of Carabobo's students do not attend school regularly because they can not take food that completes the "Programa de Alimentación Escolar PAE": School Feeding Program; 60% deserted for economic, nutritional and social reasons.	5. 90% of the infrastructure of the Carabobo schools is very deteriorated. Most of the schools do not have adequate sanitary facilities and the deficit of desks reaches 30%.	9. 50% of teachers in Carabobo schools have resigned or abandoned their positions. Almost everyone and even the students are required to have a "Fatherland ID" to access benefits or social programs.
2. 90% of the official schools in Carabobo must alter school planning for partisan political activities, including suspending classes in electoral processes, which are not recovered.	6. Free education is not guaranteed in Carabobo. Parents and teachers must cover the costs of maintenance, supplies, school supplies, transportation and in some cases feeding their children.	10. Closure of 4 schools in Carabobo due to unknown causes and fusion of two, in physical conditions and deplorable services, reducing the educational offer under the figure of the "Educational Complexes".
3. The School Feeding Program only reaches 50% of Carabobo's educational centers and the food that is supplied through this program is very deficient in quantity and quality.	7. 90% of Carabobo schools lack access to basic services such as drinking water, electricity and public transportation. Trucking puts integrity and life at risk.	11. Pedagogical processes and evaluation in Carabobo schools are used to indoctrinate and compulsively promote students without having reached the necessary academic competences.
4. 50% of students in Carabobo present malnutrition, problems of attention and concentration, and cognitive deficiencies, which compromises their ability to achieve.	8. Students are exposed to the contagion and spread of endemic diseases in at least 50% of schools due to lack of hygiene.	12. In at least three municipalities of Carabobo there are armed students organized in criminal bands. 70% of students and teachers have been victims of robberies and robberies near their educational centers.

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- 1. 70% of the students of Carabobo do not attend school regularly because they can not bring food, supplies, uniforms or shoes; 60% deserted for economic, nutritional and social reasons.** School absenteeism reaches 70%. Children and adolescents stop attending because they can not take food that complements those provided by the School Feeding Program (PAE) insufficiently or because they do not have supplies, uniforms and / or shoes. Absenteeism is also due to lack of public transportation, shortage of cash or inaccessible costs for the majority. Many children only attend afterwards to make sure that food from the PAE will arrive. During the 2017-2018 school year, less than 40% of students enrolled completed their studies due to lack of food, entering the labor market, family breakdown as a result of the migration of parents and lack of interest in studies, because for them studying does not represent a possibility to improve their quality of life. In at least three municipalities of the state, 50% of enrollment decreases were reported in October compared to the 2017-2018 school year. In the Libertador municipality it was reported that 10 adolescents are working in the gold mines of the area, representing a risk to their health because the extraction of gold is done with mercury and for their lives, since these mining areas are controlled by leaders of inmates, called "*pranes*", with the consent of security forces, according to testimonies. At least 5% of school dropout is attributed to early pregnancy. More than 70% of students do not intend to continue their higher education but to join the labor market to contribute to the maintenance of their family.
- 2. 90% of the official schools in Carabobo must alter school planning for partisan political activities, including suspending classes in electoral processes, which are not recovered.** In 90% of public schools, school planning is altered by political-partisan activities called by government agents, which teachers must attend compulsory, being victims of harassment if not complied with by the respective authorities and own students, in some cases. Likewise, during each electoral process classes are unjustifiably suspended for up to a week. The planning and teaching activities are not reprogrammed to recover the class hours used in these activities or the losses due to the absence of teachers or failures of public services. This situation reduces the quality of education and places the students of inequality against those who have received a complete education. The essence of education has been distorted, violating the Constitution and the pacts signed by the Venezuelan State. The school ceased to be the center of educational work to become a space dedicated to political proselytizing and indoctrination.
- 3. The School Feeding Program only reaches 50% of Carabobo's educational centers and the food that is supplied through this program is very deficient in quantity and quality.** The PAE reaches scarcely 50% of the Carabobo educational centers, but not continuously, in many cases only once or twice a week during the entire school year. The food that arrives is insufficient, of low quality and reduced caloric content, only rice, grains or vegetables in poor condition, which contravenes the standards required for a balanced diet for children and young people of school age. It should be noted that a high number of students attend classes without having eaten food and without having any snacks; For this reason, deficiencies in the supply of the PAE also mean that a significant number of schools cut the class schedule at least one day a week due to lack of food.



4. **50% of students in Carabobo present malnutrition, problems of attention and concentration, and cognitive deficiencies, which compromises their ability to achieve competences.** Approximately 50% of the students in the official schools of Carabobo present problems of attention and concentration, deficiency in their cognitive abilities, height and weight below that which corresponds to age, because they do not consume adequate food, which reduces their abilities to achieve the expected competencies. The School Feeding Program, which should guarantee the supply of at least two balanced meals a day, does not cover more than 50% of the schools or does it poorly. In at least 80% of the schools, students suffer fainting during class sessions and recreation hours due to lack of food, a situation that also occurs in the case of teachers, to a lesser extent, as a result of the great difficulties that many families have to be able to get or buy food. Teachers, parents and representatives report that children's diet is based on vegetables, without proteins, and that some students spend up to a full day without eating.
5. **90% of the infrastructure of the Carabobo schools is very deteriorated. Most of the schools do not have adequate sanitary facilities and the deficit of desks reaches 30%.** About 90% of the schools in Carabobo show a severe deterioration of their physical plant. Cracked walls are observed, without painting or frieze and broken ceilings. Most do not have adequate sanitary facilities; the toilets have broken wc and sinks not apt for their use on the part of students and teachers. Likewise, schools lack sewage services; the classrooms do not have adequate ventilation and lighting (there are no fans and almost all the lamps do not have light bulbs or are damaged), they do not have laboratories or libraries, in 10% of the educational institutions only 50% of the classrooms are operational. There is a deficit of at least 30% of desks or chairs for the students. The schools do not have recreational areas or those that exist are not in adequate conditions for their use due to lack of maintenance<sup>1</sup>.
6. **Free education is not guaranteed in Carabobo. Parents and teachers must cover the costs of maintenance, supplies, school supplies, transportation and in some cases feeding their children.** In contravention of the right to guarantee free education, the teaching staff together with the parents and representatives must pay the implements destined to the cleanliness of the educational center, supplying the cleaning products, stationery and other necessary implements to teach. They must also cover the costs of school supplies, uniforms, food and transportation of their represented. The social programs of bulk and school supplies reached approximately 40% of the schools and barely contained a notebook, a pencil and a pencil sharpener. At least three official schools in the state of Carabobo are demanding the payment of 1 sovereign bolivar, to register each student. At least in an educational center located in the Naguanagua municipality, parents and representatives are required to pay 50 sovereign bolivars so that their representatives can receive the School Feeding Program and 150 sovereign bolivars so that they have the right to receive the school bag.



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- 7. Students are exposed to contagion and the spread of endemic diseases in at least 50% of schools due to lack of hygiene.** At least 50% of educational centers report exposure, spread and contagion of students from endemic diseases due to lack of hygiene, due to lack of quality water supply and inadequate storage. The wastewater is inadequately disposed. In at least 90% of the cases consulted, there are no personnel for maintenance and cleaning in the schools, nor provision of supplies for the cleaning of the facilities, nor provision of drinking water for human consumption. This situation also makes it difficult or impossible to properly clean the food and clean the students in schools. Cases of scabies, diarrhea, parasitosis, measles and / or pediculosis are reported.
- 8. Closure of 4 schools in Carabobo due to unknown causes and fusion of two, in physical conditions and deplorable services, reducing the educational offer under the figure of the "Educational Complexes".** In the



municipality of Valencia of Carabobo state, 2 institutions of initial and primary education were closed to relocate students and teachers in schools of general media, under the figure of "Educational Complexes". The unification of these institutions has generated overcrowding. The dimensions of the classrooms do not have the space conditions required to meet the curriculum for the initial stage. In order to expand the space the school had to use rooms destined for deposits and administrative offices of the establishment. Likewise, in 2 other municipalities of the state, general secondary education institutions were closed for the 2018-2019 school period, as a result of the elimination of the afternoon shift, reducing the possibility that a significant number of students may continue their studies.<sup>2</sup>.

- 9. 50% of teachers in Carabobo schools have resigned or abandoned their positions. Almost everyone and even students are required to have a "country card" to access benefits or social programs.** In all the municipalities of Carabobo, 50% of teachers have applied for permits, abandoned or resigned from their positions due to the low remuneration they receive or in some cases the absolute lack of payment, which makes it impossible to cover their basic needs, to dedicate themselves to other economic activities or to migrate in search of a better quality of life. Teachers also resign because of the politicization of the school environment. Above the educational quality, the few supervisions that are made are focused on policing, instead of serving academic accompaniment. The absences of teachers are supplied by people without accreditation to teach classes, graduates of socialist missions. In 5 basic schools in the municipalities of Valencia and Los Guayos, parents and representatives reported that they have only 2 teachers to teach at 6 levels of education. Similarly, 80% of the educational centers of secondary education do not have the number of teachers required to teach in all subjects. Almost all teachers have been illegally required to present the "Fatherland ID" without which they can not access benefits, social assistance or procedures before the Ministry of Education. The same situation occurs in a smaller proportion to the students. The "Fatherland ID" has also been required of some students or their parents to enjoy social programs such as the "school bulge" or scholarships, although the requirement of this document constitutes a mechanism of discrimination that violates the equality of every person before the Law and an education for all.

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### 10. 90% of Carabobo schools lack access to basic services such as drinking water, electricity and public transportation. Trucking puts integrity and life at risk.

90% of the Carabobo educational centers do not have regular basic services such as drinking water or sewage disposal. In many cases, rainwater is stored in containers to supply the toilets or perform personal or facility cleaning. With high frequency the electric power service fails. In 50% of the schools the electricity cables have been stolen and have not been replaced. Likewise, 90% of the schools do not have fixed telephony or internet services. In at least 80% of the educational centers, there is no public transport that transfers students and teachers, which means walking long stretches to get to them or using trucks not suitable for a safe transfer called "kennels", exposing that way your physical integrity and your life. In the regional and national media, there have been reports of traffic accidents in Carabobo, with a number of people seriously injured or killed by falls or crashes of these trucks. The situation is aggravated by the lack of cash to pay the transfer, since in the country is limited the possibility of withdrawing cash from the bank. Special mention deserves the Naguanagua municipality where, on the occasion of the change of mayor, the school transport service that moved students and teachers free to their educational centers was eliminated.



### 11. Pedagogical processes and evaluation in Carabobo schools are used to indoctrinate and compulsively promote students without having reached the necessary academic competences.

In the classroom, programmatic objectives are suppressed by political objectives and "socialist" ideological training. Teachers and students are obliged to use the Bicentennial Collection (text books produced by government) as unique consultation texts, which deepens the process of impoverishment of the educational process, its politicization and use as an instrument of indoctrination, since it exalts the personality cult of the so-called "leader" of the revolution "and basically its contents are aimed at promoting the so-called Bolivarian Revolution, in the terms established by the "Plan of the Nation". Likewise, since the 2017-2018 school year, the new curricular transformation project that was imposed by the national government without any kind of consultation, prior teacher preparation or coordination with the teacher is being implemented in almost all schools of general media or in agreement with the university system. Its academic contents are still to be defined, creating confusion and delay in the student career and the politicization of education. This curricular transformation was designed in clear violation of the Constitution and keeps in uncertainty more than 300 thousand students of secondary education who are denied the possibility of deciding if they will specialize in science or humanities to continue higher education in these specializations. These practices prevent plural and diverse thinking in the school environment and have led to the discrimination of children and adolescents, parents and representatives, teachers and school management staff for political reasons. Likewise, teachers are ordered to promote students even when they have not reached the respective competences, either because they did not have teachers in all the subjects or because they attended them with unskilled substitutes. In these cases they are averaged the grades of subjects that they attended and are promoted the following year. In addition, it is approved as a reward for students who attend political activities called by the government. This has a negative impact on the quality of education, students are denied the possibility of acquiring competences for the corresponding level of study.

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**12. In at least three municipalities of Carabobo there are armed students organized in criminal bands. 70% of students and teachers have been victims of robberies inside and near their educational centers.** At least in the municipalities of Valencia, Naguanagua and Libertador, three general education centers are reported, where approximately 5% of the students carry weapons, consume drugs and are part of criminal groups that intimidate administrative staff, maintenance personnel, teachers and students inside their schools. These gangs have not been able to be controlled by the directors and the teaching staff who receive threats against their personal integrity and their lives. The security agencies are not present despite the complaints made. In the environment of the educational centers, every week a member of the educational community is subject to armed robbery and also the complaints are not answered by the competent authorities. The students and teaching staff of a middle school located in the municipality of San Joaquín, have been victims of criminal acts on a recurring basis without the local authorities offering any security despite being informed of the seriousness of the situation.

### Data sheet

This report on the Complex Humanitarian Emergency in the Right to Education responds to an interdisciplinary methodology that brought together multiple informed stakeholders to share, contrast and base data on the situation of the right to education in the state of Carabobo, emphasizing the scale, intensity and severity of the damage caused by the emergency to children and adolescents of school age and the loss of national educational capacities as their main cause.

Participants included organizations of affected people, professionals in the field, researchers and academics, as well as organizations dedicated to the defense of the right to education, who held several work sessions in order to document the most relevant problems and events in recent years. In these sessions, a lot of updated information was collected, including interviews, empirical data and official figures.

The following organizations participated in the preparation of this state report: *Padres Organizados de Venezuela y Proyecto de Extensión, Visibilización y Educación de los Derechos Humanos de la Facultad de Ciencias de la Educación de la Universidad de Carabobo*. *EXCUBITUS Derechos Humanos en Educación* provided support in the construction and development of the methodology of the working groups within the framework of its mandate to monitor violations and restrictions on Human Rights in Education with the assistance of *Civilis Derechos Humanos*.

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### What is the human right to education?

Education is an intrinsic right to the human being. Their full enjoyment and exercise is also indispensable to realize other human rights. In the United Nations and international treaties signed by the Venezuelan State, education is a right in the area of the autonomy of the person and means for teaching and training that must be oriented towards the full development of the human personality, effective participation in a free society and understanding among ethnic groups, nations, races and religions.

Education is the main means by which economically and socially marginalized adults and children can escape poverty and participate fully in their communities. Education plays a decisive role in the emancipation of women, the protection of children, the promotion of human rights and democracy, and the conservation of the environment. In situations of crisis or humanitarian emergencies, it is part of the obligations of States to demonstrate that they have made the maximum use of available national resources and to accept international assistance and cooperation in case the effects of the emergency exceed their capabilities.

A Complex Humanitarian Emergency is a humanitarian crisis in a country, region or society in which there is a total or considerable breakdown of authority, as a result of internal or external conflict, and which requires an international response that goes beyond the mandate or capacity of a single agency and / or the United Nations country program in progress. Permanent Committee between Organizations of the United Nations (IASC, 1994). The reluctance to protect the rights of people in these situations compromises the responsibilities of States with international violations of human rights.

### References

<sup>1</sup> U.E. Andrés Eloy Blanco de Tucuyito está en pésimas condiciones (2651167). En: <http://www.notitarde.com/ue-andres-eloy-blanco-tocuyito-pesimas-condiciones/> vía @webnotitarde

<sup>2</sup> Escuela valenciana será cerrada posiblemente para usar instalaciones con fines comerciales. En: <http://www.noticias-ahora.com/escuela-valenciana-sera-cerrada-posiblemente/> vía @noticias\_ahora\_