

## Help Us Free Juan Pablo Guanipa

A message from his family on his forced disappearance in Venezuela

<https://freejuanpabloguanipa.substack.com/p/help-us-free-juan-pablo-guanipa>

Andres Guanipa

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My brother, Juan Pablo Guanipa, was arbitrarily detained in Venezuela on May 23, 2025. He is the former Vice President of the National Assembly and current leader of the Primera Justicia party in Venezuela, which participated in the 2025 Venezuelan elections.

Juan Pablo was arrested by police officers armed with automatic weapons, thought to be linked to the Bolivarian National Police.

This is just one among thousands of cases of arbitrary detention targeting political figures. Stories like Juan Pablo's show the unprecedented severity and sophistication used against actors in the national civic space. In my brother's case, his rights have been violated under the UN International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance to which Venezuela is a signatory. UN officials have commented on the situation, saying that holding opponents in "conditions of isolation and incommunicado detention is an illegal and perverse practice that can constitute an international crime." For these reasons, the UN High Commissioner has been regularly informed about his case, including on the day he was arbitrarily detained. *(See text of the letter below.)*



**Letter To The Un High Commissioner 5 23**

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Since Juan Pablo began to face official persecution, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights has asked Venezuela to adopt measures to protect his life and integrity, as well as allow him to continue his political activities without threats of violence. Despite this, he was arbitrarily detained, and on July 4, 2025, Juan Pablo was denied his right to habeas corpus and denied access to legal counsel. (*See the order denying him habeas corpus below.*)



### **Denial Of Habeas Corpus**

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His basic human rights, his life, and well-being have been greatly compromised by this situation.

Our family has decided to launch this page on Substack to keep the public informed of his status and the legal efforts underway to gain his freedom through lawful means.

Here we will share updates, news, and key documents related to his detention and the legal developments around his case. It is our fervent wish that Juan Pablo and all victims of forced disappearance and arbitrary detention are located, provided with access to counsel and due process, and given the opportunity to lawfully obtain their freedom.

*These materials are distributed by DCI Group AZ, L.L.C. on behalf of Juan Pablo Guanipa through Ramon Guanipa. Additional information is on file with the Department of Justice, Washington, DC.*