



General Assembly Security Council

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**Prevention of armed conflict: strengthening the role of
mediation in the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict
prevention and resolution**

**Security Council
Seventy-ninth year**

Letter dated 13 September 2024 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I would like to refer to the issue of the interim report of the United Nations Panel of Experts on the Venezuelan presidential elections that were held on 28 July 2024.

As agreed between the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the United Nations Secretariat, the Panel of Experts was designated to accompany the presidential elections and submit a confidential report, to the Secretary-General, with recommendations on how to improve the electoral process, in strict compliance with the policy on principles and types of United Nations electoral assistance.

However, you made a decision to make the interim report of the Panel public, which is contrary both to the established practice and the terms of reference signed between the United Nations and the Venezuelan National Electoral Council.

We took note of the comments made by Secretariat representatives that this decision had been taken for the purposes of transparency and confidence-building to resolve disagreements over the election results. Nevertheless, we believe that both the content of the report and the timing of its publication only stirred up more tensions and constituted an act of external interference into the internal affairs of a sovereign government.

It is regrettable that the assumptions made by the Panel of Experts are politicized and clearly surpass the technical nature of its mandate. The circulation and promotion of such biased information by the Secretariat and by the Secretary-General himself is therefore a violation of the principle of impartiality and Article 100 of the Charter of the United Nations that govern the work of international officials.

We urge you to refrain from such actions in the future and not to allow the United Nations to be instrumentalized for the benefit of external interests that seek to destabilize Venezuela.



I should be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 32 (b), and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Vassily **Nebenzia**
