## Main Text

The [communications of Chávez and other MBR-200 leaders](#MBR200) with the public from Yare prison and their formal program after their release both centered on governance-based appeals and institutional reforms, especially the need to convene a Constituent Assembly to rewrite the constitution.

## ATI Data Supplement

**Analytic Note:** *In this more mature policy document, written and disseminated after Chavez and other leaders of the MBR-200 had been released from prison, the MBR-200 focuses its attention on both proposals for radical economic policies (not in the excerpt, but elsewhere in the document) and sweeping proposals for state and institutional reform. Once again, this demonstrates how central governance-based appeals were to the radical strategy emerging in Venezuela.*

**Source excerpt:** Así, la estrategia bolivariana se plantea no solamente la restructuración del Estado, sino de todo el sistema político, desde sus fundamentos filosóficos mismos hasta sus componentes y las relaciones que los regulan. Por esa razón, hablamos del proceso necesario de reconstitución o refundación del Poder Nacional en todas sus facetas, basado en la legitimidad y en la soberanía. El poder constituido no tiene, a estas alturas, la más mínima capacidad para hacerlo, por lo que habremos, necesariamente, de recurrir al Poder Constituyente, para ir hacia la instauración de la Quinta República: la República Bolivariana.

**Source excerpt translation**: Thus, the Bolivarian strategy proposes not only the restructuring of the State, but also the entire restructuring of the political system, from its philosophical foundations to its components, and the relationships that regulate them. For that reason, we speak of the necessary process of reconstituting or re-founding National Power in all its facets, based on legitimacy and sovereignty. The constituted power does not have, by now, the most minimal capacity to do this, which is why we will necessarily have to resort to the Constituent Power, in order to proceed toward the establishment of the Fifth Republic: the Bolivarian Republic.

**Filename for data source:** Handlin\_MBR200\_1996