

## United States Senate

January 15, 2025

The Honorable Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva  
Palácio do Planalto in Brasília  
Praça dos Três Poderes - Brasília,  
Brasilia - Federal District, 70150-900  
Brazil

Dear Mr. President:

On Saturday, January 11, 2025, as he celebrated his illegitimate inauguration, Dictator Nicolás Maduro called upon the Brazilian military to invade U.S. territory. In calling for the “liberation” of Puerto Rico, Maduro blatantly incited war against the United States by means of the Brazilian state. The global community already knows Maduro stole this election from the Venezuelan people and President-elect Edmundo Gonzalez, and now he has resorted to threatening the U.S. and taking Americans hostage. We cannot stand for this.

I and the rest of the hemisphere find these statements from Maduro to be incendiary, dangerous and unacceptable. They represent, however, exactly who this thug is – a murderous dictator who disturbs the peace of the region while further impoverishing Venezuela and oppressing its citizens.

Such incitement cannot go unanswered. The hemisphere, and frankly the world, deserve an immediate response to Maduro’s dangerous words from the Brazilian government.

I call upon the Brazilian government to respond formally and clearly, and tell the hemisphere’s governments what your official response is to these dangerous threats. Further, I call on you to explain exactly how the Brazilian government plans to address Maduro’s incitement of military aggression at the Organization of American States or the United Nations.

I hope the Brazilian government would agree that anyone who attempts to dismiss Maduro’s words as mere political rhetoric should be reminded that such commentary is far too serious and dangerous to go unchecked. Moreover, the government of Brazil has been impugned by Maduro’s reckless commentary because it suggests he thinks the Brazilian state would be interested in such military aggression.

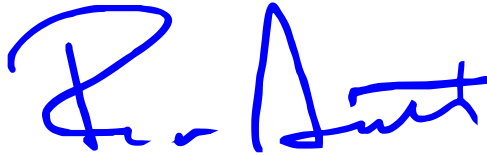
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It is important for everyone to go on the record regarding the dangers that Maduro represents to peace and stability in the region and the world given that he plays host to the worst enemies the United States and our allies face; namely, Communist China, Russia, Iran and its proxies. It is incumbent upon you, as it is every freedom-loving world leader, to speak up against Maduro's threats.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rick Scott". The signature is stylized with a large initial "R" and a prominent "S".

Rick Scott  
United States Senator