



3.4. Journalists

The UNFFMV indicated that 18 journalists were detained between August 2024 and August 2025 due to their perceived status as opponents.[701](#) Alleged reasons for targeting include publishing information critical of the government[702](#) or material deemed to be of 'public interest'.[703](#) Journalists and social-media content creators are typically charged with 'instigation to hate'.[704](#) Sources also reported the killing of a journalist on 22 June 2025 while livestreaming from his home in Maracay.[705](#) As of September 2025, 11 journalists remained in detention.[706](#)

Between January and April 2026, the Press and Society Institute (IPYS, Instituto de Prensa y Sociedad) recorded 36 violations of the right to freedom of expression, including the detention of journalists during coverage, the review and forced deletion of news material, physical and verbal attacks, the closure of broadcasting stations, and public warnings against media outlets.[707](#) Between 3 January and 27 March 2026, CONATEL shut down four independent radio stations, more than half the total number closed throughout 2025.[708](#) On 3 May 2026, IPYS stated that, although there have been recent advances such as the Amnesty Law, 'freedom remains partial and reversible, without full guarantees'.[709](#) IPYS also reported that, in 2025 and 2026, journalists continued to avoid signing their work, resulting in a practice shaped by caution, calculation, and persistent uncertainty.[710](#) Coverage has become more distant, and on-the-ground reporting increasingly rare, with many topics going unreported and lines of questioning heavily modified.[711](#)

According to the National Union of Press Workers (SNTP, Sindicato Nacional de Trabajadores de la Prensa), by 19 April 2026, 28 journalists and press workers had been released under the Amnesty Law.[712](#) The same source indicated, however, that the judicial files of eight workers and journalists had not been closed as mandated by the Amnesty Law.[713](#) Four requests for dismissal of charges were denied by the courts, and appeals have been filed in all of them, but appellate courts have yet to issue a decision.[714](#) In addition, three requests have received no response despite legal deadlines having expired, prolonging the legal uncertainty faced by those affected.[715](#)

The appointment in March 2026 of a new CONATEL director with sector experience has been considered a positive development, and independent media outlets have been granted access to both the parliament and the presidential palace for the first time in many years.[716](#) Sources indicated, however, that censorship persists despite limited signs of greater tolerance.[717](#)

- [701](#)

UN, FFMV, Report of the independent international fact-finding mission on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, 8 September 2025, [url](#), para. 85

- [702](#)

UN, FFMV, Report of the independent international fact-finding mission on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, A/HRC/57/57, 17 September 2024, [url](#), para. 100; Espacio Público, Informe 2025: Situación general del derecho a la libertad de expresión en Venezuela, 29 April 2026, [url](#)

- [703](#)

Espacio Público, Informe 2025: Situación general del derecho a la libertad de expresión en Venezuela, 29 April 2026, [url](#)

- [704](#)

Espacio Público, Informe 2025: Situación general del derecho a la libertad de expresión en Venezuela, 29 April 2026, [url](#)

- [705](#)

Infobae, Asesinato de tiktoker evidencia los riesgos de denunciar el crimen organizado en Venezuela, 30 June 2025, [url](#)

- [706](#)

UN, FFMV, Report of the independent international fact-finding mission on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, 8 September 2025, [url](#), para. 85

- [707](#)

IPYS, 3 de mayo en el país del silencio administrado, 3 May 2026, [url](#)

- [708](#)

International Crisis Group, The Venezuela Paradigm: Is Trump's Model Intervention a Mirage?, 27 March 2026, [url](#)

- [709](#)

IPYS, 3 de mayo en el país del silencio administrado, 3 May 2026, [url](#)

- [710](#)

IPYS, 3 de mayo en el país del silencio administrado, 3 May 2026, [url](#)

- [711](#)

IPYS, 3 de mayo en el país del silencio administrado, 3 May 2026, [url](#)

- [712](#)

SNTP, A dos meses de promulgada la Ley de Amnistía, al menos 8 periodistas siguen judicializados, 20 April 2026, [url](#)

- [713](#)

SNTP, A dos meses de promulgada la Ley de Amnistía, al menos 8 periodistas siguen judicializados, 20 April 2026, [url](#). See also: IPYS, 3 de mayo en el país del silencio administrado, 3 May 2026, [url](#)

- [714](#)

SNTP, A dos meses de promulgada la Ley de Amnistía, al menos 8 periodistas siguen judicializados, 20 April 2026, [url](#)

- [715](#)

SNTP, A dos meses de promulgada la Ley de Amnistía, al menos 8 periodistas siguen judicializados, 20 April 2026, [url](#)

- [716](#)

International Crisis Group, The Venezuela Paradigm: Is Trump's Model Intervention a Mirage?, 27 March 2026, [url](#); Correo del Caroní, Quién es Enrique Quintana, el nuevo director de Conatel, 9 March 2026, [url](#)

- [717](#)

International Crisis Group, The Venezuela Paradigm: Is Trump's Model Intervention a Mirage?, 27 March 2026, [url](#); IPYS, 3 de mayo en el país del silencio administrado, 3 May 2026, [url](#)