CTU RESOLUTION
TO OPPOSE THE INVASION OF VENEZUELA

WHEREAS, the principal of “sovereign equality” is a fundamental notion of the UN (United Nations) Charter of Nations and the UN has stated in this document’s Preamble that nations come together in that body “to unite our strength to maintain international peace and security, and to ensure, by the acceptance of principles and the institution of methods, that armed force shall not be used, save in the common interest ...”; and

WHEREAS, Article 2 (4) of the Charter of the United Nations states that, “All members shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state, or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations”; and

WHEREAS, the current Trump administration, various European nations, and the Lima Group in South America, has recently made menacing pronouncements against the sovereign state of Venezuela by discrediting the result of the May 20, 2018, Venezuelan presidential election of Nicolas Maduro, and have backed the self-declared “Presidency” of Juan Guaido, President of the National Assembly of Venezuela; and

WHEREAS, President Trump’s current Special Envoy to Venezuela, Elliot Abrams was involved in the April 11, 2002, attempted coup in Venezuela that removed then Venezuelan Hugo Chavez from power for less than 48 hours before a popular uprising put him back in office; and the current National Security Advisor John Bolton has accused Venezuela of being part of a “troika of evil” that includes Cuba and Nicaragua; and another major actor in this U.S. foreign adventure, U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo along with Elliot Abrams was a key player in the so called “dirty wars” in Latin America 1980s that involved Nicaragua, El Salvador, and Chile; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. has recently attempted to provoke a border incident with the Maduro government by moving $20 million worth of “aid” to Venezuela after it has frozen the foreign assets of that country, discouraged other countries from doing business with Venezuela, and imposed sanctions that increase the poverty and misery of the general population by costing the Venezuelan government billions ever year; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations, the International Red Cross, and other international relief organizations refused to work with the U.S. on delivering this “aid” to Venezuela, which they say is politically motivated; and the Venezuelan government considers a Trojan Horse for an eventual military invasion’; and

WHEREAS, U.S. President Donald Trump, U.S. National Security Advisor John Bolden,
and U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo have all explicitly stated that U.S.
corporations should control the oil resources in Venezuela, which implies that this
will be a war for oil; and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo stated that the elected
Venezuelan President, Nicolas Maduro’s “days in office are numbered”; and

WHEREAS, the world is still reeling from the war for oil in Iraq, which has left that
country in shambles and continues to destabilize the middle east to this day;
therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Chicago Teachers Union (CTU) publicly states its opposition to
any military invasion of the sovereign state of Venezuela, and insists on dialogue,
diplomacy, and negotiation as the means to resolve this crisis; and

RESOLVED, that the CTU advocate for the suspension of the current sanctions
against Venezuela, and for the U.S. to cease all threats, military mobilization, and
interference in the economic and internal politics and affairs of the Venezuelan
people; and respect the right of self-determination of this sovereign nation in
accordance with U.S. stated commitment to the rule of law; and be it finally

RESOLVED, the CTU stands in solidarity with the Venezuelan labor organizations
Sindicato Nacional Fuerza Magisterial (SINAFUM), Colectivo Clasista de
Trabajadores y Trabajadoras de la Educación, “Carmen Conzoño” y al Frente
Nacional de Lucha de la Clase Trabajadora (FNLCT), and other organizations that
oppose the interference in Venezuela’s sovereign affairs and the consequent threat
of military intervention.

☐ Adopted    ☐ Adopted as Amended    ☐ Defeated    ☐ Tabled    ☐ Other

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1 National Teachers Union
2 Class Collective of Educational Workers
3 Carmen Conzoño and the National Front for the Struggle of the Working Class

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