


VENEZUELA · UNITED STATES · THE DECISION

# Should Venezuela consider *statehood?*

The three paths, the yardstick by which each one is judged, and the thresholds that would have to be met.

## 01 · THE PROPOSAL Three paths on the table

### I

### A Free and Democratic Venezuela

The country recovers its institutions and governs itself, with a strategic alliance with the United States but without ceding sovereignty. It is the first aspiration and the one with the greatest historical legitimacy; its risk is relapse, and that is why it is only worth having if it is born irreversible.

### II

### Supervised Territoriality

A structural association of transition that provides superior legal frameworks in exchange for sovereignty restricted for a time. It can serve as a bridge, but it threatens to freeze into limbo; that is why the book admits it as a step, never as a destination.

### III

### The 51st State

Full incorporation into the Union, with citizenship and representation, as the architecture of maximum irreversibility, executable only by Venezuelan decision in referendums.

**RULE** Every design is presented in both versions: one for a sovereign republic and one for the 51st State.

### Institutions before individuals.

A design that works only with the right leader in office is not a design: the test is what it protects when someone indifferent or hostile is in charge.

That decision belongs to the people of Venezuela and to the United States Congress. What a book can do is see that it is made with the information on the table.