

Colombian Red Cross Condemns Unauthorized Use of Its Symbol

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According to the <u>Red Cross and Red Crescent</u>, several unauthorized people have been using their symbols in the borders of Colombia and Brazil with Venezuela, during Saturday's mobilizations and protests that tried to enter the United States so-called "humanitarian aid."

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Some people were trying to illegally enter <u>Venezuela</u> using Red Cross jackets, despite not being affiliated with the international medical organization. The Red Cross officially rejected these attempts by the U.S. to deliver politicized "humanitarian aid."

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) has stated on its certified Twitter account that they have noticed "some people not affiliated with Red Cross Colombia and Red Cross Venezuela wearing Red Cross emblems at Colombia-Venezuela and Brazil-Venezuela border."

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On Feb. 4, the IFRC released a statement saying that these societies will not violate the government mandate by sending humanitarian aid to <u>Venezuela</u>. This statement came after Juan Guaido, an opposition lawmaker who declared himself "interim president" after an attempted coup on Jan. 23, illegally called, on Feb. 3, for a multinational coalition to send humanitarian aid through third parties in Brazil, Colombia, and the Caribbean.

However, in a statement, the health organizations' Colombian branch denounced the international coalition as counterintuitive.

"The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in Colombia reaffirms that in order to guarantee the fulfillment of its exclusively humanitarian mission and in accordance with the fundamental principles of impartiality, neutrality and independence, it can not participate in the initiatives of delivery of assistance for Venezuela from Colombia," the letter said.

<u>@Federation</u> We've learned that there are some people not affiliated w/ <u>@cruzrojacol</u> & <u>@CruzRojaVe</u> wearing Red Cross emblems at Colombia-<u>#Venezuela</u> & Brazil-Ven border. We urge them to stop doing this. They might mean well but they risk jeopardizing our neutrality, impartiality & independence