

## FOES

### CANADA

The Trudeau administration was one of twelve to join the Lima Group, a regional body created in 2017 to pressure Maduro into negotiating with the opposition.

In 2019, Canada joined scores of governments in recognising opposition leader Guaidó as “interim president”.

### UNITED STATES

While some others quietly dropped their recognition of Guaidó’s “interim government”, the U.S. still regards it as Venezuela’s legitimate authority.

Biden maintains Trump’s tough sanctions regime, although language has softened.

From 600 million barrels of oil exported to the U.S. in 1998, Venezuela’s exports to its northern neighbour are now zero.

### VENEZUELA

### COLOMBIA

The two governments have had no diplomatic contact since 2019.

President Duque in Bogotá was sceptical about the 2021 talks between Maduro and the opposition.

Maduro accuses Colombia of sending “armed terrorist drug traffickers” to his country; Colombia is unhappy about Colombian guerrillas’ presence in Venezuela.

## NEUTRALS

### EUROPEAN UNION

The EU has trodden a fine line between chastising the Maduro government and seeking a peaceful, negotiated solution.

The EU deployed an observer mission to November 2021 regional and local polls.

## FRIENDS

### CUBA

Venezuela’s closest ally since the days of President Chávez.

The island nation supplied Caracas with teachers, doctors and technical advisers in exchange for cheap oil.

### TURKEY

Maduro’s solidarity with President Erdogan after the Turkish coup of 2016 was rewarded with trade deals.

### RUSSIA

A relationship based on energy and military deals.

Since 2007, Venezuela has bought over \$4 billion in weapons from Moscow.

In 2019 Putin blocked a U.S. resolution on Venezuela in the UN Security Council.

### IRAN

The friendship dates back to their days as co-founders of OPEC.

The Islamic Republic even declared a day of mourning on Chávez’s death in 2013.

Iran’s experience of dodging sanctions allowed it to help Venezuela do so too.

### CHINA

Under President Chávez, Venezuela received \$60 billion in loans from China.

Now, the superpower is focused on investments rather than loans.

