

## Rules of Conduct with the Masses

In the belief that we should embody new men and women, setting a revolutionary example to our people while behaving in an unassuming way, in order to rally them to our cause, the commanders of the Simon Bolivar Guerilla Coordinating Board [Coordinadora Guerrillera Simón Bolívar, CGSB], gathered at its first 'Jacobo Arenas' summit, call upon Bolivarian combatants to abide by the following rules of conduct with the masses.

1. Our daily behaviour, and the purpose underlying our activities, should be borne in the people's interests.
2. We should respect the political, philosophical, and religious ideas and attitudes of the population, and in particular the culture and autonomy of indigenous communities and other ethnic minorities.
3. We should not prevent people from exercising their right to vote, nor force people to vote.
4. The safety of working people and their homes and property should be taken into account when planning and executing political and military activities, and in our daily movements.
5. We should respect the various measures taken by collaborators to keep their links to us secret.
6. Care should be taken to maintain internal discipline when working with the masses, in order to protect innocent people and those friendly to our cause, ensuring that our mistakes or failures do not make them a target of terrorism and hatred at the hands of the official army and its paramilitary forces.
7. Wherever and whenever the masses are under attack from the official army and its paramilitary forces, subjected to bombardment and the destruction of their property, we must actively denounce and counter these terrorist activities so that the people feel supported by us.
8. Murder and any kind of proven outrages committed against the population should be seen as a crime.
9. We should not impose on the masses. We should try to ensure that they see our weapons as their own.
10. Accusations made by communities about attacks by combatants and other individuals should be investigated exhaustively with input from the community.
11. Leaders and combatants should study and comply with the rules of international humanitarian law that are applicable to our revolutionary war.
12. If it should prove necessary to detain a militant or supporter of a sister organization for alleged or proven wrongdoing, the case and, if possible, the individual should be handed over to the said organization.
13. Our founding principle in all circumstances is respect for the right to life.
14. Leaders and combatants should bear in mind that executions may only be carried out for very serious crimes committed by enemies of the people and with the express authorization

in each case of each organization's senior governing body. In all such cases, evidence must be examined and decisions taken collectively. The leadership must produce a written record setting out the evidence.

15. Alcoholism, drug addiction, theft, and dishonesty are counterrevolutionary vices that damage people's trust in us.

16. We must avoid abusing people's trust and generosity. We must not demand goods and property for our personal gain.