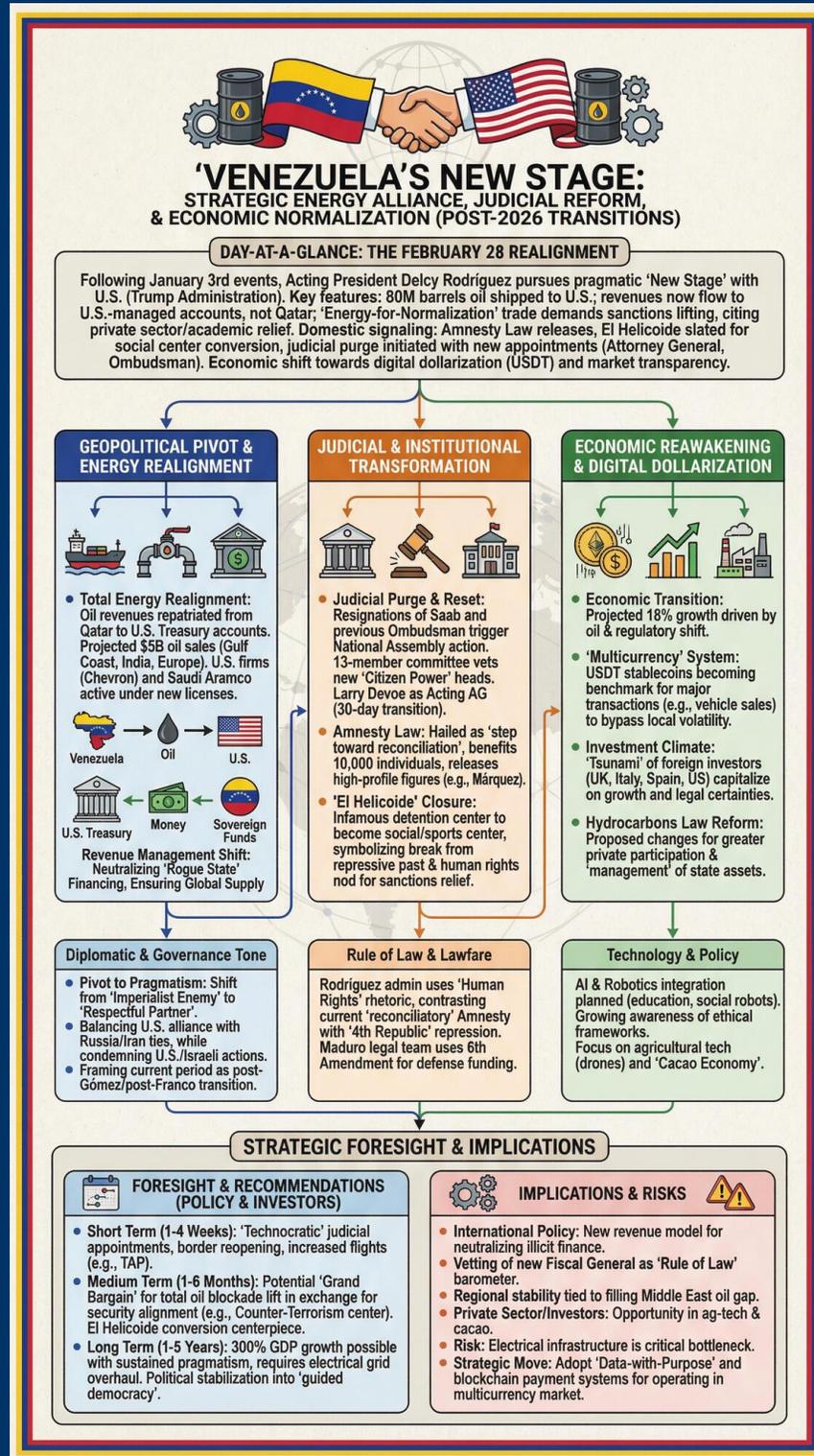


# TODAY'S MEDIA TRENDS

## GLOBOVISION

FEBRUARY 28, 2026

THE GDELT PROJECT



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VENEZUELA LEVERAGES A  
STRATEGIC ENERGY ALLIANCE  
WITH THE TRUMP  
ADMINISTRATION TO CATALYZE  
DOMESTIC JUDICIAL REFORM AND  
ECONOMIC NORMALIZATION  
FOLLOWING THE PIVOTAL  
TRANSITIONS OF EARLY 2026.

### DAY-AT-A-GLANCE

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The reporting on February 28, 2026, depicts a Venezuela in the midst of a profound structural and geopolitical realignment. Following the unspecified but foundational "events of January 3rd," Acting President Delcy Rodríguez is aggressively pursuing a "new stage" of governance characterized by a pragmatic alliance with the United States under President Donald Trump. This realignment is anchored in energy security; Venezuela has reportedly shipped [80 million barrels](#) of oil to the U.S., with revenues now flowing directly into U.S.-managed accounts rather than offshore funds in Qatar. This "energy-for-normalization" trade is being used by the Rodríguez administration to demand the total lifting of remaining sanctions, arguing that the domestic private sector and

academic institutions are the primary victims of economic isolation.

Domestically, the government is signaling a break from its repressive past through high-profile symbolic and legislative acts. The approval of an Amnesty Law has led to the release of high-profile political figures like Enrique Márquez, while the infamous "El Helicoide" detention center is slated for conversion into a [social and sports center](#). Simultaneously, the state is purging and professionalizing its judicial architecture, initiating a 30-day process to appoint a new Attorney General and Ombudsman following the sudden resignations of the previous incumbents. Economically, the country is transitioning toward a "multicurrency" system where digital assets like [USDT are becoming the benchmark](#) for major transactions, such as vehicle sales, signaling a move toward a more transparent, albeit dollarized, market environment.

### MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS

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- **The "New Stage" of the Bolivarian Revolution:** Analysts and officials are framing the current period as a transition similar to the post-Gómez era in Venezuela or the post-Franco transition in Spain. This "new stage" focuses on [abandoning polarization](#) in favor of institutional stability and private investment.
  - Acting President Delcy Rodríguez has called for a [bilateral energy agenda](#) with the U.S. based on "mutual respect."
  - The administration is emphasizing "resilience" and "hope" while managing the fallout of the January 3rd events.

- **Total Energy Realignment with the U.S.:** The Trump administration and the Rodríguez government have entered a period of intense cooperation managed by U.S. Energy Secretary Chris Wright.

- Oil revenues are being [repatriated from Qatar](#) to accounts administered by the U.S. Treasury.
- Projected oil sales are expected to reach [5 billion dollars](#) in the coming months, with primary destinations being the U.S. Gulf Coast, India, and Europe.
- U.S. companies like Chevron and even Saudi Aramco (via its U.S. subsidiaries) are actively [purchasing Venezuelan crude](#) under broad new licenses.

- **Judicial Purge and Institutional Reset:**

Following the resignations of Tarek William Saab and the previous Ombudsman on February 25, the National Assembly has moved to replace the heads of the "Citizen Power."

- A 13-member committee led by Giuseppe Alessandrello is [vetting candidates](#) for the new permanent appointments.
- Larry Devoe has been sworn in as [Acting Attorney General](#) during the 30-day transition period.
- The Amnesty Law is being hailed as a "step toward reconciliation," though opposition figures like Enrique Márquez warn it is [not yet complete](#).

- **Economic Transition and Digital Dollarization:** The economy is showing signs of recovery (projected 18% growth) driven by the oil sector and a shift in the regulatory environment.

- Major sectors are pricing goods in [stablecoins \(USDT\)](#) to bypass local currency volatility.
- The government is seeking to reform the [Hydrocarbons Law](#) to allow for greater private participation and "management" of state assets by private operators.

## KEY GOVERNANCE TOPICS

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- **AI & Technology Policy:** Venezuela is beginning to integrate AI and robotics into its development plans. Experts are discussing the use of [AI for the education](#) of the elderly and the deployment of "Social Robots" like Sophia for educational purposes. There is a growing awareness of the need for an [ethical framework](#) to manage technological "bias" in automated systems.
- **Energy Security:** The focus has shifted from state-controlled "rentismo" to a model of [private management](#) of energy assets. The government is creating two "Sovereign Funds" to manage new oil wealth for "social happiness" and infrastructure [reconstruction](#).
- **Diplomatic Engagement:** The administration is balancing its new alliance with the U.S. while maintaining ties with Russia and Iran. However, the tone toward the U.S. has shifted from "imperialist enemy" to ["respectful partner."](#) Simultaneously, the government is condemning U.S./Israeli strikes on Tehran, calling for [international law](#) to be respected.

- **Rule of Law & Lawfare:** The Rodríguez administration is using the rhetoric of "Human Rights" to commemorate the 1989 Caracazo, contrasting the "repression of the 4th Republic" with the ["reconciliatory" nature](#) of the current Amnesty Law. Meanwhile, legal teams for Nicolás Maduro are [petitioning U.S. courts](#) to release funds for his legal defense, citing Sixth Amendment rights.
- **Investment Climate:** Business chambers (VenAmCham) report a ["tsunami" of foreign investors](#)—from the UK, Italy, Spain, and the US—attempting to capitalize on the 18% sector growth and the new legal certainties provided by the Rodríguez administration.

## LEGISLATIVE ROUNDUP

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Legislative activity is centered on dismantling the previous legal architecture of "economic war" and replacing it with a framework for reconciliation and market liberalization. The National Assembly is currently the primary theater for these shifts, moving with unusual celerity to fill judicial vacancies and reform property laws.

### BILLS DISCUSSED/DEBATED:

- **Amnesty Law:** Approved as a "first step" to heal political wounds. It has already resulted in the release of high-profile detainees and is [benefiting roughly 10,000](#) individuals across the prison system.
- **Hydrocarbons Law Reform:** A proposed modification to allow private companies to not only invest but [actively manage](#) oil and gas operations, effectively privatizing management while the state retains ownership of the subsoil.

- **Anti-Hate Law & Domain Extinction Law:** High-profile opposition figures are [lobbying for the repeal](#) of these laws, which they argue were used for political persecution.
- **Land Law Review:** Agronomists are proposing [revisions to land ownership](#) laws to provide "confidence" to foreign agricultural investors.

### HEARINGS & PRESS EVENTS:

- **Committee of Postulations (Feb 27-28):** Organized the timeline for [selecting the new](#) Attorney General and Ombudsman. Applications are open from March 2 to March 9.
- **VenAmCham Economic Outlook:** A high-level gathering where economists projected [continued growth](#) despite "uncertain scenarios," highlighting the role of big data and tech adoption in the new economy.
- **Delcy Rodríguez Address to Youth/Business:** A dual-track speech focusing on [lifting the blockade](#) and inviting universities to join a new "Academic Council for Hydrocarbons."

### DEEP DIVE: TRENDS AND THEMES

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#### The Pivot to Pragmatism

The administration is systematically purging the "radical" elements of its rhetoric and personnel. The transition from Tarek William Saab (the face of the 2017-2025 crackdowns) to Larry Devoe (an international human rights lawyer) signals an attempt to [rebrand the state's](#) coercive apparatus. The closure of the El Helicoide prison is the ultimate symbol of this pivot, intended to satisfy U.S. requirements for human rights improvements

in exchange for the permanent removal of sanctions.

## Energy as a Geopolitical Tether

Venezuela is consciously positioning itself as a [reliable alternatives to Middle Eastern oil](#) amidst the escalating Iran-Israel-U.S. conflict. By channeling revenues into Treasury-monitored accounts, the Rodríguez administration is effectively surrendering some financial sovereignty in exchange for political survival and [market re-entry](#). The presence of Chris Wright in Caracas and the massive oil shipments to the U.S. Gulf Coast suggest that "Energy Diplomacy" has overridden the previous "Sanctions Diplomacy."

## Institutionalized Dollarization

While the government still defends the "Bolívar," the acceptance of [USDT for vehicle taxes](#) and sales marks a significant surrender to digital dollarization. Private sector actors are no longer waiting for currency stabilization; they are [institutionalizing data-driven](#) and blockchain-based transactions to ensure profitability in an "uncertain" but growing market.

## STRATEGIC FORESIGHT

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- **Short Term (1-4 Weeks):** Expect the appointment of a "technocratic" Attorney General and Ombudsman to replace the ideologues of the previous era. The [reopening of the border](#) and the regularization of more flights (e.g., TAP Air Portugal) will accelerate the return of professional exiles and investors.

- **Medium Term (1-6 Months):** A potential "Grand Bargain" with the Trump administration may see a total lifting of the oil blockade in exchange for Venezuela hosting a regional "Counter-Terrorism" center or similar security alignment. The conversion of El Helicoide will serve as the [symbolic centerpiece](#) of this "New Stage."
- **Long Term (1-5 Years):** If the Rodríguez administration maintains its pragmatism, Venezuela could see a [300% GDP growth](#) (needed to return to 2013 levels). This will require a complete overhaul of the electrical grid, which is currently a [major bottleneck](#) for industrial recovery. The political system will likely stabilize into a "guided democracy" where the Rodríguez faction remains dominant but the opposition is co-opted through economic participation.

## RECOMMENDATIONS & IMPLICATIONS

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### For International Policy:

- The shift in revenue management—from Qatar to U.S. Treasury accounts—provides a [new model](#) for neutralizing "rogue state" financing while maintaining global energy supply.
- International observers should monitor the [vetting of the new Fiscal General](#) as the true barometer for the "Rule of Law" reforms.
- Regional stability is now tied to the [Iran-Israel-US conflict](#), as Venezuela seeks to fill the supply gap left by Middle Eastern disruptions.

## For Private Sector/Investors:

- **Opportunity:** Agricultural tech (drones) and the "Cacao Economy" are emerging as high-growth alternatives to oil, with [favorable new regulations](#) for RPA (drone) operations.
- **Risk:** Despite the 18% growth, [electrical infrastructure](#) remains a critical risk. Investors in heavy industry should factor in private power generation costs.
- **Strategic Move:** Adopting ["Data-with-Purpose"](#) and blockchain-based payment systems is no longer optional but a prerequisite for operating in the Venezuelan "multicurrency" market.

## ABOUT THIS REPORT

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**Today's Media Trends** is a public interest experiment in applying deep thematic trend analysis to television news coverage from around the world to explore how responsibly applied advanced AI can help journalists and scholars better understand the overarching trends, themes and patterns of our global world.

**No data is used to train or tune any AI model.**

Each morning, in collaboration with the Internet Archive's TV News Archive, we apply Google's Gemini 3 to deeply examine yesterday's coverage from each television news channel to tease out the overarching themes and trends of its news coverage into a richly annotated thematic analysis. Each high-level insight is connected back to the original broadcast, allowing journalists and scholars to understand the dominate themes and trends and instantly click out to the underlying sources for details.

By helping journalists and scholars see the broader trends and patterns of global news coverage, this analysis helps them identify relevant stories and coverage they might not otherwise have encountered and uncover connections, emphases and narrative shifts that enable more comprehensive reporting and deeper, evidence-based research.

This report is entirely machine generated using Gemini 3 and may include errors and omissions. Please verify all findings. No data is used to train or tune any AI model.

For questions or suggestions, please contact [kalev.leetaru5@gmail.com](mailto:kalev.leetaru5@gmail.com). You can also learn more about the GDELT Project at <https://blog.gdeltproject.org/> and the Internet Archive's TV News Archive at <https://archive.org/details/tv>.