

Environmentalists Criticize the Restrictions of the Law of Cooperation

El Universal - November 4

A group of environmentalist NGOs expressed their rejection of the proposed Law of International Cooperation the International because they consider that the proposal represents “a brake on the execution of programs and will decrease citizen participation”.

In a press release, Aprinatura, Aguaclara, Bioparques and Tierra Viva, among other civil society organizations, warned that “of the proposed law’s 24 articles, 10 focus on mechanisms to regulate or restrict the activities of NGOs”.

The spokespersons for the environmentalists criticized the creation of “an integrated system of NGOs”, whereby all independent collectives will be obligated to register. “This represents a restriction on initiatives by groups like the environmental ONGs who work arduously and untiringly in their search for resources to carry out projects in support of protection, education and the creation of an environmental culture”, they emphasized.

The conservationists indicated that if the proposed law is approved in the second discussion in Parliament, “it will become an obstacle and will decrease the performance Venezuelan civil society ability to cooperate with international partners”.