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## Maduro Calls for Unity as U.S. Caribbean Drills Raise Tensions



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Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro has urged citizens and security institutions in the country's eastern region to remain on heightened alert following the announcement of new joint military exercises between the United States and Trinidad and Tobago in the Caribbean.

Speaking at a public gathering in Petare, Maduro called on residents across the states of Bolívar,

Delta Amacuro, Monagas, Sucre, Anzoátegui, and Nueva Esparta to maintain close coordination with national security forces and demonstrate unity in safeguarding regional stability. He encouraged peaceful mobilization and visible national solidarity, emphasizing that citizens should not be drawn into provocations that might escalate tensions.

Maduro criticized the planned military activities, which Trinidad and Tobago said would take place in waters off the coast of Sucre state, claiming that such exercises undermine peace in the region. He framed the mobilization as a patriotic response aimed at defending sovereignty and rejecting what he described as external pressure.

The president also addressed the U.S. public directly, urging American citizens to oppose policies that could heighten the risk of conflict in South America and the Caribbean. According to Trinidad and Tobago, this will be the second round of joint exercises with the United States in less than a month, continuing an ongoing military presence in the area.

Maduro reaffirmed that Venezuela remains committed to regional peace but will remain vigilant as developments unfold.