


Venezuela votes on Chavez's charter changes



If approved in Sunday's referendum, the constitutional reforms would allow President *Hugo Chavez* to run for re-election indefinitely and boost his control over public finances. Opponents warn it will endanger democracy but supporters say it will give people more voice in government



POLITICS

► Lifts existing two-term limit for presidents and extends term from six to seven years

KEY REFORMS

ECONOMY

► Ends central bank's independence, giving president direct control over foreign currency reserves



► Prioritizes collective property over private property in constitutional goal of creating socialist economy

► Cuts working day from 8 to 6 hours

► Extends social security to some self-employed workers

► Allows president to create and dissolve provinces and districts via decree and appoint officials to head them

► Cuts voting age from 18 to 16



RIGHTS

► Allows security forces to detain citizens without charge and paves way for media

censorship during natural disasters or states of emergency