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Venezuela: Transportation Strike Protests Planned Fuel Price Hikes

Barbara Khol
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by Barbara Khol

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On Aug. 12 in Caracas, a strike called by the National Transport Federation to protest planned fuel price hikes drew little support. The subway system, taxis, and some buses ran on schedule. Workers residing on the city's outskirts were stranded. Support for the strike was reported stronger in the cities of Merida, Trujillo, and Tachira. At present, gasoline sells for the equivalent of $0.073 per liter, or $0.27 per gallon. On Aug. 1, President Carlos Andres Perez announced a program of monthly increases to raise the price to $0.125 per liter by December 1992. Venezuela's minimum wage is $100 per month. The average worker earns between $150 and $450 per month. (Basic data from AFP, AP, 08/12/91

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