

Carnet de la Patria — Venezuela's Biometric ID Tying Subsidies to Political Surveillance

AI in the Public Sector · Good practice · Venezuela

Quality score: 27/100

Evidence strength: Observational / pre–post

Summary

Venezuela's 2016 Carnet de la Patria, built with China's ZTE, is the near-mandatory gateway to food, health and pension subsidies for over half the population; Access Now and academic researchers document its databases also tracking voting behaviour and party membership.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured public value	1/3
Transparency, fairness & accountability	0/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	1/3
Scalability beyond pilot	2/3
Governance, capability & sustainability	0/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-07-30

[Government of Venezuela \(Homeland Card Programme\), with ZTE Corporation \(China\)](#) — accessed 2026-07-30

[Access Now](#) — the many means of surveillance and control in Venezuela — accessed 2026-07-30

[Small Wars Journal \(ASU\)](#) — Venezuela's digital-AI authoritarian future — accessed 2026-07-30

[The World \(PRX\)](#) — Venezuela's ZTE-built ID tracks citizens' behaviour — accessed 2026-07-30

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