

Latest Hillary Clinton E-mails Reveal U.S. Role in Post-Coup Honduras



Washington, August 1 (RHC)-- The latest leaked e-mails from Hillary Clinton show that she ignored advice to punish Honduran businesses for supporting the 2009 coup and helped push the elected President Manuel Zelaya out of Honduran politics.

The e-mails show that despite insistence from her director of policy planning, Anne Marie Slaughter, that she define Zelaya's ousting by the military as a military coup and that she "make noises about prohibiting U.S. companies from doing business with companies" controlled by the leaders, revealed in emails published by WikiLeaks, Clinton did neither.

"I got lots of signals last week that we are losing ground in Latin America every day the Honduras crisis continues; high level people from both the business and the NGO community say that even our friends are beginning to think we are not really committed to the norm of constitutional democracy we have worked so hard to build over the last 20 years," wrote Slaughter two months after the coup.

While Clinton did move to suspend the visas of those in the de facto military government three months after the coup, as Slaughter requested, she kept close ties with the business community. Previous

investigations into her leaked e-mails revealed that she even consulted Lanny Davis of the Honduran chapter of the Business Council of Latin America, which supported the coup.

Rather than lobby for the elected President Manuel Zelaya -- hated by business elites for his left-leaning policy -- to resume office, which they supported publicly, her team ridiculed him. When negotiating a power-sharing agreement, U.S. Ambassador Hugo Llorens wrote in an e-mail forwarded to Clinton that Zelaya said talks with Micheletti were leading nowhere because he only wanted Zelaya out.

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