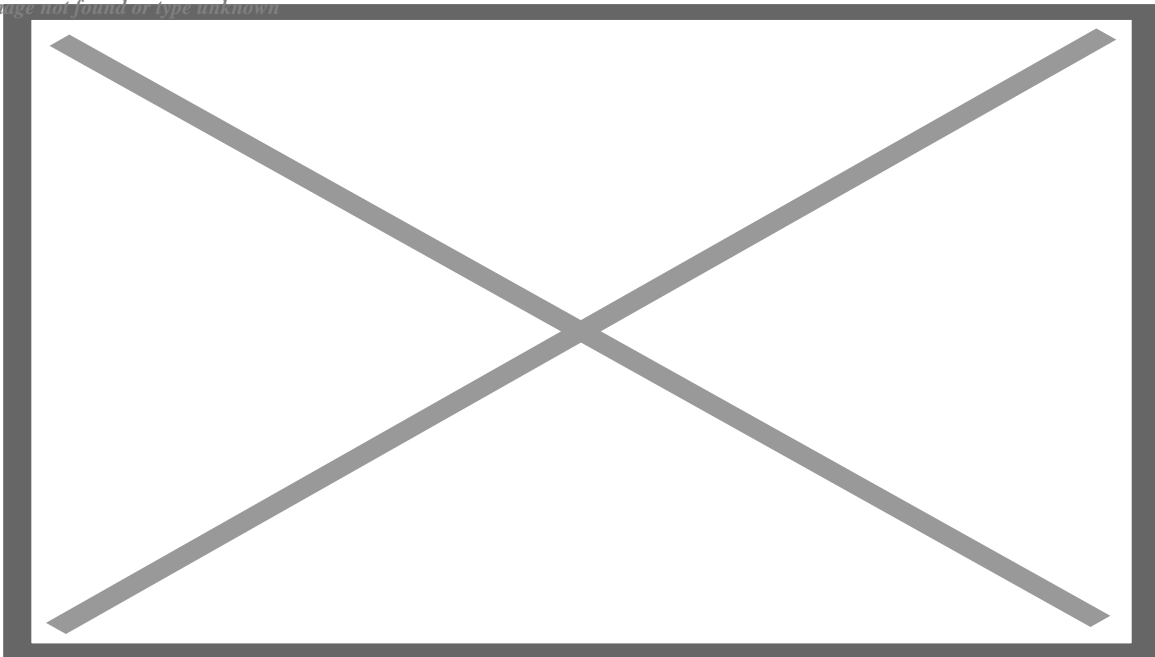


Bolivian president denounces opposition seeking to shorten his term in office

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The President warned on Monday of imminent dangers against the validity of the Plurinational State of Bolivia due to personal political interests that seek to weaken it, 15 years after its establishment. | Photo: Bolivian Information Agency

La Paz, January 23 (RHC)-- The president of Bolivia, Luis Arce, denounced Monday that the opposition and the "new right" through the argument of justice seek to destabilize his government and seek to shorten his mandate with blockades that "harm and punish the people".

He blamed the "traditional right" and the "new right" for the failure of the judicial elections in 2023, since they "torpedoed" the necessary consensus to call for this process, but now "they are trying to put the responsibility on the Executive Branch".

Since March 2023, the Legislative Assembly promoted three pre-selection processes of candidates for the judicial elections, but they did not materialize due to flawed regulations that violated constitutional

precepts such as the right to free expression.

In addition, the constitutional mandate of two thirds was ignored and in the last Bill 144, all procedural deadlines were suspended, therefore, it was declared unconstitutional by the Plurinational Constitutional Tribunal (TCP).

Due to the legislative failure, the TCP declared the extension of the mandate of the magistrates and councilors until the possession of the new authorities.

In rejection of the decision, followers of former president Evo Morales began protests in the state capital, Sucre, at the beginning of the month, and since Monday, a road blockade.

The blockaders, besides demanding the resignation of the magistrates and councilors, defend Morales' new candidacy despite the fact that constitutional sentence 1010/2023 prevents him from doing so. In order to deepen the construction of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Arce called not to "prioritize interests or personal political aspirations", but "the interests and aspirations of the working people, of the immense majority of the country that bet on the construction of this new State".

The Head of State affirmed in relation to the economic context that "we are not in bad shape", but that "we are going through difficulties"; however, he affirmed that "times of harvest are coming". He called on the people to be organized and mobilized "to defend the achievements of the Plurinational State, to recover and reorient the Process of Change and to march towards a historic horizon."

The President warned on Monday of imminent dangers against the validity of the Plurinational State of Bolivia due to personal political interests that seek to weaken it, 15 years after its establishment. "There are reasons to be concerned and, therefore, to be alert and on a combat footing," warned the president.

The threats of a conservative and colonial restoration project have not disappeared, and now they count in their favor with their articulation with a new right wing that, for personal and electoral ambitions, are trying to weaken the foundations of our Plurinational State (...)", he specified. "We are at the moment of greatest threat to the Plurinational State and we must be warned of this", he said.

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