

The problems with the Peruvian justice system of the Fujimori family

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By María Josefina Arce

Definitely, the controversial Fujimori family, which has had a great impact on the political life of Peru for decades, continues to be at the center of attention. Now Keiko Fujimori, leader of the Fuerza Popular party, is making headlines again, with a great presence in a Congress that is increasingly rejected by the people.

The Prosecutor's Office requested preventive detention for the politician for a trip in recent days to the United States, violating the restrictions that have been imposed on her in the investigation into which she is the subject of money laundering.

Next week the new request from anti-corruption prosecutor José Domingo Pérez will be analyzed by the judiciary. The leader of Fuerza Popular has already been in and out of prison on several occasions for this reason.

On July 1, the trial will begin against Keiko, daughter of former dictator Alberto Fujimori, sentenced in 2009 to 25 years in prison for crimes against humanity and released with a pardon, which caused great rejection among a large part of Peruvians.

Let us not forget that the former ruler is responsible for the massacres of Barrios Altos, in 1991, in which 15 people died, including a child, and of La Cantuta, in 1992; in which nine students and a teacher were murdered.

Her daughter is accused of illegally receiving funds from businessmen for her 2011 and 2016 electoral campaigns, in which she failed in her attempts to become president of Peru.

As a result of the charges, the Prosecutor's Office has requested a sentence of 30 years and 10 months in prison for Keiko and the dissolution of the party she leads, Fuerza Popular, arguing that it has been created by an alleged criminal organization.

The struggle of the daughter of the former Peruvian dictator with justice began with the investigation known as Lava Jato, for bribes by the Brazilian construction company Odebrecht to politicians in Brazil and whose ramifications reached other Latin American figures.

During the investigation, the president of Odebrecht in Peru, Jorge Barata, stated that the company had contributed more than a million dollars to Keiko's presidential campaign in 2011.

Peruvian politics and their organization, the media recall, are also questioned for using their power to displace prosecutors supposedly adverse to their positions.

The Fujimori family has always been present in the ups and downs of Peru's political life, whose problems with justice are from yesteryear. Its main members have been or are investigated, and some convicted of corruption, apparently a family tradition.

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