

Colombia National Strike Committee announces more protests against Duque



Bogota, December 11 (RHC)-- Colombia's National Strike Committee announced that they will continue to protest against right-wing President Ivan Duqueas as peaceful demonstrations continue.

"I repeat the strike has organization and direction throughout the country, objectives that represent millions of Colombians and a massive, peaceful and creative line of action," Central Workers' Union's President Diogenes Orjuela tweeted.

The union leader also announced that protests would take place outside Congress to bang on pots (cacerolazo) the day the tax reform will be voted upon, considering that this initiative damages the interests of the people.

Meanwhile, meetings between the Committee and Duque's administration continue without reaching agreements due to discrepancies with the official position as union workers ask for a negotiating table to specify actions and not just dialogue.

Demonstrators are rallying against economic plans - such as a rise in the pension age and a cut to the minimum wage for young people, as well what they say is a lack of government action to stop corruption and the murder of hundreds of human rights activists.

Besides being concerned about his government's little commitment to the Peace Agreements, the people reject a neoliberal policy package which seeks to raise the compulsory retirement age, increase workers' contributions to the pension system, reduce the state's role in social security and lower the young people's minimum wage.

So far, however, the right-wing president has failed to consolidate a parliamentary majority willing to approve his proposals, which are often justified as if they were tools to "fight corruption."

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