

Court asks Iván Duque to explain militarization of Colombia

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Decree 575 on military support for law enforcement in Colombia has sparked controversy. | Photo: Twitter @izquierdadiario

Bogota, June 6 (RHC)-- The Administrative Court of Cundinamarca requested the testimony of the president of Colombia, Iván Duque, in order for him to give the necessary explanations for decree 575 of 2021, with which military assistance was ordered to Cali, Valle del Cauca and other regions of the country.

This decision was made after studying a tutela on violence in demonstrations, so it also requested information on the investigations being carried out by the Attorney General's Office, the Prosecutor General's Office and the Ombudsman's Office on this issue.

This court asked the President to provide it with a report detailing the reasons that led the Government to determine the need to deploy the military forces to provide temporary support to members of the police in the form of assistance.

The Court also requested reports from the Attorney General's Office, the Prosecutor General's Office and the Ombudsman's Office on the actions they have taken regarding the denunciations, complaints and other particular situations that have arisen in the different mobilizations that have taken place since April 28th.

Specifically concerning the "disturbances carried out by the demonstrators or by infiltrated groups, as well as the police abuse against them." The National Police was ordered to report on the actions taken to guarantee the right to peaceful protest, the human rights of the demonstrators and the reestablishment of public order.

The High Commissioner for Peace was requested to report on the progress of the dialogue with the National Committee for the Strike (CNP), especially in relation to the pre-agreement aimed at guaranteeing peaceful protest.

The order is produced when the CNP denounced that the Colombian Government does not want to negotiate a solution to the political and social crisis which broke out 39 days ago, after the official refusal to sign the pre-agreement of May 24.

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