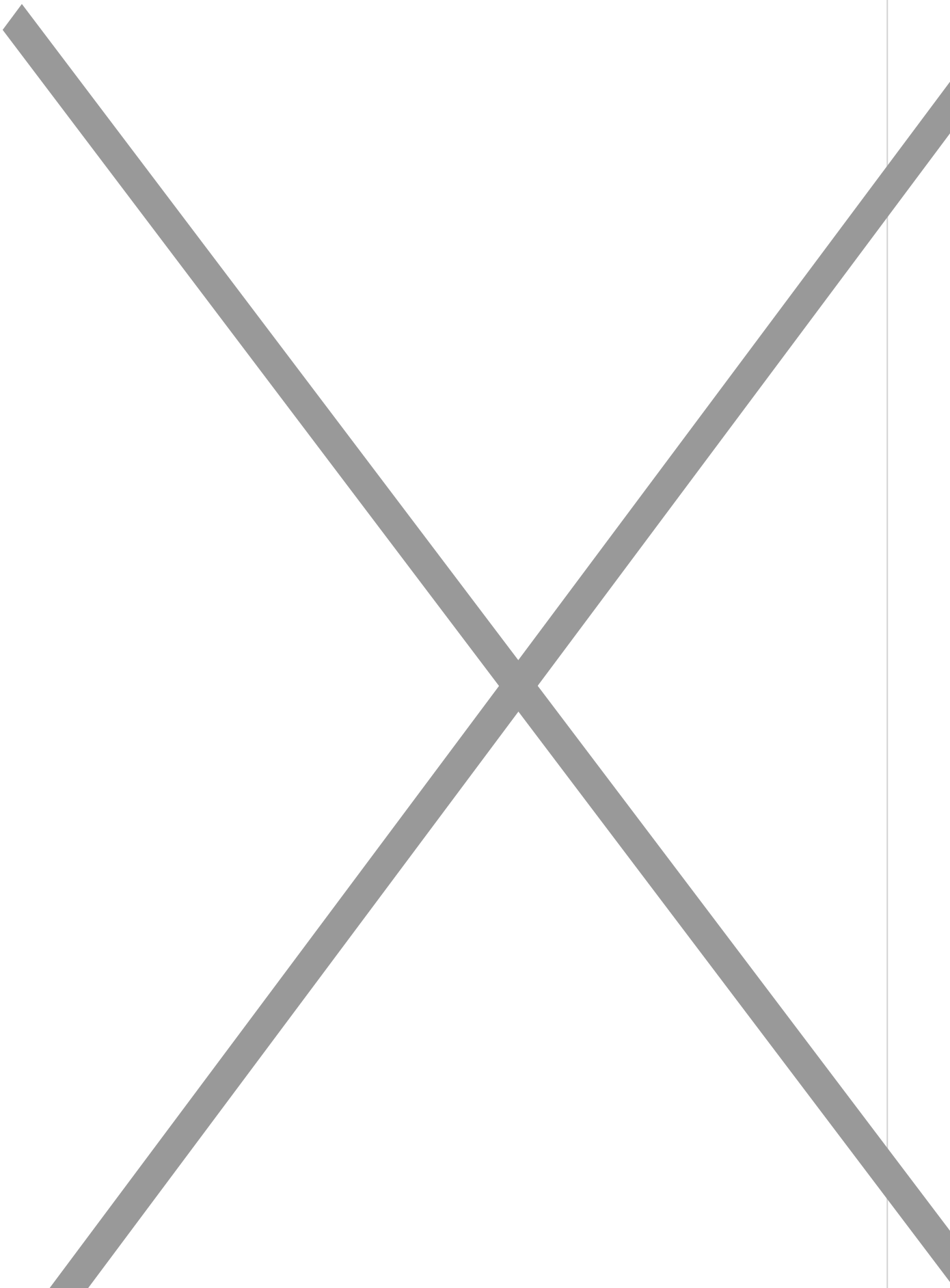


Preparations continue for elections in Honduras

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?Honduran authorities advance with the preparations for the celebration of the voting.????

Tegucigalpa, November 26 (RHC)-- In view of the elections to be held this Sunday, November 28th, Honduran authorities advance with the preparations for the celebration of the voting.

Given the prohibition to publish political propaganda and information related to polls in the media, candidates use platforms such as digital social networks to continue campaigning, despite the halt imposed by the National Electoral Council (CNE).

The Electoral Silence began last Tuesday, since according to the Electoral Law five days before the elections only government plans will be allowed to be presented.

However, aspirants with accounts in networks (such as Facebook, Instagram and Twitter) continue asking for votes, but there is no way to regulate or sanction these actions since neither the Penal Code nor the Electoral Law establishes sanctions for this.

The alternate counselor of the National Electoral Council (CNE), German Lobo, specified to local media that social networks are very personal means of communication "and they can transmit whatever they wish, since we do not have any kind of restrictions."

On the other hand, the Ministry of Government, Justice and Decentralization declared the Dry Law in all the national territory as from Saturday 27 and decreed a holiday for public employees after the elections.

With the Dry Law, the consumption and sale of alcoholic beverages is prohibited during an established period, which in this case will conclude on Monday, November 29.

In addition, the rest granted on Monday by the Government will be given "in view of the fact that officials and employees are required to travel to the interior of the country to exercise their voting."

In turn, the spokesman of the Military Police of Public Order (PMOP), Mario Rivera, announced that he was still waiting for the decree which would establish the prohibition of carrying weapons in the voting centers.

"The approval to initiate the pertinent operations has not yet been made, but no white weapons, firearms or people in a state of inebriation will be allowed", he indicated.

However, he explained that the pre-election checkpoints, searches and saturations, among other operations, have been intensified. On election day, security devices will be installed from early hours, he emphasized.

In this sense, some 18,000 members of the National Police will be deployed, who will support the Armed Forces before, during and after the whole process, according to the Security Secretariat spokesman, Edgardo Barahona.

"No weapons or other objects that may generate disturbances will be allowed. We have socialized our security plan with the Public Prosecutor's Office so that the work roles are known", stated the official.



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