

Colombia denounced before the ICC for crimes against humanity



According to the NGO Temblores, at least 2,110 acts of police violence have been documented during the protests. | Photo: Resumen Latinoamericano

Bogota, May 15 (RHC)-- Non-governmental organizations and leftist senator Iván Cepeda filed on Thursday before the International Criminal Court (ICC) and the United Nations Security Council a complaint against the government of Colombian President Iván Duque for crimes against humanity that occurred during the National Strike demonstrations.

The complaint is signed by the NGOs Temblores, the Working Group on Enforced Disappearances of the Colombia-Europe-United States Coordination, the Committee for Solidarity with Political Prisoners and the Orlando Fals Bord Socio-legal Collective Corporation.

In addition to the Colombian president, the Defense Minister, Diego Molano, the commander of the Army, General Eduardo Zapateiro, and the director of the Police, General Jorge Luis Vargas, are identified as "those most responsible" for the repression against the demonstrators.

The complaint states that officials have "the material capacity to prevent the commission of these crimes or promote the effective punishment of those allegedly responsible," but "they did not do so." In addition, it assures that the main government and state authorities do not "emphatically condemn the crimes and serious human rights violations that presumably involve members of the security forces."

It also lists former President Alvaro Uribe (2002-2010) as one of the "main instigators" of the repression, whose "most serious events" have taken place in the country's third largest city, Cali (Valle del Cauca).

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