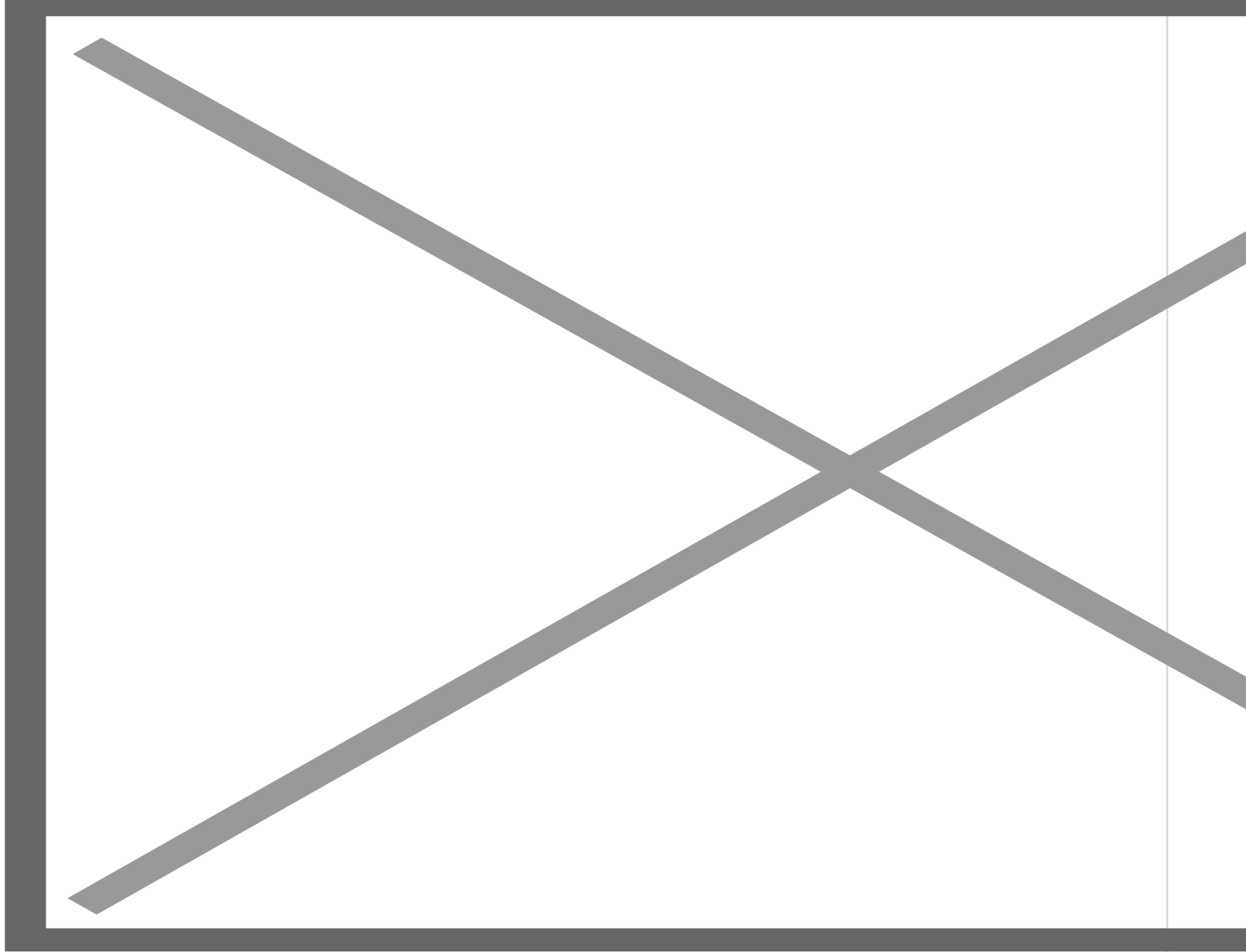


Honduras reacts to interventionist statements by the U.S. ambassador to Tegucigalpa

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Honduras has broken extradition agreements with the United States after disagreements with

the U.S. ambassador to Tegucigalpa // Photo: EFE

President Xiomara Castro considered the attempts at interventionism by the United States to be "intolerable" and ordered the breaking of the extradition treaty with that country.

Tegucigalpa, August 29 (RHC)-- Honduran President Xiomara Castro has ordered the breaking of an extradition treaty with the United States in retaliation for statements by the U.S. ambassador, Laura Dogu, in which she criticized the relations of the Honduran government with the Venezuelan government of Nicolás Maduro.

“The interference and interventionism of the United States, as well as its intention to direct the politics of Honduras through its Embassy and other representatives, is intolerable” commented the Honduran president on the social network X.

She also said that “they attack, ignore and violate with impunity the principles and practices of international law, which promote respect for the sovereignty and self-determination of peoples, non-intervention and universal peace.”

“Based on our Constitution and international treaties, I have ordered Foreign Minister Enrique Reina to denounce the extradition treaty with the United States,” the president stressed.

The president's statements were made within the framework of statements by the U.S. Ambassador to Honduras, Laura Dogu, who claimed alleged links between Venezuela and drug trafficking.

She also accused Venezuelan Defense Minister Vladimir Padrino López of being an alleged “drug trafficker” -- without evidence. At the same time, she expressed “concern” about the close ties between the sister nations of Honduras and Venezuela.

These statements were not only rejected by President Castro. The Secretary of State in the Office of National Defense, José Manuel Zelaya Rosales, who held a meeting with his Venezuelan counterpart this week, responded that “Honduras, the Secretariat of National Defense (Sedena) and the Armed Forces of Honduras (FFAAHN) are respectful of International Law and cannot judge the U.S. or Venezuela.”

“We attended meetings with the U.S. authorities, aware that they are tolerant, protect and never capture their drug traffickers operating within the United States,” said Zelaya, who was overthrown by a military coup in 2009. Washington was quick to recognize the illegal de facto government of Roberto Micheletti.

Manuel Zelaya concluded: “This attack by the U.S. ambassador is hypocritical and cynical.”

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