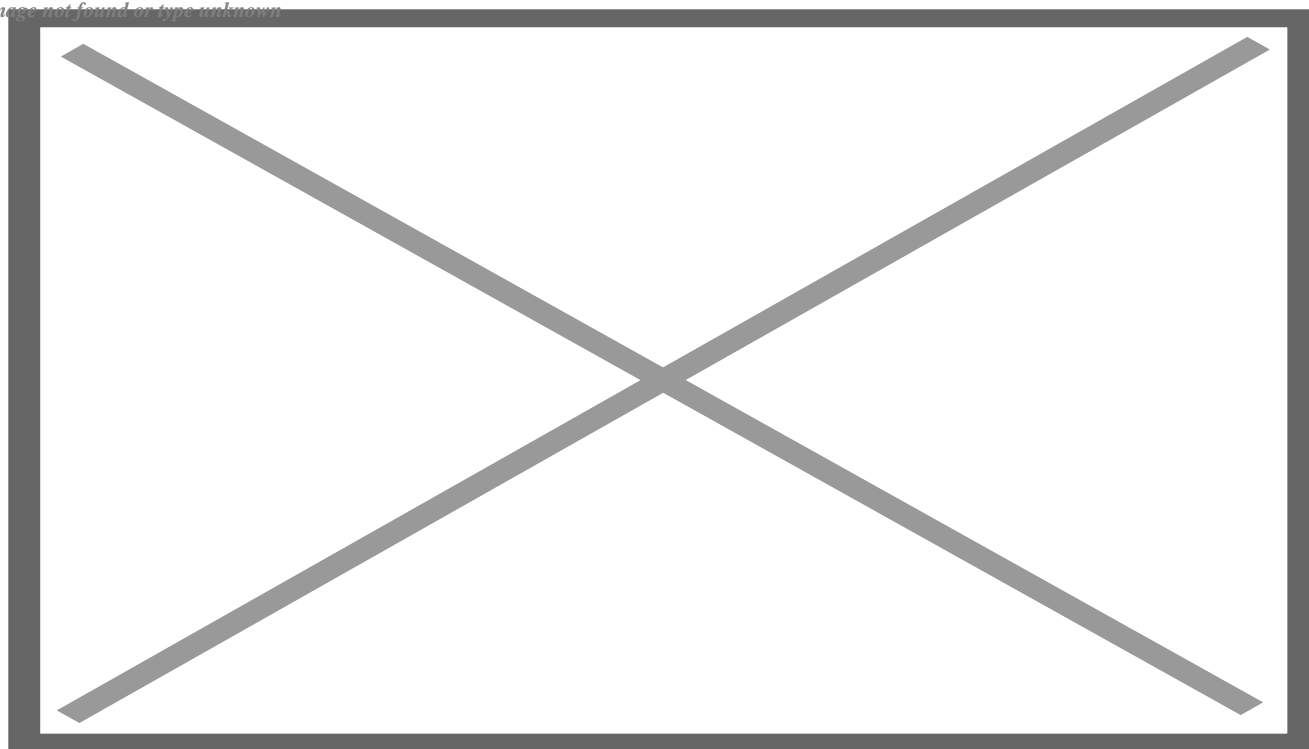


Bolivian president accepts invitation to dialogue at the request of the Ombudsman's Office

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La Paz, September 23 (RHC)-- The Government of Bolivia accepted this Sunday an invitation sent by the Ombudsman, Pedro Francisco Calisaya, to dialogue without conditions with Evo Morales, while it was learned that the former president received the invitation letter in person, delivered by officials of the Ombudsman's Office.

Through a letter signed by the Minister of the Presidency, María Nela Prada Tejada, the government of President Luis Arce informed the Ombudsman that the policy of the Executive has been to address demands and resolve conflicts through dialogue.

He welcomed the possibility of a dialogue that "could be generated at the request of the Ombudsman and that we consider should be without conditions on the part of Mr. Evo Morales, if there really is a will to engage in dialogue and not only political electoral interests to generate a convulsion in our country and shorten the mandate of our president Luis Arce, democratically elected with more than 55 percent" of the votes.

The text states that on September 15, Arce invited Evo Morales to engage in dialogue "assuming the rules of democracy, without dragging the people into confrontation."

He recalled that on that date the Executive responded publicly to the petition of the organizations that called for the national march and that Morales then "said he was unaware of the response," so "it was done through a notification with a notary of public faith." He added that on September 19 Morales was invited again to the dialogue and he said he was not invited.

He explained that on the 20th "a commission from the Ministry of the Presidency attended the place of the march to deliver an official note to dialogue." He denounced that "the lawyer who was going to deliver the note was violently attacked by members of the march," who also attacked workers from the media. He said that, despite this invitation, Arce and other members of the Executive waited for more than an hour and the counterpart did not attend.

Prada Tejada said that later he learned of an invitation from Morales to dialogue at the place of the march, to which the response was "that there are no guarantees to dialogue at the place of the march due to all the described history of violence (...), which is public knowledge"

He specified that the Government, through the Minister of Government, Eduardo del Castillo, proposed to install the dialogue in another place in the country, that day, at 8:00 p.m. local time, but he also received no response from Morales.

Regarding the national march, Prada Tejada said that from the first day "he showed signs of violence against those who went to tell him that his petition had been answered," to which others later joined, resulting in several injuries.

In this regard, the head of the Conflict Unit of the Ombudsman's Office, Héctor Huanca, confirmed that Evo Morales personally received the invitation letter to dialogue with the Arce Government.

[SOURCE: teleSUR]

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