

Honduran Parties Gather Signatures for Two Plebiscites



Tegucigalpa, January 30 (RHC-teleSUR) -- In Honduras, both the ruling National Party and the principal opposition force the Libre Party have announced they will begin gathering signatures for two separate plebiscites.

Honduran president Juan Orlando Hernandez will begin gathering signatures to put a plebiscite to the National Congress, asking Hondurans if they will approve the creation of a military police force. He said he would use the signatures to force the hand of legislators, after not getting the military police force proposal through congress.

In response, leader of the opposition and former president of Honduras, Manuel Zelaya, said his Libre Party will also call for a plebiscite, but on the creation of a new National Constitutive Assembly.

“This is a proposal that President Zelaya originally had in 2009. That was the reason why he was removed by a Coup d’état, because he wanted to ask the people if they wanted constitutional changes,” said Carlos Reina of the Libre Party.

Marvin Pinoth, a Honduran citizen, told teleSUR that, “These two parties with such different ideologies will have to compete at some point. They are already campaigning even though we are three years away from elections.”

Zelaya's supporters have experience in gathering signatures. In 2010 they gathered 1.2 million signatures to demand Zelaya's return from exile. Now they will use their experience to push for a Constituent Assembly to modify the constitution.

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