

Mexican Guerrillas Call for Vote Abstention in June Elections



Mexico City, May 7 (teleSUR-RHC)-- The Popular Revolutionary Army (EPR), one of Mexico's oldest guerrilla organizations, has called on the Mexican people to abstain from voting in the upcoming elections in the country on June 7th.

In a statement issued on Tuesday, insurgents said that voting would only serve to legitimize the current neo-liberal regime. "Experience has shown us that voting legitimizes the current regime, which is responsible for the miserable and poor material conditions of the people," said the EPR.

The EPR is not the only one calling for abstention. It supports other social organizations calling for the same thing. "There are many voices that express dissatisfaction with the regime and the anti-people government, among them are various calls against the current electoral process, placing the question of whether to vote or not at the center of the debate," read the statement. It added that the people "know that voting is to legitimize state terrorism against the people, to accept and applaud assassinations, forced disappearances, extra-judicial executions, torture, repression, harassment and hunger for the people as a terrorist policy."

The government of Enrique Peña Nieto has poorly weathered a number of scandals, including allegations of state involvement in massacres and corruption allegations surrounding the president's acquisition of a luxurious house from a contractor with government ties.

As a result, the government is facing a crisis of legitimacy, to the extent that the president was forced to appeal directly to Mexicans, calling on them to participate in the electoral process. A poll last month revealed that less than half of the population of Mexico has faith in elections.

The EPR also referred to the forced disappearance of 43 students from the Ayotzinapa teachers' training college, an incident that prompted mass rallies demanding justice for the missing students.

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