

OAS Head Faces Wave of Criticism Over Polemic Against Venezuela



Washington, May 21 (RHC)--The Organization of American States prohibits its secretary-general from adopting partial political stances as Luis Almagro has done with Venezuela.

The countries that form the Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America, known as ALBA, sharply condemned Luis Almagro, secretary-general of the Organization of American States, over his ongoing polemic against Venezuela.

In a statement published Thursday, the bloc of countries making up ALBA said that they “categorically reject” Almagro's statements and the “systematic aggressions” being levied by him against Venezuela.

The head of the Organization of American States, or OAS, has taken an increasingly interventionist position with respect to Venezuela, recently penning a tirade against Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro.

“Mr. Almagro endorsed the agenda of the Venezuelan political opposition and allowed the General Secretariat of the OAS to serve as shelter to its most radical and violent sector,” read the ALBA

statement, which also expressed its solidarity with Maduro.

Venezuela's representative to the OAS called on other countries in the hemisphere to hold Almagro responsible for his actions, saying he has “totally lost his sanity.”

The conflict with Almagro comes amid rising political tensions in Venezuela as the opposition continues to push for faster progress toward a recall referendum on whether to remove Maduro from office.

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