

Tense calm in Panama following violent street clashes



Panama City, November 1 (RHC)-- A tense calm reigns in Panama City following violent clashes between hundreds of protesters and the police, which has left an unknown number of detainees, while the government has so far refused to comment.

Lacking an official report, a list of at least 47 prisoners was posted on social media. Some of them denounced the police abuses in videos filmed before they were taken to detention centers throughout the city.

Among the detainees is Richard Morales, former presidential candidate in the primaries of the Broad Front for Democracy. He said on a Sunday television program that the solution within the institutions immersed in the political crisis will hardly arise and advocated for an Original Constituent Assembly.

Eduardo Flores, rector of the University of Panama (UP), accompanied by other officials from the higher education center, appeared at one of the barracks to learn about nine students, and told the press that they were accused of public disorder and damage to private property.

During the fourth consecutive day of protests, led by university students, many protesters joined and responded to the call of the newly-formed National Front Pro-Constituent Assembly to reject reforms to the Constitution pushed through by lawmakers without popular participation.

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