

# *Uruguayan president-elect refuses to invite Cuba, Nicaragua and Venezuela to inauguration*

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Montevideo, February 22 (RHC)-- Uruguay's President-elect Luis Lacalle has decided not to invite the diplomatic representatives of Cuba, Venezuela and Nicaragua to his inauguration ceremony on March 1st.

Lacalle alleged that those three countries violate the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), which refers to the governments' duty to protect and promote democracy. Instead, Lacalle has invited Bolivia's coup-born leader Jeanine Añez, a U.S.-backed senator who proclaimed herself president and swore herself in last November. Upcoming Foreign Minister Ernesto Talvi also declared that the President-elect Lacalle acknowledges opposition politician Juan Guaido as Venezuela's president.

With his affirmations, Lacalle takes a clear political stand against the Latin American progressive movements and governments. Nevertheless, he expressed that his administration will take advantage of Cuba's cooperation, because "Cuban doctors performed 90,000 ocular surgeries for free."

The political opposition, Uruguay's Broad Front, condemned Lacalle's allegations and pointed out that his declarations are a lack of respect for other countries' sovereignty. Lacalle will assume his country's

presidency after 15 years of Leftist administrations.

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