

Salvadorans protest against ruling that allows Bukele's reelection

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The Constitutional Chamber authorized the immediate reelection of the president, contrary to the provisions of the Magna Carta. | Photo: EFE

San Salvador, September 7 (RHC)-- After learning of the resolution of the Supreme Court of El Salvador that allows immediate presidential reelection, citizens took to the streets in front of the Monument to the Constitution in San Salvador to reject the measure.

If the regulation is applied, the current president, Nayib Bukele, could be reelected, and remain at the head of the country's administration; before this, the demonstrators went with banners and slogans to demand the reestablishment of the Constitutional order.

A hundred young people have accused Bukele and the Supreme Court judges of authoritarianism, due to the fact that the judges were elected by the New Ideas party, to which Bukele belongs, after the dismissal of all the magistrates last May by the Legislative Assembly.

International organizations have denounced that the country "is on the brink of the abyss" and that its government dismantles institutions to violate human rights.

Likewise, they have condemned the sentence of the U.S. State Department, whose spokesman, Ned Price, indicated in a statement that the ruling undermines democracy, since "the Salvadoran Constitution clearly prohibits presidential incumbents from being reelected for a consecutive term".

The spokesman stressed that the measure corroborates the concerns raised by the May 1 decision of the Salvadoran Legislative Assembly to remove the sitting judges of the Constitutional Chamber and impose replacements loyal to the head of state.

At the same time, he rejected another of the Legislative measures which, through the reform of the Judicial Career Law, obliges judges to retire at the age of 60 or when they complete 30 years of service. This measure aims to "empower the Bukele Administration to fill the judiciary with its own judges" in a clear strategy "to undermine judicial independence and eliminate a critical counterweight."

New Orleans firefighters assess damages after a building collapsed from the effects of Hurricane Ida, August 30 [Eric Gay/AP Photo]

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