

CELAC supports dialogue table in internal conflict in Bolivia

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La Paz, October 25 (RHC)-- The government of Argentina, country that holds the pro tempore presidency of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), expressed its support to the dialogue for the National Census, the axis of the most recent internal dispute between destabilizing right-wing groups and the Bolivian government.

According to the communiqué, the pro tempore presidency "Argentina recognizes and values the participation of national and international technical organizations that have been accompanying the preparatory process".

The communiqué points out that "the Census is a key statistical tool for decision making and the development of public policies for the benefit of the people." However, in view of the escalation of the conflict between the central executive and some territorial entities, CELAC "encourages the willingness of the parties to guarantee a constructive dialogue and good faith conversations that allow for sustainable agreements based on consensus."

Territorial entities, led by the so-called Civic Committee of Santa Cruz, started a conflict around the proposal to postpone the population census to 2024, while ultra-conservative groups seek to have it in 2023, and the conflict has degenerated into situations of violence.

In fact, the Bolivian Government and the Inter-Institutional Committee promoting the census resumed dialogue this Saturday, after a pause to lower tensions in the streets on the first day of the indefinite strike in Santa Cruz, the largest region of the country.

The Bolivian government has not ceased to insist on dialogue and the Vice Minister of Communication, Gabriela Alcón, one of the government representatives at the table spoke out against the indefinite strike and said that "the space is dialogue, the technical table, and we continue to insist on this way because the other way harms the population and we consider that there is no argument."

The Argentinean call takes place in the preamble of the summit of foreign ministers of Celac and the European Union, to be held on Thursday, which is described as "an achievement under the Argentine presidency of Celac, since they had not met for five years, with a powerful agenda based on the inclusive and sustainable post-pandemic economic recovery; in Science, Technology, climate change, multilateralism and cooperation in security and governance," said from the Foreign Ministry.

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