

Order for immediate release of former president draws criticism in Peru

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Lima, December 6 (RHC) --The National Human Rights Coordinating Committee and lawyers for the victims of two massacres for which former governor Alberto Fujimori is imprisoned condemned Tuesday the order to release the ex-president immediately.

The National Human Rights Coordinating Committee -CNDH-, which groups together more than 60 humanitarian organizations, said that the Constitutional Court's order issued today does not comply with national and international human rights norms.

"We will continue to act and request justice both in Peru and in international instances, the only way to return democracy and the peace that Peruvians need so much," warned the CNDH in a public statement.

It adds that by ordering Fujimori's release, the Constitutional Court has incurred in contempt of the law, which is part of a situation of conservative takeover of important State institutions.

In this sense, she states that a country like Peru "cannot be democratic if it has seriously questioned institutions, such as the Attorney General's Office, the Ombudsman's Office, the Congress of the Republic, the Executive and now the Constitutional Tribunal -TC-, which act with the motto 'because I want to and because I can'".

The lawyer of the Human Rights Association (Aprodeh), Gloria Cano, expressed indignation and rejection of the resolution of the Constitutional Court.

She pointed out that the court ignores the procedures of supranational justice that rejected a pardon for Fujimori that was annulled as illegal, revalidated by the TC and blocked by a ruling of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights.

Ronald Gamarra, lawyer for the civil party in the Fujimori trial, affirmed that no person should die in prison and in order to avoid this, the established procedures for release must be followed when appropriate, respecting the rights of the condemned and the victims.

He explained that, for this, international treaties must be complied with, not circumvented, and in this case the TC is exposing Peru to a new international legal condemnation.

For this reason, he added, the IACHR, to which the Peruvian State is attached, will make a decision absolutely unfavorable to the government and Alberto Fujimori will have to return to prison.

Carlos Rivera, also a defender of the victims, said that the TC has reinstated an illegal pardon, placing the State in serious contempt of the decisions of an international court, which places the country in a situation of degradation in terms of human rights.

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