

# *Peru President Forced to Replace Ministers*

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Lima, February 19 (RHC-teleSUR) -- With continuing protests over labor rights and oil exploration, alongside corruption allegations, the Peruvian government of President Ollanta Humala reshuffled his cabinet Wednesday.

Humala replaced the ministers of internal affairs, employment, women and vulnerable populations, justice, and energy and mining.

For Congressman Daniel Mora, a supporter of the current administration, the changes are due to pressure from opposition parties and an attempt to work with them. He argues that "the pressure of the two opposition parties has been fundamental" and that the changes seek "to find an equilibrium, a calm, and to decrease the political tension that the country has."

Ruling party spokespeople have publicly declared that with the changes, opposing forces no longer have an excuse not to engage in dialogue with the executive.

Out of the five new ministers only two seem to bring new perspectives. One is a feminist who will be in charge of the Ministry of

Women and Vulnerable Populations and the other is a human rights specialist from the progressive catholic movement who will be the Minister of Internal Affairs. The latter will be the seventh person to head that office so far under this administration, which has been characterized for its record changes in ministers.

The new ministers have a year and an a half left in office to improve the situation in their respective areas.



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