

Peru's President Calls Congress Irresponsible for Sacking PM



Lima, April 02 (teleSUR-RHC) President Ollanta Humala responded late Wednesday to the sacking of his primer minister, calling Congress “irresponsible.”

For the first time under the 1993 constitution and only the second time in history, the Peruvian Congress has sacked a prime minister. Congress members on the left and the right voted in favor of the sanction. Those opposition forces on the right claim the reason for the vote is a series of government spying cases on politicians, journalists, and businessmen.

Left of center forces argue instead that they supported the vote because the administration has moved to the right betraying their electoral promises. Congress sanctioned with a vote of no confidence Ana Jara who had served as Prime Minister since July 2014 .

The sanction forces President Ollanta Humala to form a new Cabinet by Thursday night. After 30 days from Thursday, Congress will have to vote on whether or not to accept the new cabinet.

The new prime minister will be the seventh to take the post since Humala became President in 2011. Professor in Constitutional Processes, Anibal Quiroga, explained what follows a new vote by congress. He stated that "according the constitution, if this second Cabinet is also sacked or it does not obtain the approval vote, the president could shut down congress, call for new elections of congress, and this new

Congress would complete the period from now until 2015.

It would be unprecedented." President Humala declared that "Congress has taken the liberty of being irresponsible but we at the executive cannot afford to follow the same path, we have to keep working." "No one wins from this situation," he concluded.

When asked about who will be his option for next prime minister, he avoided giving names and responded that he will follow the timelines provided. During a press conference in solidarity with Ana Jara, the spokesperson for the president's ruling party, Josue Gutierrez, accused the right wing opposition of having "no moral authority to talk about espionage."

Left wing forces in congress stated that their vote to sack the prime minister was a difficult one since the move was led by the right, but they needed to protest Humala's neoliberal government.

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