

Despite Dialogue, Ecuador's Opposition Keeps Marching



Quito, July 18 (teleSUR-RHC)-- This is a time of reflection for Ecuadoreans following over a month of protests and escalation of violence. The opposition continues protesting, while other sectors have embraced the national dialogue and celebrate the inauguration of increasingly more public works projects.

"It is good, great that they have inaugurated a hospital, that they inaugurate schools, that there are new highways. For everyone that benefits from this, or that use these services, this is great. But obviously people who have access to private or prepaid health will not see this in a favorable light. I don't think that their calls for conflict are the best. This is not the best approach," said resident of Quito Fernando Espinosa to teleSUR English.

A hospital in the Calderon neighborhood which will serve more than 500,000 residents who previously did not have access to healthcare was inaugurated in the outskirts of Quito.

The national dialogue is underway, and neighborhoods as *Comite del Pueblo* have opened themselves for discussions on wealth redistribution and other government policies.

Meanwhile, the opposition waves black flags and chants for regime change. They are in the streets protesting progressive taxes on property speculation and an inheritance tax which would only effect two

percent of the population — and they promise to continue.

The government remains committed to organizing dialogues throughout the country which the opposition ignores.

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