

Partido Comunista de España Secretaría de Relaciones Internacionales c/Olimpo 35 (28043) Madrid

The Communist Party of Spain denounces the attempts of the de facto government of Jeanine Áñez to consolidate a military regime in Bolivia:

Six months after the military coup against President Evo Morales, the consequences of this attack on Bolivian democracy continue to deepen, this time creating the conditions for the military route to be the only option with which the coup leaders govern.

The health crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic has been used as a pretext by the de facto government of Áñez to militarize the country and continue the repression against the dissidence of the coup government.

The failure of the Áñez regime to manage the pandemic has led to a major famine in the country. In addition, Áñez may have been involved in corruption plots by purchasing 170 respirators at an original cost of \$10,000 but which were eventually purchased for \$27,000, nearly three times the original cost. This has motivated the population to continue the struggle for a popular, workers, peasant, feminist and democratic government in Bolivia.

The thesis on the militarization of the country is confirmed by one of Áñez's latest decisions to promote members of the Army, Air Force, Major Generals and Viceadmirals, under a presidential decree that violates the Constitution. When the news hit the media, the coup executive chose to exert pressure through a direct threat to Congress.

This threat was consolidated on 21 May when members of the armed forces entered the Plurinational Legislative Assembly under the command of the General Commander, Sergio Orellana, who gave an ultimatum to deputies and senators warning them that if the promotion proposed by Áñez were not ratified, they would ignore the authority of Parliament and apply the Organic Law of the Armed Forces (LOFA) to achieve their military objectives.

These threats did not diminish the attitude of the legislators of the Movement for Socialism who refused to accept the ultimatum.

If this decision is finally carried out, we are faced with the possibility of the disappearance of the division of powers and the elimination of the National Congress, where two thirds are in the hands of the left. This fact would further distance the possibility of immediate presidential elections in which, so far, the Movement Toward Socialism (MAS) is shaping up as a leader in the polls.





For this reason, the PCE:

- Calls on international solidarity movements, human rights organisations and the international community to denounce these new coup attempts by the de facto government of Áñez.

- It demands that the EU denounce this situation in Bolivia and call for free and fair elections to be held immediately.

