



Norsk Folkehjelp
Bergen



Bergen and Oslo, Norway, 07.12.17

Your Excellences, Ladies and Gentlemen whom it might concern,

We observe the current political situation in Honduras with grave concern. After citizens went peacefully to the polls in large numbers on 26 November 2017 to elect a new president, the Supreme Electoral Tribunal has delayed the proclamation of the result. The timing and manner in which the delay has been declared has spurred widespread suspicion that the delay is a product of manipulation by the incumbent president to retain power by illegitimate means. This has brought the integrity of the electoral process into discredit, and has created a situation of political and social chaos that seriously threatens democracy and the fundamental rights of the citizens of Honduras.

We therefore appeal to all agencies of the international community to publicly request of the current Honduran leader and his government:

1. That an independent international commission under the auspices of the UN supervise a complete scrutiny of the entire electoral process in the country, under the observation of delegates of all the political parties of Honduras.
2. That the Supreme Electoral Tribunal of Honduras refrain from proclaiming any candidate as winner of the election, without first hearing and publishing the result of the previously requested recount.
3. Repeal the state of emergency, and guarantee absolute respect for citizen rights, including the right to publicly and peacefully demonstrate, as well as all other rights that need to be protected in a democracy.
5. That the Attorney General's Office investigate and proceed to indict all those who have committed crimes against the state by manipulating the electoral process or otherwise violating the National Constitution of Honduras, before, during, or after the completion of the elections, in accordance with the law.
4. That all media are guaranteed the right to exercise full freedom of expression and access to all sources that allow them to report truthfully and timely on this situation, that affects the Honduran society in this fateful historical moment.

Yours sincerely,

Rafto Foundation for Human Rights
Norwegian People's Aid
The Norwegian Solidarity Committee for Latin America

RAFTO FOUNDATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Menneskerettighetenes plass 1 / N-5007 Bergen, Norway
Ph. +47 55 21 09 30 / Fax +47 55 21 09 59 / E-mail: rafto@rafto.no / Org.nr. 877155102 / www.rafto.no