

Coup d'état continues in Ecuador

By Global Research

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Chaos broke out in Ecuador when members of the nation's military and national police forces turned to violence to protest a new law that reduces their pay and benefits.

The coup d'état has not ended and it has not failed, argued author and lawyer Eva Golinger, who is in Caracas, Venezuela. The coup d'état is ongoing, she said.

Ecuadorian President Rafael Correa said he was attacked by police with tear gas. He has been hospitalized due to injuries.

"President Correa in Ecuador has been sequestered by police and military forces. He is in a military hospital where he was taken after he was attacked by the police forces, but he's now being detained. He is not there anymore n his own will," said Golinger.

She explained that members of Correa's government and his supports have attempted to gain access to the President, but the military is denying them access. Meanwhile, opposition groups have spoken out in favor of the Coup d'état and are calling for Correa's resignation.

"The law that apparently the police were protesting seems to be just be an excuse for some plans that were already underway to execute a coup against Correa," Golinger said.

In a telephone interview earlier in the day, Correa said there were forces working to assassinate him, but he insisted that even if he is killed his policies will continue in his absence.

Correa's government and policies have been in conflict with the United States for years, including his rejection of a US based that had been located in the country. Today the US still maintains a presence through the US Agency for International Development and the National Endowment for Democracy.

"Some of the groups coming out calling for the president's resignation are known as groups receiving funding from these US agencies. So, again there is an indications already in just the beginning moments of this coup that's underway of backing from different US agencies," said Golinger.

Coup attempts in Latin America in recent years took place in nations that are or were members of the Bolivarian Alliance, which works to oppose US hegemony in the region.

"It seems to be that this is an attempt to deter Latin American integration and independence," said Golinger.

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It has been reported that Correa said there was an attempt on his life.

"That's not exactly what he said," said Upéry. "He went to talk to the policemen in one of their camps and there he said, 'well if you want to kill me, kill me'. The fact is they didn't kill him."

But, when the president left some policemen used a noxious gas which did impact him.

"If they wanted to kill him, they could have killed him very easily," said Upéry.

He explained that he is still not sure what the policemen want, their only demands have been that the law be changed to return the benefits they feel they have lost.

The national army has however issued a declaration in support of Correa and issued a state of emergency, placing them in charge.

The people of Ecuador have come out in strong support for the president. The people want the police to stop and the president to be released, even though some do understand the concerns of the police force, said Upéry.

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