

## **US Coup Plot to Oust Bolivia's Evo Morales**

By Stephen Lendman

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The late William Blum documented how Washington toppled numerous sovereign governments, assassinated legitimate leaders, and removed others by coup d'etats.

Along with endless wars of aggression and by other means against nations threatening no one, that's what US hegemonic rage for unchallenged global dominance is all about.

Nations unwilling to subordinate their sovereign rights to US interests are on its target list for regime change.

Blum explained that US policies are "worse than (most people) imagine" or understand. They include virtually every form of lawlessness in pursuit of its geopolitical aims — notably aggression, economic terrorism, pressure, bullying, intimidation, and manipulating foreign elections.

When their outcomes elect or reelect the "wrong" leaders, they're targeted for removal by foul means.

Evo Morales was and remain's Bolivia's first indigenous president since elected in December 2005, taking office in January 2006.

In October, he was reelected for the third time, defeating challengers Carlos Mesa and Chi Hyun Chung, his popular support topping theirs combined.

His victory margin over lead challenger Mesa exceeded 10% to avoid a runoff.

James Petras earlier explained that no president in Bolivian history "secured consecutive electoral victories (now four), and ruled democratically for such an extended period of time...with political stability" as Morales.

Calling him "the world's most conservative radical...or the most radical conservative," Petras explained that his domestic and foreign agendas combine "radical rhetoric and...orthodox economic policies," adding:

"The most striking aspect of (his rule) is his rigor and consistency in upholding orthodox economic policies –right out of the handbook of the international financial organizations."

His independence and anti-imperialist rhetoric made him a prime US target for removal.

Petras: He "launched a series of anti-imperialist manifestos against US intervention in Venezuela; repeatedly denounced the US blockade of Cuba; opposed the US backed military coup in Honduras' and defended Argentina's claim to the Malvinas (Falkland) Islands."

He "joined the radical regional bloc, ALBA, initiated by President Chavez and supported 'regional integration' which excluded the US. He denounced the TPP (Trans-Pacific Partnership) as a 'neo-liberal project'."

He "praised Edward Snowden and his revelations; denounced NSA spying and...denounc(ed) European collaboration with the US Empire."

He achieved "an unprecedented decade of political and social stability and a growth rate between 4% and 6%" — 4.2% in 2018.

He's "a master, without peer in Latin America, at justifying orthodox, reactionary policies with radical rhetoric" — combining service to business interests with populist rhetoric, denouncing imperialism while "embrac(ing) neo-liberal economic orthodoxy."

Petras called him a "genius...political manipulator" — no "social revolutionary" or government of Bolivia's working class.

He's been Latin America's "most successful democratic capitalist ruler..." Yet hardliners in the US want him replaced, what the post-election coup plot against him is all about, CIA dirty hands all over it.

Days earlier, Telesur reported that "Radio Education Network of Bolivia (Erbol) leaked 16 audios, involving opposition leaders who are calling for a coup d'etat against" Morales — the plot orchestrated and coordinated from the US embassy in La Paz, the executive and legislative seat of government, Sucre the judicial branch seat.

Leaked audios mention contacts between GOP hardliners Marco Rubio and Ted Cruz, as well as undemocratic Dem Bob Menendez with Bolivian opposition leaders.

They also call for setting government buildings ablaze, organizing nationwide strike actions, and other disruptive tactics— right out of the CIA's playbook, including violent street protests.

Morales denounced what's going on, telling supporters in La Paz Tuesday of a coup plot against him, adding backers of the electoral result turning out in large numbers is "not in defense of (him) but of the people themselves," mobilized to defend democracy from dark forces wanting it eliminated.

He invited the international community to audit election results, saying: "Let them come here. Let them know how much they have earned."

"We never lie or hide." The world community has an "obligation to respect our Political Constitution of State. They have to respect the will of the Bolivian people."

No evidence suggests lead opposition figure Mesa's accusation of "massive fraud" — what the US falsely claims time and again when democratic elections chose the "wrong candidate" — notably Venezuela's Hugo Chavez and Nicolas Maduro, his successor.

Trump regime hardliners want the US-controlled Organization of American States (OAS),

headquartered in Washington, to conduct an election results audit to be able to falsely claim fraud despite no evidence suggesting it.

They and ruling right-wing regimes in Argentina (before succeeded by President-elect Fernandez on December 10), Brazil and Colombia called for a new election if an audit doesn't affirm the anti-Morales result they want.

On Friday, he said

"I would like to tell you, brothers and sisters, as well as entire Bolivia and the whole world. I will not give up (the presidency). We have been elected by the people, and we respect the constitution."

He's in the US crosshairs, wanting pro-Western puppet rule replacing him.

Numerous US plots using varying tactics are playing out against other sovereign independent governments on its target list for regime change.

That's what the scourge of US imperialism is all about, seeking global dominance by whatever it takes to achieve its objectives — the rule of law and human toll of no consequence.

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Award-winning author Stephen Lendman lives in Chicago. He can be reached at <a href="mailto:lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net">lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net</a>. He is a Research Associate of the Centre for Research on Globalization (CRG)

His new book as editor and contributor is titled "Flashpoint in Ukraine: US Drive for Hegemony Risks WW III."

http://www.claritypress.com/LendmanIII.html

Visit his blog site at <u>silendman.blogspot.com</u>.

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## About the author:

Stephen Lendman lives in Chicago. He can be reached at lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net. His new book as editor and contributor is titled "Flashpoint in Ukraine: US Drive for Hegemony Risks WW III." http://www.claritypress.com/LendmanIII.html Visit his blog site at sjlendman.blogspot.com. Listen to cuttingedge discussions with distinguished guests on the Progressive Radio News Hour on the Progressive Radio Network. It airs three times weekly: live on Sundays at 1PM Central time plus two prerecorded archived programs.

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