



Honduras Announces EU, OAS, Former Latin American and European Presidents Will Observe Election



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TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras and WASHINGTON, Oct. 25, 2017 /PRNewswire/ -- Last week, the Honduran Supreme Electoral Tribunal announced that it will release preliminary results from the November 26 national election to electoral observing missions from the European Union and the Organization of American States.

"Honduras's elections are free and fair," Honduran President of the Electoral Tribunal David Matamoros said. "With real-time voting results going straight to electoral observing missions from the European Union (EU) and the Organization of American States (OAS), Hondurans and the international community alike can be confident in our election's integrity."

Matamoros met with OAS Secretary-General Luis Almagro and U.S. State Department officials in Washington, D.C to discuss election monitoring details.

Matamoros said that the EU and the OAS will receive images of voting tallies from across Honduras via a secure server. Those images will also be immediately available to all 10 political parties participating in the election.

"Anyone who has doubts [about the results] can verify the information in a correct and reliable way," Matamoros told the Honduran press.

Matamoros also announced that several former Latin American and European presidents and heads of state will help monitor the Honduran election, including former presidents Felipe Gonzalez from Spain; Vicente Fox and Felipe Calderón from Mexico; Ricardo Lagos from Chile; Martin Torrijos from Panama; Alvaro Colon from Guatemala; Jorge Quiroga from Bolivia; and Laura Chinchilla from Costa Rica.

"The Supreme Electoral Tribunal is preserving the integrity of our national election by asking the global community to verify the results," President Hernández said. "I'm looking forward to a free and fair election next month."

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Honduras Touts Successful Campaign Finance Reform During Visit from EU Mission

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TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras, Oct. 24, 2017 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- Last week, the Honduran Clean Politics Unit met with an official mission of European Union election observers to outline its strategy for enforcing campaign finance laws.

During the meeting with the EU mission, the Unit discussed Honduras's Financing, Transparency, and Auditing for Political Parties and Candidates Law, which regulates candidates' campaign funds and forbids contributions from drug traffickers and criminals to political campaigns.

The law also sets caps on individual campaign contributions, prohibits donations from government contractors, and bars government advertising during national election campaigns. Candidates who violate the law can be fined or dropped from election ballots. The Honduran government passed the law after it was proposed by the Mission to Support the Fight Against Corruption and Impunity in Honduras, or MACCIH. MACCIH is an Organization of American States program that coordinates anti-corruption efforts between national and international organizations in Honduras.

The Unit announced that all candidates standing for election to the presidency on November 26 have complied with Honduras's financial disclosure requirements. Over 18,000 Honduran candidates for office at all levels of government have disclosed their funding. "International and domestic observers are working tirelessly to make sure that our elections are free and fair," President Hernández said. "Corruption has no place in our electoral system or anywhere else in our great country."

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