

Emergency Resolution For The National Lawyers Guild

Whereas the Haitian elections that took place August 9, 2015 and October 25, 2015 were shown to be fraudulent and an “electoral coup”, giving lead positions in the legislative and presidential races to candidates hand-picked by US-backed right-wing President Michel Martelly; **The decision reported July 11, 2016 to pull the US financing from the elections is an emergency. The refusal of Parliament (mostly due to the US-backed PHTK to not allow a vote on extending the interim President's mandate helps to create instability to undermine elections and allow more US intervention.**

<http://atlantablackstar.com/2016/07/11/united-states-halts-aid-to-haiti-denies-election-scandal-inspired-decision/>

Whereas 68 grassroots organizations in Haiti issued an urgent call in January 2016 for solidarity with Haiti’s struggle for free and fair elections, dignity and justice;

Whereas their call reflected the movement of tens of thousands of Haitians who took to the streets – braving assassination, tear gas, beatings, and police torture – to demand the annulment of the fraudulent elections;

Whereas a legal challenge to this “electoral coup” was filed by Fanmi Lavalas, the party of Haiti’s first democratically elected president, Jean-Bertrand Aristide, and Haiti’s most popular political party;

Whereas the U.S. State Department and its representatives, having imposed Martelly, a former Tonton Macoute, as president through fraudulent elections in 2011, were intent on imposing another handpicked president by insisting that Haitians accept the 2015 fraudulent results;

Whereas the people’s movement in Haiti, under the slogan, “Nou Pap Obeyi” (We Do Not Obey), defied U.S. pressure, and successfully demanded the end of the Martelly dictatorship and the creation of an interim government to investigate the elections and proceed forward with the electoral process;

Whereas Haiti’s Independent Commission of Evaluation and Verification released a 105-page report on May 30th detailing the massive fraud that took place in the previous electoral rounds, leading to the formal annulment of the election and the scheduling of new elections on October 9;

Whereas the U.S. State Department, the European Union, the O.A.S., and MINUSTAH (the UN occupying force) continue to warn Haiti of economic consequences if the electoral process does not proceed to their liking;

Whereas Fanmi Lavalas is running a presidential candidate, Dr. Maryse Narcisse, for the first time since the 2004 US coup that overthrew President Aristide's democratically elected government and excluded Fanmi Lavalas from all subsequent elections;

Whereas the U.S. has orchestrated two coups against Lavalas governments and has been silent while the office of Dr. Narcisse was violently attacked and right-wing paramilitary forces threatened "war" against both the interim government and Lavalas organizers;

Whereas the people of Haiti have been punished, impoverished and persecuted for their successful revolution, which defeated all the imperial powers and abolished slavery in 1804, decades before the US;

Therefore, be it resolved that we stand in solidarity with the Haitian people's right to self-determination and their demand for free and fair elections.

Be it further resolved that we call for the end of U.S. and EU support for fraudulent elections and the end of U.S. interference in Haiti's electoral process.

Be it further resolved that we demand an end to U.S. support for the repression directed against the popular movement in Haiti, and an end to the UN occupation, which has legitimized the 2004 coup and brought death by gun and cholera to thousands of people;

Be it finally resolved that the National Lawyers Guild will continue to actively monitor the crisis in Haiti and will help develop an urgent action network to implement the above resolutions.

Implementation

The following message was received from NLG's National office re implementation.

"The National Office is able to implement this resolution, should it pass, pursuant to our capacity. Thanks for all of your work on this! Best, Pooja"

Also, Brian Concannon of the NLG Haiti Subcommittee has agreed to help implement the resolution.

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