

Russia Denounces Bolivia Coup, Moscow's Ambiguous Statement Regarding Illegitimate Self-Proclaimed President

By Stephen Lendman

Global Research, November 15, 2019

Region: Latin America & Caribbean, Russia

and FSU

Theme: <u>Law and Justice</u>

Time and again, Russia stressed that it supports the sovereign independence and territorial integrity of other countries.

On Monday, its Foreign Ministry denounced the toppling of Bolivia's **Evo Morales**, a statement saying:

"We are alarmed by the dramatic developments in Bolivia, where a wave of violence, unleashed by the opposition, has prevented President Evo Morales from completing his tenure of office," adding:

"We are deeply concerned that the government's readiness to search for constructive dialogue-based solutions, voiced during the domestic political crisis in the country, was wiped out by developments typical of a well-orchestrated coup d'etat."

Russia clearly knows it was made in the USA, Trump regime hardliners OKing it, CIA dirty hands all over events leading up to Bolivia's October presidential election and its violent aftermath, toppling democratically elected Evo Morales, forcing him to resign and seek refuge in Mexico to avoid assassination.

Russia's Foreign Ministry said it supports "guaranteeing the rights of all (Bolivian) citizens and ensuring the socioeconomic development of that country."

Time and again, Moscow voiced strong opposition to interference in the internal affairs of sovereign states by foreign powers — clearly what happened in Bolivia.

CIA dirty hands orchestrated the coup, co-opting key military and police officials to abandon support for Morales, conspiring with Bolivian fascists to force democratically reelected Evo Morales from office, replacing him with a self-declared, unelected, political nobody, coup d'etat president.

Bolivia's usurpation regime has no legitimacy, unconstitutionally installed by brute force.

There was no constitutionally required legislative quorum in session when Jeanine Anez swore herself into power — illegally usurping it.

She got scant support in Bolivian legislative elections. Most people in the country knew nothing about her. Morales' Movement for Socialism MPs were warned not to show up for the parliamentary usurpation, unconstitutionally anointing her president.

Her power grab with support from the US, Bolivia's military, and fascist politicians is what despotism is all about.

Despite calling what happened in the country a coup d'etat, Russian **Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Ryabkov** said the following on Thursday:

"(I)t is clear that (Anez) will be perceived as the head of Bolivia until a new president is elected, and this is the internal affair of Bolivia."

Moscow has commercial interests in the country. In March 2016, it signed an agreement with Morales' government to build a \$300 million nuclear center in El Alto, a city near La Paz, Bolivia's political capital.

Reportedly it'll include a research reactor, a cyclotron for radio-pharmaceuticals, and a multi-purpose gamma irradiation plant, along with facilities for research in energy, medicine, and agriculture.

At the time, Morales said

"(o)ur brother **President Vladimir Putin** has promised me the transfer of Russian know-how and technology."

Russian energy giant **Gazprom invested around \$500 million** in Bolivian oil and gas projects.

In February, Bolivian firm YLB signed a lithium industrialization agreement with China's Xinjiang Tbea Group, a joint "financing and implementation venture."

Uyuni, Bolivia salt flats reportedly have one of the world's largest lithium reserves, an estimated nine millions tons.

According to <u>mining.com</u>, Bolivia has **"around 25% of the known (lithium) reserves,** but so far it has done nothing with it." Other estimates indicate a greater percentage of world reserves in the country, an invaluable resource if developed.

The mineral has numerous industrial applications (including batteries), along with its use in producing a mood-stabilizing drug in treating bipolar disorders.

The coup toppling Morales came days after he cancelled a lithium joint agreement with Germany's ACI Systems Alemania (ACISA) to develop electric batteries — reportedly because of unfairly low royalities.

At the time, his government said it "invested huge amounts to ensure that lithium is processed within the country to export it only in value-added form, such as in batteries."

With Trump regime-supported anti-Morales hardliners in charge, Bolivian agreements with

Russia and China could be scrapped in favor of US business interests.

*

Note to readers: please click the share buttons below. Forward this article to your email lists. Crosspost on your blog site, internet forums. etc.

Award-winning author **Stephen Lendman** lives in Chicago. He can be reached at <u>lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net</u>. 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>.

The original source of this article is Global Research Copyright © <u>Stephen Lendman</u>, Global Research, 2019

Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page

Become a Member of Global Research

Articles by: **Stephen Lendman**

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.

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: publications@globalresearch.ca

<u>www.globalresearch.ca</u> contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those

who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: $\underline{publications@globalresearch.ca}$