

Zelaya slams US over supporting coup regime

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Ousted Honduran president Manuel Zelaya has slammed the US for supporting Sunday's presidential elections, saying that the US is supporting a coup-perpetrating regime.

"The United States is not just supporting the elections but it is supporting the de facto regime, it is supporting the dictatorship, it is supporting the coup-perpetrating regime," Zelaya said in a telephone interview published on Thursday by the Brazilian website UOL.

Zelaya was ousted by a military coup on June 28 and has been sheltered in the Brazilian embassy in Tegucigalpa for over two months, since his clandestine return to the Central American country.

Zelaya says that the election is "null and void" and insisted that "We are going to formally question that election."

"Latin America already experienced about 80 coups, but they led to a new constitution, a social pact towards a new constitution, and not to an illegitimate call to elections under the leadership of a dictatorship, without international observers, without the OAS (Organization of American States), without the United Nations," he said.

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