

THE NEW PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT'S THREAT TO THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE

BY FRANCISCO A. TUDELA

FORMER VICE PRESIDENT AND FOREIGN MINISTER OF PERU



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Highlights

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including the Communist Party of Cuba. The Forum and the Castillo government of Peru are strongly supported by the Russian and Chinese governments and media.”

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INTRODUCTION

A momentous, and increasingly dangerous, change has occurred on the South Pacific coast of Latin America with the election to the presidency of Peru on June 6, 2021 of the far left in the person of Pedro Castillo of the Marxist Leninist party Peru Libre. The United States and other freedom-loving nations are on notice that, unless addressed constructively and swiftly, the resulting problems will not be confined to Peru, or even to Latin America.

After years of prosperity, in which the Peruvian economy grew by an average of 5.6% per year from 2000–2013, and with a stable exchange rate and low inflation, Peru reduced the national poverty rate by over 35% and integrated its economy into the world's. It did so by, among other steps, adopting a free trade policy which resulted, since 2006, in Peru signing numerous trade deals, including with: the United States, Canada, Singapore, China, Korea, Mexico, Japan and the European Union. Since the U.S.- Peru Trade Promotion Agreement of February 2009, total bilateral trade doubled.¹

But, from the election of President Pedro Pablo Kuczynski in 2016 onwards, growth declined, the economy stagnated, and Peru had five years of mismanagement and demoralizing and destabilizing political graft, intrigue and duplicity. This abysmal record was capped by the prolonged Odebrecht scandal. The revelations of an extensive network of corruption at the highest levels of government led to the fall of President Kuczynski, and his being replaced

by three successors in five years: Presidents Vizcarra, Merino and Sagasti.

Matters were made vastly worse by the affliction of the COVID-19 pandemic, which, due to the general negligence and corruption that also led to the collapse of the public health care system, cost Peru the world's highest per capita casualty rate – by December 2021, a staggering 215,000, out of a population of just 33 million.

HOW DID WE GET HERE: THE POLITICAL RUN-UP TO THE 2021 ELECTION

From 1968-1980, Peru had suffered under the misrule of a pro-Soviet socialist and nationalist military dictatorship. The regime devastated the economy, expropriating the country's private-sector banks, fisheries, big mining companies, oil producers, telephone companies, agricultural land, railroads, supermarkets, newspapers, TV stations, etc. It also devastated foreign investment by nationalizing all the assets of U.S. and multinational companies operating in Peru. By 1980, the Peruvian state owned more than 60% of the economy, was the main employer of the country and had displaced to the main cities of Peru at least three million people with its massive and failed “land reform.”²

Democracy was restored in 1980 with the election of President Fernando Belaunde, but that year saw the rise of one of the most savage terrorist movements in the history of mankind, the Maoist Shining Path (Sendero Luminoso), closely followed by the pro-Cuban Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA). These criminal communist organizations killed more than 50,000 Peruvians, devastating the countryside and producing additional, massive migration from Peru's already depleted vast rural regions to its main cities,

which were overwhelmed by the influx.

The result was social havoc that couldn't be managed by either Belaunde's administration or that of the following socialist government of President Alan Garcia Pérez (1985-1990). The latter's administration actually further deepened the economic crisis with its interventionist economic policies, expropriating the U.S.-owned Belco Oil Company and his attempt to nationalize what was left of the banking system, an initiative fortunately blocked by the Senate in response to huge popular demonstrations against it around all the country.

Other factors included the devastation of infrastructure by terrorism, estimated to be the equivalent of Peru's foreign debt of \$25 billion, and galloping hyperinflation which devoured the savings of Peruvians, reaching by 1990 an astronomical rate of 7,614%.³

In 1990, President Alberto Fujimori, a newcomer to Peruvian politics, won the presidency. He faced, however, an implacably hostile majority opposition in Congress, and a desperate strategic situation with his nation's capital city, Lima, surrounded by the Shining Path. Finally, on April 5, 1992, Fujimori dissolved Congress in what amounted to a coup d'état.

On May 5, 1992, the OAS held a meeting in the Bahamas attended by President Fujimori. He was urged to hold "orthodox elections" and reestablish the balance of power.⁴

In November 1992, President Fujimori called for elections for a Constituent Assembly with legislative powers and by 1994 a new Constitution was approved, first by the Assembly and then by a popular referendum. He won by 64% of the vote in the 1995 elections – supervised by the OAS and the European

Union – against Javier Pérez de Cuellar, a former Secretary General of the United Nations supported by the left. From 1993 onwards, Fujimori successfully reformed the economy by: establishing an absolute free market economy; vanquishing terrorism; eliminating inflation; selling off state-owned companies; reducing substantially the state bureaucracy; and simplifying the administrative processes for the citizenry.

In the year 2000, Fujimori won the presidency once more, albeit in a very controversial election. The discovery that same year of a network of corruption that involved the intelligence services and the bribing of several opposition congressmen and media owners ultimately brought down his government. Fujimori abandoned the country and resigned the presidency from Tokyo. Later, he sought refuge in Chile, but was extradited to Peru in 2007. There, he was subjected to a very controversial and questionable trial and is now serving a 25-year prison sentence.

In the 2001 election, political parties that had been electorally displaced by Fujimori in 1990 forged a tacit alliance with new progressivist and far left parties and took control of the country. The new government established a so-called "Truth Commission" at the urging of the United Nations.⁵ Adoption of its conclusions ushered in the absolute reign at all levels of Peruvian civil society of progressive and Marxist-Leninist ideologies, especially in the fields of politics, education, media, and public discourse. That led inexorably to policies of revenge, lawfare, political exclusion and cancellation against liberal conservatives and political dissenters in general, and in particular, against those who had supported Fujimori's reforms during his time in office.

The progressives' dominance provided an ideological substratum that ultimately resulted in the catastrophic

and corrupt Kuczynski administration and the mismanagement of the COVID 19 epidemic by his successors, Presidents Vizcarra and Sagasti. Their tenures led, in turn, to the 2021 electoral run-off victory of Marxist President Pedro Castillo – the founder of FUDEP, a teacher’s union symbiotically close to MOVADDEF, the political facade of the remnants of the terrorist organization Shining Path – over Keiko Fujimori. She is the daughter of President Fujimori and the candidate of Fuerza Popular, the center right party that was the capitalist and free trade alternative to Castillo’s thinly disguised communist platform.⁶

In the 2021 elections, the electoral system, controlled at the highest level by far-left authorities, refused to examine well-founded and documented allegations of fraud charged by the various parties opposed to Castillo. They gave the communist candidate the margin of votes he needed to win the presidential elections. Although he did not obtain a majority in Congress, President Castillo’s Marxist Peru Libre party is now aggressively campaigning to convene illegally a referendum for a Constituent Assembly to rewrite the Constitution – an unconstitutional initiative since only Congress can partially reform, let alone *completely replace*, that document. By its nature, such a Constituent Assembly would become the vehicle to establish a full socialist regime, abolish the pro-free market capitalist Constitution of 1993 and disband the current Congress – a play-book followed to devastating effect in Venezuela and other Latin American nations now under the jackboots of totalitarians.

THE 2021 ELECTION: A DANGEROUS REGIME ON THE WEST COAST OF SOUTH AMERICA

In less than six months in office, the radical government of President Castillo has abandoned the pro-Western foreign policy of Peru and has abruptly changed sides, now aligning itself with China, Russia, Iran, Cuba, Mexico, Nicaragua, Venezuela, Bolivia and Argentina. President Castillo’s Peru Libre party is a full-fledged member of the Forum of Sao Paulo, the Latin American Communist International comprised of 124 hard-left and socialist parties, including the Communist Party of Cuba. The Forum and the Castillo government of Peru are strongly supported by the Russian and Chinese governments and media.

The government of President Castillo has begun intense political activism throughout Peru with ominous repercussions. For example:

Peru Libre’s Secretary General, Vladimir Cerron, is “building the party,” establishing political schools for Marxist-Leninist-Maoist indoctrination in Lima and the interior.

The lack of trust that the Castillo government inspires has unleashed a migration of some \$20 billion in capital and personal savings, mainly to banks in the United States.

Corporations have given more dividends to their shareholders since Castillo was elected than in the precedent three years, because they do not have enough confidence to reinvest their profits.

Devaluation of the Peruvian Sol is on the order of 10% with the price of the dollar rising exponentially as people try to substitute America’s currency for the national one.

The Executive has sent to Congress a bill to control telecommunications, “redistribute” radio and TV frequencies and clamp down on freedom of the press.

No positive economic measures have been taken by the government to contend with the strong recession Peru is suffering, apart from proposals to raise taxes drastically and initiate a substantial increase in public debt to pay for bonuses that are being distributed to the poorer population – a transparent bid to palliate the lack of acquisitive power of those more depressed sectors.

In fact, the government is more interested in weakening the middle class and stimulating class conflict – as has been done with devastating effects by other Communist regimes, including those of Venezuela, Nicaragua and Bolivia – than in tackling the real problems of the national economy. The aforementioned actions are intended to foster popular support for the avowed main objective of the Castillo government’s program: the election of a Constituent Assembly for the purpose of removing the present Congress and writing a new socialist Constitution to be approved by referendum – all things forbidden by the present Constitution adopted in 1993.

WHY PERU MATTERS

Peru’s Natural Wealth: Peru is a country of 1,285,216 square kilometers on the west coast of South America, a territory with a landmass bigger than that of Texas, California and Florida combined. It has substantial natural resources and is one of the world’s main producers of copper, silver, gold, timber, fish and iron ore. It has important reserves of petroleum and natural gas, a big potential for hydropower and the exploitation of phosphates, potash and lithium. Indeed, the Peruvian Andes constitute, along with the

South African Rand and the Urals in Russia, one of the three richest polymetallic mountain ranges in the world. Peru also has the biggest area of the Amazon rain forest in South America.⁷

Peru’s Foreign Economic Ties: In the last decade, Communist China has become the main commercial partner of Peru. China buys 26.5% of Peruvian exports, followed by the United States at 20.1%, Switzerland 5.2%, South Korea 4.4%, Spain 4.1% and India 4.1%. Fully 63% of all Peruvian mining production is purchased by China. Total imports to Peru from China amount to 22.3%, followed by the United States at 20.1%, Brazil 6%, Mexico 4.4%. (All these numbers are from prior to the Covid 19 pandemic, as there have been no trustworthy economic statistics since 2019). Since 1968, most of the military hardware used by the Peruvian Army and Air Force has come first from the Soviet Union and more recently from Russia. The Peruvian Navy is an exception. Its main providers are Italy, Germany, the Netherlands, France and South Korea, and its educational structures are linked to the U.S. Navy.

Peru’s Drug Production: Peru is a prime source of illegal cocaine production and trafficking. According to the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy,⁸ the country has reached a record level of 88,200 hectares cultivating coca, generating 810 metric tons of refined cocaine that find their way through drug trafficking cartels to U.S. and European markets, making Peru the world’s second-largest cocaine producer.

To make matters worse, during his fortunately brief tenure as President of the Council of Ministers in the Castillo government, Guido Bellido expressed his desire to have the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency and the Agency for International Development withdraw

from Peru. It remains to be seen whether, with his departure from the regime, such an initiative – which would surely intensify the Peruvian contribution to the illegal narcotics crisis – will be put into effect.

It is surely no coincidence that, when Mr. Bellido played that senior role, he was constantly accompanied by Abdullah Ahmed. Ahmed is a Yemeni national who is a former advisor to the Bolivarian parties of Bolivia, Ecuador and Venezuela, under their respective Marxist dictators: Morales, Corea and Maduro. Ahmed may also have links to an ally of the government, the Inkarrri Islam Party – a small but dangerous Marxist-Leninist-Islamist party that is based in southern Peru’s Apurimac region and linked to Hezbollah and Iran.

The Inkarrri Islam Party’s presence is not the only danger emanating from the Apurimac region, also known as VRAEM for the valley formed by the Apurimac, Ene and Mantaro Rivers. VRAEM, which covers ten Peruvian provinces in southeastern Peru, is the main coca and cocaine production region of Peru. And such production and trafficking in its output **is under the tight, clandestine and armed control of the remnants of the Shining Path terrorist organization, who coordinate and cooperate with the cartels.**

The government party, Peru Libre, is linked to the coca production organizations that seek legalization of this illicit trade, on the pretext that it is a traditional peasant activity. In fact, Peru Libre Congressman Alejandro Bermejo campaigned with then-presidential candidate Pedro Castillo in VRAEM.

Not coincidentally, it appears that a substantial part of the financing for the Peru Libre campaign in 2021 was provided by the Shining Path. The National Prosecutor’s Office has opened an investigation to

determine the sources of Peru Libre campaign funds and its links to the drug business.⁹ This relationship between the governing party and coca-producing peasant organizations and between some of Peru Libre’s members and the remnants of the Shining Path, threaten to give rise to a new, and highly dangerous, rogue-state on the west coast of South America.

In addition, the leadership of Peru Libre has strong and open links to Evo Morales and the Bolivian government of the MAS (“Movement Towards Socialism”), which is also linked to drug trafficking. The unavoidably resultant synergy of Peru and Bolivia most probably will have catastrophic consequences for all the Western Hemisphere.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN PERU

Starting in November 2021, the Castillo government has been further radicalized by several scandals. A report presented by the journalistic program “Cuarto Poder” of America TV on November 28th produced evidence that President Castillo received several visitors at a private house on October 20th, November 5th and 10th, in violation of a law designed to promote transparency concerning potential conflicts of interest in public administration. The visitors were far-left politicians and government ministers, but as a result of those visits, companies linked to some of the visitors won a \$58 million contract for infrastructure construction.¹⁰ Also on November 5th, President Castillo removed the Commander of the Army, General José Vizcarra, and the Chief of the Air Force, General Jorge Chaparro, for not yielding to presidential pressure to promote improperly officers with ties to the government, violating the armed forces’ regulations and procedures for promotion.¹¹

Due to these scandals, conservative parties in Congress decided to present a motion to remove President Castillo pursuant to Article 113 of the Constitution. That provision establishes that the President can be removed from his post because of moral incapacity, i.e., unethical conduct that affects the due representation of the citizens. But the far-left and center-left parties united against the motion and the conservatives lost by 46 votes for and 76 against it¹²

As a by-product of these alliances – which were engineered by the Secretary General of Castillo’s party, Vladimir Cerron, a radical Marxist Leninist who studied in Cuba and has been convicted on corruption charges, the radical left gained additional influence and power inside the government coalition.

The government is also mounting a counterattack on the Congress, going so far as to try to remove its incumbent President, María del Carmen Alva of the Accion Popular party, herself a politician of the center-left. In addition, legislators who promoted the vacancy motion to remove President Castillo have been unfairly labeled by the political left and the media as “far-right” and are now under intense attack.

Fortunately, despite such pressure (as discussed below) on December 16th, the Congress rallied to thwart Castillo’s bid to rewrite the present Peruvian Constitution.

THE OMINOUS NEW INTERNATIONAL ALIGNMENTS OF THE CASTILLO REGIME

China had increased its presence in Peru over the last decade, but the relationship was significantly strengthened when President Martin Vizcarra succeeded President Kuczynski and signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to join China’s Belt and Road club in 2019.¹³

Cosco Shipping Ports, the Chinese state-owned shipping and port management company, is now building a megaport 80 kilometers to the north of El Callao. It is the first port entirely built by China in all South America. With a surface area of 42 hectares, 400 meters of length, 59 meters wide and a draft 17 meters deep, this megaport will be, according to Chinese authorities, the hub that will connect South America to the North Pacific and China through the Belt and Road Initiative.¹⁴

The port will be connected to the Pan-American Highway by a hardened concrete tunnel of 1.8 kilometers that will run under the town of Chancay for the transport of cargo – a curious feature that suggests dual, military-civilian use will be made of this facility. It will be able to accommodate Super Post-Panamax E3 ships, but could also provide full logistic capacity for a PLA Navy Carrier Strike Force.¹⁵

In the last 10 years China has also made investments in Peru worth \$30 billion in financial institutions, insurance, energy, mining, fisheries, forestry, infrastructure, etc. There are currently some 170 Chinese corporations in Peru, like the Commercial Bank of China, Fosun International Limited, Yangtze Optical Fiber, China Three Gorges Corporation, Shougang, Chinalco, etc. Peru is the main provider of

copper to China and there are 6 huge mining projects being developed, mainly copper and iron mines. Peru's principal imports from China are 5G networks, ultra-high-tension electric transmission lines, railway systems, artificial intelligence, automobiles, motorcycles and trucks, data centers and technological electric appliances including cell phones, laptops, computers and telecommunications systems. Most recently, China has imported COVID-19 vaccines to Peru.

President Pedro Castillo has made a point of showing his special deference to the Chinese Communist Party. While he has met with various foreign ambassadors, including the U.S. ambassador, his visit to the Chinese Embassy was the only one to be given extensive press coverage. Normally, the Peruvian president receives ambassadors in the Government Palace, not by traveling to their embassies.

The exceptional arrangement made in this case suggests that there will be a further deepening of bilateral ties between both countries, as China has previously achieved in Venezuela with Presidents Chavez and Maduro, in Ecuador with President Correa, in Argentina with President Cristina Fernandez and in Bolivia with Presidents Morales and Arce.

While there have been disagreements of late between the Castillo government and Communist China over mining operations, it seems likely that China's influence over and presence in Peru will only grow in the years ahead.

China is not alone in pursuing closer ties with Peru's Communist regime. Russia also actively supports President Castillo through its diplomacy and through its state media, RT (Russia Today) and Tass. And its influence operations are bearing fruit: In a startling,

six-minute address to the Nation on September 7, 2021, President Castillo announced the building of a Russian plant in Peru to produce Sputnik V vaccines against COVID19.¹⁶ As such a plant will take at least two years to be built, the announcement was more of a sign to the world of Peru's new orientations. The same was true of the recently announced agreement with the Russian government that allowed its state-owned airline, Aeroflot, to begin a comeback in South America by making Lima its first and thus-far-only destination.

In a similar vein, on September 9, 2021, Peru established diplomatic relations with the Islamic Marxist Leninist Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic, a fictional government established in Tinduf, Algeria, that is actually just a cover for the Polisario Front, which claims the Western Sahara. This so-called republic is only recognized by North Korea, Mexico and some, but not all the Bolivarian republics of South America, and a handful of countries in Africa.

The Peruvian decision was adopted fifteen days after Algeria broke diplomatic relations with Morocco over the Kabyle question, in eastern Algeria. The Chinese Communist Party has become engaged in inflaming the conflict between Algeria and Morocco as a means of pressuring the latter's king to cease being the continent's sole hold-out on its Belt and Road Initiative. And the U.S. government had recognized Moroccan sovereignty over Western Sahara less than a year before, on December 11, 2020. In short, this diplomatic action was another a signal to the world of Peru's new alignments.¹⁷

THE FORUM OF SAO PAULO AND THE “INDIGENOUS PEOPLES” POWER-PLAY

The dangers facing freedom-loving peoples in the Western Hemisphere have recently been compounded with a new transnational front being opened up by Latin America’s neo-Marxists.

In late November 2021, former Bolivian president Evo Morales called for a geopolitical summit of ethnic Marxist “peoples” linked to the Sao Paulo Forum. It was originally scheduled to be held on December 21 and 22, 2021, in the historic Peruvian city of Cuzco, under the patronage of President Pedro Castillo. The meeting was dubbed the “Runasur” summit – i.e., the summit of the “People of the South” in the indigenous people’s language known as Quichuan. Morales called for “the reconstituting of our ancestors’ plurinational America”, adding that the meeting would challenge the Empire (i.e., the United States) and would be “anti-capitalistic, anti-imperialist and anti-colonialist.”

Cuzco was selected for such a gathering because it was the capital of the Inca Empire and the strongest symbol that can be manipulated to promote anti-Western feelings in the Andean region. Ceding this place to Evo Morales demonstrates the subordination of Castillo to the Bolivian leader, and how advanced is the synergy between Bolivia and Peru. Indeed, there is talk of a merger of the two nations, including the elimination of their shared border.

Features of the Marxists’ efforts to join class warfare with ethnic warfare as a vehicle for their divide-and-conquer strategy include “plurinationality,” which transcends loyalty to a single state, and the Bolivian socialist concept of “asymmetric constitutionality,” according to which ethnically oppressed peoples enjoy different rights than “dominant” classes in order to

compensate for inequality. These subversive doctrines are already in evidence in the United States, as well.¹⁸

Fortunately, the proposed Runasur Summit sparked outrage in Peru, prompting protests by conservative politicians and intellectuals that led to denunciations of the event by a formidable array of retired ambassadors and military officers. The Summit was subsequently shelved at least for the time being, ostensibly in response to COVID-19 restrictions, but really to obscure a huge repudiation of the Marxist-Leninists indigenous peoples gambit in Peru and elsewhere in Latin America.

CONCLUSION

The preceding pages would be mere observations about noteworthy territorial, political and economic developments in Latin America were it not for the exceptional geostrategic position of Peru in the Western Hemisphere. Given its vast access to the continental hinterland, however, Peru’s takeover by Communists means:

Hostile world powers can parlay their partnership with Peru into important opportunities for further, ominous geopolitical penetration into the heart of South America and the rest of the Western Hemisphere.

Notably, the neo-colonial ambitions can benefit greatly from Peru’s porous borders with its five neighboring countries: a 1,529 kilometer frontier with Ecuador; a 2,822 kilometer one with Brazil; a 1,529 kilometer one with Colombia; a 1047 kilometer one with Bolivia; and a 169 kilometer one with Chile. These scarcely policed borders afford the extreme leftist government of Peru and its foreign puppet-masters a substantial capacity to interact with similar movements in the neighboring countries and vice versa

Peru can also be used to achieve an end-run on the so-called “Pivot to Asia” strategy whereby the United States hoped to contain China in the North and West Pacific. Situated in the center of western Latin America, Peru’s three-thousand kilometers of coastline and at least four important ports – to say nothing of the megaport the Chinese will bring on line at Chancay by 2024 and possibly a second one further south – make the country ideally situated to enable strategic power- projection from the central west coast of South America: south to the Strait of Magellan; north to the Panama Canal; and west to all of the Southern Pacific.

If next year’s presidential elections in Colombia and Brazil are influenced by the victory of the radical regime in Lima – as the recent one in Chile surely was – and translate into those nations adopting Marxist trajectories similar to Peru’s, the United States and the West more generally would face a geopolitical catastrophe of unfathomable magnitude and without historical precedent in our hemisphere.

WHAT IS TO BE DONE?

In Peru: The Peruvian opposition, initially stunned by the dubious electoral victory of President Pedro Castillo, is organizing for resistance. Huge demonstrations have taken place against the new government. And Congress is pursuing a strategy of constraining through legislative action the bills on taxation or redistribution sent by the Marxist government.

Nevertheless, Congress failed to muster the votes needed to remove President Castillo from office – even though he lacks a majority in Congress. That demonstrates how strong is the Peruvian executive and

shows its capacity to build alliances with heterogenous political forces. And yet, on December 16th, the Peruvian Congress approved Bill No. 644/2021-CR, barring a referendum for a constitutional assembly unless Congress has previously approved a “Bill of Reform.”

The welcome practical effect of this legislation is that it effectively blocks any further attempt by President Castillo to convene a referendum for his project of drafting a new socialist constitution for Peru. Such efforts must be sustained and expanded. It remains to be seen, however, for how long and to what extent such congressional resistance will constitute *an actual check* on the Marxists’ fundamental transformation of Peru.

By the United States: The U.S. government and special interest groups within America should, of course, render support to those resisting the Marxist takeover of Peru, understanding that the key to further resistance in Peru lies with civil society and its capacity to promote political change with the support of the Peruvian Congress.

For significant numbers of Americans to play such a role, however, they must first understand what is afoot in Peru and especially the geopolitical challenge posed by the presence of adversarial world powers there and in the region more generally. This need can begin to be met by affording the public access to sustained media coverage of Latin America so as to heighten awareness of the necessity of defending freedom throughout the hemisphere against neocolonialist experiments and attempts by our enemies in China, Russia and Iran to create enclaves in the nations of the hemisphere that would endanger U.S. security and trade.

Public awareness is a necessary, but not a sufficient condition. Engagement at the highest political

levels is also required. President James Monroe well understood the dangers posed by European colonial powers' efforts to reestablish in his time their dominion over the region. His doctrine is, if anything, *more needed now than ever* in the face of the hemisphere's perilous colonization at the hands of an international network of hostile actors comprised of state and sub-state ones, both indigenous and external to the hemisphere, and including Communists, Islamists and non-ideological drug cartels that use terrorism and political power to realize their toxic ambitions.

The bottom line is clear: The United States would be seriously endangered by an unbroken phalanx of Marxist and allied regimes that could extend from the Rio Grande to the Magellan Strait and precipitate tyranny throughout and the economic collapse of Latin America. These conditions would, inevitably translate into massive migrations of illegal aliens seeking to escape oppression and poverty.

Consequently, the U.S. should act immediately to build a corresponding regional network of its own and support those countries that have *not* fallen to Marxism, as is the case so far of Brazil and Colombia – countries that also have a strong interest in supporting freedom in Peru.

Time is of the essence. The United States and the freedom-loving nations in the Western Hemisphere and outside it must understand that there is a fleeting window of opportunity before Peru's Marxist regime consolidates its control of the Peruvian state and becomes entrenched and immune to change like those of Bolivia, Cuba, Nicaragua and Venezuela. Given that the whole of South America is in peril and taking into account what is at stake for the peoples of the Americas and the United States, this moment cannot be squandered, and concerted action must, instead,

be promptly taken.

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