

Latin America Leaders Warn of Chile Style Coup in Venezuela

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The Venezuelan government received support in the wake of ongoing destabilization efforts, from leaders attending the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) summit underway this week in Costa Rica.

Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega accused the U.S. government of launching a calculated economic war that seeks to undermine Venezuela's political stability, comparing the situation to Washington's role in the overthrow of former Chilean President Salvador Allende in 1973.

"We see clearly that they want to repeat the same situation that took place in Chile, they are applying the same script and the want to have it end in a military coup," Ortega stated.

• Read teleSUR's agenda piece on CELAC here

Ecuadorean President Rafael Correa <u>also pointed out the similarities</u> with the current aggression being waged against Venezuela and to what happened in Chile which led to the brutal military dictatorship of General Augusto Pinochet.

"We are reminded of the economic warfare that was carried out by the Chilean elites against Salvador Allende once they realized that they could not achieve victory in the ballot box and were defeated in the legislative elections in 1973," said Correa.

Cuban President Raul Castro condemned the U.S.-imposed sanctions and external intervention



in the domestic affairs of Venezuela.

"We emphatically reject the sanctions against Venezuela and reaffirm our complete support for the government of Venezuela," said President Castro.

During his speech at the summit, Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro denounced the visit of the former presidents of Chile, Colombia and Mexico to Venezuela to participate in a forum organized by the right-wing opposition.

"This is not tolerable in the current political life of Latin America and the Caribbean," said Maduro.