
Moro and Lava Jato Tried to Interfere in Venezuela's Internal Affairs

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New leaks published by Brazilian media show that former Judge Sergio Moro instructed the prosecutors involved in Operation Lava Jato to reveal information (under summary secrecy) on the company Odebrecht about corruption in Venezuela.

The messages, published on the website The Intercept and analyzed by the newspaper Folha de Sao Paulo and the webpage reveal that Lava Jato members mobilized to interfere in Venezuela's domestic policy by exposing information, after being instructed by Moro, who is the incumbent Minister of Justice in the Jair Bolsonaro administration, on Augusto 2017.

According to the report, the intention of disclosing secret information against the legitimate administration of Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro, which is not the role of the Federal Public Ministry, would take place at a very sensitive time.

In July 2017, the United States threatened Maduro with new sanctions and at the time, Brazil still had normal relations with Venezuela.

According to other journalistic sources, the non-authorized revelation of confidential information by Brazilian prosecutors might theoretically characterize the crime established in Article 325 of the Penal Code, which punishes public agents with prison sentences of up to two years for 'revealing the facts that they are dealing with and that must kept secret, or facilitating their revelation'.

'Perhaps it is time to publicize Odebrecht's information about bribes in Venezuela,' former Judge Moro said at the time.

In response, Prosecutor and Lava Jato Coordinator Deltan Dallagnol said, 'I agree. There are some limitations in the agreement so we have to see how we do it. Even more, I think it is time to file charges here for international

money laundering against those responsible there if there is evidence'.

As Moro and Dallagnol articulated the charges against Venezuela, the members of the Lava Jato working team expressed concern about the risks.
