

# Nicaragua: UK Statement on Elections

News story

Foreign Office Minister Lord Goldsmith has issued a statement on the elections in Nicaragua.



Lord Goldsmith said:

The steps taken by President Ortega and Vice President Murillo, to prevent free and fair elections in Nicaragua, are a clear abuse of power. The regime's attempts to stifle opposition, including banning all opposition parties, will deny Nicaraguans their right to vote for a candidate of their choosing.

With opposition figures detained, including seven potential presidential candidates, and a crackdown of fundamental rights and freedoms, November's elections will lack credibility.

This increasing authoritarianism must end. The rule of law and the rights of the Nicaraguan people must be respected with free and fair elections restored. The UK will continue to work with its partners to encourage a peaceful and democratic outcome.

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