

*News from*

## ***Congressman Eliot Engel***

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### **CHAIRMAN ENGEL ISSUES STATEMENT ON THE CRISIS IN HONDURAS**

Congressman Eliot Engel, Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, made the following statement regarding ongoing negotiations in Honduras to put an end to the country's political crisis:

"I am pleased by the progress being made in talks between negotiators representing Manuel Zelaya and Roberto Micheletti. A political solution to Honduras's crisis may finally be in sight. Now is not the time to hesitate, and I urge both sides to redouble their efforts to reach a negotiated solution as quickly as possible. The international community expects nothing less.

"It is also imperative that all of Honduras's political institutions work to support such a solution. There is nothing that can better increase the legitimacy of Honduras's upcoming presidential election than a negotiated settlement between President Zelaya and De Facto President Roberto Micheletti.

"The presidential candidates in Honduras have asked the Organization of American States (OAS) to provide international observers for the country's November 29<sup>th</sup> election. I urge OAS Secretary General Jose Miguel Insulza to grant this request, so that an effective election monitoring effort can be put into place."