



FEATURED Q&A SU REPRODUCCIÓN Y/O DIFUSIÓN

What Is Behind the Upheaval in Peru's Government?



Peruvian President Pedro Castillo (L), who has been in office just over six months, on Tuesday swore in his fourth prime minister, Aníbal Torres (R). Castillo also named new cabinet ministers. // Photo: Peruvian Government

Q Peruvian President Pedro Castillo, who took office last July, on Tuesday swore in his fourth prime minister, former Justice Minister Aníbal Torres. Castillo's last prime minister, Héctor Valer, resigned last week after just four days on the job amid domestic violence allegations, which he has denied. Castillo left Finance Minister Oscar Graham and Foreign Minister César Landa in their posts but named a new health minister, Hernán Condori. Why is there so much upheaval in Castillo's administration, and what does he need to do in order to normalize it? What does the cabinet instability mean for Castillo's policy agenda? To what extent does the instability in the cabinet foreshadow a potential early exit for Castillo himself before his term ends? How is the opposition-controlled Congress likely to act in relation to Castillo's cabinet?

A Augusto Álvarez-Rodrich, daily columnist on political affairs at *La República*: "With four cabinets in the first six months alone, a contradictory and directionless government and a political system rotted by the infiltration of mafias in all the powers of the state—including the presidency and the Congress—the Peruvian population is experiencing great uncertainty in a context of accelerated economic deterioration and the urgency of the challenge of defeating the pandemic. The Peruvian crisis is old, but it has worsened a lot in the last half year due to a president like Pedro Castillo, who makes ignorance a source of pride. He assures that he came to the presidency to learn, but each passing day confirms that he is a professor who does not learn anything and instead goes backwards. The origin of this crisis is

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