

Jeanine Áñez

Jeanine Áñez is a Bolivian politician who temporarily assumed the interim presidency of the Plurinational State of Bolivia from 12 November 2019 to 8 November 2020.

She took the presidency after the resignation and subsequent departure of the then-President Evo Morales from the country after he and his allies allegedly committed multiple acts of electoral fraud.

Jeanine Áñez took office in accordance with the Constitution of Bolivia and was endorsed by the Plurinational Constitutional Court, the highest Bolivian constitutional control body.

Within her constitutional mandate, Jeanine Áñez called an election on 18 October 2020. Luis Arce, from the Movimiento al Socialismo (Movement Toward Socialism) party, which former President Morales helped found, was elected president and took office from Áñez on 8 November, in a transparent and peaceful transition process.

On 13 March 2021, the Bolivian authorities arrested Jeanine Áñez and other senior civil and military officials, on charges of terrorism, sedition and conspiracy and participation in a coup d'état in 2019. They subsequently extended her detention for another six-month period. Áñez's family say that she tried to kill herself on 21 August 2021 after being mistreated, intimidated and forced to take medication during her detention and imprisonment in the Miraflores prison, in the Bolivian capital of La Paz.

In a resolution adopted in April 2021, the European Parliament denounced and condemned 'the arbitrary and illegal detention of former interim President Áñez, two of her Ministers, and other political prisoners' and called 'on the Bolivian authorities to release them immediately and drop the politically motivated charges against them.'