

SPECIAL REPORT



SUMMARY OF REPRESSION TO PROTESTERS IN CUBA

Update: July 18, 2021

Cuba, July 2021

Incidents Report Center FPD

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CUBA, JULY 2021

**INCIDENTS REPORT CENTER
FPD**



THE “FUNDACIÓN PARA LA DEMOCRACIA PANAMERICANA (FDP)” WAS ESTABLISHED IN 2015 BY A GROUP OF CUBAN AND CUBAN-AMERICAN CITIZENS CONCERNED ABOUT THE CONTINUED OPPRESSION AND VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN CUBA AND THE NEED TO UPHOLD AND PROMOTE DEMOCRACY IN THE AMERICAS. THE FOUNDATION HAS NO POLITICAL OR RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION AND COLLABORATES WITH LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS COMMITTED TO DEMOCRACY AND RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS.

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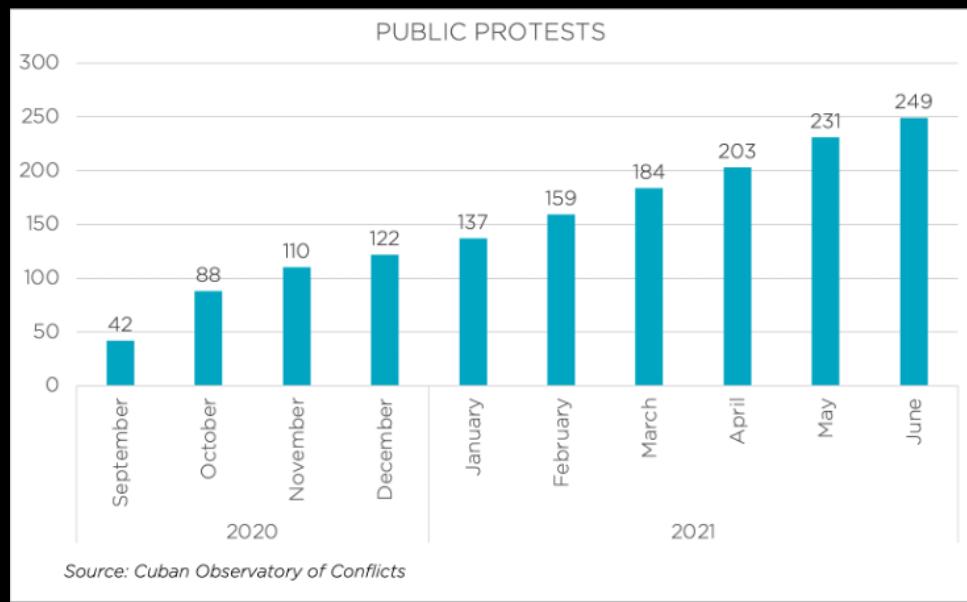
On Sunday July 11, 2021, hundreds of thousands of people took to the streets of Cuba to peacefully protest demanding the end of the dictatorship. These protests against the regime started in the morning in San Antonio de los Baños, in the Artemisa province. In only a matter of hours they spread all over the country. The protesters were chanting "freedom" and "down with the dictatorship". The Incidents Report Center at the Foundation for Pan American Democracy (FDP) registered at 45 towns and cities where Cubans took to the streets to protest, including all regional capitals. In many of these places, protesters are still in the streets to this day.

Protests started July 11, 2021



[https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?
mid=1AQAArlWutvq3eqA2nK_WObSujtknlxZ&ll=21.66153107712415%2C-
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The citizen mobilization and protests against the regime have been increasing in frequency month after month in all of 2021. The following graph shows the number of protests registered by the Cuban Observatory of Conflicts in its latest report.



The regime responded to the protests by –first— shutting down the internet service to practically all users not linked to the government; and –second— brutally repressing protesters and people detained in police cars or stations, neglecting their due process. The police, the state security apparatus, other members of the Ministry of Interior, and the elite troops of the Cuban Revolutionary Arm Force, often dressing as regular citizens, attacked people in the streets, using extreme force, lethal in some cases, resulting in deaths and injuries.



Arbitrary detentions, forced disappearances, raids, mobility restrictions.

The authorities arrested protesters, several of them are now facing criminal charges and remain uncommunicated. This is the case of Neife María Rigau (22) who was arbitrarily detained. Her family has been informed of a criminal case against her.



At least 532 persons have been detained and/or reported missing, and only 75 of them have been released, so far. Those who have managed to be released cannot leave their homes, or they could be arrested again.



A circular portrait of a man with short, light-colored hair, wearing a blue button-down shirt. The portrait is set against a background of small, dark dots arranged in a circle.

JOSÉ DANIEL FERRER
Santiago de Cuba

UNPACU general coordinator. His family reported his disappearance on July 11, 2021 through social media

The repression has extended beyond the protests. Police officers and intelligence agents have taken into custody from their homes or arrested in the streets, although they were not in the proximity to the protests. Once detained, government agents have been abusing them. This is the case of Javier Delgado, a promoter of Cuba Decide, who is handicapped and is uncommunicated.



A circular portrait of a man with dark hair and a mustache, wearing a light-colored baseball cap with a logo on it. The portrait is set against a teal background with a decorative border of small white dots.

JAVIER DELGADO

Villa Clara

Arrested by the police in his house. The activist is oxygen dependent. Current health condition is unknown

There has been reports of police and state security raids to notable opposition leaders' houses. In these raids they confiscate everything from clothes to food. This was the case of Ismael Boris Reñí whose house was raided by authorities in the morning of July 13, 2021. The police took everything, including his young daughters' underwear.

The Ministry of Interior confirmed the death of one protester named Diubis Laurencio Tejeda. He was 36 years old and was killed in the protests of Arroyo Naranjo, in the province of Havana. FDP's Incidents Report Center has received reports of at least 7 other people allegedly killed as result of excessive use of force by the police. However, this information is yet to be confirmed due to lack of connectivity with the Island.

Forced military recruiting of young people

Several witnesses report that young people serving in the mandatory military service has been forced to violently suppress protests. If not compliant, they risk being arrested and charged for disobedience. Furthermore, other reports indicate the regime is going through entire neighborhoods, knocking on people's houses, to make young people to forcibly join the draft for the mandatory military service.



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