

MIAMI DECLARATION

Legislators for Europe and the Americas institute this Transatlantic Parliamentary Forum in solidarity with the Cuban people and their struggle for the right to live in a democracy.

Everyone has the right to life, freedom of thought, expression, demonstration, and assembly. We call on the international community to defend human rights in Cuba. We demand for Cuba the free exercise of the economic, social, cultural, civil, and political rights of the Cuban people.

We denounce the constant oppression that the Cuban people have suffered by the communist regime and its destabilizing consequences in the rest of the continent. For almost 63 years, the dictatorship has imposed a system based on exclusion and discrimination against any Cuban with a divergent opinion. Totalitarianism has plunged Cuban society into a deep humanitarian crisis. Democratic changes are urgently needed to end political apartheid and allow the building of the rule of law in Cuba.

We denounce the state terrorism exercised against citizens in Cuba in order to instill panic and maintain control. The use of excessive force by the authorities has led to the death of innocent citizens, as was the case of Diurbis Laurencio on July 11th, for example.

We condemn the use of violence and the militarization of an entire country to prevent the peaceful demonstration of its citizens. We warn about the use by the Cuban authorities of threats, intimidation, surveillance, censorship, restrictions on mobility, control of telecommunications services, forced expatriation, arbitrary detentions, and torture.

We demand the immediate release of the more than 600 political prisoners detained before and after July 11th.

We denounce the influence of the Cuban regime in the destabilization and collapse of democratic political systems, as has been the case in Venezuela and other places in Latin America.

We are committed to influencing the executive branch and government institutions in our countries to secure:

- That they denounce the illegitimacy of the regime, whose system and representatives have never been freely elected by the citizens, and that they support the Cuban people to recover their sovereignty. Our countries and democratic institutions cannot treat the representatives of the government in Cuba as their peers, but must demand in every

international forum the right to democracy, multi-party system, and free elections for the Cuban people.

- That they recognize the Cuban opposition and civil society as valid interlocutors.
- That they direct any economic relationship, cooperation, assistance, or aid directly to Cuban citizens and independent civil society, without the interference of the regime.
- That they stop all sources of financing to the repressive machinery of the Cuban regime through the military and state conglomerates or State-owned companies. Any nation that defends freedom, democracy and human rights cannot continue to support the brutal oppression of the dictatorship with policies of appeasement.
- That they do not make unilateral concessions nor negotiate with the Cuban regime, but demand the release of political prisoners, an end to repression and respect for all fundamental human rights.
- That they apply political, diplomatic, and financial sanctions to those responsible for serious human rights violations. Each government or institution may make use of the sanctions mechanism at its disposal, such as the Magnitsky Acts of the United States and Canada or the Global Sanctions Mechanism of the European Union.
- That they demand corporate social responsibility from foreign companies in Cuba so that they stop enriching and serving the Cuban regime above the human rights of their workers. Democratic governments and institutions can promote the Sullivan principles that were successfully employed to help end apartheid in South Africa.
- That they do everything in their power to ensure that the Cuban people can communicate internally and outside the island using internet access, cell phones, or any other technology without regime interference.
- That they form an alliance for democracy in Cuba and coordinate actions in solidarity with the Cuban people and their demands for freedom and human rights.

We commit to promoting the above points through bills and resolutions in our respective legislative chambers, as well as to raising our voices on our platforms and in the media to bring attention to the Cuban people's demands for freedom and human rights.

Cubans are already working tirelessly, inside and outside the island, for the right to have rights, they need the support of the free world. Their God-given rights

and their lives matter for the construction of a freer, fairer, more prosperous, and peace-loving Cuba and continent.

Cubans, you are not alone.

Miami, November 20th, 2021

PARTICIPANTS

- Senator of the U.S. Senate Marco Rubio
- Member of the U.S. House of Representatives Albio Sires
- Member of the U.S. House of Representatives Mario Diaz-Balart
- Member of the U.S. House of Representatives Maria Elvira Salazar
- Member of the U.S. House of Representatives Carlos Giménez
- Member of the European Parliament Leopoldo López Gil
- Member of the European Parliament David Lega
- Member of the European Parliament Hermann Tertsch
- Member of the European Parliament Carlo Fidanza
- Member of the European Parliament José Ramón Bauzá
- Member of the European Parliament Dita Charanzová
- Member of the Assembly of Madrid Rocío Monasterio
- Member of the Congress of Deputies of Spain Víctor González Coello de Portugal
- Member of the Congress of Deputies of Spain Valentina Martínez
- Senator of the Eerste Kamer of The Netherlands Boris Dittrich
- Senator of the Senate of Canada Leonidas Housakos
- Member of the House of Representatives of Uruguay Pablo Viana
- Member of the Chamber of Deputies of Bolivia José Manuel Ormachea
- Senator of the Senate of Chile Felipe Kast
- Senator of the Senate of Chile Sergio Gahona
- Member of the Chamber of Deputies of Chile Guillermo Ramírez
- Member of the Chamber of Deputies of Chile Juan Manuel Fuenzalida
- Member of the Legislative Assembly of Costa Rica Pablo Sibaja Jiménez
- Member of the Legislative Assembly of Costa Rica Jorge Dengo Rosabal
- Member of the Legislative Assembly of Costa Rica Harllan Hoepelman
- Member of the Legislative Assembly of Costa Rica Ada Acuña

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