

Bogota: Trump hurts Cuban pockets deeply

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Donald Trump's Havana policy has another pretty negative aspect: multiple expenses imposed on those who must firstly travel to Colombia aimed at carrying out visa procedures to reach the United States.

El Nuevo Herald journalist Catalina Ruiz Parra narrated on Wednesday the odyssey suffered by those people to obtain it.

The main concern of those travelers lies in the high costs imposed on them.

For example, the consular authorities request their hotel booking in Bogota and their last six months bank statements with a minimum balance of \$2,000.

In addition, they must pay their food and transportation expenses for a nearly 3-week stay, because it is mandatory to arrive 10 days before the interview.

The Herald journalist said that “the visa study” in the US embassy in Bogota costs \$52 and if it is approved, there is another \$82 charge.

In the face of the scene described, some hotels and private citizens offer those Cubans less expensive options.

Add to this that they must pay for travel insurance covering accident, disease and baggage loss, as well as lab tests, medical appointment, fingerprinting, interview and passport/visa collection.

It also includes the amount of \$820 for one or two people and a 10-day stay.

Journalist Catalina Ruiz Parra warns in her article that “travelers must verify the information well before choosing any option to avoid being victim of a scam”.

Hence here another example of how those who have been advising Donald Trump's Cuba policy express their irrational and clumsy performance.

One of them, Marco Rubio, Florida's far-right Republican senator.

**Translated by Jorge Mesa Benjamin / Cubasi Translation Staff**

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