
Cuban Residents in Colombia Condemn Blockade of Cuba

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The Association of Cuban Residents in Colombia reiterated today its condemnation of the economic, commercial and financial blockade imposed by the U.S. government on Cuba for more than 50 years.

We demand respect for the universal clamor demanding the lifting of the siege, which has caused substantial and unjustifiable damage, with direct impact on the Cuban people's welfare, a statement released here stressed.

The group considered that such a set of measures is a flagrant violation of international law and contradicts the purposes and principles enshrined in the United Nations Charter, a founding treaty of that body.

Additionally, it disturbs regional peace and coexistence, emphasized the text, in which its signatories describe the blockade as absurd, obsolete, illegal and morally unsustainable.

This concerns a strategy that has not complied with, or will comply with the purpose of yielding the Cubans' decision, it is also paradoxical at a time when the two countries' governments are trying to normalize their bilateral relations, based on the premise of full equality and mutual respect, they insisted.

Finally, they stated that the condemnation of that hostile policy is essential to advance in the rapprochement between the two countries, as well as the return of the territory illegally occupied by the U.S. Naval Base in Guantanamo, and the radio and television broadcasts promoted from the United States against Cuba.

On December 17, 2014, Havana and Washington agreed to begin a process aimed at the gradual restoration of bilateral ties, as a result of which they decided to reopen their embassies in both capitals, a first step towards the normalization of diplomatic ties.