

The US allocates USD 800,000 to interfering program against Cuba

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The announcement was made last Thursday by the State Department Bureau of Western Hemisphere's Affairs, three days after the US president, Barack Obama, visited Havana. The announcement foresees a program of "community practice" with a budget of USD 753,989.

The news was firstly reported by the digital website *Along the Malecon*, managed by US journalist Tracey Eaton, reproduced in some other national and international media. It exposes the true goal of the State Department, in its search to create "a new mindset" apart from legal institutions in Cuba.

The main target of such program, according to a call made public few days ago, is "to support Cuban youth in a 2-4 months program for their professional development that includes a specialized training to help them implementing action plans for non-governmental community activities in Cuba".

The proposed program notes: "selected young professionals between 20 and 35 years old, and university students will be taken to the United States. They will be taught about the US democracy and they will be allowed to implement action plans once they returned to Cuba".

The proposal also adds that "these young people will model an effective leadership within the civil society that are responsible before the people. They will promote the participation of the community, the diversity of media, and democratic principles in Cuba".

The US president, in his speech delivered in Havana, said that "the United States has neither the capacity nor the intention to impose change on Cuba. What changes come will depend upon the Cuban people. We will not impose our political or economic system on you. We recognize that every country, every people

must chart its own course and shape its own model”.

The new measure implemented by the State Department refutes, or at least denies Obama’s statements, expressed at the Grand Theater of Havana last March 22.

In a recent article published by *Weekly Progress*, edited in Miami, it was stated that this new strategy designed at the State Department “looks suspiciously like a Trojan Horse, full of danger and threats to undermine everything Cubans and Americans are doing to facilitate their reconciliation efforts”.

It is noteworthy that the plan is focused on the Helms-Burton Act, an extraterritorial legislation that worsens the economical, commercial, and financial blockade imposed by the US to Cuba for more than half a century.

According to the text of the summoning launched by the State Department Bureau of Western Hemisphere’s Affairs, this criminal law approved by the US Congress in 1996, “intends to help and support independent individuals and NGOs so they can back the efforts to build a democracy in Cuba”.

In his speech in Havana, Obama commented that even though some suggested he asked people in Cuba to destroy much of their achievements, he insisted that “young people of Cuba who will lift something up, build something new”.

Cuba’s future must be in the hands of Cuban people! Obama emphasized last March 22. But now the State Department shows Obama’s words had a hidden message. Plans of political destabilization in Cuba’s civil society still have total validity in Washington.

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