

President Joseph R. Biden, Jr.

The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

December 5th, 2024

On October 30th, for the 32nd consecutive year, the United Nations General Assembly overwhelmingly condemned the U.S. embargo on Cuba. Once again, the global community stood in near-unanimous solidarity with the Cuban people, recognizing that this decades-long policy is not only cruel and dated but also in direct violation of international law.

Today, Cuba faces an unprecedented humanitarian crisis. Widespread power outages, severe food shortages, and an overwhelmed healthcare system have brought daily life to a breaking point. This hardship has been intensified by recent hurricanes and earthquakes, which have only added to the urgency of the crisis, leaving countless Cubans even more vulnerable. Much of this suffering is further compounded by the Trump administration's last-minute designation of Cuba as a State Sponsor of Terrorism.

We urge you, President Biden, to take the first step in removing Cuba from the SSOT list and to ease the additional sanctions imposed during the previous administration. These measures restrict Cuba's access to essential financial resources, deepening the island's economic struggles. Lifting Cuba from the SSOT list and easing these punitive sanctions would be bold, necessary steps toward reversing these harmful policies and rekindling the diplomatic spirit we saw during the Obama years.

Additionally, we call on you to send humanitarian aid to Cuba without delay. With recent natural disasters worsening conditions on the island, essential aid such as food, medicine, and medical supplies is urgently needed to alleviate the suffering of ordinary Cubans. By facilitating the delivery of humanitarian aid, the United States can demonstrate compassion and a commitment to human rights, even amidst political disagreements.

Under your leadership, there is an opportunity to revive and expand this engagement, to restore a spirit of compassion and cooperation that was warmly welcomed by both nations. By taking these initial steps—removing Cuba from the SSOT list, easing sanctions, and facilitating humanitarian aid—you can demonstrate a commitment to progress, diplomacy, and a more just world.

The embargo is more than a failed policy—it is a moral injustice and a violation of international law. Every day it continues, ordinary Cubans suffer from preventable food shortages, inadequate medical supplies, and worsening economic conditions. For over 60 years, the embargo has blocked the flow of essential goods and services, and Americans from all walks of life are calling for change.

With the added urgency of recent hurricanes and earthquakes, along with the potential return to Trump-era policies, we implore you, President Biden, to act now. Take the first step to remove Cuba from the State Sponsors of Terrorism list, ease the sanctions imposed during the previous administration, send humanitarian aid to Cuba, and take immediate steps to end the embargo once and for all. The time for change is long overdue, and we are ready to build a future of solidarity and mutual respect with the Cuban people.

Signed,

Elected Officials

- Jabari Brisport – New York State Senator, District 25
- Brad Hoylman-Sigal – New York State Senator, District 47
- Julia Salazar – New York State Senator, District 18
- Claire Valdez – New York State Assemblymember, District 37
- Phara Souffrant Forrest – New York State Assemblymember, District 57
- Zohran Mamdani – New York State Assemblymember, District 36
- Emily Gallagher – New York State Assemblymember, District 50
- Sarahana Shrestha – New York State Assemblymember, District 103
- Jessica González-Rojas – New York State Assemblymember, District 34
- Marcela Mitaynes – New York State Assemblymember, District 51
- Harvey Epstein – New York State Assemblymember, District 74
- Amanda Farías – Majority Leader, NYC Council Member, District 18
- Alexa Avilés – NYC Council Member, District 38
- Carmen De La Rosa – NYC Council Member, District 10
- Shahana Hanif – NYC Council Member, District 39
- Tiffany Cabán – NYC Council Member, District 22
- Althea Stevens – NYC Council Member, District 16
- Nantasha M. Williams – NYC Council Member, District 27
- Kevin C. Riley – NYC Council Member, District 13
- Chi Ossé – NYC Council Member, District 36
- Pierina Sanchez – NYC Council Member, District 14
- Jennifer Gutierrez – NYC Council Member, District 34
- Sandy Nurse – NYC Council Member, District 37
- Anthony Beckford – Honorable District Leader, 43rd Assembly District, NY
- Charles Barron – Former NYC Councilmember and former NYS Assemblymember
- Sandra Pappas – Minnesota State Senator, SD 65
- Robin Wonsley – Minneapolis City Council, Ward 2
- Jeremiah Ellison – Minneapolis City Councilmember, Ward 5
- Erika Uyterhoeven – Massachusetts State Representative, 27th District

- Zac Bears – Medford, MA City Council President
 - Jivan Sobrinho-Wheeler – City Councillor, Cambridge, MA (At-Large)
 - Willie Burnley Jr – City Councilor At-Large, Somerville, MA
 - JT Scott – City Councilor, Ward 2, Somerville, MA
 - Mitch Green – City Councilor-Elect, District 4, Portland, OR
 - Konstantine Anthony – City Councilmember, Burbank, CA
 - Hugo Soto-Martinez – Los Angeles City Councilmember, District 13
 - Richie Floyd – St Petersburg City Council Member, District 8
 - Gabriel Acevero – Maryland State Delegate, District 39
 - Byron Sigcho Lopez – Alderman of the 25th Ward, Chicago, IL
 - Anthony Quezada – Cook County Commissioner, 8th District, IL
 - Nate Baker – City Council, City of Durham, NC
 - Danny Nowell – Mayor Pro-Tem, Carrboro, NC
 - Miguel Sanchez – City Councilor, Providence, RI
 - Tanya Vyhovsky – Vermont State Senator, Chittenden Central
 - Gabriel Sanchez – Georgia State House Candidate, District 42
 - Zayid Muhammad – Lead Organizer, NJ Congressional District 10
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Labor Unions & Labor Leaders

- International Union, UAW
- United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers of America (UE)
- Professional Staff Congress-CUNY
- Committee of Interns & Residents, SEIU
- Fresno-Madera-Tulare-Kings Counties Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO
- Seattle Chapter, Asian Pacific American Alliance (APALA), AFL-CIO
- SEIU Local #73
- Sacramento Central Labor Council
- Dr. Brima Sylla – Vice President, Amazon Labor Union IBT
- Ali Fuhrman – President, AFSCME Local 2822, Hennepin County
- Omari Hoover – AFSCME Local 2822, Executive Board at Large, Hennepin County
- Anica Walls – President, Public Sector Employees of California, SEIU Local1000
- Maxwell Vast – President, AFSCME UMN, Local 3800
- Jason Newman – President, Los Rios College Federation of Teachers AFT 2279
- Kevin J. Kucera – Area Director Business Representative, Machinists Automotive Trades District Lodge No. 190, IAMAW AFL-CIO
- Juan Flores – Laundry Division Director, Western State Regional Joint Board of Workers United

- Lorenzo Canizares – Co-Chair, Labor Community Alliance of South Florida
 - Niciele Marques – Lead Organizer, Western State Regional Joint Board of Workers United
 - Maria Rivera – Regional Manager and Vice President, Western State Regional Joint Board of Workers United
 - Camila Reivera – Union Organizer, Western State Regional Joint Board of Workers United
 - Evelyn Zepeda – Organizing Director, Western State Regional Joint Board of Workers United
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Partner Organizations and Advocates

- A Legacy of Equality Leadership and Organizing (LELO)
- Against Blockade Miami
- Americas Media Initiative
- Americans for Common Sense on Cuba (ACSC) Organizing Committee
- Baltimore Peace Action
- Baltimore, MD Phil Berrigan Memorial Veterans For Peace
- Berkeley Rent Board
- Biso People
- Building Relations with Cuban Labor
- Casa de las Américas
- Central Florida Jobs with Justice
- Chicago ALBA Solidarity
- Chicago Cuba Coalition
- CODEPINK
- Cuba Companionship Ministry, Episcopal Diocese of Florida
- Cuba Partnership Team
- CubaSi Coalition
- Detroit Union Education League
- DSA Cuba Solidarity
- East Bay CodePink
- Elombe Brath Foundation
- Family Farm Defenders
- First Presbyterian Church, Buffalo, NY
- Fox Valley Citizens for Peace & Justice
- Friends of Latin America
- Global Health Partners
- Greater New Haven (CT) Peace Council

- Green Cities Fund, Inc.
- International Action Center - IACenter.org
- Jemez Peacemakers
- July 26th Coalition
- Latin America Task Force of Interfaith Council for Peace & Justice
- Latin America Working Group
- Los Angeles Hands off Cuba Committee
- Mennonite Central Committee U.S.
- Minnesota Interfaith Coalition on Immigration
- National Network on Cuba
- New York Peace Council
- Nicaragua Solidarity Coalition Coordinating Committee
- NorCal Resist
- Old Cambridge Baptist Church, Cambridge, MA
- Operation P.O.W.E.R.
- Oxford Citizens for Peace & Justice
- Our Alternatives
- Peace Action of San Mateo County
- Peace Coalition of Southern Illinois
- Pittsburgh-Matanzas Sister Cities Partnership, Pittsburgh, PA
- Portland End the Blockade of Cuba Committee
- Robert M. Bell Center for Civil Rights in Education
- SanctionsKill/Americas Without Sanctions
- Solidarity Committee on the Americas - Minnesota
- Southsiders For Peace, Chicago
- Task Force on the Americas
- The Institute of Studies on Conflicts and Humanitarian Action (IECAH)
- The People's Forum
- Unidad Latina en Acción
- US Women and Cuba Collaboration
- Venceremos Brigade
- Veterans For Peace