

I am Cuba

Newsletter of the Cuban Embassy to the Kingdom of Belgium,
the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and Mission to the European Union.

Congratulations Commander

Points of special interest

- Member of the European Parliament urges the EU to strengthen actions against US blockade to Cuba
- Campaña "oxígeno para Cuba"
- Commemoration of the Independence of Venezuela
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On the 94th birthday of Fidel, all medias served to pay him a tribute with a video gathering the testimonies of the staff at the Cuban Embassy to the Kingdom of Belgium, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and Mission to the European Union. The audiovisual, filmed as an initiative of the Embassy's personnel, highlighted the relevance of Fidel Castro's legacy, as well as the presence of his political ideals in our day-by-day work. Although the pandemic stopped us from gathering friends from Solidarity movements, Cuban residents and the Diplomatic Corps accredited to Brussels, nothing prevented us from showing our gratitude and love for the historical leader of the Cuban Revolution.

In his 94th anniversary, we ratify that Fidel lives in the heart and in the thoughts of millions of persons believing and fighting for a better world under his devise:

Hasta la Victoria Siempre!

Member of the European Parliament urges the EU to strengthen actions against US blockade to Cuba



MEP from Spain, Mr. Javier Moreno, urged the European Union to strengthen actions against the blockade imposed by the United States to Cuba, intensified during the health crisis generated by the pandemic of Coronavirus SARS-CoV-2.

The president of the Group of Friendship and Solidarity with Cuba at the European Parliament's 9th Legislative session underlined on his Tweeter account that "In the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic, the EU must strive to put an end to the blockade and the suffocation towards Cuba".

With this declaration, Mr. Moreno complemented a declaration issued by the group to denounce the economic, commercial and financial siege imposed by Washington to the island, qualified in the text as a flagrant, systematic and massive violation of Human Rights.

MEP Javier Moreno also specified: "As members of the Group of Friendship and Solidarity with Cuba, we raise our voices against this blockade that has been in place for over six decades, and it's responsible for incalculable humanitarian damages".

The declaration, previously circulated amongst the MEPs, emphasizes that sanctions imposed to Cuba by the United States are the main obstacle to economic development of the Caribbean country. The text also specifies that they affect dialogs and cooperation and prevents from actually knowing the Cuban reality.

To illustrate the impact of this measures, the parliamentarians cited the example of a recent virtual forum with the President of the Commission for Health and Sports at the Cuban Parliament, Ms. Estela Cristina Luna and members of the Cuban medical brigade that participated on the campaign against Covid-19 in Italy. The meeting was supposed to be held through the online platform Webex, but regulations derived from the blockade impeached the exchange on the current situation of the pandemic in Cuba.

MEPs of the Groupe of Friendship and Solidarity with Cuba reaffirmed their call to put an end to the blockade and called upon the EU "to denounce this criminal policy and to promote dialog, cooperation, political transparency and mutual understanding".

New campaign in Belgium to reject blockade imposed to Cuba



“The campaign “Oxygen for Cuba” shows the rejection of Belgian citizens to the U.S blockade against the United States blockade to Cuba” – declared Wym Leysens, one of the promoters of the initiative, after having listened to the testimonies of some of the victims of this policy.

The representative of the Belgian Coordination against the blockade to Cuba, a movement responsible for the launching of this campaign by the end of April, underlined as well that the feelings of the Belgians go from compassion and solidarity to repudiation.

Oxygen for Cuba gives voice to the inhabitants of the Caribbean island through videos in which they talk about lived experiences under the economic, commercial and financial siege imposed to the island for over 60 years, and intensified, even during this pandemic of Covid-19, by the current U.S Administration.

“The website <https://noalbloqueo.be/> already gathers over 100 messages, a number that could seem poor. However, we must consider it is not a signing petition but a space to express your opinion, which demands a higher commitment” – explained Leysens.

According to the activist of solidarity with Cuba, although this campaign can already be considered successful, it will continue until celebration of the General Assembly of the United Nations vote for the resolution presented by Cuba, on the necessity to put an end to the American blockade.

Furthermore, Leysens stated that this campaign shows recognition to the Caribbean island, for its solidarity with other nations when fighting the pandemic of Covid-19, even when the United States deepen the sanctions.

“Cuba is setting a world example of solidarity”- he underlined.

Through testimonies, Cuban citizens shared with the audience the hard experiences of living under a permanent siege:

“For me, the Blockade leads to difficulties with public transportation, troubles to buy food and other supplies or materials to work. The blockade keeps us in constant uncertainty.”

(Teresa, activist of the LGBTI community)

“If stores are empty, it’s not our fault, the government of the United States is”.

(Annia, Fashion designer)

Amongst the messages from Belgian citizens published on the webpage dedicated to Oxygen for Cuba you can find Sjoerd’s, qualifying the blockade as a crime against humankind, or Marc’s who calls for an end on inhumane sanctions in these difficult times.

Commemoration of the Independence of Venezuela in Brussels



In front of the statue of Simón Bolívar, El Libertador, located at the intersection of the Avenues F.D Roosevelt and Venezuela, members of different solidarity and political organizations as well as those of the diplomatic corps accredited to Belgium gathered to commemorate the 209th Anniversary of the Independence of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

The Cuban delegation to this important celebration for the American Continent was presided by HE. Ms. Norma Goicochea Estenoz, Ambassador of the Republic of Cuba.

After the wreath-laying ceremony, the Ambassador of the Republic of Venezuela, Ms. Claudia Salerno Caldera affirmed that despite all the aggressions endured by the Homeland of Chávez and Bolívar, the Venezuelan people will raise in victory. Ambassador Salerno also stated that Venezuela will follow the example of the Cuban Revolution, whose resistance for over 60 years has been a source of inspiration.

Following the signature of the Act of Independence of Venezuela, on July 5th, 1811, several nations of the continent declared their Independence, after years of intense fighting in which Simón Bolívar played a key role.

It's always 26!



On this July 26, 2020, the "Friends of Cuba" reaffirm their solidarity with the struggle of the Cuban people for the development of a socialist society, elected by the vast majority of Cubans, despite the blockade and the aggressions of the United States government.

We especially salute the Cuban health workers for their solidarity with the peoples of the world over the years and for their exemplary role in the struggle against Covid-19 in dozens of countries.

The Friends of Cuba in Belgium reaffirm their call for the Nobel Peace Prize to be awarded to Henry Reeve's contingent, and invite everyone to sign the petition on the subject. Hundreds of associations from dozens of countries have signed the appeal and thousands of signatures support this petition.

Freddy Tack
Vice President "Friends of Cuba"

41st Anniversary of the Nicaraguan Revolution



The Ambassador of the Republic of Cuba to the Kingdom of Belgium, the Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg and Head of Mission to the European Union, Ms. Norma Goicochea Estenoz led the Cuban diplomatic representatives to the celebration of the 41st Anniversary of the Nicaraguan Revolution. The ceremony took place at the Embassy of Nicaragua in Brussels, in presence of other representatives from the Embassy of Venezuela and from solidarity organizations. During her speech, the Cuban Ambassador emphasized on the fraternal links bonding Cuba and Nicaragua, and expressed her conviction that the Nicaraguan Revolution will last for eternity.

Farewell Eusebio

Numerous signs of admiration and respect



Josep Borrell Fontelles ✓
@JosepBorrellF

Cuando los hombres ya no le recuerden, las viejas piedras de La Habana que él rescató del olvido seguirán guardando su recuerdo enamorado. Nadie como Eusebio Leal entendió la relación profunda entre España y Cuba.

Retwitteaste



Javier Moreno Sánchez ✓ @J_MorenoSanchez · 1 ago.

Desde el Grupo de Amistad y Solidaridad con Cuba en @Europarl_ES mandamos un fuerte abrazo a familiares y amigos de Eusebio Leal, el gran historiador q rehabilitó el centro hco de La Habana. Su trabajo y su alma nos seguirán acompañando por las calles de su querida Habana vieja



10:00 a. m. · 1 ago. 2020 · Twitter for Android

Photo gallery



Commemoration of the 209th Anniversary of the Independence of Venezuela in Brussels



Ambassador of Venezuela and Cuba, together with the Ambassador of Nicaragua in Belgium at the celebration of the 41st Anniversary of the Sandinista Revolution

About Us

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Hello,

The aim of our newsletter Soy Cuba is to keep you informed about the main activities related to Cuba's presence in the institutions of the European Union, Belgium and Luxembourg.

It is a joint effort that tries in a pleasant way to make you enjoy this work, with a bimonthly periodicity.

You can find more information on the websites of the Cuban Embassy, as well as on its platforms in the social networks.

We appreciate your comments.

*Greetings,
Editorial Board*



REPRESENTACIONES DIPLOMÁTICAS
DE CUBA EN EL EXTERIOR