

"We are realists...we dream the impossible" - Che
"The truth must not only be the truth...it must also be told" - Fidel



FIRE THIS TIME

Revolutionary Voices

January-February 2025

CUBA WILL WIN IN THE FACE OF THE IMPERIALIST ONSLAUGHT!



Statement by the Revolutionary Government of Cuba

U.S. President Donald Trump has attacked Cuba from day one and without any pretext. The decision to reestablish the ironclad economic war measures against Cuba, which his predecessor eliminated only days before, is a demonstration of the aggressiveness of U.S. imperialism against the sovereignty, peace and well-being of the Cuban population. Among them is the inclusion of our country, once again, in the arbitrary list of States that supposedly sponsor terrorism, a designation that shows an absolute disregard for the truth.

This is not surprising. The statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on January 14 already warned: "The government of that country could reverse in the future the measures adopted today, as has happened on other occasions and as a sign of the lack of legitimacy, ethics, consistency and reason of its conduct against Cuba." He also said that "American politicians do not usually stop to find justification...". This is how the country is governed.

Trump has interpreted his coming to power as the coronation of an emperor. His ambition includes, just to start, the conquest of Canada, the usurpation of Greenland, the renaming of the Gulf of Mexico and the deprivation of the Panamanians of their canal. The hegemonic Monroe Doctrine and Manifest Destiny, which were imposed by blood and fire in Latin America and the Caribbean, are the guide of the new government team.

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From Ceasefire to Palestinian Liberation, the struggle continues!

News of a ceasefire for Gaza is reverberating around the world, after over 467 days of genocide against the steadfast and heroic Palestinian people of Gaza. Pending approval by the Zionist Israeli security cabinet on Thursday January 16, the ceasefire is set to take effect on January 19.

This long-awaited announcement of ceasefire is a great victory and a critical achievement for the Palestinian people on the road to liberation. From ceasefire, we continue our struggle in solidarity and defense of Palestine, demanding an end to the siege on Gaza, an end to attacks and raids on Palestinians in the West Bank, the release of all Palestinian prisoners and most importantly — liberation and self-determination for Palestine.

This ceasefire is a huge defeat for genocidal Zionist Israel and their imperialist collaborators in the US, who have not achieved any of the goals they declared following October 7, 2023. Instead of wiping out Palestinian resistance, the resolve of Palestinians to end the Zionist occupation has been strengthened. In fact, the Palestinian struggle has been reinforced by millions of supporters worldwide and the resistance movement in Lebanon, Yemen, Iraq and Iran. Israel has lost the battle of public opinion, as no amount of Zionist propaganda and imperialist repression could stop the largest and most sustained

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COMEMORATING 10 YEARS OF FREEDOM OF THE CUBAN 5 HEROES

By Tamara Hansen

Thank you to the CNC and NNOC for organizing this special webinar celebrating 10 years since the release of all 5 of our Cuban heroes. I want to start my talk tonight with an excerpt from the book, "Cuba Solidarity in Canada: Five Decades of People-to-People Foreign Relations" (FriesenPress, 2014). Myself and Ali Yerevani, the Political Editor of Fire This Time Newspaper and a founding member of the Free the Cuban 5 Committee in Vancouver, co-wrote chapter 5 on the – at that time – ongoing campaign to Free all 5 of our Cuban heroes:

"The campaign to free the Cuban Five began soon after their arrest; however, it was not until the formation of the Canadian Network on Cuba (CNC), la Table de concertation de solidarité Québec-Cuba (TCSQ-C) and other newly formed regional groups in 2002, that it became an important aspect of solidarity work throughout Canada.

This was kicked off with the CNC sponsored national tour of Aleida Guevara and Irma González in the fall of 2003. Aleida Guevara is the daughter of the legendary revolutionary Ernesto Che Guevara, she is also a pediatrician. Irma González is the daughter of René González, one of the Cuban Five, and at the time of the tour she was just 19 years old. Having the daughter of Che Guevara touring Canada was a creative way to bring attention to the case of the Cuban Five. The two honoured guests visited the country from coast to coast speaking to



them all but to highlight a few, I am, of course, highlighting the campaign from the lens of the work in Canada, which I did a lot of work to document. I apologize to those in the United States who are joining us tonight for the webinar. I know that local, national, and international events across the U.S. were inspiring and important.

The value in reviewing the work is so significant that this victorious campaign needs to inspire us today in building a campaign to remove Cuba from the so-called State Sponsors of Terrorism list and to finally end the US blockade on Cuba!

But how did we get to the victory- a snapshot of the work across Canada?

Letters written by prominent organizations in Canada:

- The Canadian Federation of Students (June 2006)
- MP Francine Lalonde and 55 other members of Canada's Parliament (June 2008)
- In 2011, the Canadian Labour Congress, Canada's largest umbrella organization for dozens of affiliated unions, provincial federations of labour and regional labour councils, passed a resolution in favour of the Cuban 5.

International events for the Cuban 5 in Canada:

- "Breaking the Silence: Solidarity Conference for the Cuban 5." Cuba, US & Canada conference in Toronto (November 2007)

- Toronto hosts another Breaking the Silence conference, "Peoples' Tribunal and Assembly - Justice for the Five." (September 2012)

- International Che Guevara Conference in Vancouver, Canada and late also in Kamloops includes special events for the Cuban 5 (2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012)

Media & Publications:

- In May 2008, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) featured a 13 minute special segment on the case of the Cuban 5. This is a big breakthrough against the mainstream media's wall of silence against this case.

- The important books of two Canadian authors,

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He is associated with the groups and politicians who have made aggression against Cuba a way of life, have profited for decades from the anti-Cuban business and today share the intoxication of the new president. They all have a high responsibility in the difficult economic situation of the country and in the increase of the migratory flow from Cuba to the United States.

This new act of aggression by the United States government against the Cuban people shows, once again, the true, cruel, merciless objective of these and so many other measures of siege and suffocation, which are applied against Cuba for the purpose of domination.

It constitutes a reaction of impotence in the face of the inability to bend our will and in the face of the respect, sympathy and support that the Revolution arouses among the peoples of the world.

The economic blockade, its reinforcement and the new aggressive measures will continue to weigh, with a very damaging effect, on our economy, the standard of living, the potential for development and the legitimate dreams of justice and well-being of the Cuban people, as has been the case in recent years.

They will not divert us from the socialist path, from the effort to recover the economy, from promoting the greatest solidarity, creativity, talent, spirit of work, and from defending as an impregnable bastion the freedom, independence, sovereignty and privilege of building a future without foreign interference.

The Cuban people are grateful for the many expressions of support and solidarity received from all over the world, from governments, Cubans living abroad, parliaments, political, religious and social organizations, and from political figures in the United States and other countries.

No one should be fooled. The Cuban people expressed themselves with clear determination and strength in the march on December 20th. Here the conviction prevails that CUBA WILL WIN!

HOMELAND OR DEATH, WE WILL WIN!

Havana, January 21, 2025

Source: Cubaminrex



Free the Cuban 5 Committee-Vancouver monthly picket actions in front of the United States Consulate

hundreds of people in Halifax, Montréal, Québec, Kingston, Ottawa, Toronto, Hamilton, Kitchener-Waterloo, Niagara, Winnipeg, Vancouver, and Victoria. [...]

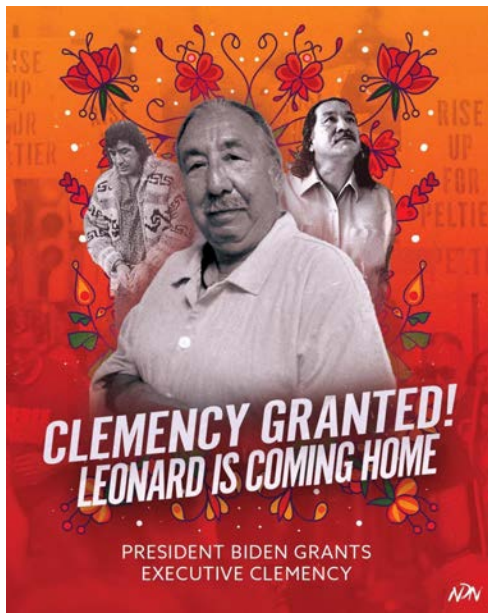
Across Canada Aleida and Irma appealed to all human-loving people to get involved in the campaign for the freedom of the Cuban Five. Many organizations, groups, and individuals around Canada were inspired by these two Cuban women and their appeal for people to roll up their sleeves and get to work."

And get to work we did! From 2003 to 2014, many of us attending this webinar got involved in a dynamic international campaign to free our 5 Cuban heroes: Rene, Ramon, Gerardo, Antonio and Fernando.

There are too many actions and events to cover

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Hey President Trump,
CUBA IS NOT A
'SPONSOR OF
TERRORISM!'
REMOVE
CUBA FROM
YOUR LIST!



By Alison Bodine

"I want to show the world I'm a good person with a good heart. I want to help the people, just like my grandmother taught me." – Leonard Peltier

After serving 49 years unjustly held in U.S. prison, political prisoner Leonard Peltier is finally going home to his family and community! In the final hours of his Presidency, on January 20, 2025 Joe Biden commuted, not pardoned, Leonard Peltier's life-sentence. Biden's last-minute clemency means that Leonard will be released from prison, but that he will have to serve out the rest of his life-sentence confined in his home.

Leonard Peltier, who is from the Dakota and Ojibwe nations, was a leading activist in the American Indian Movement (AIM). On June 26, 1975, Leonard was involved in an FBI orchestrated shoot-out on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota which resulted in the deaths of two FBI agents and a young Indigenous man named Joseph Stuntz. After the shootout Leonard fled to Canada, and the government of Canada was also complicit in the grave injustices faced by Leonard Peltier. On orders of the U.S., Leonard was arrested by the RCMP in Alberta in February 1976 and later extradited to the U.S. based on falsified documents submitted by the FBI. In 1977, Leonard was framed up and convicted of the death of the FBI agents by a racist and prejudiced court in a trial fraught with inconsistencies and what was later proven to be false testimony and evidence. No one was ever charged or convicted with the death of Joseph Stuntz.

Despite the proof of his innocence, Leonard Peltier was denied a new trial and repeatedly denied parole, most recently in July 2024.

At 80 years old, and suffering from ill-health brought on by neglect and mistreatment in the U.S. prison system, President Biden's last-minute clemency is not full justice for Leonard Peltier, but it is an important victory.

His release is a victory for the people around the world that have fought for more than four decades for his freedom. After years of organizing rallies, marches, letter writing campaigns,

LEONARD PELTIER IS FREE!

A BIG VICTORY FOR THE WORKING CLASS!

lobbying actions and more, the pressure on the Biden Administration finally led to his clemency. The recent actions for Leonard's Freedom were bolstered by the support of notable fighters for justice such as Nobel Peace Prize recipient Rigoberta Menchu and Nelson Mandela, as well as hundreds of celebrities and artists such as Robert Redford, Jason Momoa, Mark Ruffalo, Bonnie Raitt, Roger Waters and Jackson Brown and international bodies such as the UN's Working Group on Arbitrary Detention.

Leonard's release is a victory for all poor, working and oppressed people. At the time of his arrest, he was a leader in the movement in defense of Indigenous rights. From within prison, despite the tremendous injustices and difficulties he faced behind bars, he continued his struggle for social justice and the right of Indigenous people to self-determination.

The 49 year-long imprisonment of Leonard Peltier, who is also a survivor of the Indian boarding school system, represented the injustice against Indigenous people committed by the U.S. state – and his release from prison is a step towards justice.

At the time of his release, Leonard was the longest held political prisoner in the U.S., but now it is revolutionary Mumia Abu-Jamal who is coming closer each year to holding that horrible title. Mumia, an activist for Black liberation, has been unjustly imprisoned for nearly 44 years for the killing of a Philadelphia police officer, a crime he did not commit.

Mumia and hundreds of political prisoners remain behind bars in the U.S., people from the Black, Puerto Rican, Latino and other liberation movements that are persecuted and imprisoned for defending the rights of oppressed people. With Leonard safe and at home, our struggle continues to free them all!

As Leonard Peltier said in a reflection he wrote in 2015, "Justice is not a flexible tool. Unless we all do our part to ensure that justice is applied equally to all human beings, we are a party to its abuse. We must stand together to protect the rights of others"

The Struggle Continues!
Free Mumia Abu Jamal!
Free All U.S. Political Prisoners!

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worldwide protest movement in human history. Instead of securing the Israeli captives, the Israeli Zionist regime has bombed and killed their own people, and Netanyahu has turned public opinion in Israel against their own government. Most importantly, the false invincibility of the Zionist state has been shattered, as even genocide of Palestinians cannot secure a state built on the occupation of Palestinian lands.

While Zionist Israel intensifies a campaign of maximum death and destruction in Gaza before the planned ceasefire takes effect on January 19, we must remember this genocidal regime is not acting alone. The bloodshed inflicted now, the daily war crimes and crimes against humanity in the last 16 months, and the last 76 years of brutal occupation of Palestine have been carried out with direct support, participation and direction from the US government. The bombs dropped on Gaza for over 467 days, the fighter jets which today, on January 15, launched airstrikes on Jenin in West Bank, the tank shells that are embedded in the wall of Gaza's hospitals — are made in the US, Canada, England, Germany and other imperialist countries. The US government is responsible for the deaths of an estimated 335,500 Palestinians in Gaza, according to The Lancet medical journal, including entire families, children, mothers and fathers, journalists and health care professionals. Zionist Israel could not commit this genocide, and even the Israeli Zionist state could not exist without the funding, arming and political support of US imperialists and their allies.

No matter the outcomes or terms of the ceasefire, the task of activists and supporters of Palestinian liberation worldwide remains the same. The heroic Palestinian people have shown us that in the fight for justice and self-determination, we must always continue forward. From ceasefire to liberation, we will continue our struggle for Palestine and we will win!

Free Palestine!
 End the Genocide NOW!
 End the Siege on Gaza Now!
 Release all Palestinian Prisoners!
 End the Occupation Now!
 Self-Determination for Palestine!





VENEZUELA SOLIDARITY NETWORK

VENEZUELASOLIDARITYNETWORK.ORG

Nicolas Maduro will be sworn in by Venezuela's National Assembly for a new term as president on January 10 following the July 28 presidential election.

The election results, as announced by Venezuela's National Electoral Council (CNE) and confirmed by the Supreme Court (TSJ), have been contested by opposition candidate Edmundo González. His claim is based on the publication of voting results posted on a private website. Gonzalez refused to present his evidence to the TSJ, leaving Venezuelans no constitutionally mandated means for recognizing his alleged victory even if it were valid.

In advance of the election, the U.S. had announced that regardless of the vote count, if Maduro won, they would not recognize his victory. Accordingly, the U.S. anointed opposition figure Edmundo Gonzalez as Washington's choice for president-elect. Now in voluntary exile in Spain, Gonzalez has said he will travel back to Venezuela to be sworn in himself, raising the fear of outside interference.

The opposition's radical program – privatization of public education, health care, and welfare, along with reorienting the country's foreign policy in favor of the U.S./Zionist genocidal war on the Palestinians – could not be achieved by anything short of extra-parliamentary means.

For years, Washington has pursued a strategy of regime change in Venezuela. The U.S. has waged a hybrid war of unilateral coercive measures (so-called illegal "sanctions"), coup attempts, and diplomatic machinations such as recognizing a parallel government to the constitutional one in Caracas. These actions have caused immense suffering for the Venezuelan people, limiting access to food, medicine and basic services. From 2017-2018 alone, U.S. sanctions on Venezuela killed an estimated 40,000 people.

The U.S. worked to undermine the elections in corporate and social media. Since the election, Washington has imposed new sanctions on dozens of Venezuelan officials, because they have recognized the re-election of President Maduro, the findings of Venezuela's own constitutional institutions. The U.S. also seized a presidential plane, re-tightened oil sanctions, and threatened to withdraw existing oil licenses. The House of Representatives recently passed the offensively named "BOLIVAR Act," codifying existing sanctions.

Meanwhile, the Venezuelan government has warned of multiple threats posed by those intent on fomenting instability and chaos in Venezuela. Over the past months, authorities have arrested

active-duty foreign soldiers and mercenaries, including U.S. citizens. They have seized weapons shipments and uncovered plots involving drug cartels and armed gangs. There have been successful and foiled acts of sabotage on energy infrastructure throughout the country. This U.S.-backed violence is an attempt to undermine Venezuela's electoral process and overthrow the government of Nicolás Maduro.

As we get closer to the January 10 inauguration, the threats against the people of Venezuela's independence and sovereignty are growing, further jeopardizing the region's stability and Venezuela's right to self determination. Erik Prince, the warmonger of Blackwater infamy, launched a crowdsourcing campaign to raise funds to form a military force to oust President Maduro. Edmundo Gonzalez recently posted on social media: "You can't go to war with fear. January 10 has already begun."

We reject these threats of war and we reject the imposition of new sanctions. The Venezuelan people must be allowed to determine their own path without outside interference. We call on people around the world to join us in increasing our united efforts to end U.S.-led sanctions, threats and interference in Venezuela's internal affairs.

**Hands off Venezuela!
Lift all sanctions against Venezuela!**

January 7, 2025

The Venezuela Solidarity Network is a new North America-based network of organizations and individuals working to defend Venezuela's sovereignty and self-determination against US government-led sanctions and attacks.

More info: www.venezuelasolidaritynetwork.org

List of Initial Signers Lista de Firmantes iniciales

- Alberto Lovera Bolivarian Circle, NYC, United States
- Alliance du Peuple pour Congo Libre et Souverain [APCLS], Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Bronx Anti-War Coalition, United States
- Chicago ALBA Solidarity, United States
- CODEPINK, United States
- Congo Love, Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Cuba and the Bolivarian Alliance Committee, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF-US), United States
- Fire This Time Movement for Social Justice, Canada
- Frente Hugo Chavez- Vancouver, Canada
- Friends of Latin America, United States
- International Action Center, United States
- Just Peace Advocates/Mouvement Pour Une Paix Juste, Canada
- Ligue des Femmes de L'Uds, Democratic Republic of the Congo
- National Lawyers Guild International Committee, United States
- Nicaragua Solidarity Coalition, United States
- Orinoco Tribune, Venezuela
- Parti Communiste Congolais, Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Revolutionary Communist Group (Fight Racism Fight Imperialism), Britain
- Rock Around the Blockade, Britain
- San Jose Against War, United States
- SanctionsKill Campaign, United States
- Task Force On the Americas, United States
- The Louis Riel Bolivarian Circle of Toronto, Canada
- Union de la Jeunesse de L'Uds, Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Union Des Democratos Socialistes, Democratic Republic of the Congo
- United National Antiwar Coalition (UNAC), United States
- US Women and Cuba Collaboration, United States
- Vancouver Communities in Solidarity with Cuba (VCSC), Canada
- Vermont Peace AntiWar Coalition, United States
- Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Vermont Branch, United States
- Workers World Party/Partido Mundo Obrero, United States
- Youth Action Hub Guinea, Republic of Guinea

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Carta abierta en defensa de la soberanía y autodeterminación de Venezuela

Nicolás Maduro será juramentado por la Asamblea Nacional de Venezuela para un nuevo mandato como presidente el 10 de enero, después de las elecciones presidenciales del 28 de julio.

Los resultados de las elecciones, anunciados por el Consejo Nacional Electoral (CNE) de Venezuela y confirmados por el Tribunal Supremo de Justicia (TSJ), han sido impugnados por el candidato de la oposición Edmundo González. Su afirmación se basa en la publicación de los resultados de la votación en un sitio web privado. González se negó a presentar su evidencia al TSJ, lo que deja a los venezolanos sin los medios constitucionalmente establecidos para reconocer su presunta victoria, incluso si fuera válida.

Antes de las elecciones, el gobierno de los Estados Unidos había anunciado que, independientemente del conteo de los votos, si Maduro ganaba, no reconocerían su victoria. En consecuencia, Estados Unidos ungió al opositor Edmundo González como la opción de Washington para presidente electo. Ahora en exilio voluntario en España, González ha dicho que viajará de regreso a Venezuela para ser juramentado, lo que aumenta el temor a la interferencia externa.

El programa radical de la oposición –privatización de la educación pública, la atención médica y la asistencia social, junto con la reorientación de la política exterior del país a favor de la guerra genocida estadounidense/sionista contra el pueblo palestino– no podía lograrse sino por medios extraparlamentarios.

Durante años, Washington ha seguido una estrategia de cambio de régimen en Venezuela. Estados Unidos ha librado una guerra híbrida de medidas coercitivas unilaterales (las llamadas “sanciones” ilegales), intentos de golpe de estado y maquinaciones diplomáticas como el reconocimiento de un gobierno paralelo al constitucional de Caracas. Estas acciones han causado un inmenso sufrimiento al pueblo venezolano, limitando el acceso a alimentos, medicinas y servicios básicos. Solo entre 2017 y 2018, las sanciones estadounidenses a Venezuela causaron la muerte de unas 40.000 personas.

Estados Unidos trabajó para socavar las elecciones en los medios corporativos y sociales. Desde las elecciones, Washington ha impuesto nuevas sanciones a decenas de funcionarios venezolanos, porque ha reconocido la reelección del presidente Maduro y las conclusiones de las propias instituciones constitucionales de Venezuela. Estados Unidos también confiscó un avión presidencial, volvió a endurecer las sanciones petroleras y amenazó con retirar las licencias petroleras existentes. La Cámara de Representantes de EEUU aprobó recientemente un proyecto de ley con un nombre insultante, la “Ley BOLIVAR”, que codifica las sanciones existentes.

Mientras tanto, el gobierno venezolano ha denunciado las múltiples amenazas de quienes intentan fomentar la inestabilidad y el caos en Venezuela. En los últimos meses, las autoridades venezolanas han arrestado a soldados y mercenarios

extranjeros en servicio activo, incluidos ciudadanos estadounidenses. Han confiscado de armas y descubiertos de complots que involucran a cárteles de la droga y bandas armadas. Ha habido actos de sabotaje exitosos y frustrados contra la infraestructura energética en todo el país. Esta violencia, respaldada por Estados Unidos, es un intento de socavar el proceso electoral de Venezuela y derrocar al gobierno de Nicolás Maduro.



A medida que se acerca la toma de posesión del 10 de enero, las amenazas contra la independencia y soberanía del pueblo venezolano aumentan, poniendo en peligro aún más la estabilidad de la región y el derecho de Venezuela a la autodeterminación. Erik Prince, el belicista de la infame Blackwater, lanzó una campaña de crowdsourcing para recaudar fondos para formar una fuerza militar para derrocar al presidente Maduro. Edmundo González publicó recientemente en las redes sociales: “Con miedo no se va a la guerra. El 10E Ya comenzó”.

Rechazamos estas amenazas de guerra y rechazamos la imposición de nuevas sanciones. Se debe permitir que el pueblo venezolano determine su propio camino sin interferencia externa. Hacemos un llamamiento a las personas de todo el mundo para que se unan a nosotros en el aumento de nuestros esfuerzos unidos para poner fin a las sanciones, amenazas e interferencias lideradas por Estados Unidos en los asuntos internos de Venezuela.

¡Manos fuera de Venezuela!

¡Que se eliminen todas las sanciones contra Venezuela!

7 de enero de 2025

La lista de firmantes iniciales está en la página anterior número 4

La Red de Solidaridad con Venezuela es una nueva red de organizaciones e individuos con sede en América del Norte que trabajan para defender la soberanía y la autodeterminación de Venezuela contra las sanciones y ataques liderados por el gobierno de Estados Unidos.

Más información:
www.venezuelasolidaritynetwork.org



Continued from page 2

Keith Bolender and Stephen Kimber, both highlighting the injustice of this case.

Participation in International Days of Action:

- Every year, from September 12 to October 6 groups worldwide take on actions for Cuba 5. September 12, 1998, is the date of their imprisonment. October 6, 1976, is the date of the bombing of the Cuban airliner.

- In September 2008, groups across Canada and around the world marked 10 years of unjust imprisonment for the 5 Cuban heroes. In Vancouver, there is a special poetry contest held

Monthly Picket actions were held in Vancouver, Ottawa, Montreal, Perth, and Kiev, along with dozens of other cities that joined when possible.

Poetry and art contests

Speaking tours of amazing international and Cuba guests

Passing union resolutions

- Federation of Post-Secondary Educators (FPSE)

- BC Teachers Federation (BCTF)

- United Steelworkers Union (USW)

Sept 2013 Yellow Ribbon Campaign

THE WORK OF THE FREE THE CUBAN 5 COMMITTEE-VANCOUVER & VANCOUVER COMMUNITIES IN SOLIDARITY WITH CUBA

In December 2005, the Free the Cuban 5 Committee-Vancouver began a campaign of monthly picket actions in front of the United States Consulate demanding freedom for the Cuban 5. The 100th monthly picket action takes place in March 2014. The 109th picket action was on December 5, then the 110th final picket for the Cuban 5 was called on the morning of December 17, 2014, when we found out that ALL the Cuban 5 had been released from U.S. jails and were back with their families in Cuba!

It was clear to the organizers of the Free the Cuban 5 Committee-Vancouver & Vancouver Communities in Solidarity with Cuba that in order to build the political pressure needed to make this case a real issue in Canadian and American politics. Make this a kitchen table discussion. Nevertheless, we could not have achieved high visibility and effectiveness in Canada without the help of the Canadian Network on Cuba (CNC) and its more than twenty member groups that were part of a huge campaign for the freedom of Cuban Five Heroes.

In Vancouver alone, from July 2003 to December 2014, we organized more than 300 different actions and events. This means between 2 and 3 Cuban 5 campaign activities each month. This does not include participation in dozens of events and activities in the U.S. and internationally, including Cuba.

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FRENTE A LA ARREMETIDA IMPERIALISTA, CUBA VENCERÁ

Declaración del Gobierno Revolucionario de Cuba

Arremete el presidente estadounidense Donald Trump contra Cuba desde el primer día y sin ningún pretexto. La decisión de restablecer las férreas medidas de guerra económica contra Cuba, que su predecesor eliminó solo días antes, es demostración de la agresividad del imperialismo estadounidense contra la soberanía, la paz y el bienestar de la población cubana. Entre ellas está la inclusión de nuestro país, nuevamente, en la lista arbitraria de Estados que supuestamente patrocinan el terrorismo, designación que evidencia un desprecio absoluto a la verdad.



Esto no sorprende. La declaración del Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores del 14 de enero ya advertía: “que el gobierno de ese país podría revertir en el futuro las medidas hoy adoptadas, como ha ocurrido en otras ocasiones y como muestra de la falta de legitimidad, ética, consistencia y razón de su conducta contra Cuba”. También afirmó que “los políticos estadounidenses no suelen detenerse en encontrar justificación...”. Así se gobierna en ese país.

Trump ha interpretado su llegada al poder como la coronación de un emperador. Su ambición abarca, solo para empezar, la conquista de Canadá, la usurpación de Groenlandia, el cambio de nombre del Golfo de México y el despojo a los panameños de su canal. La hegemónica Doctrina Monroe y el Destino Manifiesto, que a golpe de sangre y fuego se impusieron en América Latina y el Caribe, son la guía del nuevo equipo de gobierno.

A él se asocian los grupos y políticos que han hecho de la agresión a Cuba un modo de vida, han lucrado durante décadas del negocio anticubano y comparten hoy la embriaguez del nuevo mandatario. Todos tienen una alta responsabilidad en la difícil situación económica del país y en el aumento del flujo migratorio de Cuba hacia los Estados Unidos.

Este nuevo acto de agresión del gobierno de Estados Unidos contra el pueblo cubano muestra, una vez más, el objetivo verdadero, cruel, despiadado de estas y tantas otras medidas de cerco y asfixia, que con fines de dominación se aplican contra Cuba. Constituye la reacción de impotencia frente a la incapacidad de doblegar nuestra voluntad y ante el respeto, simpatía y apoyo que concita la Revolución entre los pueblos del mundo.

El bloqueo económico, su reforzamiento y las nuevas medidas agresivas continuarán pesando, con efecto muy dañino, sobre nuestra economía, el nivel de vida, las potencialidades de desarrollo y legítimos sueños de justicia y bienestar del pueblo cubano, como ha sido en los últimos años.

No nos van a desviar del rumbo socialista, del empeño en recuperar la economía, de fomentar la mayor solidaridad, creatividad, talento, espíritu de trabajo, y de defender como un bastión inexpugnable la libertad, la independencia, la soberanía y el privilegio de construir un futuro sin injerencia extranjera.

El pueblo de Cuba agradece las múltiples expresiones de respaldo y solidaridad recibidas de todas partes del mundo, de gobiernos, cubanos residentes en el exterior, parlamentos, organizaciones políticas, religiosas, sociales y de figuras políticas de Estados Unidos y de otros países.

Nadie debe llamarse a engaño. El pueblo cubano se expresó con clara determinación y fuerza en la marcha del pasado 20 de diciembre. Aquí prevalece la convicción de que CUBA VENCERÁ.

PATRIA O MUERTE, VENCEREMOS.

La Habana, 21 de enero de 2025

(Cubaminrex)

Continued from page 5

DEC 17, 2014

On December 17th, 2014, 10 years ago, I was awoken very early in the morning by a call from Toronto from our wonderful Cuban Consul General, Javier Domokos. He woke me up by saying he saw on the news on CNN, of all places, that five Cuban Heroes had been freed. He said, 'I can't totally confirm. I still haven't heard official word from Cuba, but I think our five heroes are in Cuba!' In a second, I thought of all the efforts and tremendous push that, for years, Fidel, the Cuban government, and the Institute of Friendship with the People (ICAP) strived to free the Cuba 5 Heroes. This was such a great moment to celebrate our victory. It was a moment of hope as U.S. President Obama and Cuban President Raul Castro both announced later that day the reestablishment of formal diplomatic ties between Cuba and the United States.

DEC 17, 2024

Here we are 10 years later, celebrating the victory of the freedom of our five Cuban Heroes and what a journey we've taken in the last 10 years. The COVID-19 pandemic, the over 260 new blockade measures enacted by Trump during his first presidency and the last 4 years of the Biden Administration, where he refused to budge on the issue of Cuba and refused to remove Cuba from the state sponsors of terrorism list or to work towards of course ending the criminal and unjust 60-year blockade on Cuba.

December 17, 2024, doesn't feel quite as hopeful. We have a looming second Trump presidency where he is promised to promote many anti-Cuban Republicans, including Marco Rubio, to high positions of power. Cuba has had a very challenging year with a slow recovery of tourism after the pandemic, continued sabotage by the U.S. government, power grid issues due to the blockade, and natural disasters like Hurricanes getting worse due to climate change.

But the good news is we are eternally hopeful people. That is a lesson we have learned from Cuba. That we learned from Comandante Fidel Castro after the Granma landed in Cuba, the revolutionaries were attacked and dispersed by the forces of the Batista dictatorship. However, that evening Fidel reunited in the Sierra Maestra with about a dozen guerrilla co-fighters (they had been over 80 on the Granma). Comandante Fidel proclaimed, "Look we are winning already!" As Che Guevara said, "We are realists, we dream the impossible."

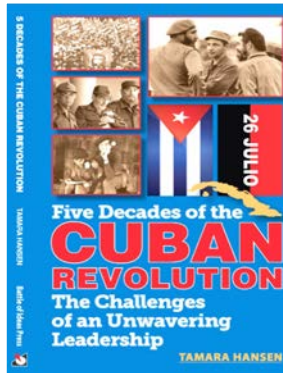
Now is the time to start planning our next phase in the struggle. I hope that the lessons learned in the campaign to free our 5 Cuban heroes can inspire us as we confront the over 60-year U.S. blockade of Cuba and continue our work to demand that Cuba be removed from the so-called "state sponsors of terrorism" list. I invite folks to join us in New York City on March 15-16 of the International U.S.-Cuba Normalization Conference: www.us-cubanormalization.org

Hasta La Victoria Siempre!



Battle of Ideas Press

5 Decades of the Cuban Revolution The Challenges of an Unwavering Leadership



By Tamara Hansen

Coordinator of Vancouver Communities in Solidarity with Cuba (VCSC). She is also an editorial board member of The Fire This Time newspaper. She has travelled to Cuba over a dozen times and has written extensively on Cuban politics since 2003.

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INTERNATIONAL US-CUBA NORMALIZATION CONFERENCE

MARCH 15-16, 2025 IN NEW YORK CITY

Saturday, March 15th at the historic Malcolm X and Dr. Betty Shabazz Memorial & Educational Center
IN THE YEAR OF MALCOLM X'S CENTENARY

Sunday March 16: ACTIVISTS GATHER TO DISCUSS & DECIDE ON
A UNITED PLAN OF ACTION

The International US-Cuba Normalization Conference will be educational and highly informative, with dynamic speakers, special guests, plenaries and workshops. But our primary aim is to produce a United Plan of Action to organize, mobilize, and defeat the brutal US blockade, even – especially -- in these most challenging and difficult circumstances.

The March 15-16 International US-Cuba Normalization Conference in NYC will be a large gathering of Cuba solidarity and anti-blockade activists. We hope you will endorse the conference and join us in New York City! Let's come together to tackle how we can most effectively organize and mobilize on all the fronts of struggle: legal, peaceful street actions; solidarity travel; solidarity material aid; legislative work; and other initiatives.

Join us in discussing and planning united work for the coming period of our diverse campaigns to end the criminal US blockade on Cuba across the US, Canada-Quebec, Puerto Rico, across the Americas, and the globe.

Join us in continuing to build our united campaign demanding:

End the U.S. Blockade on Cuba!

Remove Cuba from the so-called 'State Sponsors of Terrorism' List

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING ACTIONS



EYEWITNESS VENEZUELA:
A NEW PRESIDENTIAL TERM & THE ANTI-FASCIST CONFERENCE

MONTHLY WEBINAR/ONLINE PICKET

FEATURING
CAROLINA ESCARRÁ GIL
Political analyst & professor, Venezuela
DAVID PAUL
Sanctionskill Campaign, U.S.
ROGER HARRIS
Task Force on the Americas, U.S.
SAM MCGILL
Revolutionary Communist Group, England

MODERATOR **JILL CLARK-GOLLUB**
Americas Without Sanctions Campaign, U.S.

TUESDAY
JANUARY 28, 2025
4 PM PT/7 PM ET/8 PM CARACAS

REGISTER FOR ZOOM [VENEZUELASOLIDARITYNETWORK.ORG/01282025](https://www.venezuelasolidaritynetwork.org/01282025)

LIFT THE U.S. BLOCKADE ON CUBA NOW!
Vancouver Monthly Car Caravan

For location call: **604.780.4029**

Vancouver, BC
Saturday January 25
12pm

Remove Cuba off the so-called "State Sponsors of Terrorism" List!

#TumbaElBloqueo
#DropTheBlockade
#MejorSinBloqueo
#OffTheList
#UnBlockCuba
#PuentesDeAmor
#BridgesOfLove
#CubaVsBloqueo

In Solidarity with:
 Friends of Cuba Against the US Blockade - Vancouver
WWW.VANCUBAVSBLOCKADE.ORG | @nobloqueovan

EVERY SATURDAY!

CEASEFIRE TODAY! LIBERATION TOMORROW!
Weekly Vigil & Rally

• Jan 18
• Jan 25
• Feb 1

Vancouver Art Gallery
Robson side
5pm

OLIVE TREES DON'T BEND AND CEDAR TREES DON'T BREAK

This protest is against the genocide and bombing of Gaza and Palestinians, and the US-Israel war drive in West Asia. This rally is organized by a few volunteers, independent activists and groups. We want to make sure that in this critical moment in history our support for Palestine continues uninterrupted.

JOIN MAWO'S BI-WEEKLY BANNER DROP FOR PALESTINE!

END THE SIEGE ON GAZA NOW!
ISRAEL OUT OF WEST BANK! + ISRAEL HANDS OFF JENIN!
SELF-DETERMINATION FOR PALESTINE!
FREE ALL PALESTINIAN PRISONERS!
END THE OCCUPATION OF PALESTINE! + RIGHT OF RETURN!
MAERSK CUT TIES WITH GENOCIDE! + BOYCOTT ISRAEL NOW!
US/CANADA STOP ARMING ISRAEL!

UPCOMING DATES:
• THURSDAY FEB 6
• THURSDAY FEB 20
• THURSDAY MAR 6
For weekly location call: 778-881-6156

Next Banner Drop:
THURSDAY Jan 23 4:30pm
Shaughnessy St at Lougheed Hwy
Port Coquitlam

Mobilization Against War and Occupation - MAWO
WWW.MAWOVANCOUVER.ORG @mawovan @mawovancouver

BI-WEEKLY PICKET ACTION FOR PALESTINE!

End the Siege on Gaza Now!
Israel Out of West Bank!
Israel Hands Off Jenin!
Self-Determination for Palestine!
Free All Palestinian Prisoners!
End the Occupation of Palestine!
Right of Return!

Monday
January 27, 5 pm
U.S. Consulate
1075 W.Pender St
VANCOUVER

Upcoming Picket Actions:
• Monday February 10
• Monday February 24

US/Canada Stop Arming Israel! Boycott Israel Now! Maersk Cut Ties with Genocide!
Mobilization Against War and Occupation - MAWO
WWW.MAWOVANCOUVER.ORG @mawovan @mawovancouver