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About New York-New Jersey Cuba Sí Coalition

The New York-New Jersey Cuba Si Coalition is a united effort of dozens of organizations and independent activists that works with similar groups in the US, Canada, across the Americas, and worldwide.

For many years, we have organized actions and campaigns against the bipartisan, extraterritorial Washington economic and political war - the blockade - against our Caribbean neighbor. We are in the long tradition of solidarity with Cuba in the New York-New Jersey area, and across the United States since the 1959 Cuban Revolution.

Cuba Sí is organized to be a broad united front that is Cuba-centered in our demands and activities. Our goal is defeating US anti-Cuba policy and achieving genuine US-Cuba Normalization. We support: 1) Taking Cuba off the State Department's spurious "State Sponsors of Terrorism" (SSOT) list; 2) Legislating an end to all US economic and travel sanctions against Cuba; 3) Returning the illegally occupied Guantanamo Territory to Cuban sovereignty; and 4) Ending funding for covert, subversive "regime change" programs.

Cuba Sí NY/NJ is not a political party or multi-issue organization with a broader political program or orientation. We do not endorse political candidates, but we welcome elected officials, political, and solidarity organizations to participate in Cuba Si actions and events.

Cuba Si is non-sectarian and inclusive. We reach out to all organizations and activists — whatever the inevitable different ranges of views on other burning US and international questions — to build a mass united front against the brutal US anti-Cuba blockade and the obscene placement of the Cuban state on the "State Sponsors of Terrorism" (SSOT) list without even a pretense of facts or evidence.

Cuban Si NY/NJ was founded in 2015 following the release of the remaining Cuban Five political prisoners and the re-establishment of diplomatic relations between the United States and Cuba. Our Coalition initiated and hosted the 1st National Conference for the Full Normalization of US-Cuba relations in March 2017; helped organize groundbreaking international webinars and hybrid conferences during the most isolating and difficult COVID-19 pandemic periods; hosted the March 2023 International Cuba Conference; and will be hosting the March 15-16, 2025 International US-Cuba Normalization Conference in NYC.

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Note: Cuba Si does not take a formal political and programmatic position on Gaza-Palestine-Israel in any detail. The component organizations and activists that make up our united Coalition have a range of political and programmatic views and historical perspectives on this and other burning issues in world politics. Cuba Si will continue to promote on our website - www.cubasinynjcoalition.org -and distribute widely at actions for Palestinian self-determination, official statements and documents from the Cuban government and Foreign Ministry; the Cuban Institute of Friendship With the Peoples (ICAP); and Cuban media which express Cuba's detailed positions of solidarity. This booklet is presented in that spirit.

CUBA SPEAKS: GAZA-PALESTINE-ISRAEL



OCTOBER 2023-OCTOBER 2024

Havana, October 8, 2023

Cuban Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cuba (MINREX):

“The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cuba reiterates its deep concern about the escalation of violence between Israel and Palestine, which is a consequence of decades of Israeli illegal occupation and colonization practices, in flagrant violation of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people in its own territory, as well as the long-lasting disregard of the Purposes and Principles of the United Nations Charter and International Law, including numerous relevant UN resolutions.

“The Ministry rejects, and has always rejected, the death of civilians and innocent persons of all the parties involved in this conflict, regardless of their ethnic origin, nationality or religious creed; and strongly condemns the killing of civilians...The Ministry of Foreign Affairs urgently calls for a ceasefire and the immediate delivery of humanitarian assistance to Gaza. “Cuba calls for an end to the belligerent rhetoric and reaffirms its support to a just, comprehensive and lasting solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict based on the creation of two States that would allow for the exercise of the right to free determinationof the Palestinian people and the creation of an independent and sovereign Palestinian State on the basis of the pre-1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its capital, that would equally ensure the right of return of refugees.”



Havana: October 9, 2023

Statement from the Cuban Institute of Friendship With The Peoples (ICAP) and the Cuban-Arab Friendship Association in Solidarity With the Palestinian People (AACA):

“The Cuban Institute of Friendship With the Peoples and the Cuban-Arab Friendship Association reaffirm their solidarity with the Palestinian people and their ongoing support. For 75 years, the Palestinian people have faced, in an unequal struggle, the growing hostility of the Israeli state, which has sought to displace them from their own territory, disregarding United Nations Resolutions, and violating basic human rights... The Cuban Institute of Friendship with the Peoples and the Cuban-Arab Friendship Association embrace the steadfast position of our Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MINREX) and and the entire Cuban people in seeking a comprehensive, just, and lasting solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict based on the creation of two states, enabling the Palestinian people to exercise their right to self-determination and to have an independent and sovereign state within the pre-1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its capital...We extend our solidarity and unconditional support to our Palestinian brothers and sisters, whose cause we defend as our own.”

New York, March 5, 2024

Permanent Mission of Cuba to the UN: “At the UN Cuba calls for an end to Israel's ongoing genocide against the Palestinian people” “Cuba reiterated, today, at United Nations, the urgent need to achieve a comprehensive, just, and lasting solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, based on the creation of two States, which would allow the Palestinian people to exercise their right to self-determination and to have an independent and sovereign State within the pre-1967 borders.

“This was stated by Ambassador Gerardo Peñalver Portal, first vice minister of Foreign Affairs and Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations in the debate under resolution A/Res/76/262, after the veto issued by the United States at the meeting of the Security Council on Palestine, last February 20th. “Regarding the situation in Gaza, Peñalver Portal warned that the United Nations cannot remain silent in the face of collective punishment, serious violations of the International Humanitarian Law and war crimes and crimes against humanity committed by the Israeli government. ‘Nothing justifies the ongoing genocide against the Palestinian people, preceded by decades of illegal occupation, colonization, dispossession of their lands and apartheid practices,’ denounced the Cuban vice foreign minister. “Since the escalation of violence in Gaza, this is the third time the United States has vetoed a Security Council resolution on Palestine, which called for an immediate humanitarian ceasefire. In this regard, the Cuban diplomat called on the US government to stop using the undemocratic and obsolete power of veto to protect Israel. ““Double standards, selectivity and political manipulation, which undermine the cause of international peace and security, must stop once and for all,” he said. Before concluding his remarks, Peñalver Portal reaffirmed Cuba’s willingness to contribute to legitimate international efforts to put an end to the current situation.



Havana, June 22, 2024

Statement from MINREX: “Cuba joins South Africa’s lawsuit against Israel before the International Court of Justice”

“In correspondence with the firm and sustained commitment to support and contribute as much as possible to legitimate international efforts to put an end to the genocide being committed against the Palestinian people, the government of the Republic of Cuba has decided to intervene in the contentious procedure initiated by the Republic of South Africa against the State of Israel before the International Court of Justice. “Taking into account the provisions of Article 63 of the Statute of the Court, and in strict observance of its obligations as a State Party to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, Cuba will make use of its right to present, as a Third State, its interpretation of the norms of the Convention that Israel has flagrantly violated with its actions in the illegally occupied Palestinian territory of the Gaza Strip. The main objective of the lawsuit filed before the main judicial body of the United Nations is to stop the atrocities against the Palestinian people as a result of the disproportionate and indiscriminate use of force by Israel. Israel, with complete impunity, protected by the complicity of the United States government, ignores its obligations as an Occupying ower under the Fourth Geneva Convention “Genocide, Apartheid, forced displacement and collective punishments cannot have a place in today’s world, nor can they be tolerated by the international community. Justice and respect for the Charter of the United Nations and International Law must prevail.”

HAVANA, OCTOBER 1ST, 2024.

Statement from MINREX: “Israeli aggression in the Middle East must be stopped”

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cuba observes with great concern the events in the Middle East, motivated by the aggressive policy of the State of Israel, with the military, logistical and political backing of the U.S. government, all of which has led to a dangerous escalation, has further compromised regional stability and security and has provoked Iran's response. Almost a year after the savage genocide of the Zionist government against the Palestinian people, and as a demonstration of its utter disregard for the principles established in the UN Charter, the Israeli government, instead of seeking a negotiated solution that would guarantee a ceasefire, has lashed out and intensified its irresponsible aggression against Lebanon, Syria and Yemen. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cuba has been warning of the danger of further escalation in the Middle East as a result of these actions and the aggressiveness and impunity with which Israel acts.

Cuba, while expressing its solidarity with the nations attacked by Israel, calls for peace and negotiations for an immediate ceasefire to avoid further escalation of a conflict that has already cost the lives of tens of thousands of people and has aggravated the humanitarian crisis to alarming levels in the populations of the region. We emphasize our commitment to justice and international law. We reiterate that peace will only be possible in the Middle East through a comprehensive, lasting and just solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, which contemplates the creation of a sovereign and independent Palestinian State on the pre-1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its capital. Likewise, the entry of Palestine as a full member of the UN should be guaranteed without further delay.

New York, October 29, 2024

Speech by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cuba, Bruno Rodríguez Parrilla, at the quarterly open debate of the UN Security Council on “The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian Question.”

Mr. President: We support the statements of Uganda, on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement; of Cameroon, on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation; and of Senegal, in its capacity as President of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People.

It is inconceivable that, more than a year after it began, the Security Council has not put an end to the genocide being committed against the Palestinian people.

More than 42,000 Palestinians have been massacred, 70% of whom are women and children. More than 2,500 Lebanese have been killed. These numbers are growing rapidly.

Far from an immediate and permanent ceasefire, Israel continues to attack hospitals, schools, and refugee camps in the occupied Palestinian territories, in flagrant violation of International Humanitarian Law.

At the same time, it is spreading the conflict in the Middle East region, expanding its aggression to Lebanon, indiscriminately bombing territories in Syria and Yemen, and undertaking a new and dangerous escalation against the Islamic Republic of Iran.



The Israeli government attacks and disdains the UN and its Secretary-General, undermines the security of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon, and maintains the deadliest attacks in history against UN staff and humanitarian workers in Gaza. The Occupying Power continues to obstruct humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian people.

The recent passage by the Israeli Parliament of a law banning all activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territories by the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), in violation of the UN Charter and Israel’s obligations under international law, will deepen the suffering of the Palestinian population.

How many more children and women must be massacred before the international community acts to end the aggression, end the illegal occupation, and provide the international protection that the Palestinian people urgently need? How much more destruction is needed before, instead of rhetorical speeches of support, practical action is taken against the ongoing genocide?

It is not possible to achieve peace in the Middle East without a just solution to the Palestinian question, which the Israeli government is trying to prevent by all means by destroying the State of Palestine in order to nullify the creation of two States.

A sovereign and independent Palestinian State is not possible without Gaza and the pre-1967 borders, just as it is not possible without East Jerusalem as its capital and without the return of refugees. The International Court of Justice, at the request of the UN General Assembly, has issued a clear position: Israel’s occupation of Palestinian territory and its denial of the right of that people to self-determination are illegal actions that violate international law.

The immediate and unconditional admission of Palestine as a member state of the UN is an essential step towards a definitive solution to the conflict. Why does Palestine have to continue waiting to become a full member of the United Nations, when Israel did so 75 years ago under a resolution that provided for the creation of two States?

In order to achieve peace and stability in the region, Israel's complete and unconditional withdrawal from the Syrian Golan and all occupied Arab territories is also necessary. We demand an end to the aggressions against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the sister nations of the Middle East. External interference in that region must cease.

We reiterate the call for an immediate and unconditional end to the arbitrary and illegal unilateral coercive measures imposed by the United States against sovereign countries in the Middle East. Cuba will continue to contribute with all legitimate international efforts that contribute to a just, comprehensive, and lasting solution to the conflict in the Middle East. Joint action by all peoples and governments of the world is urgently needed to stop the aggressions of the Israeli government. Every minute of passivity will cost more innocent lives, more suffering, and destruction.

Cuba will never be indifferent to injustice. The Palestinian cause and the sister nations of the region can always count on our firm solidarity and support.

Thank you very much.

