STATEMENT OF SUPPORT

We, the undersigned Cuban citizens who disagree with various policies pursued by the Cuban Dictatorship (and, in particular, with the ferocious repression that has intensified in recent months), issue and sign this Declaration to make clear our position in the face of a significant recent development.

It is as follows: We have learned of the document that has just been handed over to the European Union (EU) authorities by two citizens who have been awarded the prestigious Sakharov Prize for Human Rights by the honourable Parliament of that bloc of countries of the Old Continent. We are referring to Berta Soler Fernández (leader and representative of the Ladies in White, 2005) and Guillermo Fariñas Hernández (general coordinator of the United Anti-Totalitarian Forum, 2010).

As is well known, in this important document, both signatories denounce the brutal wave of repression mentioned above. Since the mass protests staged by the Cuban people throughout the country on 11 July, the regime has carried out widespread and systematic reprisals of all kinds, including kidnappings, forced disappearances and arbitrary detentions. These have been compounded by summary convictions and unreasonable prosecutorial demands against peaceful demonstrators (lasting up to several lustrums). The "combat order" issued by the head of state Miguel Díaz-Canel resulted in one fatality, hundreds of wounded, more than 5,000 people arrested, more than 1,500 criminally prosecuted, of whom more than 700 remain in prison.

If we also take into account the terrible humanitarian crisis suffered by Cuban society as a result of the regime's disheartening policies and the state of vulnerability of thousands of families, we will understand that the situation is serious and desperate. To date, the demonstrations of discontent and protests against the dictatorship have not ceased, yet the regime insists on violence and repression.

In the face of the Dictatorship's unpunished actions against the Cuban people, the responses of various bodies of the aforementioned Community bloc have been, in our opinion, too lax; both laureates have shown that, for them, the tragedies of their homeland count for far more than any personal interest. They have demonstrated this by even considering renouncing this prestigious award as a way of appealing to the conscience of Europeans and all people of goodwill throughout the world. We are aware of the prestige that the Sakharov Prize carries with it and we therefore understand better the significance and commitment that the Damas de Blanco and Mr Fariñas are making in taking this decision.

In view of the above, we reiterate our rejection of the wave of repression unleashed by the regime in Havana, we demand the immediate release of all political prisoners, we express our support for the efforts of the two Sakharov Prize winners and we call on the bodies of the European Union to adopt a more critical stance in the face of the outrages perpetrated by the Cuban dictatorship, one that truly honours the democratic traditions of the countries that make up the European Union.

Cuba as of 13 December 2021.

Acosta Rodríguez, Camila – Periodista
Almeyda Rodríguez, Fernando
Alonso Cueto, Jesús
Bacallao, Ismary – CubaSpaces
Báez Guerrero, Zaqueo – UNPACU
Bello Castillo, Rosmeri
Berenguer, Ricardo – CubaSpaces
Betancourt López, Jorge Luis
Bruguera Fernández, Tania – Movimiento 27N
Cárdenas Soroa, Aminta de – Movimiento 27N
Castillo Pérez, Maykel – Movimiento San Isidro – Patria y Vida
Cuervo Vázquez, Melvis
Cuesta Morúa, Manuel – Consejo Para la Transición Democrática
Dueñas, Víctor Manuel – CubaSpaces, New Generation Fundation
Estrada, Yannis – CubaSpaces
Ferrer García, Ana Belkis - UNPACU
Fernández Delgado, Kenny – Sacerdote de la Iglesia Católica
García Aguilera, Yunior – Archipiélago
García Camejo, Milexis
Genlui Hidalgo, Claudia – Movimiento San Isidro
Gómez Manzano, René – Corriente Agramontista
Gutiérrez López, Eddy
Heredia, Alejandro – CubaSpaces
Hernández González, Luis Dener – Demóndeles
Hernández Cardosa, Iliana – Movimiento San Isidro
Jacinto Abad, Layda Yirkis
Lafita Cancio, Yamilka – Movimiento 27N
León, Luís – CubaSpaces
Lima, Michael – Democratic Spaces
Linares Carrasco, Aime
López Galeano, Natividad del Jesús
López Mesa, Pedro
Márquez Duany, Eliexer – Movimiento San Isidro – Patria y Vida
Martínez, Isabel – CubaSpaces
Morales, Claudia – CubaSpaces
Moya Acosta, Ángel – Ex preso de conciencia del Grupo de los 75
Ojeda, Laura – CubaSpaces
Otero Alcántara, Luís Manuel – Movimiento San Isidro – Patria y Vida
Pacheco del Monte, Amaury - Movimiento San Isidro
Porras Fernández, Leonel C.
Porras Pérez, Yasmani
Ramírez Lobón, Camila – Movimiento 27N
Ramos González, Anamely – Movimiento San Isidro
Rodríguez Sánchez, Mailín
Ruiz Hernández, Iris - Movimiento San Isidro
Ruiz Urquilla, Ariel
Ruiz Urquilla, Omara
Santiesteban Prats, Ángel
Suárez Calleyn, Yania
Suárez García, Jennifer
Valdés Villazán, Jorge Luís – UNPACU (Suecia)
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