

Another small May Day rally in Havana



The new monument on the "Plaza de la Dignidad" in Havana - in the background: the US embassy (Source: [Cubadebate](#))

For the second time in a row, the traditional large demonstration on May Day in Havana will not take place in Revolution Square this year. This was [announced](#) on Sunday by Ulises Guilarte de Nacimiento, General Secretary of the Confederation of Trade Unions (CTC). Instead, there will be a smaller rally on the "anti-imperialist tribune" in front of the US embassy. As last year, the acute fuel crisis was cited as the reason for the postponement.

As de Nacimiento explained, 200,000 people are expected to take part. Significantly fewer than the 700 to 900,000 people who took part in the parade on Revolution Square in previous years. Most of the participants came to the square on state-organized buses, while this year only the residents of the adjacent districts of Plaza, Centro Habana, Habana Vieja, Cerro and parts of Playa have been invited to take part. The May Day rallies in the country's other cities will also take place in locations that do not require "massive use of transportation".

The "anti-imperialist tribune" was opened in 2000. It is located on the Malecón promenade in the immediate vicinity of the US embassy, where Fidel Castro held numerous speeches and meetings in the final years of his presidency. In 2017, it was badly damaged by Hurricane Irma. In 2019, the square was completely renovated and equipped with a new monument symbolizing the Cuban flag. In addition to the installation of modern event technology, the refurbishment also included a new lighting concept.

This year, May Day in Cuba is being celebrated under the motto of "unity, rebellion and the struggle of the Cuban revolution", explained de Nacimiento. In addition, the 63rd anniversary of the declaration of the socialist character of the Cuban Revolution will also be celebrated.

In preparation for Labour Day, the trade union federation is organizing voluntary work assignments this month as usual, including in urban agricultural businesses. ([Cubaheute](#))