

Cabinet reshuffle: Ministry of Economy and Central Bank under new leadership



Cuba's new Economy Minister Joaquín Alonso Vázquez and the new Central Bank Governor Juana Lilia Delgado Portal (Source: [BCC/X](#))

There has been a major cabinet reshuffle in Cuba. The Ministry of Economy, the Central Bank, the Ministry of Food Industry and the Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment are now under new leadership. The Council of State decided this at the suggestion of President Miguel Díaz-Canel, as the party newspaper "Granma" [reported](#) last Friday.

Economy Minister Alejandro Gil was relieved of his post after five and a half years. In a post on the short messaging service X, he thanked Díaz-Canel for his collaboration. "It was an honor to work with you in the service of our people and the revolution," Gil [said](#).

He will be succeeded by the current Central Bank Director Joaquín Alonso Vázquez. Alonso has a degree in finance, credit and business management. He has held various positions in the banking sector and has "extensive management experience", writes "Granma" about him. Among other things, he was Vice President of Cubalse, a company that has been offering foreign currency sales for foreign companies and embassies since 1962. He was then Vice President of Banco Popular de Ahorro for seven years. In 2017, he was promoted to head of the state exchange offices (Cadeca) and in February 2023, he took over the management of the Cuban Central Bank (BCC).

Juana Lilia Delgado Portal, who has a Master's degree in International Economic Relations and has held various positions at the bank, is now its Chair. She has several academic degrees, including in accounting, financial markets and macroeconomics, and was at times Deputy Minister of Economy and a member of the Reform Commission.

After eleven years as Minister of Science, Elba Rosa Pérez Montoya will be replaced by Eduardo Martínez Díaz, who has earned a great reputation in the sector as head of the state-owned BioCubaFarma group. The doctor of biology worked for many years as a researcher at the Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (CIGB) and is a member of Cuba's Academy of Sciences. In 2022, he was awarded the title of "Hero of Labor" for his efforts during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The new Minister of Food Industry will be Alberto López Díaz, who currently serves as governor of the province of Villa Clara. The former teacher was later head of a polytechnic institute and rose through the ranks in the provincial government of his native Villa Clara, where he was responsible for the management of local state-owned companies, among other things. He replaces Manuel Santiago Sobrino Martínez, who had headed the ministry since 2019.

All those dismissed were thanked "for their dedication and commitment" and would be "entrusted with new tasks" in the coming days, according to the announcement. Cuba's president recently announced the reorganization of government structures in the context of new economic reforms.

The current cabinet reshuffle is the first in Díaz-Canel's second term, which began in April 2023. Previously, the last major cabinet reshuffle took place in the fall of 2022 with the replacement of the energy ministry and the chairman of the electricity supplier. ([Cubaheute](#))