

International coalition of parliamentarians calls for Cuba to be removed from “terror list”



Cuba remains on the list of states that the US government considers to be sponsors of terrorism. Picture from the capital Havana (source: [Flickr](#))

A broad coalition of 600 lawmakers from 73 countries has called on the United States to remove socialist Cuba from the list of alleged “state sponsors of terrorism”.

The list, maintained by the US State Department, has far-reaching economic consequences for the countries concerned, as it isolates them from international financial institutions. In 2015, under the administration of Barack Obama, Cuba was removed from the list, but it was reinstated towards the end of Donald Trump's term in 2021. There are currently four countries on the list: Syria, Iran, North Korea and Cuba.

The decision is described by the members of parliament as “cynical” and a “clear violation of international law”. They also believe it contradicts the principles of the United Nations (UN) Charter.

As the parliamentarians [emphasize in](#) their appeal, Cuba does not support terrorism, but plays a key role in peace negotiations, such as between the Colombian government and various rebel groups. Current US policy undermines Cuba's efforts to maintain peace and stability in the region.

Cuba's listing as a “terrorist supporter” aims to “maximize the suffering of the Cuban people by strangling the country's economy, displacing families and even restricting humanitarian aid,” the appeal said.

The US government under Joe Biden has not kept its promise to improve diplomatic relations with Cuba, thus continuing the confrontational line of the Trump administration.

[In May 2024, the US State Department removed Cuba](#) from another “list of states that do not fully cooperate with the US in the fight against terrorism”. However, according to the parliamentarians, this measure is not enough, as the sanctions on the “terror list” continue to take effect.

The alliance of parliamentarians behind the appeal was coordinated by the “Progressive International”, a loose alliance of left-wing forces mobilizing worldwide for common goals. Among the founding members of the initiative is former Greek finance minister Yanis Varoufakis.

From Germany, the appeal was signed, among others, by Martin Schirdewan, co-chairman of the Left Party, and Andrej Hunko, member of Sahra Wagenknecht's alliance (BSW). ([Cubaheute](#))