

## Seven dead after e-scooter fire in Havana



*For the fire victims in Centro Habana all help came too late (Source: Twitter)*

Seven members of a family died early Wednesday morning in Havana's Centro municipality as a "preliminary result of the fire of an electric scooter," [according](#) to Havana's municipal government. The fire was apparently triggered by the sudden explosion of an e-scooter parked in the entrance area of the apartment.

Firefighters and police arrived shortly after the fire became known. However, all help came too late for the two children and five adults, who were presumably already suffocated in the apartment. Havana's First Party Secretary Luis Antonio Torres Iribar arrived at the scene of the accident a short time later to get a picture of the situation. President Miguel Díaz-Canel expressed his condolences to the relatives in a Twitter message, joined by Prime Minister Manuel Marrero. This is the most serious such accident in Cuba to date, which caused a wave of consternation throughout the country.

E-scooters have been enjoying increasing popularity in Cuba for several years. They have now become a permanent part of the street picture, not just in Havana. Charging is usually done at the household socket, this year the first public charging stations with solar cells are to be built. If handled incorrectly, rechargeable batteries pose a fire risk. Cuban authorities repeatedly advised to let the battery cool down to room temperature before charging, to leave the original charging safety devices intact, and not to make any modifications to the engine. ([Cubaheute](#))