US Sanctions: Cubana suspends flight to Buenos Aires



Since the end of April, Cubana can no longer offer flights between Cuba and Argentina (Source: <u>Commons</u>)

The Cuban airline Cubana de Aviación has been forced to discontinue its direct connection between Havana and Buenos Aires, which has existed for almost 40 years. The reason for this is the refusal of the Argentinian state oil company Yacimientos Petrolíferos Fiscales (YPF) to continue supplying fuel to Cubana's aircraft.

As the Argentinian daily newspaper "Página 12" reports, no fuel has been supplied to Cuban aircraft since the end of April. The airline itself spoke of an "abrupt" cessation. Return flights to Cuba that had already been booked could be rebooked with other airlines.

On April 30, the Cuban Foreign Ministry wrote in a statement on the matter of "absurd and anachronistic measures" in the context of the US blockade against Cuba by the right-wing libertarian Argentine government under President Javier Milei. "It is contradictory to proclaim freedom at all costs while restricting the freedom of a company that strictly complies with the regulations of Argentina and the International Civil Aviation Organization," the communiqué reads.

YPF did not wish to comment when asked by Reuters news agency.

As the ministry emphasizes, Cuban aviation has already been suffering the consequences of the sanctions for some time. For example, numerous aircraft leases, bank accounts and loans to Cubana had been terminated due to the financial sanctions against the socialist island that were tightened under former US President Donald Trump. Furthermore, even before these tightening measures, Cuba was generally unable to access spare parts containing more than ten percent US components.

Cuba will "continue to denounce such extraterritorial applications of the US blockade, which constitute a violation of international law and are overwhelmingly rejected by the international community", the Foreign Ministry stated. (<u>Cubaheute</u>)