



**FROM OUR HEARTS
TO CUBAN HEARTS**

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PLEASE JOIN US TO RAISE \$150,000 TO PROVIDE CUBA WITH 150 PACEMAKERS

Every \$1,000 donation will buy 1 lifesaving pacemaker. Cuban surgeons will then implant it at no cost to the patient.

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 Make checks payable to Global Health Partners with the memo "pacemakers" and mail to: Global Health Partners, 39 Broadway, Suite 1540 New York, NY 10006.

 For debit & credit card payments, visit the GHP website <https://ghpartners.org> or scan the QR code



ghpartners.org

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END THE U.S. BLOCKADE ON CUBA!



**PRESIDENT TRUMP
TAKE CUBA OFF
THE "STATE
SPONSORS OF
TERRORISM" LIST!**



VANCOUVER MONTHLY CAR CARAVAN
Sunday August 24
12:30pm
For location call:
604-780-4029

In solidarity with:



#TumbaElBloqueo
#DropTheBlockade
#OffTheList
#MajorSinBloqueo
#UnBlockCuba
#CubaVsBloqueo
#PuentesDeAmor
#BridgesOfLove
#LetCubaLive



Friends of Cuba Against the U.S. Blockade - Vancouver
WWW.VANCUBAVSBLOCKADE.ORG [@NOBLOQUEOVAN](https://www.facebook.com/NOBLOQUEOVAN)

Viva Cuba! Viva Pride!

JOIN US IN THE VANCOUVER PRIDE PARADE!

Join Vancouver Communities in Solidarity with Cuba (VCSC) as we march with Vancouver Pride! We will have a contingent in the Vancouver Pride Parade on Sunday August 2, where we will demand an end to the cruel U.S. blockade on Cuba and explain the important gains of Cuba's LGBTQAI+ community.

If you like to march, ride, or table with us, get in touch vancubasolidarity@gmail.com or call 778-882-5223

**GET INVOLVED IN VANCOUVER COMMUNITIES
IN SOLIDARITY WITH CUBA (VCSC)**

778.882.5223

VANCUBASOLIDARITY@GMAIL.COM

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WWW.VANCUBASOLIDARITY.COM

CUBA APPROVES NEW LAW ALLOWING CHANGES TO GENDER IDENTITY IN DOCUMENTS:

**Legislation expands trans people's rights
and consolidates the demands of the
LGBT+ community**



By: Gabriel Vera Lopes

July 28, 2025

Cuba's National Assembly of People's Power, the country's legislative body, has approved a reform allowing any adult to request a gender change on their identity documents. The new law, the result of years of struggle by LGBT+ movements, is a crucial step toward self-determination for social groups and marks a watershed moment in transgender rights history in the island.

The legislation, approved on July 18, establishes that any adult may, upon personal request and without additional requirements, change the information on their identity card. In the case of minors, the process requires Judicial authorization.

Speaking to BdF, Verde Gil, an activist with the group Trans Men of Cuba, said this legislation has a direct impact on the daily lives of those who are part of the community.

"This represents a step forward in the fight against violence and discrimination," he said. "It guarantees something fundamental, yet so neglected: that people feel more comfortable with their ID cards."

Since 2022, it has been possible to change the name on documents. However, as Verde points out, "because it was not possible to change the sex marker, this ended up causing many problems and different forms of discrimination in everyday procedures."

A collective and participatory process

Verde stresses that this law did not come out of

Summer 2025 Pride Edition



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nowhere, but is the result of a collective process coordinated between the National Center for Sex Education (CENESEX), various community networks, and activists who actively participated in consultation and advocacy forums.

"It was an exhaustive and complex task, because we realized that there are multiple perspectives within the LGBT+ community itself. It is precisely these collective constructions, however, that strengthen the empowerment process," he explains.

The final draft, which gave rise to the new law, was the consequence of a long process of listening and consulting different people, during which various demands and points of view from the community were incorporated, strengthening the legal text.

These practices of participatory democracy not only ensure the inclusion of a diversity of voices, but also "reinforce our legal culture and offer tools for those of us who are in a situation of greater vulnerability," says Verde.

As a result, Cuba joined a restricted group of countries in Latin America and the Caribbean that allows for the change without medical approval, becoming a progressive example in the region.

Debates and new horizon for inclusion

Despite the progress, Verde acknowledges that there are still challenges to be faced. The debate itself

revealed the existence of different positions and demands within the LGBT+ community.

“We need to continue discussing issues such as the inclusion of non-binary gender. Some people prefer that the sex marker does not even appear on documents; others want it to appear, but with the possibility of registering a non-binary gender. It is a matter of finding ways of coexisting in which we are all respected, without identity or gender being a reason for discrimination or hatred.”

In this regard, Verde highlights the opening for dialogue and joint reflection as one of the main achievements of the legislative process. He states that “the most important thing is not to reach consensus, but rather to build a broader social consciousness that contributes to a more egalitarian society.”

Debates over gender rights are not



new in Cuba. In recent years, Cuban society has participated in intense discussions about the expansion of rights.

One of the most exciting moments was the approval of the new Family Code in 2022, which legalized same-sex marriage after a broad public consultation. The debate mobilized

thousands of people, especially youths, who actively engaged in defending the new legal framework. This process gave rise to numerous youth collectives and new forms of activism in favor of equality.

However, it also revealed the resistance of conservatives and their deep roots in Cuban society. Even so, the approval of the Code with 70% support at the polls reflected the support of the majority of Cubans to advance trans rights.

“The social debate itself serves as a pretext for this: for people to understand human sexual diversity and accept it,” reflects Verde. “I am really happy that we have managed to open spaces that have driven these legislative advances.”

Gabriel Vera Lopes is a journalist with Brasil de Fato and People’s Dispatch. He is on X/Twitter @gaborufan

From: brasildefato.com.br

Cuba Stands with Palestine!

In line with the firm and sustained commitment to support and contribute as much as possible to legitimate international efforts to end the genocide committed against the Palestinian people, the Government of the Republic of Cuba has decided to intervene in the contentious proceedings initiated by the Republic of South Africa against the State of Israel before the International Court of Justice.

In accordance with the provisions of Article 63 of the Statute of the Court, and in strict observance of its obligations as a State party to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, Cuba will make use of its right to present, as a Third State, its interpretation of the rules of the Convention that Israel has flagrantly violated with its actions in the illegally occupied Palestinian territory of the

Gaza Strip.

The lawsuit filed with the main judicial body of the United Nations is primarily aimed at halting atrocities against the Palestinian people as a result of Israel's disproportionate and indiscriminate use of force.

Israel, with total impunity, protected by the complicity of the United States Government, ignores its obligations as the occupying Power under the Fourth Geneva Convention.

Genocide, Apartheid, forced displacement and collective punishment cannot be included in today's world, nor can they be tolerated by the international community. Justice and respect for the Charter of the United Nations and international law must prevail.

Cuba’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs cubaminrex.cu

Havana marches in solidarity with Palestine, against the genocide in Gaza



<< SCAN
Read Cuba’s 2024 Report to the United Nations General Assembly on the impact of the U.S. blockade



Havana statue of Cuba’s National Hero Jose Marti with Cuban and Palestinian flags

Join the Postcard Campaign in Defense of Cuba

Friends of Cuba Against the U.S. Blockade – Vancouver and the NY-NJ Cuba Si Coalition launched a postcard campaign aimed at U.S. President Biden which declares, “Cuba is NOT a ‘sponsor of terrorism’! Remove Cuba from your list!”.

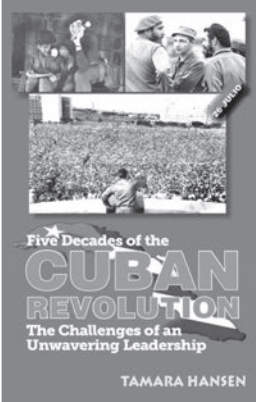
As part of this campaign, people can send postcards as often as they want to the White House. It is a physical reminder to their mail room about this ongoing campaign and this injustice by the U.S. government against Cuba. But also, as folks are mailing their postcard they can take selfies and share them on social media – making this also a public education campaign. Furthermore, these postcards could be used to hand out at events and protests as a way to engage with people and encourage them to take action in support of Cuba!

We hope that you will join us in this exciting new campaign in solidarity with Cuba. If you would like more information or to order postcards please email: nobloqueovancouver@gmail.com



Battle of Ideas Press

**5 Decades of the Cuban Revolution
The Challenges of an
Unwavering Leadership**



By Tamara Hansen

Coordinator of Vancouver Communities in Solidarity with Cuba (VCSC). She is also an editorial board member of The Fire This Time newspaper. She has travelled to Cuba over a dozen times and has written extensively on Cuban politics since 2003.

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