

4th cycle of Cuba's UPR

Legal procedures, limitations on freedom, and conditions of political prisoners

*Based on previous recommendations and
comprehensive research*

Presented by Laritza Diversent, Director of Cubalex

Legal Procedures



⊗ Concerns about due process consolidation.

⊗ The Cuban State accepted some recommendations but rejected or noted others.

⊗ Criminal Procedure Law: Detentions without orders, lack of information, up to 24 hours without judicial control.

⊗ Courts lack independence, erosion of Habeas Corpus resource.

⊗ Systematic arbitrary detentions, harassment of human rights defenders, forced disappearances.

Repression of Protests

- July 11, 2021 protests: Detentions, disappearances, brutality, Internet blockades.
- 1540 detained, 675 remain imprisoned.
- Authorities continue to repress protests, threatening dissenters.

- 2022: 216 protests, 198 detentions.
- Restrictive laws such as Decree-Laws 370 and 35, Resolution 105 of 2021, limit freedoms.

Recommendations and Measures

1

We recommend aligning domestic legislation with international standards.

2

Ensuring judicial and lawyer independence.

3

Amending legislation, so military tribunals cannot judge civilians.

4

Unconditional release of political prisoners, transparent case review.

Prison Conditions

Since 2018, penal reforms: Repression, mass detentions, up to 25-year sentences.

Prisons: Overcrowding, abuse, torture, lack of medical care and food.

High incarceration rate and deaths without proper investigation.



Call to Action

International community demands change

Improve detention conditions, prison access, and torture investigation

Unconditional release of political prisoners

Training of officials and improvement of the judicial system

Conclusions and Recommendations

- Cuba faces human rights challenges
- Recent reforms have led to restrictions
- Government controls organizations and limits social life

- Ambiguous laws in the digital realm
- Lack of ratification of international treaties
- We recommend reviewing regulations and eliminating restrictive practices

Appreciation, Questions, and Comments

The coalition is composed of the following organizations: ARTICLE 19 Office for Mexico and Central America, Artists At Risk Connection (ARC) - PEN America, Center for Opening and Development in Latin America - CADAL, Civil Rights Defenders, Cubalex, FREEMUSE, Cuban Institute for Freedom of Expression and Press - ICLEP, Institute of Artivism Hannah Arendt - INSTAR, Justice 11J, San Isidro Movement, PEN International, Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights



Gratitude for your attention and commitment to human rights



Let's work together for a Cuba of rights and dignity



Space for possible questions and comments from diplomatic representatives