

UN General Assembly overwhelmingly votes against U.S. blockade of Cuba

ANGOLA	CHILE	GEORGIA	LEBANON	NIGER	SINGAPORE	UNITED STATES
ANTIGUA-BARBUDA	CHINA	GERMANY	LESOTHO	NIGERIA	SLOVAKIA	URUGUAY
ARGENTINA	COLOMBIA	GHANA	LIBERIA	NORWAY	SLOVENIA	UZBEKISTAN
ARMENIA	COMOROS	GREECE	LIBYA	OMAN	SOLOMON ISLANDS	VANUATU
AUSTRALIA	CONGO	GRENADA	LIECHTENSTEIN	PAKISTAN	SOMALIA	VENEZUELA
AUSTRIA	COSTA RICA	GUATEMALA	LITHUANIA	PALAU	SOUTH AFRICA	VIET NAM
AZERBAIJAN	COTE D'IVOIRE	GUINEA	LUXEMBOURG	PANAMA	SOUTH SUDAN	YEMEN
BAHAMAS	CROATIA	GUINEA-BISSAU	MADAGASCAR	PAPUA NEW GUINEA	SPAIN	ZAMBIA
BAHRAIN	CUBA	GUYANA	MALAWI	PARAGUAY	SRI LANKA	ZIMBABWE
BANGLADESH	CYPRUS	HAITI	MALAYSIA	PERU	SUDAN	
BARBADOS	CZECH REPUBLIC	HONDURAS	MALDIVES	PHILIPPINES	SURINAME	
BELARUS	DEM PR OF KOREA	HUNGARY	MALI	POLAND	SWEDEN	
BELGIUM	DEM REP OF THE C...	ICELAND	MALTA	PORTUGAL	SWITZERLAND	
BELIZE	DENMARK	INDIA	MARSHALL ISLANDS	QATAR	SYRIAN ARAB REP...	
BENIN	DJIBOUTI	INDONESIA	MAURITANIA	REP OF KOREA	TAJKISTAN	
BHUTAN	DOMINICA	IRAN (ISLAMIC REP...	MAURITIUS	REP OF MOLDOVA	THAILAND	
BOLIVIA (PLURINAT...	DOMINICAN REP...	IRAQ	MEXICO	ROMANIA	THE FYR MACEDONIA	
BOSNIA-HERZEGOVIL...	ECUADOR	IRELAND	MICRONESIA (FS)	RUSSIAN FED...	TIMOR-LESTE	
BOTSWANA	EGYPT	ISRAEL	MONACO	RWANDA	TOGO	
BRAZIL	EL SALVADOR	ITALY	MONGOLIA	SAINT KITTS-NEVIS	TONGA	
BRUNEI DARUSSAL...	EQUATORIAL GUINEA	JAMAICA	MONTENEGRO	SAINT LUCIA	TRINIDAD-TOBAGO	
BULGARIA	ERITREA	JAPAN	MOROCCO	SAINT VINCENT-GR...	TUNISIA	
BURKINA FASO	ESTONIA	JORDAN	MOZAMBIQUE	SAMOA	TURKEY	
BURUNDI	ESWATINI	KAZAKHSTAN	MYANMAR	SAN MARINO	TURKMENISTAN	
CABO VERDE	ETHIOPIA	KENYA	NAMIBIA	SAO TOME-PRINCIPE	TUVALU	
CAMBODIA	FUJI	KIRIBATI	NAURU	SAUDI ARABIA	UGANDA	

 **IN FAVOUR: 189**
 **AGAINST: 2**
 **ABSTENTION: 0**

United Nations, November 1 (RHC)-- The United Nations General Assembly passed with 189 votes in favor and only 2 against -- the United States and Israel -- a Cuban-sponsored resolution on ending the blockade imposed by the United States against Cuba.

This was the 27th consecutive time, since 1992, that the world body approves such a resolution.

Prior to the vote, eight amendments introduced by the U.S. government to confuse UN member states were rejected, one by one. The only three votes in favor of the U.S.-proposed amendments were those of the United States itself, Israel and Ukraine.

In his speech at the UN General Assembly on Thursday morning, Cuban Foreign Minister Bruno Rodríguez insisted that the U.S. blockade violates the human rights of the entire Cuban people.

Shortly before the vote, Bruno charged that despite all the pressure exerted on sovereign nations and the amendments introduced by the U.S. government to create confusion and boycott the debate and approval of the resolution against the U.S. blockade, he was confident that the resolution would be passed as usual.

-- with the support of the majority of UN member states represented at the General Assembly.

Senior representatives of national governments, regional blocs and international organizations took the floor during Wednesday's and Thursday's sessions, to explain their vote in favor of the Cuban-sponsored resolution and against the U.S. blockade, urging Washington to listen to the claim of the vast majority of the international community represented at the UN General Assembly, thus correcting this wrong by repealing, once and for all, the economic siege of Cuba.

They rejected the extraterritorial nature of the U.S. blockade and the obstacles it raises to Cuba's normal economic, trade and financial relations with the rest of the world.

The representative of Grenada was one of those who took the floor. She rejected the U.S. blockade and renewed her country's support for Cuba.

She pointed to the role that multi-lateralism and nations of the world are to play toward achieving fully normalized relations between the United States and Cuba.

The representative of the European Union also took the floor Thursday at the UN General Assembly to explain the vote of all EU members in favor of the resolution, urging the lifting of Washington's blockade of Cuba.

He regretted the new restrictions imposed by the current U.S. administration to further tighten the blockade. He said: "These sanctions affect the economic interests of the European Union, since they violate world trade norms and regulations."

Representatives of Australia, Argentina, Indonesia, Peru, Argentina, Uruguay and Iran, among others, also took the floor to express their countries' support for the Cuban people's cause against Washington's nearly sixty years-old blockade policy.

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