

# *Two pandemics*

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**Cuba calmly enters the new stage of coexistence, without abandoning hygienic-sanitary measures. Photo. ACN**

By Roberto Morejón

Cubans took a decisive step in the search for the new normality, still with risks of COVID-19, although with control of the pandemic, and under the pressure of material difficulties and plans of dark forces to spoil domestic peace.

In mid-November, Cubans gradually opened their borders to international tourism, noting the hopeful decline in the curve of SARS-Cov-2 cases and deaths.

Only because of the ingenuity, skills and tenacity of scientists in creating three vaccines and keeping two in clinical trials even with pediatric scope, the largest of the Antilles began to leave behind, gradually, the worst moment of the crisis.

The health system, not free of shortages, but put to the test for almost two years, emerged from the challenge, while scientists and new drugs against COVID-19 are being tested.

Thanks to this de-escalation of the disease, airfields and hotels, in many cases renovated, have recovered their management.

The schools welcomed tens of thousands of other students, in the last stage of the return to on-site classes.

It is a challenge for which strength, organizational capacity and courage are required, put to the test because agents for regime change in the country, inspired and coordinated by the United States, have called to go against the right direction, that of the return to a new normality coexisting with Covid-19.

In the midst of a hysterical international media campaign that made the world believe that in Cuba the population would take to the streets in approval of those who flirt with unconstitutional ways, the citizens gave a resounding denial to the lies.

The headline of a note issued by a foreign TV station illustrated it: "Cuba prepares for an agitated Monday". The upheaval was bound to happen.

However, Cuba enters calmly into the new stage of coexistence.

Without abandoning hygienic-sanitary measures, the economy opens up to the participation of new actors, including private and cooperatives, Havana celebrates its 502nd anniversary and the capital's Biennial hosted a feast of plastic arts.

Life goes on, but not without material deprivations, accentuated by the U.S. blockade, a country that opportunistically threatened Cuba with new sanctions.

From September 22 to the previous week, its officials referred caustically to Cuba on 29 occasions.

In popular parlance, citizens qualify this as the other pandemic, the one they have crudely known in the last six decades.

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