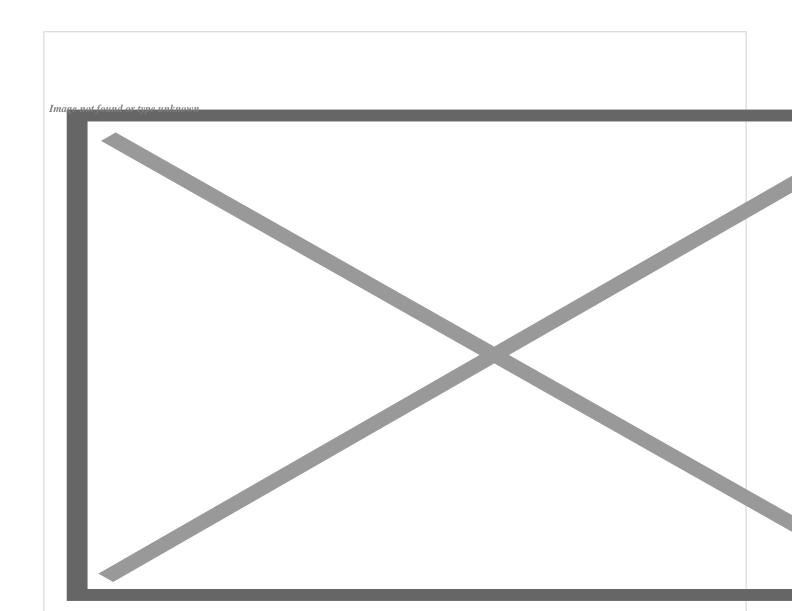
## Ideological burden financed by USAID and NED



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## By Roberto Morejón

Since the triumph of the Revolution, the United States has tried to force a change of government in Cuba, a purpose accentuated during the pandemic, in the hope of taking advantage of a sensitive moment such as the scourge of COVID-19.

The period 2020-2021 has been especially difficult for the Cubans due to the combination of the tightening of the blockade, the SARS-Cov-2 infections and the economic vulnerability caused by heavy expenditures to counteract the pandemic.

The National Endowment for Democracy (NED) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) continued in the aforementioned biennium as the executors par excellence of a sinister plan.

The aim is to undermine Cuba's prestige at the international level and to foment internal irritation and dissent.

The Cuban newspaper Granma recently published an article in which some of the expenditures used to disrupt the peace in the largest of the Antilles, among other destinations, are included.

As explained on NED's web page, the LAC program of that entity supported efforts to promote democracy in nations which, in Washington's view, have authoritarian regimes: Cuba, Nicaragua and Venezuela.

All three countries have been the target of sanctions, media campaigns and other attacks.

According to the details provided by the NED itself, during 2020, more than five million dollars were invested for the aforementioned purpose.

To this figure must be added the resources provided to Non-Governmental Organizations and foundations, all with their batteries focused against the three States.

This is not a new machinery, since since 1997 USAID and its so-called Cuba Program, with the assistance of NED, intervened in projects to promote the so-called opposition leaders to the Revolution and other manifestations far from the government line.

But it is striking to maintain such tools to alter the political and social climate during a world health crisis, from which the largest of the Antilles did not escape.

It is not by chance that in the last weeks the Cuba issue has gained virulence in social networks and in the hegemonic press, to draw an image of a society in violation of the laws.

Money flows and sustains an avalanche of distorting concepts of the Cuban reality, before which readers, viewers and listeners must make an extra effort not to be overwhelmed.

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