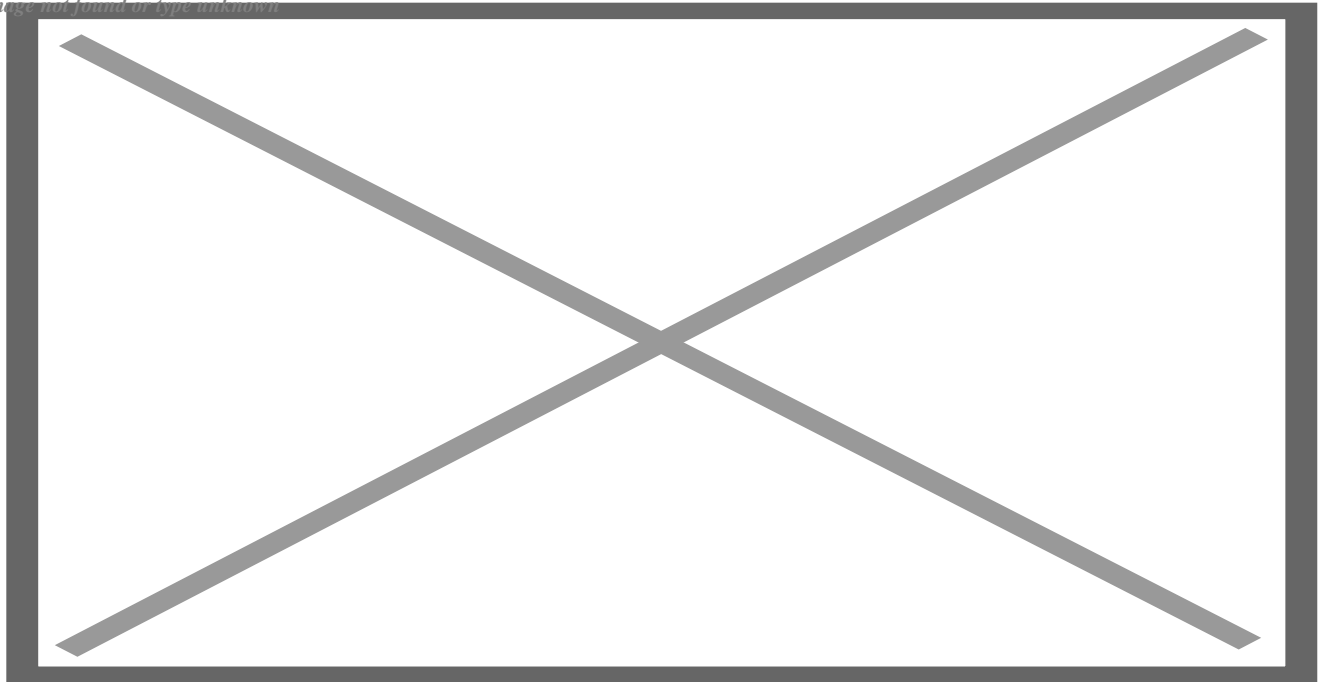


President of Cuba arrives in Barbados on official visit

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Prime Minister Mia Amor Mottley received the dignitary at Grantley Adams International Airport. Photo: @DiazCanelB

Havana, December 5 (RHC)-- The First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and President of the Republic, Miguel Díaz-Canel arrived Monday in Barbados for an official visit and to attend the 8th CARICOM-Cuba Summit, as part of a Caribbean tour that began in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

Prime Minister Mia Amor Mottley received the Cuban leader at the Grantley Adams International Airport in Bridgetown, the capital.

Diaz-Canel's first activity on Barbadian soil was a courtesy visit to the President of the nation, Sandra Mason, at the State House headquarters.

The Cuban president will participate tomorrow in the VIII Caricom-Cuba Summit, in the context of the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Cuba and the first four independent states of the Caribbean: Jamaica, Guyana, Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago.

Díaz-Canel began his trip last Saturday in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and held talks with Prime Minister Ralph Gonsalves, whom he thanked for his support for the resolution against the U.S. blockade, and for Cuba's support during the most acute moments of the peak of the Covid-19 pandemic.

On the occasion, he ratified the will to consolidate Cuba's links with the region and pointed out among the multiple joint cooperation actions the sectors of tourism, food production, human resources training, infrastructure and construction, health and medicines.

Before his departure, the Cuban head of state spoke with the Governor General of Saint Vincent, Susan Dougan, and visited the Parliament, where he recalled the legacy of the historic leader of the Cuban Revolution, Fidel Castro Ruz (1926-2016), whom he described as a guide in the path of solidarity with the brother territories of the Caribbean.

He also ratified Havana's accompaniment in the just claims for historical reparations for the damages caused by colonialism and slavery.

In that space organized in his honor, the visiting president affirmed that "there is only one way to face these challenges in an effective and satisfactory manner: the unity and integration of the peoples".

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