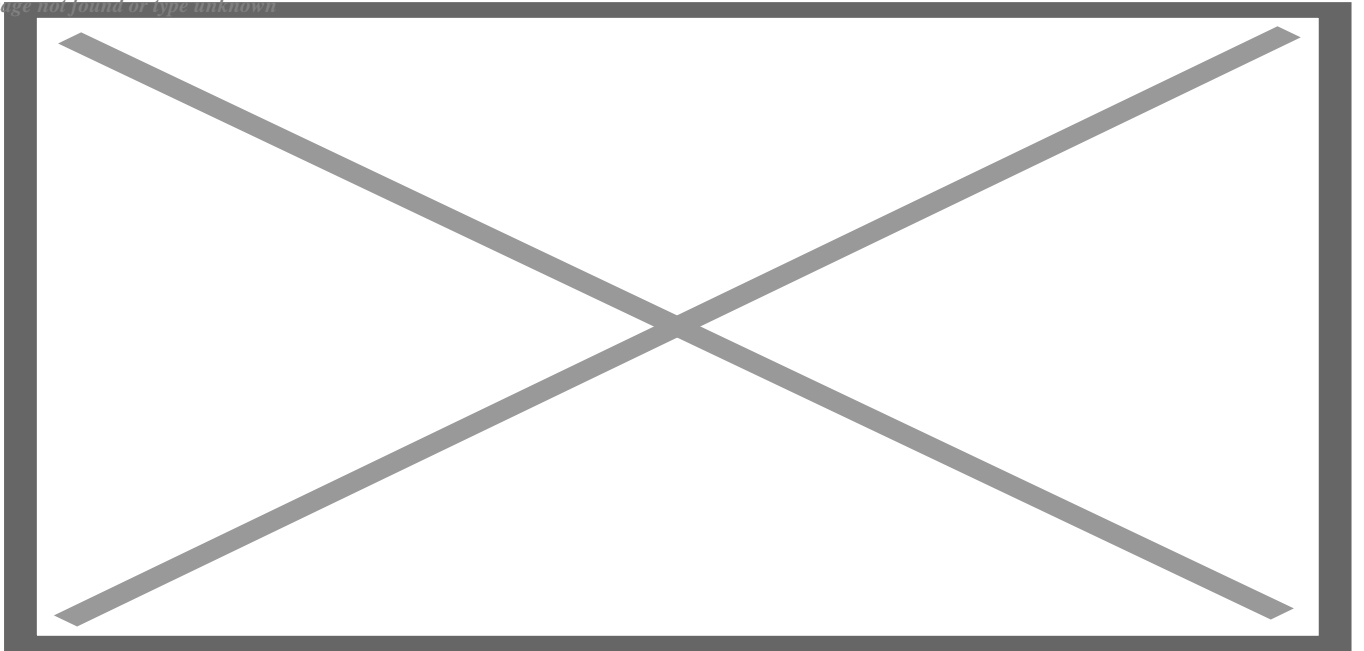


# *Cuba advocates for unity and common challenges with Caricom*

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**Photo: @DiazCanelB**

Havana, December 8 (RHC)-- "Caribbean nations will always be able to count on Cuba," President Miguel Díaz-Canel said on Sunday, recalling this date in 1972 that marked the beginning of diplomatic relations with a group of countries in that region.

The president quoted on the social network X the historical leader of the Cuban revolutionary process, Fidel Castro, who in 1998 stated that "we believe in the strength of a united Caribbean. We are convinced that together we will overcome the great challenges that await us."

The fraternal ties of the Caribbean island and the 14 Caribbean states, members of Caricom, were recalled by the Cuban president and other officials of his government, in activities celebrating the 52nd anniversary of the establishment of political ties.

On the occasion of the celebration, Díaz-Canel received last Friday, at the Palace of the Revolution (headquarters of the Government), the 14 ambassadors of the countries that make up Caricom. "We met to embrace each other," said the president.

He also highlighted the ties of brotherhood with these nations, which, led by Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica and Trinidad Tobago, formalized, on that date, diplomatic relations with Cuba to break the diplomatic isolation imposed by the Government of the United States, since the beginning of the 1960s.

This fact shows the deep ties of brotherhood that unite us, and the continuity of the ideology and the work of our historical leaders, who forged the bases for the consolidation of our relations, framed in principles of solidarity, friendship, selflessness and gratitude, said the Cuban president on the occasion.

In the same vein, and through the social network itself, Foreign Minister Bruno Rodríguez ratified the solidarity position of the Cuban government and people with the Caribbean nations, which have always supported the island's cause for the end of the US blockade of more than six decades.

The remaining Caribbean territories also developed ties of friendship and collaboration with Cuba, which led to the implementation of the Caricom-Cuba summit mechanism in 2002.

At that meeting, the subregional bloc and Havana agreed to establish December 8 as the date of celebration for the beginning of their ties.

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