



To the Human Rights Council, United Nations

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1. Human rights in the 21st century, Education, illiteracy, social and political engagement within society, freedom of expression.

Are there inequalities in our world? Of course they always existed. How are these inequalities addressed? It depends on their characteristics and nature. And it seems a bit difficult for all people to be equal in weight, height, intelligence and life expectancy.

Usually, therefore, when inequalities are discussed, they concern wealth and its distribution.

Revealing in this regard, is the annual report of the organization Oxfam, which began many years ago as the Oxford Committee to fight hunger around the world Today it also functions more as a body of political activism.

Every year, just before the famous event of the Davos World Forum, he publishes a report on global wealth inequalities, for which one person is responsible, "neoliberalism". And the current capitalist system associated with it. We thus learn from Oxfam data that eight billionaires! , own 0.25% of the world's wealth having increased their wealth by 19% during the pandemic. While at the same time 160 million people on their planet were plunged into poverty.

Educations impact on poverty is a prime and vivid example of inequalities in our global context.

Today , 171 million people could be lifted out of extreme poverty if all children left school with basic reading skills', while 'educational attainment explains about half of the difference in growth rates between East Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa between 1965 and 2010'. Poverty is a blatant violation of human rights and dignity. A true perspective of human rights in all its true sphere .

Education offers an economic improvement to the lives of individuals, while also restoring their right to dignity. These qualities are basic needs in order to acquire

The ILO , confirms Roth at there are 152 million child labourers, and 73 million of them work in hazardous conditions around the world. The ILO views education, alongside social protection and economic growth, as indispensable measures in reducing child labour.

Increased literacy rates have been shown to increase engagement in all particularities of everyday life. Cuba has one of the highest records on literacy rates in the world.

Participation in Cuba, in adult literacy programmes is correlated with increased participation in trade unions, community action, and national political life, alongside literacy and numeracy, the ability to make well-balanced decisions, to resolve conflicts in a non-violent manner, to develop good social relationships and critical thinking. Such skills are pivotal in creating a tolerant and aware community to prevent persecution, discrimination, and violent conflict resolution. Qualitative in mass education serves as a tool for young people to be prepared to engage with their political system, bolster their right to assembly and participate in creating a stable and accessible government, which is accountable to its people. Can hold an important record on this chapter.

Education is playing a critical role in normalising the situation for the child and in minimising the psychosocial stresses experienced when emergencies result in the sudden and violent destabilisation of the child's immediate family and social environment.' As noted within the

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Cuban constitution and laws on the protection of children in emergency settings, education has a 'preventive effect on race, class or gender-based violence' is the base of democratic principles in Cuba.

The protection of children is perhaps the most essential human right in all societies.

2. The Cuban example

In conditions of a current and complex global economic crisis, the economic war against Cuba has even more adverse effects. Let's look at two or three simple and specialized cases of financial exclusion of Cuba in the world community. By decision of the US Congress and the backing of the White House in recent years, no product is allowed to be imported into Cuba when in the result of the production of that product there is more than 15% participation of American technology or financial participation by an American financial institution. No American business in the US or abroad is allowed to have any kind of financial transaction with Cuba. No merchant vessel under any flag may call at an American port if within the last six months it has called at a Cuban port. These are just a few of the hundreds of "war measures" that the USA has taken, takes and modernizes from time to time, at the expense of a democratic sovereign nation like Cuba.

The economic sanctions illegally imposed by the US, for more than half a century, despite the contrary and successive resolutions of the UN General Assemblies, had tightened even more by the last 2 American administrations, which turns its geopolitical interest to the Caribbean and Latin America, fuelling a merciless economic, media, and political war against Cuba.

Improving life in Cuba under a hard and complex illegal sanction system against the Cuban people and the Cuban government.

Decisions and implementations regarding economic and social measures is not a simple decree that was issued one fine morning, but is the result of a long process of democratic dialogue with all citizens, workers, the unions, where all the institutional, constitutional, labour rights of the workers are preserved. The unemployment rate in Cuba is around 1.7%. Constitutionally, work is enshrined as a right and today's legislative initiative for the half a million public employees who will be transferred does not allow the constitutional violation of their rights. Nevertheless, it does not mean that it will not be an easy process, but let's take into account that it will continue for the next three years, until it is completed. The result of the current global capitalist, financial crisis has serious effects on Cuba as well, even more so when it has an economy without particular characteristics of export advantages, due to the particular poverty of wealth-producing sources.

3. Improving life in Cuba, from every day needs to fulfill strategic advancement on society. Illegal sanctions against Cuba. The true dilemmas of the illegality of sanctions against Cuba and the fulfilling true democratic principles.

How the current sanctions policies Complicate Humanitarian Assistance

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Gail Reed, public health specialist, journalist, and founder of Medical Education Cooperation with Cuba (MEDICC) highlights that “the U.S. embargo had nefarious consequences for Cubans, jeopardizing health and [the] welfare of women, children, people living with cancer and HIV/AIDS.” Its complex licensing requirements effectively prevent food, medicine, and medical equipment from reaching Cubans. They discourage sales of medical equipment to the island, resulting in the cancellation of ventilators by a Swiss company to Cuba during the COVID 19 pandemic.

Regulatory requirements also impose onerous challenges to the provision of humanitarian assistance. These restrictive policies make it extremely difficult to send aid to Cuba for fear of running afoul of the U.S. Treasury’s Office of Foreign Assets Control and incurring hefty fines. Their impact has damaged the Cuban healthcare system’s ability to respond effectively to the COVID-19 pandemic, with a toll on human lives.

Despite these restrictions, Cuba managed to develop its own COVID-19 vaccines, bypassing a series of significant challenges. Their development, including the research, production, and rollout, was delayed because purchases of necessary supplies and shipping were complicated by the embargo. The Biden administration’s show of empathy with other countries during the pandemic led them to issue exemptions to certain sanctions interfering with public health responses in Iran, Syria and Venezuela, but these same efforts were notably absent with Cuba. Notwithstanding these obstacles in receiving much needed medical supplies, Cuba has achieved a 90% vaccination rate with the vaccines it developed based solely on its human and scientific endeavours by the Cuban people themselves . Relying totally on their expertise , their experiences and the Cuban scientific community .

As the Cuban government had openly expressed out Greek Chapter of REDH confirms its full support:

“This policy of economic aggression by the United States against Cuba since 1959 has sought to undermine the sovereignty of Cuba and its people and of other member states of the United Nations. Through the use of different pretexts, the government of the United States has tried, through the cruelest form of economic war , to isolate and overthrow the Cuban Revolution and to impose a government that allows the recolonization of Cuba.

The network of orders, regulations and laws of all kinds that make up the blockade against Cuba are rejected and denounced by broad sectors of the international community as a legal aberration and an affront to Cuban sovereignty and independence.

Faced with all these aggressions, the as a civil society group with international actors in many countries we call on the vigorous condemnation of this irrational policy, based on laws of a marked extraterritorial, meddling and unilateral nature on Cuba , as a sovereign nation”.

4. Cuban freedom in essence. Building a society of collective and individual responsibilities. Political and social aspects of freedom of expression in Cuba.

As stated very clearly under the Cuban constitution:

Article 40. All persons are equal before the law, are subject to equal duties, receive the same protection and treatment from authorities and enjoy the same rights, freedoms and opportunities, without any discrimination based on sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnic origin, skin colour, religious belief, disability, natural origin or any other distinction that is

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detrimental to human dignity.

Article 91. The exercise of rights and freedoms foreseen in this Constitution imply responsibilities. These are the duties of Cuban citizens, in addition to others established in this Constitution and in law:

- Serve and defend the Homeland
- Observe the Constitution and other national laws
- Contribute to public expenditure as established by law
- Show due respect toward authorities and their agent's
- Undertake military and social service in accordance with the law;
- Respect the rights of others and not abuse one's own;
- Conserve and protect the property and resources that the state and society put at the service of all the people
- Meet the requirements established for the protection of health and environmental hygiene
- Protect the country's natural resources and cultural and historic heritage, and ensure the conservation of a healthy environment; act in relations with other people in accordance with the construction and societies responsibility.

In conclusion.

The REDH (Network for the Defence of Humanity (Greek chapter) regards Cuba, its government and people as a vivid of example of a democratic society in accordance with international treaties , domestic democratic principles, human rights , freedoms that ensure collective and individual happiness . If there are flaws, and there are , the flaws and the problems arose from the brutal massive illegal sanctions which have existed and increased in strength during almost 60 years . This unique feature of Diplomatic, economic, cultural racism against Cuba and its people must stop. Its continuation only diminishes the opportunities for Cuban people and Cuba as a sovereign nation to fulfil their goals in life.

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