



CHANGE

IN OUR INTEREST

TRAVEL, TRADE AND
IMPROVED RELATIONS
WITH

CUBA




U.S. – CUBA POLICY IN THE 111th CONGRESS

- **H.R. 4645** facilitating the sale of U.S. agricultural products to Cuba, and ending restrictions on travel to Cuba, has been introduced by Chairman Peterson and Rep. Jerry Moran
- **H.R. 874** ending restrictions on travel to Cuba, has been introduced by Congressmen Delahunt and Flake
- **S. 428** ending the ban on travel to Cuba, has been introduced by Senators Dorgan, Dodd, Enzi and Lugar.
- **S.1089** facilitating the sale of U.S. agricultural products and medical supplies to Cuba, and ending restrictions on travel to Cuba has been introduced by Senator Baucus

The Cuba travel ban: a background

- Most U.S. citizens are legally prohibited from traveling to Cuba. Restrictions on travel by Americans to Cuba are based on legislation granting the President statutory authority to regulate spending by persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction in a foreign country during a national emergency or time of war. **Cuba is the only country in the world to which the United States government bans travel by its citizens.**
- For decades, the ban on legal travel by Americans to Cuba was imposed through Executive Orders and regulations, rather than by statute. Presidents have exercised their authority in different ways:
 - In 1977, President Carter chose to eliminate all travel restrictions for all Americans.
 - In 1982, President Reagan re-imposed the ban.
 - In the 1990s, President Clinton did not lift the travel ban, but permitted licensed people-to-people contacts with Cuba, and encouraged travel by academics, agriculture organizations, businesses, journalists, religious groups, athletes and performers, and Cuban Americans, among others.
- In 2000, when Congress passed legislation permitting the sale of agricultural goods to Cuba, embargo proponents attached legislative restrictions on U.S travel to Cuba. All tourist travel was prohibited, and the President's authority to allow certain categories of non-tourist travel was limited.
- Today, the President can loosen or tighten travel rules for twelve specific categories of travelers (such as researchers, religious workers, government officials, etc.). But it would take an Act of Congress to restore full travel rights to all Americans.

- 
- In its first term, the Bush administration issued guidelines and regulations restricting or eliminating travel under many of the twelve categories. For example, travel by academic institutions, non-profit research institutions and national religious organizations were severely restricted. In 2004, the Administration put new, more onerous restrictions on Cuban Americans, limiting their right to travel to Cuba to once every three years and narrowing the categories of family members whom they may visit.
 - Under the current rules, there is very little travel between Cuba and the United States. Most individuals who qualify under one of the twelve categories must apply for an individual travel license, a lengthy and uncertain bureaucratic application process through the Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control.
 - Legislation to end the ban on travel to Cuba has been offered in both the House and the Senate in each of the last several Congresses. Efforts to cut off funding for enforcement of the travel ban were approved in the House in 2001, 2002, and 2003, and in the Senate in 2003, but were stripped in conference committee. In 2003, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee marked up and passed S.950, the Freedom to Travel to Cuba Act, but it did not receive consideration on the Senate floor.
 - In April 2009, President Obama ordered the removal of restrictions on travel to Cuba by Cuban-Americans, a change he had committed to during his campaign. All signs indicate his administration is open to further changes in the policy.



TRAVEL AND SALES TO CUBA HELP THE AMERICAN ECONOMY AND THE CUBAN PEOPLE

Background: Cuba relies on imports for most of its food needs and, between 2000 and 2006, Cuba's food and agricultural imports nearly doubled. Agricultural producers in the United States are well positioned to benefit from additional sales to Cuba—U.S. suppliers can reach the three major Cuban ports in one day or less, compared to 25 days from Brazil. However, even though U.S. firms offer reliable trading partners, quality products, and competitive prices, current U.S. policy hampers their ability to supply the Cuban market. If the United States is not the supplier, the European Union or Brazil will be happy to take our place.

Since sales of U.S. farm goods were allowed to Cuba in 2000, U.S. farmers have seen \$4 billion in sales into the market and payment has been received from the Cubans without issue. Cuba is the United States' 3rd largest market for rice, 8th largest market for chicken and 12th largest market for wheat. Unfortunately, due to continued arbitrary restrictions on U.S. agricultural sales, American producers have failed to realize the full potential of this market.

1. U.S. farmers and businesspeople can meet Cuba's current demand for agricultural imports. Allowing them to do so would boost the American economy and create jobs.


- Lifting restrictions on travel and sales to Cuba would create **up to \$365 million/year** in additional U.S. exports to Cuba.¹
- These changes would generate up to **5,500 new jobs** and add **\$1.1 billion dollars** of business activity to the U.S. economy.²

2. Allowing all Americans to travel to Cuba would strengthen the U.S. travel industry.

- The American Society of Travel Agents forecasts an additional **850,000 visitors to Cuba annually from the United States**, not including relatives or cruise passengers, if travel restrictions are lifted.
- Cuba will be an exciting new destination that will stimulate travel at a time when it has declined with the severe recession, thereby benefitting not only airlines, tour operators, travel agents, travel distributors and cruise lines, but also the economy more generally.

3. Allowing all Americans to travel to Cuba would create additional demand for U.S. agriculture products.

- While difficult to quantify, a 2010 Texas A&M University study finds that, "such an increase in additional spending on bulk products would be anticipated not only because Cubans would increase consumption with additional resources, but



because U.S. suppliers could regain market share lost in 2009-2010 to competitors who offer credit and extended payment terms to Cuba.”³

- An increase in American travelers to Cuba would likely increase U.S. agricultural sales to Cuba, by:
 - driving up general demand for a variety of staples such as wheat, poultry and eggs.
 - increasing demand for brands of processed food such as soft drinks and snacks that are familiar to American tourists, as well as luxury items like California wine, Pacific wild salmon and Florida Black Angus beef.

4. In these difficult economic times, an opportunity to expand U.S export sales should not be overlooked. U.S. sales to Cuba will be one-way trade, free of related concerns that normally accompany two-way free trade agreements, and beneficial for the Cuban people.

- Increasing travel and sales to Cuba would not undercut domestic industries or local producers in Cuba. Cuba currently imports 80% of its food because its agriculture sector is unable to produce enough food to meet the needs of the Cuban people.
- People-to-people exchange between Americans and Cubans promotes understanding, transmits ideas, and generates debate. As Cuba's people and government contemplate their future, travel to Cuba by U.S. businessmen, farmers and ordinary citizens will help position our people, our values, and our businesses, and enhance our influence.
- Expanding travel and sales to Cuba is an important, bi-partisan priority for U.S. business and agriculture in 2010.
 - The U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the American Farm Bureau Association, the National Tour Association, and the U.S. Tour Operator Association, among others, have called on Members of Congress to remove restrictions on sales and travel to Cuba.

¹ Texas A&M University, AgriLife Research, “Estimated Economic Impacts of the Travel Restriction Reform and Export Enhancement Act of 2010”; Addendum, “Tourism and Agriculture in Cuba,” March 22, 2010.

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.



LIFTING THE TRAVEL BAN WILL STRENGTHEN U.S. INTERESTS AND HELP THE CUBAN PEOPLE

For fifty years, U.S. policy toward Cuba – diplomatic isolation and economic sanctions – has failed to advance our goals for human and political rights on the island while also harming the U.S. national interest.

That is why retired U.S. military leaders, respected human rights advocates, former political prisoners and dissidents on the island, and growing majorities of Americans and Cuban-Americans want *all* U.S. citizens to have the right to travel to Cuba as part of a new policy based on engagement with the Cuban people.

1. Ending the travel ban would be good for the U.S. economy; it would expand demand for U.S. products, help the tourist travel and airline industries, and create much-needed American jobs.


- Lifting restrictions on travel and sales to Cuba would create **up to \$346 million dollars/year** in additional U.S. sales to Cuba.¹
- These changes would generate up to **5,500 new jobs** and add **\$1.12 billion dollars of business activity** to the U.S. economy.²
- The American Society of Travel Agenda forecasts an additional 850,000 visitors to Cuba annually from the United States, not including relatives or cruise passengers, if the travel restrictions are lifted.

2. Prominent U.S. human rights organizations have called for an end to the travel ban concluding that it does nothing to improve the human rights situation on the island.

- “...this policy [the U.S. ban on travel to Cuba] has proved completely ineffective when it comes to pressuring the Cuban government to dismantle its repressive machinery. The Freedom to Travel to Cuba Act is a necessary first step in replacing an ineffective, unilateral policy toward Cuba with a more targeted, multilateral approach.” - *José Miguel Vivanco, Americas Director, Human Rights Watch, 2009.*
- “It is well past time to reassess a policy that impedes the ability of American citizens to freely interact with Cubans on a large scale and thus expose them to unfettered information about the outside world. We call on the incoming administration of Barack Obama to reexamine the embargo and to immediately lift the restrictions on remittances and travel to and from the island.” – *Jennifer Windsor, Executive Director of Freedom House.*
- “Improving the lives of the Cuban people and encouraging democracy and human rights in Cuba will best be advanced through more, rather than less, contact between the Cuban and American people.” - *Most Reverend Howard J. Hubbard, Bishop of Albany,*

¹ Texas A&M University, AgriLife Research, “Estimated Economic Impacts of the Travel Restriction Reform and Export Enhancement Act of 2010”; Addendum, “Tourism and Agriculture in Cuba,” March 22, 2010.

² Ibid.




Chairman Committee on International Justice and Peace, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, endorsing The Travel Restriction Reform and Export Enhancement Act.

3. Retired senior officers of the U.S. armed forces affirm that Cuba is not a security threat, that the current embargo in fact strengthens the Cuban government, and that allowing the freedom to travel to Cuba offers real benefits to the Cuban people.

- In a letter to President Obama, twelve high-ranking retired military officers said that “Cuba ceased to be a military threat decades ago... (but) the current embargo serves more to prop up the Castro regime.” Advocating for the freedom to travel, these esteemed military leaders said “By sending our best ambassadors – the American people – to engage their Cuban neighbors, we have a much better chance of influencing the eventual course of Cuban affairs” and promoting a more pluralistic and open society. – *Letter from retired military officers to President Obama, April 13, 2009.*
- General James T. Hill, a U.S. Army Retired Four Star General, and former Combatant Commander of U.S. Southern Command, has argued that engagement with Cuba would provide the island with an important alternative to Venezuelan and Russian influence. He has also written “Our national policy toward Cuba, to encourage democracy and the overthrow of Fidel’s communist government through sanctions, has failed miserably.” – “*9 Ways for US to talk to Cuba and for Cuba to talk to US,*” *The Center for Democracy in the Americas*, 2009.
- The strategy of starving the Cuban government by restricting U.S. travel is ineffective since Cuba is steadily building beneficial economic and diplomatic relationships with other countries throughout the world such as Venezuela, Brazil, China, Russia, among others.

4. Enforcement of the ban against travel to Cuba wastes U.S. tax dollars and diverts them from real threats, which compromises the security of all Americans.

- In a 2008 report, the GAO found that after 2001, OFAC opened more investigations and imposed more penalties for embargo violations, such as buying Cuban cigars, than for violations of other sanctions, such as those on Iran.
- The GAO also found that the Treasury Department’s disproportionate focus on enforcement of the rules against travel and trade with Cuba “have strained C.B.P.’s [Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security] capacity to carry out its primary mission of keeping terrorists, criminals and inadmissible aliens from entering the country.”



5. A majority of Americans and Cuban Americans support unrestricted travel to Cuba for all.

- A recent Ipsos poll taken April 23-27 finds that **67% of all Americans want the right to travel to Cuba**, and 72% of respondents said it would have a positive impact on the island.
- According to a Bendixen and Associates poll taken April 14-16, 2009, **two-thirds (67%) of Cuban and Cuban-American adults support the lifting of travel restrictions for all Americans** so that they can also travel to Cuba freely.

6. Political dissidents in Cuba want engagement with the U.S. and the freedom to travel for American citizens. They prefer the U.S. approach toward the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe during the Cold War, supported by Presidents of both parties, to encourage unrestricted travel so that we could share our ideas, values and culture.


- Dissidents and former political prisoners in Cuba recognize this fact and have repeatedly urged the United States to lift restrictions on Americans' travel to Cuba, and especially for an end to restrictions on family travel:

In June 2010, 74 Cuban dissidents, including many of the islands most well-known human rights advocates, sent a letter to the U.S. Congress asking it to pass legislation (H.R.4645) that would end restrictions on travel to Cuba. It said:

- “The supportive presence of American citizens, their direct help, and the many opportunities for exchange, used effectively and in the desired direction, would not be an abandonment of Cuban civil society but rather a force to strengthen it.”
- “Because the ability to travel freely is the right of every human being, we support this bill.”
- “Above all, we believe that defending each and every Human Right for all people must be an absolute priority, ahead of any political or economic consideration, and that no restriction of these rights can be justified on economic, political or social grounds.”

- 74 Cuban dissidents, including Elizardo Sánchez, president of the Cuban Human Rights and National Reconciliation Commission; Yoani Sánchez, prominent dissident blogger; Miriam Leiva, human rights activist and founder of the dissident group the Ladies in White; Guillermo Fariñas, hunger striker protesting the treatment of political prisoners in Cuban jails.

“We fully support lifting all restrictions on Americans to travel to Cuba. It would contribute to better knowing and understanding the realities in our countries. Even by a simple conversation, sharing everyday experiences, Americans would be demonstrating how your society is capable of constantly deepening and improving democracy, and could help our own efforts for democracy.” - *Miriam Leiva, human rights activist and founder of Ladies in White; Oscar Espinosa Chepe, prisoner of conscience, sentenced to 20 years on March 2003, on conditional release due to serious health problems, April 2009.*



"I would love to think that this is the year that the embargo ends. The United States government has to reframe its policy towards Cuba, which has not worked for all these years. Trapped in the middle of the rivalry between governments are the Cuban people and I wish that we were the center of priorities for our government and for the United States." - *Yoani Sánchez, a Cuban philologist and blogger who is under permanent surveillance by Cuban government officers, April 23, 2008*

"Lifting the embargo won't solve the problems of the Cuban people. Maintaining it is no solution, either." - *Oswaldo Payá, Cuban dissident and leader of the Christian Liberation Movement, Miami Herald, August 2000.*

7. Travel restrictions are inconsistent with U.S. policy on citizen travel to other countries.

- U.S. citizens, barred from traveling freely to Cuba, are allowed to travel to other communist nations, including North Korea, China, and Vietnam. With the recent end to the ban on travel to Libya, Cuba is the only country in the world to which U.S. citizens cannot travel without special government permission.

8. Allowing Americans to travel to Cuba will send an important signal to Latin America as a whole. Currently every nation in the hemisphere - except the U.S. - has full diplomatic relations with Havana. An end to the travel ban would signal a shift in the U.S. approach to Cuba and demonstrate to our democratic allies in the region that we are respecting their concerns while continuing to adhere to our goals for opening political space in Cuba.

- Most other governments have normal diplomatic relations with Cuba, engage with Cuba in other multi-lateral bodies, address concerns about human rights in the context of ongoing dialogue, and place no limitations on the right of their citizens to travel to Cuba.
- At a December 2008 summit in Rio De Janeiro, **the leaders of every Latin American country called on the U.S. to end the embargo against Cuba.** An end to the ban on travel would be a modest step that would respond to the calls of our friends in the hemisphere.
- In an historic agreement at the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS) in San Pedro Sula, Honduras on June 2, 2009, foreign ministers agreed by consensus to end Cuba's suspension from the body, imposed in 1962 at the height of the Cold War. After rounds of tough negotiations, the U.S. agreed to the language, showing flexibility and a willingness to listen to regional partners. The final statement set no preconditions, but rather ended the suspension on Cuba and proposed a mechanism for discussion with Cuba if it requests re-admission.



U.S. ORGANIZATIONS THAT SUPPORT AN END TO THE BAN ON TRAVEL TO CUBA FOR ALL AMERICANS

AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATIONS

American Cotton Shippers Association
American Farm Bureau Federation
American Soybean Association
Arkansas Rice Federation
Arkansas Rice Growers Association
California Rice Commission
Cargill
CNFA, Inc.
Corn Producers Association of Texas
Delmarva Poultry Industry, Inc.
Greater Houston Partnership
Illinois Corn Growers Association
Illinois Farm Bureau
Independent Cattlemen's Association of Texas
Indiana Corn Growers Association
Indiana Soybean Alliance
Iowa Corn Growers Association
J.R. Simplot Company
Louis Dreyfus Commodities
Louisiana Independent Rice Producers Association
Louisiana Rice Growers Association
Louisiana Rice Producers' Group
Maryland Farm Bureau
Maryland Grain Producers Association
Minnesota Corn Growers Association
Mississippi Rice Council
Missouri Corn Growers Association
Missouri Farm Bureau
Missouri Rice Council
Missouri Rice Producers' Group
Missouri Soybeans
Montana Farmers Union
National Association of State Departments of Agriculture
National Association of Wheat Growers
National Barley Growers Association
National Chicken Council
National Corn Growers Association
National Council of Farmer Cooperatives
National Farmers Union
National Grain and Feed Association
National Grange of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry
National Milk Producers Federation
National Oilseed Processors Association
National Pork Producers Council
National Sorghum Producers
Nebraska Corn Board
Nebraska Farm Bureau
North American Export Grain Association
North American Millers' Association



Northwest Horticultural Council
Ohio Corn Growers Association
Ohio Wheat Growers Association
Pet Food Institute
Rice Producers of California
Smithfield Foods
Texas Farm Bureau
Texas Forestry Association
Texas Grain Sorghum Producers Association
Texas Rice Council
Texas Rice Producers Legislative Group
Texas Wheat Producers Association
U.S. Apple Association
U.S. Dairy Export Council
U.S. Dry Bean Council
U.S. Livestock Genetics Export, Inc.
U.S. Rice Producers Association
United Egg Association
United Egg Producers
USA Dry Pea & Lentil Council
USA Rice Federation
Washington State Potato Commission
Western Growers Association

ACADEMIC ASSOCIATIONS

American Association of State Colleges and Universities
Latin American Studies Association
NAFSA: Association of International Educators
Social Science Research Council

BUSINESS/TRADE ORGANIZATIONS

Alamar Associates
AdvaMed
Bunge
Business Roundtable
Coalition for Employment through Exports
Coalition of Service Industries
Emergency Committee for American Trade
Grocery Manufacturers Association
J Perez Associates, Inc
National Foreign Trade Council
National Retail Federation
Organization for International Investment
Port Freeport
Port of Corpus Christi
Port of Galveston
Port of Houston Authority
TriDimension Strategies, LLC
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
U.S. Council for International Relations
United States Council for International Business
USA*Engage



LABOR

AFL-CIO

CUBAN AMERICAN & CULTURAL EXCHANGE ORGANIZATIONS

Center for Cuban Studies

Cuba Study Group

Cuban American Alliance Education Fund

Cuban American Commission for Family Rights

Cuban Committee for Democracy

CubaPuentes

Emergency Network of Cuban-American Scholars (ENCASA)

FORNORM (Foundation for Normalization of US/Cuba Relations)

Madison-Camaguey Sister City Association

Puentes Cubanos

U.S. Women & Cuba Collaboration

U.S.-Cuba Cultural Exchange

U.S.-Cuba Sister Cities Association

U.S.-Cuba Cultural Exchange

HUMAN RIGHTS, DEVELOPMENT and POLICY ORGANIZATIONS

ActionAid USA

Center for Democracy in the Americas

Center for International Policy

Freedom House

Fund for Reconciliation and Development

Human Rights Watch

Institute for Policy Studies

Labor Council for Latin American Advancement

Latin America Working Group

National Alliance of Latin American & Caribbean Communities (NALACC)

National League of Women Voters

New America Foundation

Operation USA

Oxfam America

TransAfrica Forum

Washington Office on Latin America

Witness for Peace

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

FAITH-BASED AND RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

African Methodist Episcopal Church

Alliance of Baptists

American Baptist Churches International Ministries

American Baptist Churches of the USA

American Friends Service Committee

Chicago Religious Leadership Network on Latin America

Christian Reformed Church in North America

Christian Reformed World Missions


Church of the Brethren Witness

Church World Service

Conference of Major Superiors of Men (CMSM)

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Global Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)



Jesuit Conference
Lutheran World Relief
Mennonite Central Committee
National Council of Churches
Presbyterian Church (USA)
Progressive National Baptist Convention
Reformed Church in America
Spanish American Baptist Church of Union City, NJ
The Episcopal Church
Unitarian Universalist Service Committee
United Church of Christ
United Methodist Church
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

TRAVEL ORGANIZATIONS

American Society of Travel Agents
Common Ground Education and Travel Services
Cuba Travel Services, Inc.
Interactive Travel Services Association
Molimar Export Consultants, Inc.
National Tour Association (NTA)
Orbitz
Travel Services Association
United Motorcoach Association

*Copies of organizational statements or letters are available from the
Latin America Working Group, www.lawg.org, or
Washington Office on Latin America www.wola.org*



RECENT POLLING INDICATES AMERICANS SUPPORT INCREASING U.S. SALES, TRAVEL TO CUBA

Orbitz.com / Ipsos poll: (April 23-27, 2009) – Nationwide¹

- **Seventy-two percent (72%) agree** that **expanding travel and tourism** from the U.S. to Cuba would have a **positive impact** on the day-to-day lives of the Cuban people.
- **Sixty-seven (67%) percent of** Americans would **support** a policy that allows **all Americans to travel to Cuba**.
- **Twenty-three (23%) percent** say that they would **oppose** lifting these restrictions for Americans traveling to Cuba (only 13% would strongly oppose it).

Washington Post / ABC News poll: (April 21-24, 2009) – Nationwide²

Q: Do you think the U.S. Government should or should not end its travel restrictions, and allow U.S. citizens to visit Cuba and Cubans to visit the United States?

Should – 55%

Should not – 40%

No Opinion – 5%

Bendixen and Associates poll: (April 14-16, 2009) – Cuban-Americans only³

Q: Do you favor or oppose all American citizens being able to travel to Cuba?

<u>2009</u>	<u>2006</u>
67% favor	49% favor
29% oppose	45% oppose

Hamilton Campaign poll: (June 2008) – 400 registered voters in Florida's 17th, 21st, and 25th Congressional Districts.⁴

- Polling of registered voters **in Florida's 21st and 25th Districts** (currently represented by Reps. Mario and Lincoln Diaz-Balart), found that nearly **70% of Cuban Americans** under the age of 55 expressed **support for allowing U.S. citizens to travel to Cuba**.
- In the same poll, when voters were asked their preference between supporting a candidate who focused on domestic issues or on changing Cuba's government, or who focused on both equally, 60% of Cuban Americans said that they would support a candidate whose top priority will be improving healthcare, lowering housing costs, and improving our schools.

¹<http://www.ipsos-na.com/news/pressrelease.cfm?id=4386>

²<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wpdyn/content/graphic/2009/04/27/GR2009042700688.html?sid=ST2009042700689>

³http://www.bendixenandassociates.com/studies/National_Survey_of_Cuban_Americans_on_Policy_towards_Cuba_FI_NAL.pdf

⁴<http://www.cubastudygroup.org/files/ForNormPresentationCompatibilityMode.pdf>

CNN / Opinion Research poll: (April 3-5, 2009) – Nationwide ⁵

- **Sixty-four percent (64%)** thought the U.S. government **should allow citizens to travel to Cuba.**
- **Seventy-one (71%)** percent of those polled said that the **U.S. should reestablish diplomatic relations with Cuba**, while 27 percent opposed such a move.

World Public Opinion (WPO) poll: (March 25 – April 6, 2009) – Nationwide ⁶

Q: Do you think, in general, Americans:

Should be free to visit Cuba.....70%

Republicans.....62%
Democrats.....77%
Independents.....66%

Should continue to be prohibited from visiting Cuba.....28%

Republicans.....37%
Democrats.....20%
Independents.....32%
Refused/Don't know..... 2%

Q: If there is increasing travel and trade between Cuba and the United States, do you think it is more likely that:

This will lead Cuba in a more open and democratic direction.....71%

Republicans.....59%
Democrats.....80%
Independents.....69%
Refused/Don't know.....3%

This will strengthen the communist regime in Cuba.....26%

Republicans.....38%
Democrats.....16%
Independents.....28%

⁵<http://www.cnn.com/2009/POLITICS/04/10/poll.cuba/>

⁶http://www.worldpublicopinion.org/pipa/pdf/apr09/Cuba_Apr09_quaire.pdf



U.S.-CUBA POLICY CONTACTS

The Center for Democracy in the Americas

www.democracyinamericas.org

The Center for Democracy in the Americas (CDA) is devoted to changing U.S. policy toward the countries of the Americas by basing our relations on mutual respect, recognizing positive models of governance in the region, and fostering dialogue particularly with those governments and movements with which U.S. policy is at odds. Its Cuba program is called the Freedom to Travel Campaign. Started in 2001, it seeks a fundamental overhaul of U.S. policy toward Cuba and an end to the U.S. travel ban. To achieve these objectives, it leads fact-finding missions for U.S. delegations, works with U.S. policymakers on strategy, sponsors and disseminates research, hosts events, and conducts public education and outreach via the news media and the internet.

Contact: Sarah Stephens, Executive Director
sstephens@democracyinamericas.org
(202) 234-5506

Latin America Working Group

www.lawg.org

The Latin America Working Group is one of the nation's longest-standing coalitions dedicated to helping shape foreign policy toward Latin America and the Caribbean. LAWG carries out the coalition's mission to encourage U.S. policies towards Latin America that promote human rights, justice, peace and sustainable development. As a coalition, LAWG represents the interests of over 65 major religious, humanitarian, human rights, grassroots, and foreign policy organizations, providing reliable guidance to policymakers who want their decisions to be grounded in human rights. The LAWG regularly provides information to members of Congress, the media, and citizens interested in U.S. policy toward Latin America

Contact:
Mavis Anderson, Senior Associate
manderson@lawg.org
(202) 546-7010

Paulo Gusmao, Program Associate
pgusmao@lawg.org
(202) 546-7010

Travis Wheeler, Congressional Liaison
twheeler@lawg.org
(202) 546-7010



Lexington Institute
www.lexingtoninstitute.org

The Lexington Institute is a nonprofit, nonpartisan public policy research organization that supports a strong national security posture, American engagement abroad, openness toward trade and immigration, and use of markets and economic freedom in addressing public policy challenges. Since 1999, its Cuba project has supported a shift toward a policy of engagement with Cuba, based on the idea that citizen contact and active diplomacy will be conducive to an opening in Cuba, will produce humanitarian benefits for Cubans, and will create a more productive government-to-government relationship. Lexington produces original field research on economic and political conditions in Cuba and critical analysis of U.S. policy; engages actively in the public debate through the press, publications, and our blog, The Cuban Triangle; and collaborates with Members of Congress who seek to change Cuba policy.

Contact:

Philip Peters, Vice President
peters@lexingtoninstitute.org
(703) 522-5828

New America Foundation
www.newamerica.net

The New America Foundation is a nonprofit, nonpartisan public policy institute that invests in new thinkers and new ideas to address the next generation of challenges facing the United States. The objective of New America's U.S. Cuba Policy Initiative is to take advantage of recent developments in Cuba and the United States to redirect U.S.-Cuba policy and relations towards a more sensible, mutually beneficial direction built on a new consensus of national stakeholders around an engagement strategy with Cuba—rather than the decades-old, tried-and-failed strategy of isolating Cuba and its citizens. The overall strategy of the U.S.-Cuba Policy Initiative is to build the intellectual capital, the policy prescriptions, and a mobilized and ideologically diverse network of policy stakeholders to push past a “tipping point” in U.S.-Cuba policy

Contact:

Anya Landau French, Research Director, U.S. – Cuba Policy Initiative
LandauFrench@newamerica.net
(202) 596-3430

Tom Garofalo, Consultant, U.S.-Cuba Policy Initiative
Garofalo@newamerica.net
(202) 986-2700



Washington Office on Latin America

www.wola.org

Since 1974, the Washington Office on Latin America has promoted human rights, democracy and social and economic justice in Latin America and the Caribbean. WOLA works closely with civil society organizations and government officials throughout the Americas; it has programs on citizen security (including police reform, organized crime, and youth gang violence), on US drug policy, and on trade and development issues, as well as country focused human rights programs on Mexico, Guatemala, Colombia, Venezuela, and Cuba. WOLA's Cuba program, founded in 1995, encourages U.S. policy-makers to move towards normalized relations with Cuba on the grounds that engagement with Cuba is a more sensible, more effective, and more humane strategy for promoting human rights and social justice.

Contacts:

Geoff Thale, Program Director
gthale@wola.org
(202) 797-2171

Lilia Lopez, Program Officer
llopez@wola.org
(202) 797-2171

Prepared by the Center for Democracy in the Americas, www.democracyinamericas.org, the Latin America Working Group, www.lawg.org, the Lexington Institute, www.lexingtoninstitute.org, the New America Foundation, www.newamerica.net, and the Washington Office on Latin America
www.wola.org