

STATEMENT

Solidarity with Cuba, Venezuela and Nicaragua!

The Swedish-Cuban Association condemns the US Government's stepped up aggressiveness against Cuba and other sovereign nations in Latin America.

- We condemn President Trump and his ministers' declarations that the 1823 *Monroe Doctrine* shall be brought to life, i.e. Latin America shall once again be the backyard of the USA.
- We condemn that the US Government is applying chapter III of its illegal extraterritorial Helms-Burton law and increasing its threats and persecution of those who cooperate and trade with Cuba. The US blockade has already cost the Cuban people 934 billion dollars in its efforts to bring about an enslaving regime change subservient to Washington's wishes.
- We condemn the US sanctions and blatant recent coup efforts against Venezuela and Nicaragua.

President Trump's National Security Advisor Bolton is calling Cuba, Venezuela and Nicaragua a "troika of tyranny" and a "triangle of terror". Trump's Secretary of State repeats that "all options are on the table", i.e. a direct military threat. The USA has, already during this millennium, wreaked destruction in the Middle East with ongoing chaos in Libya and a million dead in Iraq. This tragedy and madness must be stopped.

What is it in Cuba that the Trump Government despises? Is it that Cuba has the best education system in Latin America, according to the *World Bank*? Is it that Cuba is the best country in Latin America to be a child in, according to *Save the Children*? Is it that Cuba has free health care for all?

What is it in Venezuela that the US disagrees with? Is it that education from nursery to university is free of charge? Is it that since Hugo Chavez was elected president 1998, more than two million homes have been built for the people? Is it that in cooperation with Cuba, health care is available for all? Is it that income from Venezuela's oil is used for the welfare system?

What is it in Nicaragua that Trump wants to destroy? Is it that peasants have been given land? From 2007, when the Sandinistas won the elections, to today, more than 100,000 titles to land have been given. There are over 5,000 co-operatives. Nicaragua is the only country in Latin America that produces 90 percent of the food it consumes, very little needs to be imported. During Somoza's dictatorship big land-owners had 80 percent of the land. Today they have 20 percent.

The US Government should, instead of bullying the world, use its abundant resources to solve its own problems. For instance the enormous use of illicit drugs and death from overdoses. The USA has the largest prison population in the world, over two million; 700 incarcerated of 100,000 citizens. Of the rich countries in the world, the USA is the worst or amongst the very worst in health, food security, life expectancy, number of hospital beds, education, election participation. Violence against women, murder, obesity and poverty are excessively frequent in the USA. The USA spends as much on its military as China, Saudi Arabia, Russia, the UK, India, France and Japan all together. According to the newspaper Guardian 21 Jan 2019 the Fact Checker database shows that US President Trump lies all the time. He has made 7 645 "false or misleading claims" since taking office!

The Swedish-Cuban Association urges all good forces to unite against the US Government's anti-humanity behaviour and demand that it adheres to international law and the United Nations. The US Government must respect the sovereignty of other nations. We send our warmest greetings to the people of the USA in this struggle.

Solidarity with Cuba, Venezuela and Nicaragua!

The US blockade against Cuba and sanctions and meddling in other countries must cease!

The Swedish-Cuban Association

25th of April 2019