



The Christian Democratic Party of Cuba

The Cuba-Russia Axis and the EU

"The forces of evil (...) are still alive and against them we have to demonstrate a much more powerful, much more consistent and much more united capacity for action than we have been able to do up to now." Josep Borrell Fontelles

Cuban citizens and independent civil society organisations have recently warned of the recruitment of Cubans to fight with the Russian army in the war in Ukraine. According to the declarations of the young men, they were connected in Havana by a Cuban woman and a Russian "translator". The passports of 189 Cuban citizens show that they were enrolled in the Russian army by Major Anton Valentinovich Perevozchikov, with the complicity of Colonel Milián Gómez, military attaché of the Cuban embassy in Moscow. The testimonies given by those affected indicate that the operation was carried out with deceit: they were deceived.

The Cuban government, as on so many other occasions, countered by arresting 17 people for illegal recruitment for the war in Ukraine. Knowing the Cuban regime's history of control and disinformation, it is impossible to think that the Cuban authorities did not know about, or were not involved in some way in this operation.

A spokesman of the European Parliament's External Action Service has accepted the explanations given by the Cuban government on the case, which proves once again that Mr. Borrell has lowered his ethical and political standards with respect to the Regime. The Cuban government's explanation, in which it absolves itself of all responsibility, blaming third parties, shows once again that it is no longer just a question of human rights and the recurrent violation of the Political Dialogue and Cooperation Agreement, but also of this sensitive issue that directly affects European interests and security. Mr. Borrell looked the other way when it was content to abstain on Cuba's UN vote on the Russian issue and on political exchanges and agreements, and now it is looking the other way again on these grave events.

The High Representative, with this acceptance, not only seems to be betraying the very cause that he defends and we defend, but is also ignoring the Resolution (2023/2744(RSP) adopted on 12 July this year in Strasbourg, which, in paragraph 17 specifically, condemns the Cuban regime's support for Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine and its defence of Russia and Belarus, recalling that the VP/HR's statements indicating that not supporting Ukraine against Russian aggression would have consequences, and regrets that these statements have proved to be mere rhetoric without practical consequences.

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For the Christian Democratic Party of Cuba.