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Diaz-Canel Assures Cuba Will Resist US Sanctions

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Cuban President Miguel Diaz-Canel Bermudez has Tuesday affirmed that Cuba will respond with work, creativity, effort and resistance to the new US restrictions to heighten the blockade against Cuba.

In reaction to the US restrictions announced on Tuesday by Washington, Miguel Diaz-Canel live-tweeted that Cuba will not let itself be tampered with or distracted by new threats and restrictions.

'Work, creativity, effort and resistance is our response. They have not been able to stifle us. They cannot stop us. We will live and we will win,' he said on his official Twitted account.

Cuban Foreign Minister Bruno Rodriguez, after rejecting these restrictions, stated that the White House main purpose is to toughen the economic, financial and commercial US blockade imposed on Cuba more than half a century ago.

The Cuban FM also added that Washington is just intending to stifle the Cuban economy and harm Cubans' standard of living 'to wrest political concessions from us'.

'They will fail again,' he stressed.

According to the statement, the Trump administration will bar private jets and corporate aircrafts, cruises, sailboats, fishing boats and similar vessels from travelling to Cuba.

It included in this section an 'exemption' which sets out that certain group educational visits, previously authorized, may be carried out if the person has already completed at least one people-to-people travel transaction (such as ticket or lodging reservation) before June 5.

The only civil aircraft still authorized to go to the Caribbean nation are the commercial ones that operate under Air

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Carrier Certificates or other specifications of the Federal Aviation Administration, according to the text.

So far, US citizens could travel to Cuba if they fulfill some of the 12 existing categories such as government visits, media activities or research centers, educational, religious and medical projects, among others.

The US Treasury Secretary, Steven Mnuchin, said these new restrictions seek to 'face the destabilizing role of Cuba in Latin America, especially for its support to Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro and his Nicaraguan counterpart, Daniel Ortega.

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