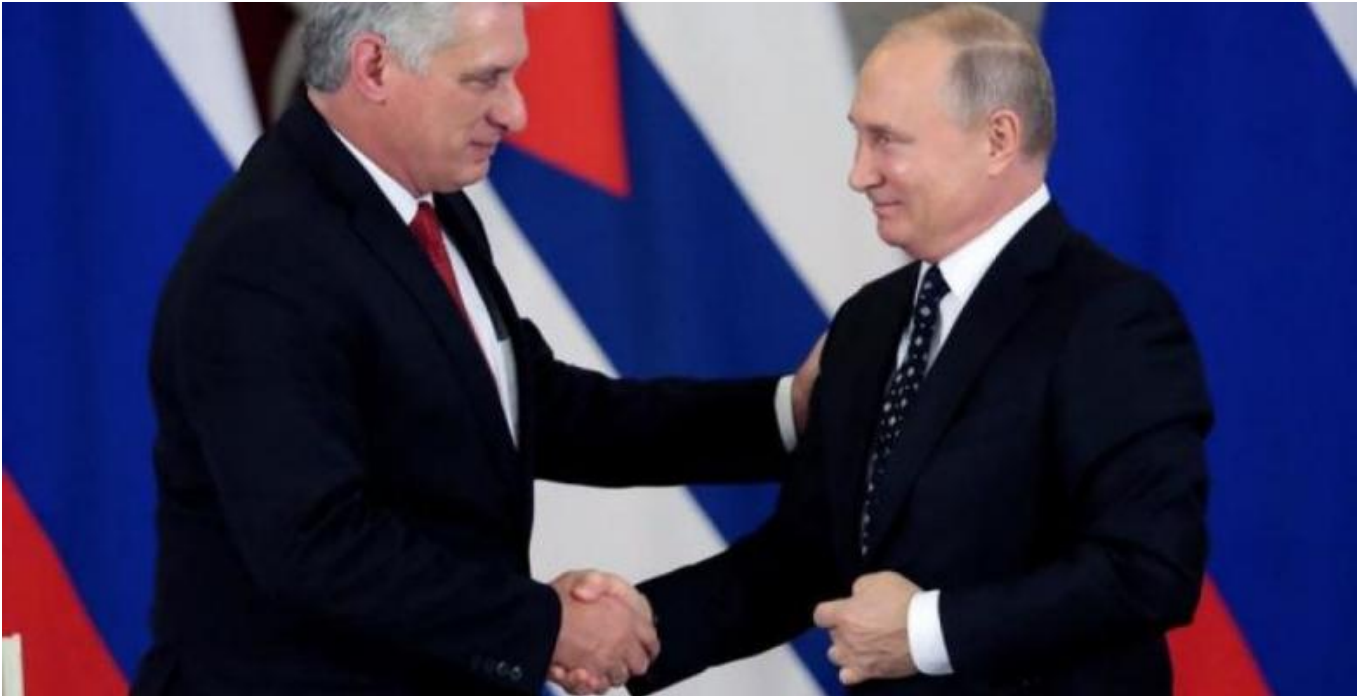


Russia and Cuba will expand cooperation in customs data exchange

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Customs of Russia and Cuba will sign a cooperation protocol for the exchange of information on crimes related to prohibitions and regulations of transit of goods by air, it was known today in this city.

According to a spokesman for the Federal Customs Service of Russia, the agreement with the General Customs of the Republic of Cuba will be effective shortly.

On August 17, the Prime Minister of Russia, Dmitri Medvedev, approved the proposal of the Russian Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Finance to sign a protocol of interaction between the customs of both countries.

In recent July, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov visited Havana, where he held meetings with the first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba, Raúl Castro, and president Miguel Díaz-Canel.

In these talks, close bilateral ties were ratified and the leaders of both countries agreed to work for their continued strengthening.

'We see Russia's participation in our economic-social program until 2030 and, in perspective, as an important element,' he told Lavrov.

Russia is one of the main trading partners of Havana, which has the effective participation of the Government and of Russian companies in its economic development plans, with joint projects in

sectors such as energy, transport, industry and biotechnology.

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