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The most severe and failed unilateral measure

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Damages of 138,843,400,000 dollars at current prices, were caused Cuba as a result of the economic, commercial, financial blockade imposed by the United States for almost 60 years, leading to quantifiable harm, taking into account the depreciation of the dollar in relation to gold on the international market, of more than 922,630,000,000, Foreign Minister Bruno Rodríguez Parrilla announced on September 29, presenting a report on the impact of this inhuman policy.

Since April of last year, through March 2019, this hostile U.S. policy has caused Cuba losses of 4,343,600,000 dollars, he added.

Throughout its history, the blockade has served to harm Cuban families, depriving them of the most elementary resources, disrupting their health, well-being, and peace, in a desperate attempt to provoke "disappointment and discouragement through economic dissatisfaction and hardship ... with the objective of causing hunger, despair, and overthrow of the government," as a 1960 memorandum from U.S. diplomat Lester Mallory reads. It is also the most unjust, severe, and prolonged unilateral system of sanctions that has been ever been levied on any country, to which we can add, the most failed.

During a press conference, the Cuban Foreign Minister denounced actions taken in recent weeks by the Trump administration, to deny Cuba access to fuel.

"The government of the United States is taking specific, unconventional measures that imply a qualitative change, with greater aggressiveness and even greater extraterritoriality, to prevent

the arrival of fuel to our country," said Bruno Rodríguez.

These measures include direct threats, persecution of fuel transportation companies, and pressure on governments of countries where ships are registered, as well as sanctions on shipping and insurance companies. Rodríguez Parrilla said that these moves constitute an escalation of hostility seeking to dissuade and intimidate the country's international associates, creating additional difficulties for the Cuban population.

The U.S. coercive measures seek the "economic strangulation of our people," he said. The Minister denounced the expulsion from the United States of two Cuban diplomats working at United Nations headquarters in New York, just as the 74th General Assembly is beginning, describing the move as unjustified and illegitimate, based on slander. He added that these measures "aim to provoke a diplomatic escalation that will lead to the closure of both countries' embassies, further tightening of the blockade, and greater tension between the two countries." He called on the international community, diplomatic missions of other nations in the United States, and the people of that country to repudiate those decisions.

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