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**Nobel Prize winners send message to Washington solidarity event for the Cuban Five**

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Nobel Prize winners Rigoberta Menchú, from Guatemala, and Adolfo Pérez Esquivel, from Argentina, sent messages of support to the 3rd Five Days for the Five being held in Washington.

These messages, along with one from Brazilian theologian Frei Betto, were read on Thursday, June 5, during the opening session of a conference entitled A New Era for Cuba-U.S. Relations, which will continue through the 6th.

"More than 250 people are gathered here right now," said Alicia Jrapko, coordinator of the International Committee for the Freedom of the Five, speaking via telephone with Prensa Latina.

Jrapko reported that parliamentarians from El Salvador, Ecuador and the Dominican Republic have arrived to participate in the event and delegations from Argentina and Brazil are expected.

Also on hand is Puerto Rican patriot Rafael Cancel Miranda, in addition to supporters from across the United States, Canada and almost 30 other countries.

Additional activities in 42 other countries around the world are reportedly taking place this week in support of the Five Days for the Five in Washington.