

Flotilla against the blockade: Aid mission to Cuba announced



The flotilla “Nuestra América” is scheduled to set sail in March (source: [FNA](#))

An international coalition of social movements, trade unions, and humanitarian organizations announced on Tuesday the organization of the [flotilla “Nuestra América”](#). The convoy of ships is scheduled to sail through the Caribbean to Cuba in March to deliver food, medicine, and urgently needed supplies. The organizers justify the mission with the “rapidly deteriorating situation” on the island as a result of tightened US sanctions.

The recent [massive tightening](#) of US sanctions against Cuba has interrupted fuel imports, [grounded aircraft](#), and forced the country into nationwide [austerity and emergency measures](#), the initiators explain [to the Spanish newspaper *elDiario*](#). “This blockade is causing power outages and restricting access to fuel, affecting households, medical centers, and basic infrastructure,” the announcement said.

Inspiration from the Gaza flotilla

The initiative is modeled on the Global Sumud Flotilla to Gaza, which attempted to break through Israel's naval blockade of the occupied Gaza Strip. Some organizers of the Cuba mission participated in the last Gaza flotilla in August and September 2025, which sought to bring aid to the Gaza Strip, which was suffering from malnutrition and a shortage of medicines.

“We are preparing to sail to Cuba for the same reason we sailed to Gaza with the Global Sumud Flotilla: to break the blockade, bring food and medicine, and show that solidarity can

cross any border and any sea,” David Adler of the [Progressive International](#) collective told *eDiario*.

Adler, an American Jew, traveled to Gaza last year. “The consequences of the US blockade against Cuba can be measured in empty pharmacies, canceled flights, and families without electricity or fuel,” he added.

Thiago Avila, one of the coordinators of the Gaza flotilla, emphasized that in both the Gaza Strip and Cuba, the civilian population is bearing “the consequences of collective punishment.” The mission's goal is not only to bring aid, but also “to convey the message that the Cuban people are not alone.”

Political support from several countries

British MP Jeremy Corbyn, a member of the Council of Progressive International, said the US blockade had “for over six decades sought to stifle the Cuban example – a country that, despite relentless economic pressure, has built a universal health care system and a life expectancy comparable to or even higher than that of the United States.”

The Trump administration has “intensified this blockade with punitive policies,” which is why it is necessary to “demand the right of every nation to live free from intimidation, to develop and to decide its own future.”

Other supporters of the initiative include Democratic US Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib, former Barcelona Mayor Ada Colau, and Colombian Congresswoman María Fernanda Carrascal of the Pacto Histórico alliance. “The Trump administration is suffocating the Cuban people. This policy of cruelty does not represent the people of the United States,” Tlaib said.

Colau expressed hope that “this flotilla can be a spark for a global movement strong enough to get our governments to end the blockade.”

The coalition has launched a website to gather support. The first meeting will take place this coming Sunday to advance logistical planning, coordinate volunteers, and organize the procurement of humanitarian aid.

The initiators explain that the initiative is based on relationships forged at the recent “Nuestra América” conference in Bogotá. There governments, parliamentarians, and popular movements met “to strengthen regional cooperation and resist US aggression under the banner of the Monroe Doctrine.”

800 tons of aid from Mexico

The flotilla's action is one of many humanitarian aid deliveries. Mexico has now [delivered](#) 800 tons of aid to Cuba. On Thursday, the naval ships “Papaloapan” and “Isla Holbox” arrived in the port of Havana. The “Papaloapan” unloaded 536 tons of staple foods such as rice, beans, meat, cookies, canned tuna and sardines, and vegetable oil. The Isla Holbox brought over 277 tons of powdered milk to alleviate the shortage of dairy products on the island. President Claudia Sheinbaum announced a second shipment of more than 1,500

tons of powdered milk and beans. However, Sheinbaum explained that oil was not included in the aid shipments because Mexico did not want to jeopardize its trade relations with the US.

The Chilean government [announced](#) humanitarian aid for Cuba on Thursday. Foreign Minister Alberto van Klaveren announced at the La Moneda presidential palace that the aid would be provided through the Chilean Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Fund Against Hunger and Poverty. "We are determined to provide humanitarian aid to the Cuban people," van Klaveren said. "The difficult situation the country is going through today is a matter of humanitarian concern, regardless of the political characteristics of its regime," he added.

According to [embassy sources in Havana](#), Russia is considering a delivery of oil and oil products "as humanitarian aid" "in the near future." Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said Moscow was in contact with its "Cuban friends" "at various levels" and was examining "options for helping them." However, for "obvious reasons," the Kremlin did not want to comment publicly on specific deliveries. When asked about possible US sanctions, Peskov replied that Russia did not want "any escalation," but added that there was currently "almost no trade exchange" between Russia and the US. Most recently, Russia sent 100,000 tons of crude oil to Cuba in February 2025 on the orders of President Vladimir Putin.



UN experts condemn energy blockade

Since 1992, the UN General Assembly has called for an end to the US economic blockade against Cuba in thirty votes, most recently in October 2025.

In the most recent vote, 165 countries voted in favor of lifting the blockade, with seven against: Argentina, the United States, Hungary, Israel, North Macedonia, Paraguay, and Ukraine. Twelve countries abstained.

This week, [several UN special rapporteurs](#) condemned the latest energy blockade imposed by Washington on January 29. They said it constituted "a serious violation of international law and a serious threat to a democratic and just international order." The experts emphasized that there is "no justification under international law for imposing economic sanctions on third countries for engaging in legitimate trade relations with another sovereign state." ([Cubaheute](#))