

Protesters vandalize party office in Morón



Protests and acts of vandalism took place outside the PCC office in Morón on Friday night (Source: [Radio Camaquëy](#))

On Friday night, several protesters in the Cuban city of Morón stormed the offices of the local Communist Party (PCC) committee. As can be [seen](#) in videos circulating on social media, a group of people broke into the building after dark, dragged files, computers, and furniture out onto the street, and set them on fire. Other footage shows people throwing stones through windows.

According to the state-run provincial newspaper *Invasor*, five people were [arrested](#). In addition to the party office, other facilities were reportedly damaged, including a pharmacy and a branch of the state-run retail chain *Tiendas Caribe*. The newspaper reported that another person fell while intoxicated and is being treated at the local hospital.

Reports indicate that shots were also fired near the scene, with a young man reportedly injured by a bullet. However, these details have not yet been verified.

The municipality of Morón has a population of around 70,000 and is located in the central Cuban province of Ciego de Ávila, about 400 kilometers east of Havana. As the Cuban Ministry of the Interior stated in a press release, the protesters were predominantly from the El Vaquerito neighborhood and had moved through several streets in the city. What initially began as a peaceful protest against the difficult energy and supply situation turned into vandalism following an exchange with local government officials, the ministry wrote.

On Saturday morning, supporters and members of the PCC gathered in front of the building where the protests and property damage had occurred the night before, reported the newspaper Invasor.

President Miguel Díaz-Canel responded with a written statement. “It is understandable that the ongoing power outages resulting from the U.S. energy blockade, which has been cruelly intensified in recent months, are causing discontent among our people,” he [wrote](#) on X.

Complaints and demands are legitimate, “as long as they are expressed with civic responsibility and respect for public order.” At the same time, Díaz-Canel made clear: “What will never be understandable, justified, or acceptable is violence and vandalism that endanger the peace of citizens and the security of our institutions.” There would be “no impunity” for vandalism and violence.

The incidents in Morón are part of a series of smaller protests that have been sweeping various parts of the country for about a week. In neighborhoods of Havana, residents bang on pots at night to express their discontent over hours-long power outages. On Monday, students held a sit-in on the steps of the University of Havana after in-person classes were [suspended](#) due to a fuel shortage.

Cuba is experiencing its worst economic crisis since the dissolution of the Soviet Union. High inflation, food and medicine shortages, and regular power outages have been weighing on the population for several years.

Recently, however, the situation has escalated after the U.S., under President Donald Trump, blocked Venezuelan oil shipments to Cuba and threatened third countries with tariffs if they sell oil to Cuba. Since the abduction of Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro in January, the island has been under a de facto military-enforced naval blockade on energy supplies.

Trump has recently announced on multiple occasions that he intends to bring about a change of government in Havana and stated that Cuba is “next” on his agenda after Iran.

Cuba’s government and international observers speak of a “policy of suffocation,” while the United Nations has warned of a humanitarian crisis resulting from the U.S. blockade. Just hours before the protests in Morón, the Cuban government confirmed for the first time that it was holding talks with U.S. representatives to “resolve bilateral differences.” ([Cubaheute](#))