

Spain announces humanitarian aid



Cuban Foreign Minister Bruno Rodríguez in conversation with his Spanish counterpart José Manuel Albares (Source: [Bruno Rodríguez/X](#))

Spain will provide humanitarian aid to Cuba through United Nations channels. The Spanish Foreign Ministry announced on Monday that the aid would take the form of food and basic health products.

The announcement came after a meeting between Spanish Foreign Minister José Manuel Albares and his Cuban counterpart Bruno Rodríguez Parrilla in Madrid, which was [reported](#) by the Cuban news agency *Prensa Latina*.

Rodríguez [stated](#) on Platform X that both sides had reaffirmed their desire to “strengthen political, economic, and commercial dialogue and cooperation for the benefit of both countries.” At the same time, he criticized “the violations of peace, security, and international law, as well as the increasing hostility of the United States toward Cuba.” The Cuban foreign minister's brief stay in Madrid followed visits to China and Vietnam.

The announcement follows a delivery of 800 tons of humanitarian aid from Mexico, which [arrived in](#) Cuba at the end of last week on two Mexican navy ships.

The economic situation on the Caribbean island has deteriorated massively as a result of measures taken by US President Donald Trump. At the end of January, Washington [classified](#) Cuba as an “exceptional threat” to the security of the United States and threatened punitive tariffs on products from all countries that supply oil or fuel to Cuba. The pressure on the island is part of a systematic tightening of unilateral sanctions by the US government that has been going on for several months. The measures range from the targeted diversion of tankers carrying oil supplies that Cuba had purchased on the world market to threats against players in the shipping and energy industries.

The fuel crisis is affecting all areas of public life, from food supplies and transportation to basic services. On February 6, the government ordered a series of [emergency measures](#).

The Cuban Ministry of Health [recently drew](#) attention to the direct consequences for medical care in this context. According to official figures, the tightened energy blockade is endangering more than 32,880 pregnant women: the fuel shortage is limiting access to obstetric ultrasound examinations and genetic tests, which are essential for the early detection of malformations and complications. In addition, vaccination programs are being delayed, affecting around 61,830 children under the age of one.

The United Nations recently expressed deep concern about the unfolding crisis in Cuba and [warned](#) of a humanitarian catastrophe. German Cuba expert Bert Hoffmann from the GIGA Institute for Latin American Studies [commented](#) on the worsening supply situation: “Without diesel for trucks, food can no longer be transported from the countryside to the city and oxygen cannot be delivered to hospitals. This will cost human lives.” He recently assessed the situation in an [interview with ZDF](#). Hoffmann demanded that the German government “can and should” take a stand in view of this situation. ([Cubaheute](#))