

US apparently allows oil deliveries from Mexico to Cuba



A slight sigh of relief for Cuba: The US appears to be continuing to tolerate Mexican oil deliveries (source: [Mosbatho/Commons/CC-BY-SA 4.0](#))

After Trump's [threat on Sunday](#) to stop sending “oil and money” to Cuba with immediate effect, the US administration now seems to be backtracking. US Energy Secretary Chris Wright [told CBS News](#) on Monday that the US would continue to allow oil shipments from Mexico. Another US government official confirmed this position to the broadcaster on condition of anonymity.

On Sunday, Trump called on the Cuban leadership to make a “deal” “before it's too late.” He later shared a post calling for US Secretary of State Marco Rubio to be made president of Cuba. “Sounds good to me,” Trump commented succinctly.

A US government official has now reassured *CBS* that Washington is not seeking “the collapse” of the Cuban government, but rather wants to negotiate with Havana on a “transition away from the authoritarian communist system.” However, it is completely unclear what these negotiations will look like.

Cuban President Miguel Díaz-Canel sharply rejected Trump's comments on Sunday. “As history shows, relations between the US and Cuba must be based on international law, not hostility, threats, and economic coercion,” he [wrote](#) on Monday on X. Díaz-Canel also denied that there are currently any talks with the US government at all, apart from technical contacts in the [area of migration](#). Trump had previously [stated](#) that there was dialogue with Havana.

The energy situation in Cuba remains tense following the violent [kidnapping of Venezuelan President](#) Nicolás Maduro just over a week ago, but so far without any significant changes.

The expected power deficit remained at a similarly high level as in previous weeks, at 1690 megawatts (52 percent of demand) [on Tuesday](#).

Venezuela is being urged by the US to sever its economic ties with socialist Cuba. In the wake of the ongoing escalation, the US intercepted further ships transporting oil to Cuba. However, Venezuela's interim president, Delcy Rodríguez, [reaffirmed](#) the solidarity between the two countries in a statement on Monday and condemned any external interference. On the same day, Cuba launched nationwide [defense exercises](#).

Mexico, which had already been supplying oil to Cuba on a regular basis, has since become the most important supplier. Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum described the oil deliveries as “humanitarian aid.” Sheinbaum has now also put herself forward as a mediator. On Monday, she said her government could serve as a “channel of communication” between the US and Cuba. However, she made it clear that such a mediating role would depend on the agreement of both sides. The issue did not come up in her recent conversation with Trump, nor did Mexican oil deliveries to Cuba, *CBS* reported.

Sheinbaum assured media representatives that Mexico has no plans to increase the volume of supplies to Cuba. Most recently, an oil tanker carrying approximately 86,000 barrels of fuel from Mexico arrived in Havana last Friday.

It remains to be seen how the situation for Cuba will develop: For hardliner Rubio, regime change in Havana is at the top of his priority list – which may not necessarily be the case for Trump himself, who has many other issues on his agenda. The US strategy (if one can even speak of such a thing) seems to be not to force Cuba's collapse until there is a plan for how to proceed. ([Cubaheute](#))