

# *Canada's decision to halve its embassy staff in Havana caters to Washington's attacks against Cuba*

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Havana, January 31 (RHC)-- The Government of Canada announced Wednesday that it was removing half of its Embassy staff in the Cuban capital and adjusting the programs of its mission, alleging that one of its members was supposedly affected by acoustic incidents.

On this decision, the Cuban ambassador to Canada, Josefina Vidal, said that "those are actions that do not help solve or find answers to the health symptoms that diplomats have reported and will have inevitable impact in the conduct of relations."

The Ambassador's remarks were published on the Cuban Foreign Ministry's website. Vidal added that the decision contrasts with the level, status and presence of Canadian diplomatic personnel in capitals of other parts of the world, where they do not enjoy the degree of security, tranquility, health and hospitality they find in Cuba.

"This behavior favors those in the United States who use this issue to attack and denigrate Cuba. It is known that individuals with high responsibility for foreign policy of the United States are determined to

provoke a climate of bilateral tension, seeking to describe Cuba as a threat," adding that "the decisions taken by the government of Canada unfortunately feed the speculations and contrast with the exchanges held by both governments on the subject."

Ambassador Vidal concluded her statement saying that "despite the decision of the Canadian government, Cuba remains committed to preserving the good state of relations and expanding its ties with a country to which we are bound by strong ties of friendship and cooperation."

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