

# *Solidarity with Cuba in France*

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Paris, January 30 (RHC)-- Former French Senate President Jean-Pierre Bel advocated accompanying Cuba in its development, amidst an escalation of U.S. hostility, which he described as outrageous.

"The island is going through a period of openness to foreign investment, and I hope that the European Union and France, in particular, will be part of it," Bel told Prensa Latina news agency in Paris.

According to President Francois Hollande's former advisor for Latin America and the Caribbean, that objective is threatened by the tightening of the U.S. blockade, with actions such as the Helms-Burton Act and the activation of its Title III, aimed precisely at depriving Cuba of foreign capital.

"It is impossible to understand this policy of Washington, which seeks to create problems for the Caribbean country and its population, suffocating them economically and financially, something truly outrageous," he warned.

Bel rejected that the French companies present in Cuba face the aggressiveness of the White House, in a position opposed to international law and multilateralism.

"I trust that the brave Cuban people will find the path to prosperity despite this scenario," he said.

The politician who served as senator of the Republic for the department of Ariège from 1998 to 2014, presiding over the Socialist Group from 2004 to 2011, expressed expectations that his country would further strengthen ties with the island.

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