

# *Laura Pausini sends message of gratitude to members of Cuba's Henry Reeve Medical Brigade*

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Italian singer Laura Pausini has sent a message of gratitude to Cuban health professionals, who traveled to her country to assist in the fight against the Covid-19 pandemic.

Via a video call to a member of her fans club here in the central province of Matanzas, Pausini, who in 2018 performed a long-awaited, memorable concert here in Havana, sharing on stage with popular Cuban duo Gente de Zona, sent her love and gratitude to the Cuban health professionals, members of the Henry Reeve International Brigade of Doctors Specialized in Disaster Situations and Serious Epidemics, who in her own words: 'came here to Italy to help us.'

At the request of the Italian authorities, Cuba sent a first 52-strong contingent of its Henry Reeve Brigade in late March to the City of Crema, Lombardy to fight the pandemic.

In Lombardy, the Cuban professionals worked side by side their Italian colleagues in the city's main hospital, in a field hospital built in a nearby area, and in a health center, dedicated to the care of elderly Covid-19 patients.

Based on the positive results obtained by the Cuban health professionals in Lombardy, the Italian health authorities formally requested the arrival there of a second Cuban medical brigade.

The Caribbean state responded by sending a 38-strong medical contingent, who arrived in early April, this time to assist in the fight against Covid-19 in the city of Turin, in Piamonte region.

After two months of hard, intense work, the first Cuban brigade sent to Italy has already returned home to Cuba, where upon arrival they observed the established 14-day isolation period and all the sanitary protocols in place on the island to stop the spread of the deadly disease.

More than 2 000 Cuban health professionals, members of the Henry Reeve Brigade, have been sent abroad, split up into some 37 brigades, to fight the Covid-19 in more than 30 nations around the world.

Italy's Patria Socialista Organization and the Italy-Cuba Friendship Association have joined an ongoing international campaign, asking the Nobel Committee to award Cuba's Henry Reeve International Medical Brigade a Nobel Peace Prize.

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