

# *Police repress march of doctors in the Dominican Republic*

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To prevent the health professionals from reaching their destination, the police launched pepper spray, thus generating confrontations with protesters. CMD President Dr. Rufino Senen Caba described the repressive action as "an outrage."

He also mentioned that the CMD requires President Luis Abinader's administration to open hospital facilities, create incentives for health professionals, and increase staff.

During the police operation, Dr. Senen Caba and other professionals were pushed against the pavement. Other doctors managed to break the fence, advanced along Navarro Avenue, and reached the National Palace. This group, however, was also repressed.

The CMD denounced that the Dominican government closed the Padre Billini and Luis Eduardo Aybar hospitals without justification. It has also kept other hospitals closed "to carry out repair work" for almost five years.

Dr. Senen Caba indicated that health professionals and workers are opposed to the Abinader administration transferring hospital facilities to private organizations that appear as charities made up of volunteers but are actually controlled by "corrupt oligarchs."

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