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Tehran, November 5 (RHC)-- Cuban Deputy Foreign Minister Elio Rodríguez advocated Saturday for the defense of multilateralism at the meeting of the Group of Friends in Defense of the UN Charter, which is being held in Iran.

During his speech, the Cuban deputy foreign minister demanded respect for the freedom and independence of nations, one of the essential principles of the document that governs the international body.

The meeting of national coordinators of the Group of Friends in Defense of the United Nations Charter began today in Tehran with the presence of the Iranian Foreign Minister, Hosein Amir Abdollahian.

The Group, emerged in 2021 and includes 19 countries whose objectives are to preserve, update and defend the credibility of the Charter by coordinating joint initiatives to strengthen respect for the principles of the body, as well as the values of dialogue, tolerance, solidarity and peaceful coexistence among nations.

The group's member states include Algeria, Angola, Belarus, Bolivia, Cambodia, China, Cuba, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Iran, North Korea, Laos, Nicaragua, Palestine, Russia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Syria, Venezuela and Zimbabwe.

Another of its aims is to foster solidarity among countries to forge collective, inclusive and effective solutions to the common challenges and threats of the 21st century, including the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Cuban delegation to this meeting is also composed of the Cuban Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran, Alberto González Casals, and Foreign Ministry official, Pablo Berti Oliva.

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