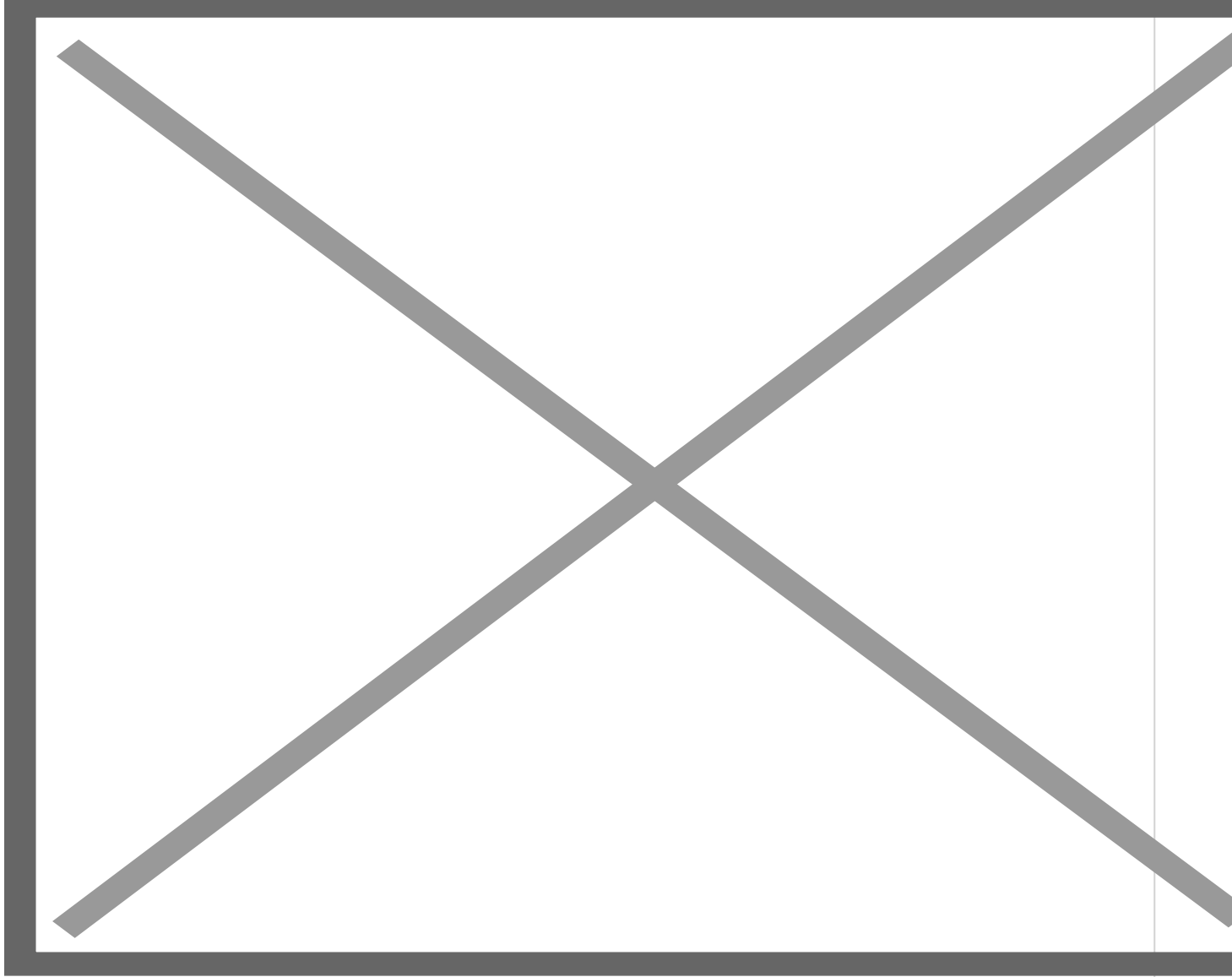


Díaz-Canel receives Iranian Foreign Minister Amir Abdollahian

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On Sunday, Cuba's President Miguel Diaz-Canel met Iranian Foreign Affairs Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian at the Revolution Palace in Havana.

Havana, Feb 5 (RHC) The First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party and President of the Republic, Miguel Díaz-Canel Bermúdez, received the Foreign Minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, His Excellency Dr. Hossein Amir Abdollahian, on the eve of his working visit to the island.

In the dialogue, marked by cordiality, the Cuban president signified the good relations of "friendship and respect" that both countries have maintained for more than 40 years, in a context in which they also share "the fact of being the most sanctioned in the world".

"We are independent, sovereign nations, which do not assume the impositions of the empire", the dignitary assured the foreign minister, whose visit allows "to continue expanding bilateral relations", which is the "political will of our government", said the Cuban leader.

President Díaz-Canel also thanked the Iranian government for its support in Cuba's struggle against the unjust economic, commercial, and financial blockade imposed on the largest of the Antilles by the U.S. administration.

An affectionate greeting was then conveyed on behalf of Army General Raúl Castro Ruz to Iran's Supreme Leader, Ali Khamenei, and Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi.

"Once again, to you and your delegation, as well as other representatives of your government who have visited us, I say that you are welcome to Cuba," stressed President Díaz-Canel, who was accompanied by Political Bureau member and Foreign Minister Bruno Rodríguez Parrilla and other Foreign Ministry officials.

Speaking next on gratitude and friendship was the Foreign Minister of the Persian country, who considered it "a great pleasure" to be received by the President on his visit to Cuba.

"I bring cordial greetings from my President and the high authorities of my country to you and the Army General," assured the Iranian Foreign Minister, who underscored the emphasis placed by Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei and President Ebrahim Raisi on "the importance of relations with Cuba."

His Excellency Dr. Hossein Amir Abdollahian, whose delegation includes members of the Iranian Foreign Ministry and the Islamic Consultative Assembly, highlighted the "historic and deep" relations between the two nations and commented on the "close ties maintained by both foreign ministries."

"We have always seen Cuba as a friend, a brother, and a strategic ally, and we are here to emphasize this friendship," he valued.

Both countries have "resisted and persisted in our revolutionary positions", recalled the Foreign Minister, who finally asserted that "Iran has no limitations to develop its strong relationship and cooperation with the brotherly country of Cuba".

Amir Abdollahian also exchanged with Foreign Affairs Minister Bruno Rodriguez, who ratified Cuba's position in defense of nuclear energy usage for peaceful purposes and rejected the destabilization attempts in Iran.

"We exchanged issues on the bilateral agenda with the will to strengthen the friendship ties that unite both nations and to boost economic and commercial relations," Rodriguez tweeted.

Cuba and Iran have maintained uninterrupted diplomatic relations since 1979. Last year, the countries celebrated their 18th Joint Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation, in which 13 agreements were signed to boost technology development and food security. (Source: ACN)

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