

# *Presidents of Cuba and Ireland Meet in Havana, Confirm Potential for Cooperation*

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Havana, February 16 (RHC)-- Cuban President Raúl Castro met Wednesday in Havana with his counterpart from Ireland Michael D. Higgins, who began an official visit to Cuba to boost political, cultural, economic and trade ties.

During the meeting, the two dignitaries reviewed the good state of bilateral ties, highlighting the existing potential for strengthened economic, trade and cooperation exchanges. They also debated international issues of common interest.

Prior to his meeting with the Cuban head of state, the distinguished Irish visitor paid homage to Cuban National Hero José Martí at Havana's Revolution Square. A solemn welcoming ceremony in his honor was also held at the Revolution Palace.

On Thursday, the Irish president toured the San Carlos de la Cabaña Fortress, the main venue of the Havana Book Fair, which began last February 9th and runs through the 19th.

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