

Cuba remains safe for diplomats and travelers from all over the world



Washington, August 5 (RHC)— Cuban ambassador to the United States, Jose Cabañas, reiterated on Sunday that Cuba is a safe country for diplomats and travelers from all over the world and urged the Donald Trump Administration to stop using the health issues reported by US diplomats as a pretext to impose more unilateral coercive measures against the Caribbean island.

In a letter to the Editor published by the Washington Post, rebutting that paper's July 27 editorial "Brain trauma on the 'friendly island' ", the Cuban ambassador noted that after much speculation and little cooperation, the U.S. government failed to explain to Congress or the public "what happened" to its diplomats.

He added that the medical journal JAMA's work did not establish brain damage. Rather, it refers to "brain differences," possibly attributable to common preexisting conditions, according to U.S., Cuban and international experts.

Ambassador Cabañas added that the only way to clarify the diplomats' health status is through transparent, scientific discussion, and that the Cuban medical team's invitation to continue the scientific dialogue, extended during the only bilateral meeting held on the matter September 2018 in Washington, remains unanswered.

The Cuban diplomat recalled that specialized agencies, including the FBI and Cuban criminal investigational counterparts, have agreed there is no evidence of any attack or act against diplomats in Havana.

"There is no reason to shut down the consular services, paralyze bilateral cooperation, expel Cuban diplomats, issue deceitful travel alerts or other unfair measures. Such measures come with a high humanitarian cost for Cubans and affect Americans as well," wrote Cabañas.

In concluding his letter to the Washington Post, the ambassador said that Cuba asks the U.S. government to stop using this issue as a pretext to impose more unilateral coercive measures against the island's integrity, economy and people.

"Cuba will remain a safe country for U.S. and any other country's diplomats, its own citizens, foreign residents and millions of travelers," he said.

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