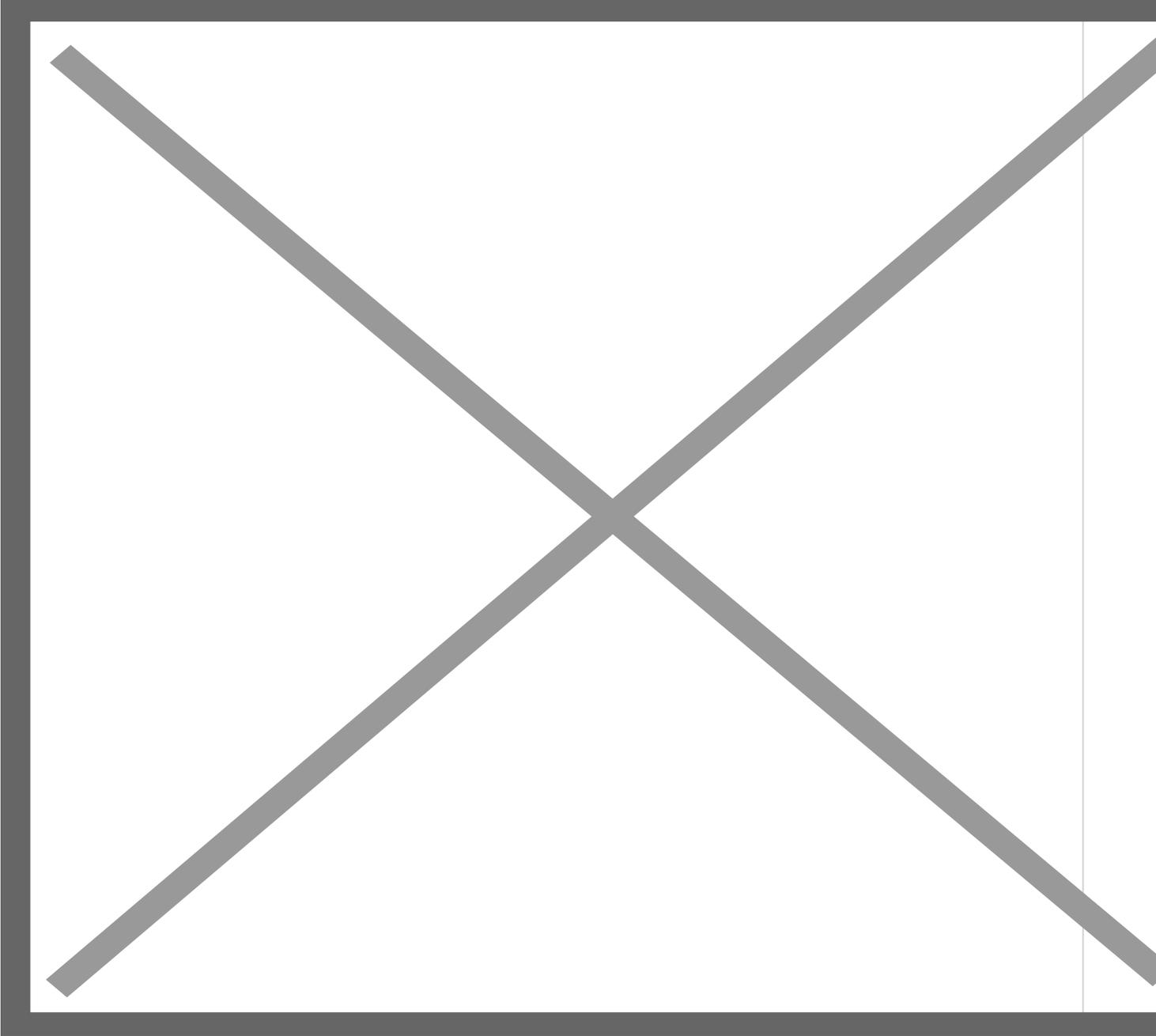


Election process moves forward in Cuba

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By María Josefina Arce

Today concludes throughout Cuba the nomination process of candidates for delegates to the Municipal Assemblies of People's Power, described by authorities as the basis of the Cuban electoral system.

Initiated last October, this exercise of popular participation is governed under the precept of appointing the most qualified people from the different communities to represent the interests of their inhabitants.

The work of the delegates is to respond to the proposals or complaints of their constituents, and they must periodically render an account of their actions to those who elected them.

A broad representation of Cuban society is guaranteed, since workers from all sectors, students, retirees, housewives, members of the non-state sector and peasants have been nominated.

It is worth mentioning that nomination assemblies were held even in the municipalities most affected by Hurricane Ian in the province of Pinar del Río.

The active participation of young people should also be highlighted. Karla Santana Rodriguez, national president of the FEU, University Student Federation, pointed out that besides working in the preparation and from the candidacy commissions, many students have been nominated.

On the 27th, the people are expected to exercise their right to vote freely, secretly and directly to elect their representatives to the local body, the base of the Cuban government in each territory.

Referring to this important day, the National Assembly of People's Power emphasized that we will continue defending our democracy from the neighborhood, with popular participation.

But as usual, this coming Sunday a dynamic test will take place in order to check the structures in the polling stations throughout the country, as well as the performance of communications, transportation and other services related to the voting day.

In addition, the technical preparedness of polling station staff will be checked. In fact, those who will have the important task of guaranteeing the proper development of the electoral process have been trained for months.

For a period of five years, those elected at the polls will exercise their functions and will have to maintain regular contact with the inhabitants of their communities, from where the social transformation that the country is carrying out for the benefit of every Cuban is born.

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