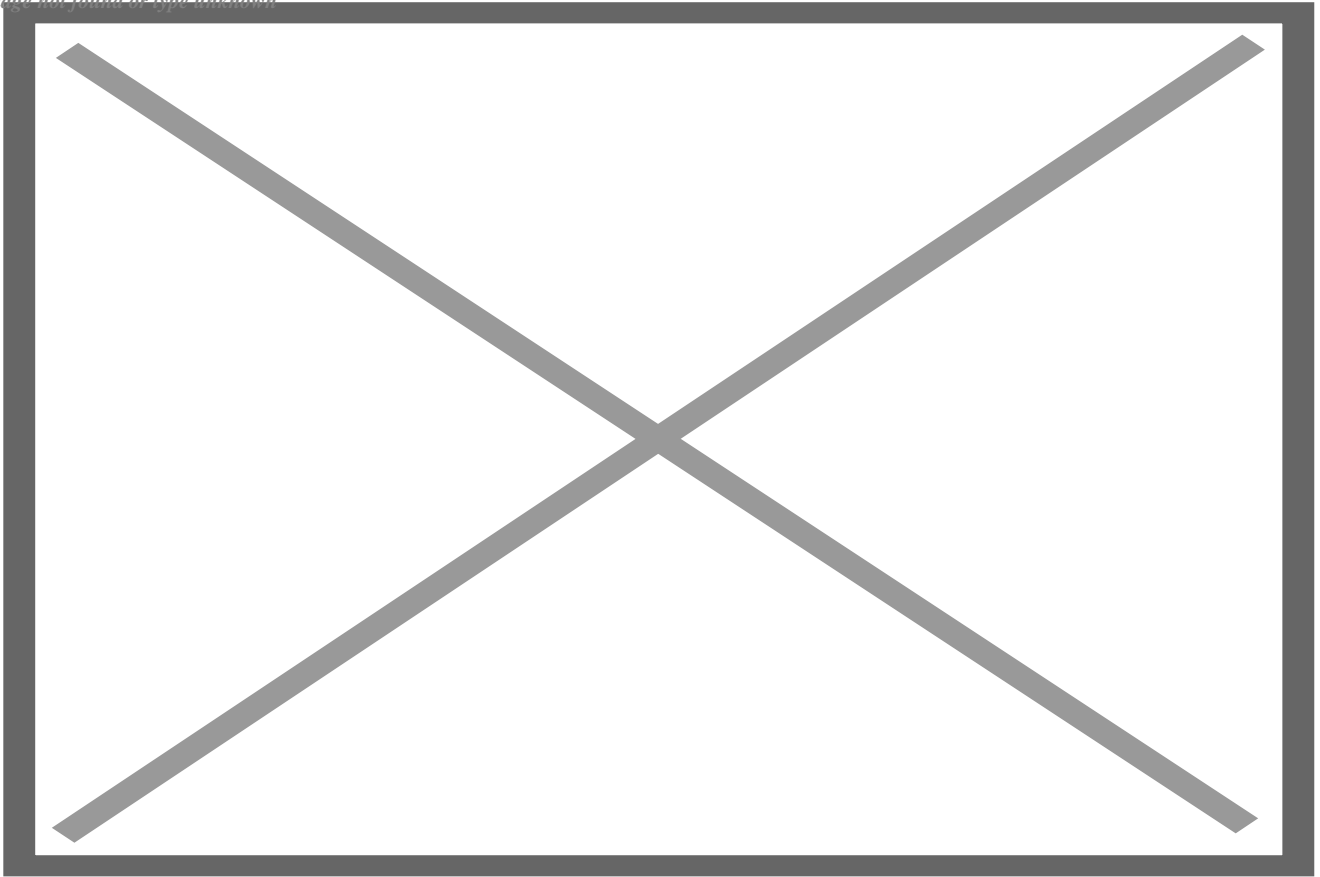


# *Cuban President emphasizes unity and integration in the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States*

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**Photo: Prensa Latina.**

Buenos Aires, Jan 25 (RHC) Cuban President Miguel Díaz-Canel considered that the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) is living in different times today, marked by unity and integration from diversity.

During an interview with Argentine YouTuber Daniel Devita, the leader pointed out the changes experienced by the regional bloc as a result of the role of Mexico and Argentina, as well as the electoral victories of the presidents of Colombia, Gustavo Petro, and Brazil, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva.

During the dialogue, the Head of State considered his Mexican counterpart, Andrés Manuel López Obrador, as an exceptional politician, honest and with sensitivity and understanding towards the problems of the Caribbean nation.

He added that López Obrador has favored an economic and commercial exchange with the island. In addition, both nations are participating in several mutually beneficial cooperation processes.

Later, Díaz-Canel explained that Cuba denounced the blockade imposed by the United States at the 7th CELAC Summit. He recalled that this criminal policy was intensified during the administration of Donald Trump and maintained by the current U.S. president, Joe Biden.

He added that the impact of the economic siege was aggravated "by the incorporation of Cuba in the list of countries sponsors of terrorism, which immediately cuts off all economic relations with banks and financial agencies worldwide and worsens the lives of Cubans".

He stressed that the pretexts used by the U.S. government to include the Caribbean nation crumble with the policy and clarifications made by the Colombian head of state, Gustavo Petro since he assumed the presidency.

He specified that the Antillean country went to the CELAC conclave "to defend the integration of Latin America and the Caribbean, to continue fighting for unity within diversity, and the respect for the region's peace proclamation".

He stressed that from its presidency of the Group of 77 plus China, the Caribbean nation wants to promote and focus the debate on global issues, in a way that concerns the member countries.

Therefore, Cuba wishes to provide this space to all CELAC nations so that they can contribute to a group of projections related to science and innovation, food sovereignty, attention to vulnerable populations, and migration, among other issues.

The head of state highlighted the vision of the historic leader, Fidel Castro, on the development of science in the country and noted that thanks to his efforts a scientific infrastructure was built throughout the national territory, with highly qualified personnel.

He highlighted the performance of the country's scientific community in the face of the Covid-19 pandemic, particularly vaccine production. (Source: Prensa Latina).



**Radio Habana Cuba**