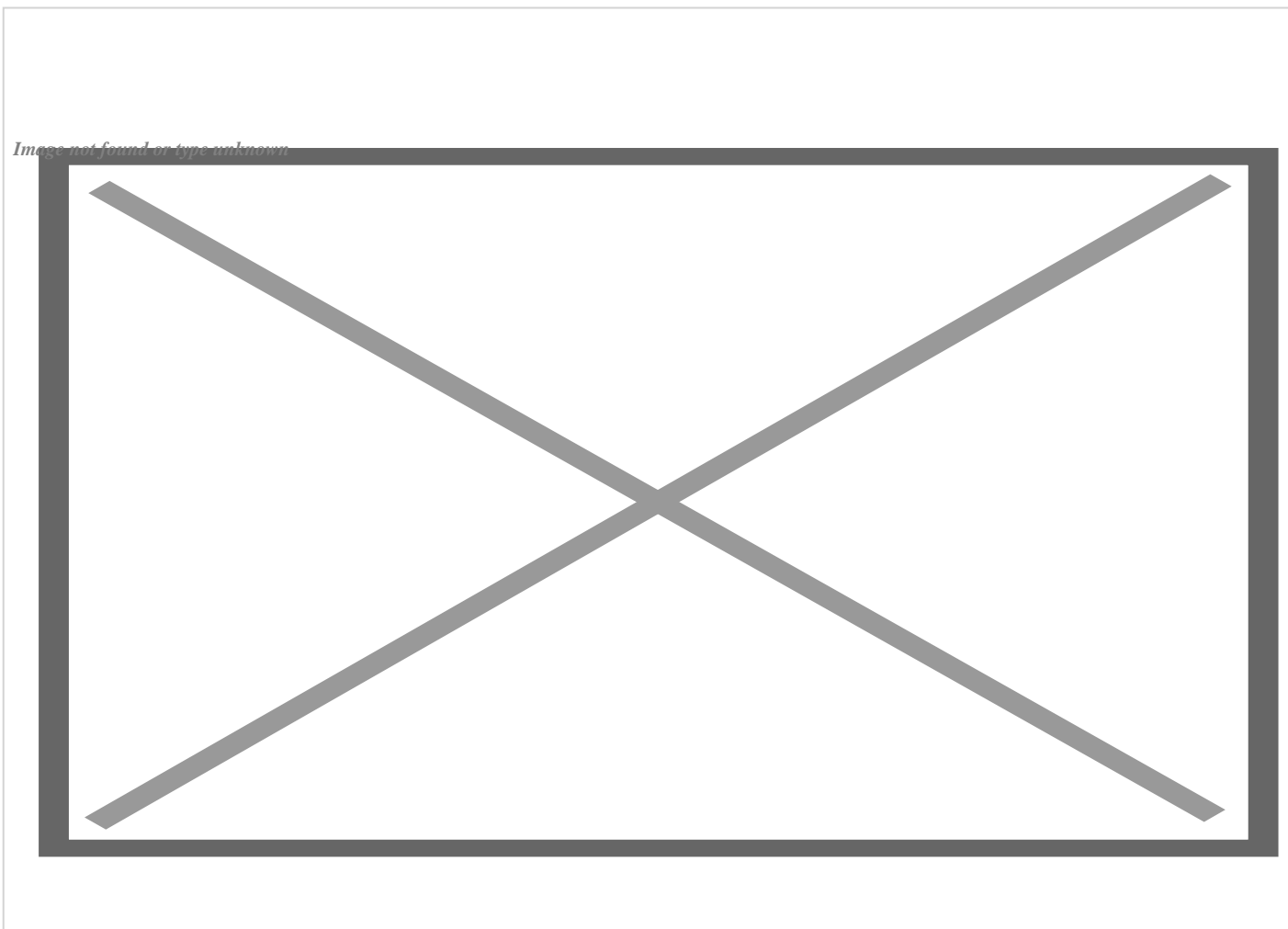


# *Intense campaigns at home and abroad*

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The demonstrations of solidarity with Cuba in its struggle against the U.S. economic blockade opened a week of great intensity for the Caribbean nation inside and outside its borders.

On February 26, in different cities of United States such as Miami, Seattle, New York and Minneapolis, as well as in other Latin American cities such as Caracas, Santo Domingo, Panama City and Montevideo, demonstrators rejected the unilateral coercive measures against the island.

It was the beginning of seven days marked by the continuity of the electoral process, which on March 26 will submit to the polls 470 candidates for deputies to the National Assembly of People's Power; and also by the reception of high-level visits and a wide activity in international scenarios.

On March 1, the leader of the Cuban Revolution, Raúl Castro, and the President, Miguel Díaz-Canel, received the Secretary of the Russian Security Council, Nikolái Pátrushev, who paid a working visit to the country.

Meanwhile, the day before, the Cuban president spoke with the head of the Chamber of Senators of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Andrónico Rodríguez, and with the president of the International Olympic Committee, Thomas Bach.

With the former, the conversation revolved around the strengthening of historical ties between both nations and the achievement of new common projects, while the latter expressed his admiration for the island's work in sports, where it has won more than 200 Olympic medals with barely 11 million inhabitants.

Outside Cuba's borders, Cuban Vice-President Salvador Valdés participated in the Non-Aligned Movement (Mnoal) Summit on recovery after the Covid-19 pandemic, where he invited the members of the group to use the island's biotechnological medicines and ratified the willingness to support the anti-Covid-19 vaccination campaign wherever necessary.

During his stay in Baku, Azerbaijan, Valdés also held talks with authorities from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Uganda, Tanzania and the host country.

In Geneva, Switzerland, Foreign Minister Bruno Rodríguez reiterated Cuba's willingness to maintain cooperation with international human rights mechanisms on the basis of a respectful and constructive dialogue.

Speaking at the high-level segment of the Human Rights Council, the head of the Caribbean nation's diplomacy also expressed concern over the politicization of the issue and its use by some powers to stigmatize governments that do not agree to follow their designs.

The tour of the candidates to the Parliament through communities, labor and student centers to talk with the population was the closing of the week's activities, where the fight to extinguish a forest fire in the east of the country, which has already consumed almost four thousand hectares of forest, has not stopped either.

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