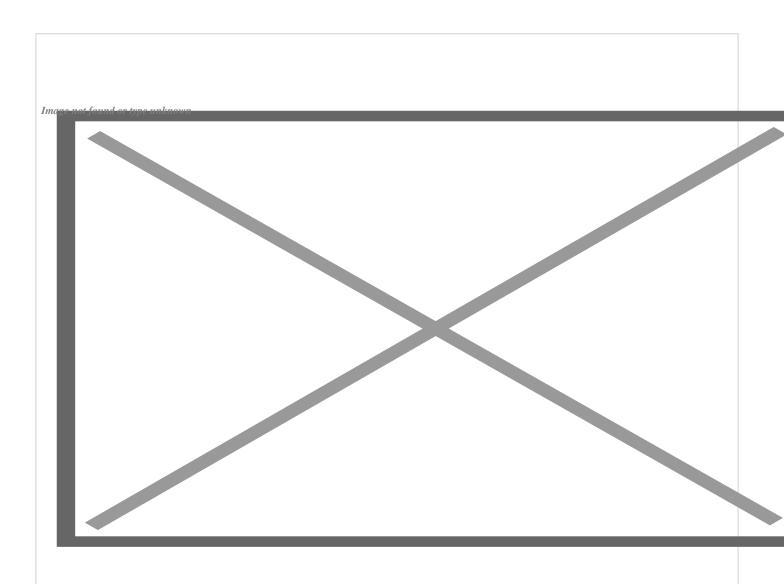
Diaz-Canel holds talks with Venezuelan foreign minister



Brussels, July 17 (RHC) -- Cuban President Miguel Díaz-Canel and Venezuelan Foreign Minister Yván Gil held a meeting on Sunday in Brussels in the context of the Third Summit of the European Union and the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (EU-CELAC).

"It is always a pleasure to meet with friends and allies of just causes," the head of the Bolivarian diplomacy wrote on his Twitter account.

Gil considered it "an honor to greet" the President of Cuba in Brussels, whom he recognized as "a great defender of the sovereignty of the peoples. United we are stronger," he said.

This Sunday, Venezuela's Executive Vice President Delcy Rodríguez arrived in Brussels, Belgium, to participate in the EU-CELAC Summit, to be held in this city on July 17 and 18.

A communiqué from the Bolivarian Republic on Tuesday strongly supported the denunciations made by Cuban Foreign Minister Bruno Rodriguez, related to the lack of transparency and manipulative behavior of the European Union in the preparation of the III CELAC-EU Summit.

The Venezuelan Ministry of Foreign Affairs denounced that such actions seriously jeopardize the success of such meeting.

It notified that, for several months, under the coordination of its Pro Tempore Presidency, the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States made important contributions regarding a "democratic, inclusive and effective" summit format.

This work, it indicated, would allow the reconstruction of a bi-regional work agenda, aiming at "cooperation and reversing the deterioration of our integral relationship in recent years".

The EU's decision to impose its own format on the III Summit would become a disrespect to the main forum for dialogue and cooperation among all Latin American and Caribbean countries, and threatens to lead to the failure of the efforts made for its organization, he stressed. (Source: PL)

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