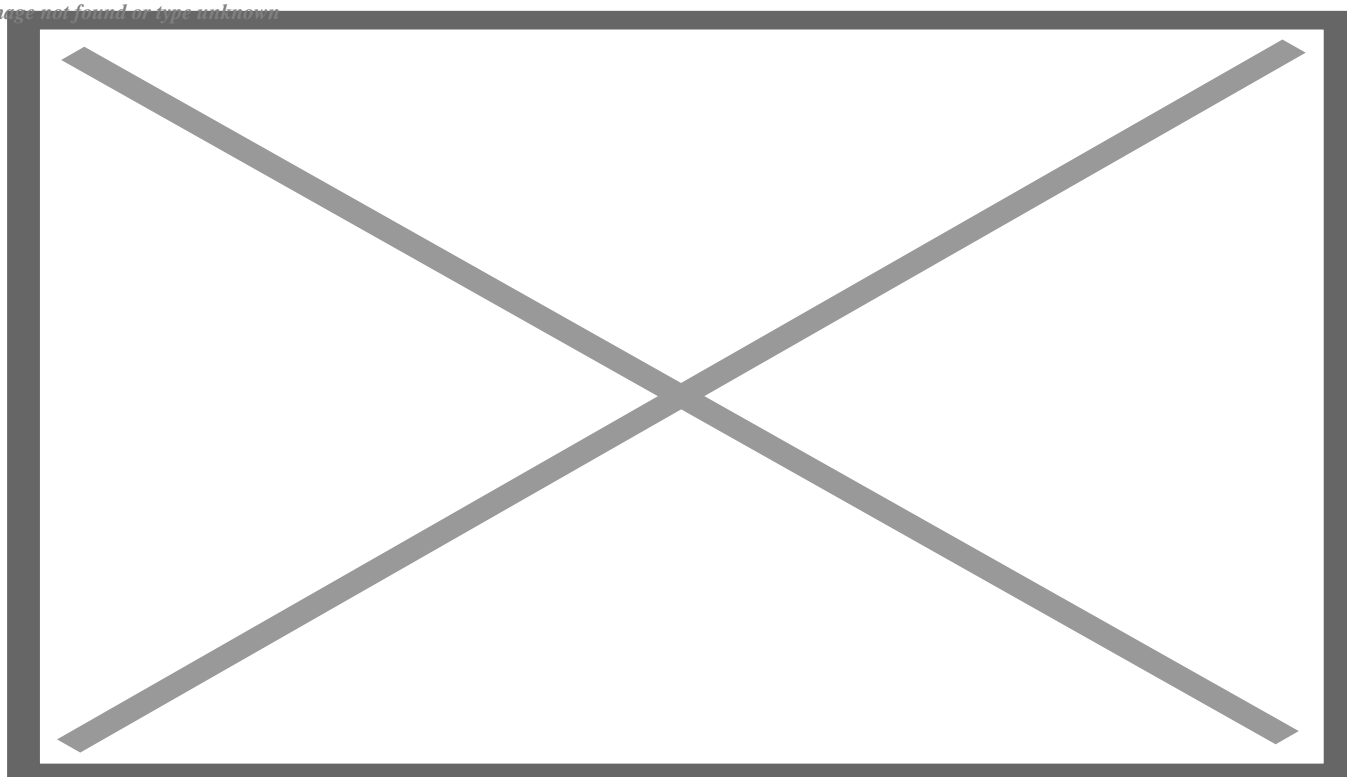


# *President of Cuba highlights ties of friendship and cooperation with CARICOM*

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Havana, December 8 (RHC) -- President Miguel Diaz-Canel today highlighted in his account on X, the deep ties of friendship and cooperation that unite the island with the Caribbean countries, on the occasion of Caricom-Cuba Day.

The head of state said through the social network that this date is celebrated in recognition of the 51st anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the largest Antillean island and Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago.

Díaz-Canel noted that that decision opened the way for Cuba's ties with the rest of the nations of the Caribbean Community (Caricom).

"We remember that courageous decision, in a hostile context of attempted diplomatic isolation imposed by the United States on Cuba," the president said on the digital platform.

Cuba and Caricom reach these 51 years of diplomatic ties, further strengthened by Cuban solidarity cooperation and the support of the bloc in the international arena.

Both parties celebrate the decision of Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, Guyana and Jamaica to establish diplomatic relations with Havana in 1972 and break with the hostile isolation faced by the Cuban government after its revolutionary triumph in 1959.

This gesture paved the way for the other Caribbean territories to develop ties of friendship and collaboration with that sister nation and later, in 2002, led to the implementation of the Caricom-Cuba summit mechanism.

The eighth edition of the forum took place last year in Barbados, and was another opportunity to outline the objectives to expand cooperation programs and strengthen the bonds of brotherhood. (Source:PL)

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