



U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

October 4th, 2022

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden,

Cubans protesting their oppression are once again being viciously beaten because the regime knows no one will see their crimes. They cut the internet and silence dissenters. For more than a year, I have repeatedly asked you to give the people of Cuba connectivity. Now, the Cuban regime, which demonizes the United States, has decided to request hurricane relief aid from the U.S. Government. In light of this unprecedented request, I would like to remind you of a few basic facts regarding both Cuba and legislation surrounding foreign assistance:

We should not give aid to countries that sponsor terrorism. The Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and U.S. public law states that “The United States shall not provide any assistance... to any country if the Secretary of State determines that the government of that country has repeatedly provided support for acts of international terrorism.” The United States should not give foreign aid to a country that could use that money to support terrorism; doing so is immoral and dangerous.

The Cuban Regime sponsors terrorism. Cuba is listed by the United States as a state sponsor of terror “for repeatedly providing support for acts of international terrorism in granting safe harbor to terrorists.” For example, the State Department cited in its [designation](#) that Cuba: “refused to return Joanne Chesimard, on the FBI’s Most Wanted Terrorists List for executing New Jersey State Trooper Werner Foerster in 1973.” This is just one of the many reasons the U.S. government has designated Cuba as a state sponsor of terrorism.

The Administration must give connectivity to the brave people of Cuba. Right now, Cubans are in the streets demanding an end to 63 years of oppression. They are being brutalized and jailed by the terrorism-supporting security forces of the regime and because there is no internet, the world is unable to see the true scale of the atrocities. As President of the United States, the international beacon of freedom, it is your duty to support the protestors in any and every way possible. Instead of working with the regime, we must help the Cuban people directly and give them connectivity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Elvira Salazar'.

María Elvira Salazar
Member of Congress