



72nd Executive Board meeting, 21-23 April 2026

EXECUTIVE BOARD RESOLUTION ON THE HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN CUBA AND U.S. MILITARY AND ECONOMIC AGGRESSION

The Executive Board of Education International, during its 72nd meeting on 21–23 April 2026, addresses the rapidly worsening humanitarian crisis in Cuba and the threat of further U.S. military and economic aggression in the hemisphere.

Education International stands in solidarity with the people and educators of Cuba and with all those working for a peaceful and diplomatic resolution to the current crisis. Cuba is part of the cultural, social, and educational fabric of the North America and Caribbean region. Education unions across the region have deep ties to Cuba and to the Cuban people: Caribbean colleagues have family members on the island, communities whose doctors trained in Cuba, and historical bonds forged through decades of shared struggle for sovereignty and dignity. The educators submitting this resolution are united by those relationships, and by a shared conviction that the people of Cuba must not be made to suffer for the political disputes of their governments.

The Executive Board notes

- That President Donald Trump has made threats against Cuba, declaring that he can “take” the nation and “do anything” he wants with it — statements that follow the same pattern as those made by the Trump administration prior to its military intervention in Venezuela in January 2026 and its launching of war against Iran in February 2026.
- That in escalation of the long-standing U.S. economic embargo of Cuba, notably following Addressing Threats to the United States by the Government of Cuba issued by Donald Trump on January 29, 2026, the Trump administration has since February 2026 imposed an effective fuel blockade on the island, preventing Cuba from importing fuel essential to the most basic functioning of its economy and society.
- That this fuel blockade and the resulting power outages have created a severe humanitarian crisis: hospitals have been forced to cancel surgeries and treatments; prenatal exams for expectant mothers have been suspended; food and medicine are spoiling for lack of refrigeration; and without power, water and sanitation systems are no longer functioning.
- That the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights has described this blockade as “a serious violation of international law and a grave threat to a democratic and equitable international order.”
- That, just as in Venezuela and Iran, the use of U.S. military or economic force against Cuba would not advance democracy or human rights for the Cuban people, but would be deployed to seize control of the nation’s wealth and resources.



- That the Board members co-submitting this resolution have for many years supported independent unionists, journalists, and librarians in Cuba, and have consistently called on the Cuban regime to respect the human and labor rights of its people.

The Executive Board reaffirms

- That the use of military force or economic coercion to impose political change violates international law and the foundational principles of sovereignty and self-determination. Differences between governments must be resolved through peaceful dialogue and diplomacy, not through armed force or economic siege.
- That the right of all peoples to determine their own future, free from foreign interference or military threat, is a foundational principle of this federation.
- Its commitment to human and trade union rights for workers and peoples everywhere, including in Cuba. Education International calls on the Cuban government to respect fundamental human and labor rights, to release all political prisoners, and to allow for free and fair elections so that the people of Cuba may democratically choose who governs them, as is their sovereign right.

The Executive Board condemns

- The Trump administration's fuel blockade of Cuba as a violation of international law, a threat to hemispheric stability, and a humanitarian catastrophe that is causing immense daily suffering to the Cuban people, including educators, healthcare workers, and their families.
- Any threat or use of military force against Cuba. Differences between the governments of the United States and Cuba must be resolved peacefully, without the use of armed force, and in conformity with international law and the principles of national sovereignty.

The Executive Board calls

- On the United States government to immediately lift the fuel blockade of Cuba, to halt all threats of military intervention, and to commit to resolving differences through dialogue and diplomacy.
- On the Cuban government to respect the human and labor rights of all people in Cuba, to release all political prisoners, and to allow for free and fair elections so that the Cuban people may determine their own future.
- On the international community, and on multilateral bodies including the Organization of American States (OAS) and the United Nations, to act with urgency to address the humanitarian crisis in Cuba, to uphold international law, and to support a peaceful resolution.

The Executive Board resolves

- To communicate this resolution to the governments of the United States and Cuba, to the Organization of American States, and to the United Nations Human Rights Council.
- To bring this resolution to the Trade Union Confederation of the Americas (TUCA/CSA) and to urge TUCA to amplify its call across the hemisphere in solidarity with the Cuban people.



- To mandate the General Secretary to pursue all available channels to support educators in Cuba through this crisis and to elevate EI's solidarity with the Cuban people at every appropriate international forum.
- To call on EI member organisations in the North America and Caribbean region and across the federation to stand in solidarity with the Cuban people, to advocate in their own national contexts for an end to the blockade, and to support a peaceful and diplomatic resolution of this crisis.