

## **Resolution on the visit to Cuba of Federica Mogherini, European Commission Vice-President and High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy**

Federica Mogherini, Vice-President and High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy of the European Commission, concluded recently her visit to Cuba where she chaired the second EU-Cuba Joint Council on 9 September 2019 in Havana. During her visit she met with the main representatives of the communist dictatorship, President Miguel Díaz-Canel and the Minister for Foreign Affairs Bruno Rodríguez. While in Cuba, Mogherini declared:

1. *“Cuba is a key partner for us ” and*
2. *«In the uncertain times we live in, we greatly appreciate that our partners, such as Cuba, share our commitments with multiculturalism and with a rules-based system”*

Therefore, **the CDI states** the following:

- The declaration issued by the highest European diplomat represents a shift away from the European traditional opposition to the Cuban political reality and a disrespect to the thousands of political prisoners on the island and the Cuban population which suffers on a daily basis from the communist regime;
- While Mogherini exchanged niceties with her “key partner”, a repressive wave was conducted in Cuban streets resulting in more than a hundred arbitrary arrests, illegal house searches, beatings and other violations of legal process and civil liberties, failing to comply with various fundamental obligations undertaken as part of the Political Dialogue and Cooperation Agreement;
- Under Díaz-Canel's dictatorship, not only the opposition suffers from brutal repression, but also our member parties, the Christian Democratic Party (PDC) and the Christian Liberation Movement (MCL), and a broad sector of the Cuban civil society;
- These “uncertain times” Mogherini referred to are mainly the result of the particular Cuban foreign policy focused on supporting antidemocratic regimes like the one in Venezuela, where Cuba helped to revamp its armed forces and military intelligence service to impose violence, surveillance, fear and repression in the country.

For all the exposed, the CDI:

1. Deplores and rejects the statements on Mrs. Mogherini which do not represent the general view of the Europeans towards the Cuba.
2. Calls the General Affairs Council to endorse and take into consideration this resolution in their agendas on regular basis.
3. Urges the new European Commission designated Vice-President and High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Mr. Josep Borrell, to act independently and firmly, defending the principles of democracy and the rule of law in accordance with the rest of principles and values of the EU.
4. Requests Mr. Borrell to attend the demands of the Cuban civil society and take the necessary steps towards the recognition and a prompt release of the political prisoners, stressing out the urgent necessity of an immediate meeting with all the opposition representatives.
5. Will closely monitor the EU strategy towards Cuba, urging it to exercise its right to denounce the Agreement as established in article 86.4 given the Cuban Government's infringement, for almost 2 years, of its obligations in terms of human rights and democratic freedom.