

Devrimci 78'liler Federasyonu



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SUBMISSION FOR THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW OF CUBA MAY 2013

Federation of Revolutionary Generation '78

1. As the Federation of Revolutionary Generation '78, we would like to submit our opinion with regard to the universal periodic review of Cuba, May 2013.
2. Despite the claims made by US against Cuba, Cuba has always been a country open to dialogue with international bodies such as the United Nations and has always made her highest efforts to fulfill any requirements set by such international bodies including those related to human rights.
3. Cuba's Constitution guarantees all basic human rights.
4. Cuba's Constitution also sets rich mechanisms for political participation. Unknown to the world public opinion is the fact that Cuban Communist Party does not appoint candidates for elections. Despite the general view held in US and European media, Cuba does not have a one-party-model. Rather, Cuba's political model is based on the high level of organization of her people covering all circles of society and the political leadership of the Cuban Communist Party as has historically been recognized by the Cuban people.
5. Cuba's successes in guaranteeing for her citizens a healthy life, a wide range of educational opportunities, dignity at work, gender equality, food security among other issues, all as human rights, are well acknowledged internationally.
6. All those mentioned above have been attained and maintained under the conditions of US blockade against Cuba, which can be qualified as genocide by virtue of the Geneva Convention of 1948 on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide.
7. Cuba has also made her best efforts during the recent years to prepare for 2013's universal periodic review. Cuba presented 3 reports to human rights treaty bodies, which are the second periodic report to the Committee on the Rights of the Child (2011), the combined reports of the 14th to 18th to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (2011) and the combined second, third and fourth reports to the Committee Against Torture (2012).
8. As the Federation of Revolutionary Generation '78, we strongly believe that Cuba as an egalitarian country is an example for our world in which disparities between different sections of the society widen day by day globally. This is especially so for the field of human rights, as we strongly believe social equality is a must for all countries desiring to guarantee human rights for their citizens.