



# Toronto Forum on Cuba

*April 16th, 2015*

## Why Did the U.S. & Canada Quash a Final Declaration at the O.A.S.?

The Organization of American States (O.A.S.) Summit, which was held on April 10-11 did not result with a final declaration, due to the United States and Canada -read the "other America"- having helped to quash it!

It was the first time that revolutionary Cuba attended since 1962 (when the island was expelled due to the United States' pressures and colonizing efforts), because of the wave of support and solidarity it received from almost every single Latin American and Caribbean country.

To understand why there was no final declaration we should first note that the parallel Summit of the Peoples' final declaration, which took place two days prior to the O.A.S. Summit, demanded the following:

- a) The decolonization of Puerto Rico by the U.S. government
- b) Bolivia's right to have access to the sea from Chile
- c) The right of Argentina to have its territorial claims on the Malvinas Islands recognized
- d) Ecuador's right to claim damages from Chevron in order to clean up the mess they have created
- e) That the U.S. government to stop its interference in the internal affairs of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and for the imposed sanctions to be lifted
- f) That the U.S. economic blockade of Cuba be lifted
- g) That the U.S. government and its allies stop interfering in the internal affairs of other nations and much more...

The speech by Raul Castro, President of Cuba, was received by many applauses and it was covered by various media outlets throughout the world. It recounted the history of U.S. imperialism in the hemisphere through the overthrowing of legitimate and elected governments, numerous military coups d'état and the imposition of economic, political and social orders that ruined the lives of tens of thousands of indigenous peoples and the disappearance of hundreds of thousands!

While giving a brief history of terrorism unleashed against Cuba and other countries, the President of Cuba confirmed the Cuban people's determination to fight for the sovereignty of their small nation along with all the other Latin American and Caribbean nations in order to ensure that the region will be a "zone of peace" as it was agreed upon with a consensus at the 2nd Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), held in Havana.

That is why the imperialist countries of the north -the U.S. and Canada- could not digest issuing a final declaration, which would have included clauses of solidarity amongst nations, the commitment of non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries and the building of friendship amongst nations in order to help solve some of the constantly persisting problems like poverty, illiteracy, the lack of health care and other similar issues; so, instead, they helped to quash such a consolidation of the nations of "our America".

In the case of Canada, Prime Minister Stephen Harper did not even bother to inform the Canadian press to be present for his official encounter with the Cuban President so they could ask questions or take an official photo! Why?

Considering the fact that the Prime Minister of Canada -following last Dec. 17th's declaration of the initiation of official talks between the U.S. and Cuba- said that *"now is the time for Cuba to join the 21st century"*, which is a very insulting and hegemonic point of view of revolutionary Cuba, it is obvious that he cannot digest the fact that the whole continent is in solidarity with Cuba, with the exception of its northern ally, in its just demand to have the criminal U.S.-imposed blockade lifted and to return occupied Guantanamo to its righteous owner: the people of Cuba.

And, of course, it does not sit well with the imperial power of the U.S. to have to listen to and to carry the unanimous call of the former "client" regimes and/or coerced governments of the past 50 years or so.

As a result, all we have learned from the 7th Summit of the OAS, is that there are two Americas in this continent! One is "Our America", which is the one calling for the unity of nations in solidarity with Cuba, Venezuela, Bolivia, etca. The other is the America of "North America", comprising of the U.S. and Canada, which do not and will not go along with respecting the sovereignty of other nations and aiming for peace, as has been demonstrated by their recent warmongering and occupational policies extending from Ukraine to Syria to Iraq to Palestine to right here in this hemisphere against the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela!

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# THE 1<sup>ST</sup> MILITARY DEFEAT OF U.S. IMPERIALISM IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE! SUNDAY, APRIL 19

## 2:00 PM

Beit Zatoun, 612 Markham St. (@Bathurst subway)

DOCUMENTARY WITH PARTICIPANTS IN  
THE BAY OF PIGS INVASION!

- Screening of a documentary showing how the US-organized mercenary brigades, run by top US intelligence/military advisors, were defeated in less than 72 hours by the Cuban revolutionary militias led by Fidel Castro on April 17, 1961!

*Lessons learned about pushing back imperialist attacks,  
invasions and provocations - it can be done!*

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- Bay of Pigs: Unforgettable Battle
- Key remarks by Army General Raul Castro Ruz, President of the State Council and the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba, at the 7th Summit of the Americas, Panama City, Panama, April 10-11, 2015
- Daughter of Che Repudiates Presence of his Murder in Panama
- Cuba presents business opportunities in Panama Summit of the Americas

- *Cuba seguirá defendiendo las ideas por las que nuestro pueblo ha asumido los mayores sacrificios y riesgos*
- *Hija del Che repudia presencia en Panamá de asesino de su padre*
- *Cuba y EE.UU. abordan posibilidades de cooperación en diversas áreas*
- *La oportunidad de ser grande*

DID YOU MISS OUR TORONTO

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**CELEBRATION FOR THE RETURN OF  
THE CUBAN FIVE LAST DECEMBER?**

**[CLICK HERE](#)**

to watch the complete episode (7 segments) of the OMNI TV show "Hispanic Roots", which was dedicated to the celebration.

**Check our**

**[CALENDAR OF EVENTS](#)**

**for upcoming events including:**

**Ismael De La Torre & Ernesto J. Espinoza  
LIVE IN CONCERT! - April 18**

**Latin American and Caribbean  
SolidarityNetwork  
SOLIDARITY MONTH**

**Throughout the month of April**

**and MUCH MORE!**

## [LINKS / ENLACES](#)

- *National Committee to Free the Cuban Five*  
- *Int'l Committee for the Freedom of the Cuban  
Five*

- *Antiterroristas*  
- *Canadian Network on Cuba*  
- *Latin American and Caribbean Solidarity  
Network*

- *Embassy of Cuba in Canada*  
- *Asociación de Cubanos JUAN  
GUALBERTO GÓMEZ*

*more / más...*

Designer / Editor - Sabrina Johnson

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