



## **DECLARATION ON CUBA AT THE SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS**

The former heads of State and Government participating in the Democratic Initiative of Spain and the Americas (IDEA) at the VIII Summit of the Americas, in Lima, Peru, declare the following:

The Cuban constitution and electoral system are designed to prevent the effective participation and free expression of the sovereign will of Cuban citizens. The actions of government authorities, including electoral ones, are coercive and arbitrary, and systematically violate the civil and political rights of Cubans, who continue to be victims, for 60 years, of the repression of the political police, especially the members of independent civil society and political prisoners.

Further, before the Cuban government implements a kind of dynastic succession during the current month of April, we request that the member states of the Summit of the Americas:

- a. Do not recognize the presidential elections called by the Cuban dictatorship;
- b. Do not recognize or legitimize the allegedly newly elected delegates from the National Assembly, the Council of State or its president, as they do not represent the popular will and are not the expression of a free and democratic demonstration;
- c. Support the Cuban people in their right to change the system in a binding plebiscite in order to carry out free, fair and plural elections; and
- d. Demand the end of government repression and the release of the political prisoners.

We further reiterate our gratitude for the 2018 Osvaldo Payá Award, which IDEA was not allowed to receive due to the dictatorship of Raúl Castro.

**Lima, 11 de abril de 2018**

Óscar Arias, Costa Rica  
José María Aznar, España  
Nicolás Ardito Barletta, Panamá  
Belisario Betancur, Colombia  
Felipe Calderón, México  
Rafael Ángel Calderón, Costa Rica  
Laura Chinchilla, Costa Rica  
Alfredo Cristiani, El Salvador  
Fernando de la Rúa, Argentina  
Vicente Fox, México  
Osvaldo Hurtado, Ecuador  
Luis Alberto Lacalle, Uruguay  
Jamil Mahuad, Ecuador  
Mireya Moscoso, Panamá  
Andrés Pastrana, Colombia  
Jorge Tuto Quiroga, Bolivia  
Miguel Ángel Rodríguez E., Costa Rica  
Julio María Sanguinetti, Uruguay  
Álvaro Uribe V., Colombia  
Juan Carlos Wasmosy, Paraguay

**Es auténtico:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Asdrúbal Aguiar', with a horizontal line underneath the signature.

Asdrúbal Aguiar

