

BUENOS AIRES MEMORANDUM

During the 5th and 6th of August 2005 we, a group of women representing countries of Latin America, Eastern and Western Europe, have gathered in Buenos Aires, the capital of Argentina, determined to support the protests for the liberty of all Cuban prisoners of conscience and a democratic opening on the island. In this campaign current and former State functionaries, leaders of regional and international organizations, intellectuals, academics, journalists, non-governmental organizations, human rights activists, parliamentarians and representatives of the Cuban civic movement decided to found the “International Committee of Women for Democracy in Cuba”.

To this end and in light of the fact that the international democratic community cannot stay silent when confronted with these outrages, much less those countries which have suffered terrible systematic human rights violations. We call upon democratic countries to substantiate their defense for human rights and in the case of Cuba, we request the following:

- We call on our governments to demand that the Castro regime free all political prisoners, and comply with the international agreements that they have signed in relation to the protection of human rights.
- To establish official diplomatic ties between our embassies in Havana and the families of Cuban political prisoners. Open the doors of the embassies, especially the Latin American embassies, to the Ladies in White, and to the non-violent opposition, following the actions already implemented by European countries.
- We resolve that as free women of the world we should listen to, and join in solidarity with the Ladies in White and all our sisters who are human rights activists, inviting them to our international forums, so that their voices may be heard and support them in their challenges and their battles to achieve them.
- We ask our governments to demand the presence of international and human rights organizations to investigate the situation of Cuba’s political prisoners.
- Raise the conscience of investors in Cuba concerning their social responsibility to promote democracy, the development of the Cuban people, and the eradication of sexual tourism.
- Urge a worldwide campaign to adopt Cuban political prisoners and their families by offering them support, keeping track of and informing others of their situation.
- Initiate a campaign to collect signatures from democratic leaders in our countries advocating a general amnesty for all Cuban political Prisoners.

Signatures:

1. Adriana González Carrillo- Diputada México
2. Adriana Núñez – Costa Rica
3. Andrea Carriso- Argentina
4. Beatriz Castañanza- Guatemala
5. Beatriz Castillo- Uruguay
6. Blanca González- Cuba-Exilio
7. Elizabeth Canales- Alcaldesa- Perú
8. Elsa Pereyra- Argentina
9. Elvia Navarro – Diputada-Costa Rica
10. Flavia Vecellio- Argentina
11. Glenda Rondón – Uruguay
12. Irma Salinas de Neme- Argentina
13. Janes Melo - Brasil
14. Margarita Reyes Galván- Uruguay
15. María Clara Forréis- Argentina
16. María del Milagro Méndez- Costa Rica
17. María Gabriela Panelli- Argentina
18. María Guadalupe Suárez- Diputada-México
19. María Irene Russeau- Argentina
20. María Lima- Cuba-Exilio
21. María Marta Maenza – Argentina
22. María Mercedes Llano- Argentina
23. María Teresa Reviriego- Argentina
24. Mariana Aylwin- Ex Ministra de Educación-Chile
25. Marisa Garnica- Argentina
26. Micaela Lednova- Eslovaquia
27. Mireya Zamora Alvarado-Costa Rica
28. Morelia García – Diputada – Guatemala
29. Paola Ximena Silva- Colombia
30. Renata Kalenska- República Checa
31. Sandra Etcheverry- Diputada-Uruguay
32. Silvia Pardo- Argentina
33. Soledad Morgan- Uruguay
34. Teresa Peltier- Argentina
35. Virginia López- Argentina