

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION  
OF INQUIRY INTO THE CASE OF THE



19 August 2013

Dear Friends of the European Cuba Solidarity movement,

**International Commission of Inquiry into the Case of the Cuban (Miami)  
Five,  
7-8 March, Law Society, London**

Since our last letter in April, plans for the two day International Commission of Inquiry in London in March are well underway. We are very pleased that we have been able to secure a highly prestigious venue, the Law Society in Chancery Lane, in the heart of London's legal district. The date has now been set for 7-8 March in 2014. Also, as you will see by the attached endorsers list, there has been a very positive response to the Commission from many influential and respected figures from around the world.

As well as the Commission itself there will be a series of associated events which will be staged throughout the two days of the Commission. These will include a welcome reception, a celebratory VIP dinner, a cultural evening with top performers, media opportunities and various panels of speakers on related themes. These will together form a major event for the campaign which participants will find interesting, informative and highly inspiring. It will provide a unique opportunity for new and long-time supporters of the campaign to hear about the injustices of the case from family members and other knowledgeable participants, and also to join in all of the associated events. The presence of a number of family members will undoubtedly be the highlight of the occasion.

With the support that we have already received, including from major trade unions, legal organisations and solidarity campaigns globally including the International Committee for the Cuban Five, it is evident that the Commission of Inquiry can have an impact on US authorities.

We now need your support to help achieve its enormous potential as a serious legal event *and* a powerful campaigning focus depends.

**Please do get involved and help make this International Commission of Inquiry a success.**

Here are four areas where we need your help:

### **1 The panel of endorsers**

The idea for a Commission came from the meeting of European solidarity groups in Berlin last year and to make it a genuinely European event, we require several names on the list of endorsers from every country. Are there three or four influential and respected people in your country who might be willing to endorse the Commission and allow us to use their name in promoting it? We are grateful for the work that already has been done on this, but please send us further names and email addresses at [free-the-five@cubanismo.net](mailto:free-the-five@cubanismo.net) so we can make the contact if you are unable to do so yourself.

### **2 Funding**

In April we noted the enormous financial responsibilities that this event entails if we are to reach the 80,000 euro budget set. The British Cuba Solidarity Campaign has pledged to raise half this amount and we are aiming to raise the remaining 40,000 euros from the European solidarity groups. Past experience shows that people and organisations we are already in contact with are willing to contribute if we provide the opportunity for them to do so. Fund raising events as well as personal letters to individuals and groups have both been sources of funding in the past. Again, many thanks to efforts already undertaken. We really need your help with raising the funds to make the Commission a success. Can you, your group, campaign, or organisation, pledge to raise a certain amount? Do you have questions or would you like to have a more detailed budget? Please let us know at [free-the-five@cubanismo.net](mailto:free-the-five@cubanismo.net).

### **3 Website to launch Commission in September**

A new website, [www.voicesforthefive.com](http://www.voicesforthefive.com) is currently under construction. It will play a crucial role in promoting the Commission which will be officially launched with a media campaign in September. An important part of the site are short 1 minute video clips with messages from endorsers of the Commission and other supporters of the campaign. We already have around 20 of these videos from endorsers including Ricardo Alarcon, Fernando Morais, Angela Davis and Danny Glover, but we really need more video clips from Europe that can be uploaded. Can you help us with making, editing, translating and subtitling of video messages? Please contact us at [free-the-five@cubanismo.net](mailto:free-the-five@cubanismo.net)

We are also collating website and email addresses globally for the media launch in September. Please do help us to collect these details so we can disseminate the information as widely as possible.

We will be grateful for this information from any humanitarian groups, Latin American campaigns, youth organisations, political parties, trade unions, lawyers firms, religious organisations, etc. in your country that would be interested in finding out information about the Commission of Inquiry. Send e-mail addresses to [free-the-five@cubanismo.net](mailto:free-the-five@cubanismo.net).

#### **4 Plan to bring a delegation to London**

Now is the time to begin to make travel plans for yourself and a delegation of supporters from your country to come to London, and just as importantly, to consider at least one influential figure from your country who could be invited, even if your group may have to fund them.

The Commission provides an important opportunity to expand the support for the campaign throughout Europe.

We also have a responsibility to the Five Heroes to ensure its success.

Libertad para los Cinco!

Yours in solidarity,



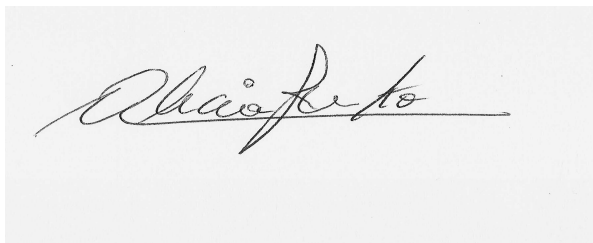
Rob Miller,  
**Director Cuba Solidarity Campaign**



Katrien Demuynck,  
**European Coordination Free the Five campaign**



Jan Fermon ,  
**International Association of Democratic Lawyers**



Alicia Jrapko,  
**Coordinator in the United States, International Committee for the Freedom of the Cuban Five**