

Hands Off Cuba – Oppose US Economic Warfare and Escalating Aggression

Conference notes with grave concern the executive order signed on 29 January 2026 by US President Donald Trump declaring Cuba an “unusual and extraordinary threat” to US national security and threatening sanctions against any country supplying oil to the island.

Conference further notes the executive order of 1 May 2026, which significantly expanded US secondary sanctions against Cuba by targeting the energy, financial, mining and defence sectors, threatening foreign companies, banks and individuals with punitive measures for engaging in legitimate economic activity with Cuba. Conference believes these measures constitute an unprecedented escalation of economic warfare and an attempt to impose the US blockade on the rest of the world.

Conference also notes with alarm the indictment of former Cuban President Raúl Castro Ruz by the US Department of Justice on 20 May 2026. This provocative action forms part of a wider campaign of political aggression, hostile rhetoric and attempts to portray Cuba as a security threat in order to justify further coercive measures and possible military intervention.

Cuba is not a threat to any country. It is however facing acute shortages of electricity, fuel, food and essential medicines as a consequence of the US economic warfare.

Conference notes that the latest US measures have severely disrupted fuel supplies to Cuba, intensifying blackouts and worsening conditions for working people and public services, including hospitals, schools, transport and water systems. Hospitals have faced repeated power cuts, medicine production has been disrupted and food distribution severely affected.

Conference is particularly concerned by the growing humanitarian consequences of these measures, including 148% increase in the infant mortality rate, and worsening shortages of medicines and medical equipment, and the mounting pressure placed on health workers struggling to maintain services under extremely difficult conditions.

Conference believes these actions amount to collective punishment of a civilian population and represent a dangerous escalation of the 66-year old US economic blockade against Cuba, repeatedly condemned by the overwhelming majority of countries at the United Nations General Assembly.

Conference welcomes the Urgent Call for Peace and Sovereignty launched by the Cuba Solidarity Campaign(CSC) and signed by more than 5,500 people, including 28 British trade union general secretaries and the TUC. Conference congratulates CSC and supporting unions for sending fourteen consignments of life-saving medical and food aid to Cuba between February 2025 and May 2026, worth more than £1.5 million, as part of the ongoing Cuba Vive Appeal.

Conference agrees to:

Condemn executive orders and oppose US intervention and pressure UK government to provide humanitarian aid

support CSC campaigns and appeals to raise awareness and aid