



All-Party Parliamentary Group on Cuba

27 October 2025

The Rt Hon Yvette Cooper MP
Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs
Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
King Charles Street
London
SW1A 2AH

Sent Via Email

Dear Foreign Secretary,

We write on behalf of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Cuba to request confirmation that the United Kingdom will maintain its long-standing policy of voting in favour of the annual United Nations General Assembly resolution, "Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba."

The upcoming vote will be the 33rd time the resolution is presented. A vote in favour would mark the 29th consecutive year that the United Kingdom has supported this resolution, demonstrating a consistent and principled position across successive governments of all political persuasions. This policy is grounded in the UK's commitment to the UN Charter and the defence of national sovereignty.

The UK and Cuba already cooperate in several areas, and a consistent UK foreign policy provides a stable foundation for these relations. We also recall the pending-ratification Political Dialogue and Cooperation Agreement (PDCA) as the ideal framework to boost relations, deepen cooperation and foster structured political dialogue, including on topics where our views may differ, such as human rights.

Maintaining our voting pattern would reaffirm the United Kingdom's opposition to the United States' economic, commercial, and financial embargo of Cuba. Successive British governments have rightly recognised both the embargo's adverse impact on the Cuban people and its illegal extraterritorial effects on UK trade and sovereignty.

The UK government has repeatedly identified the extraterritorial application of US measures, including the Helms-Burton Act, as contrary to international law. The Protection of Trading Interests Act provides legal protection to UK businesses and makes compliance with such extraterritorial measures an offence. A vote in favour of the UN resolution is the clearest and most effective way to assert this legal and political principle on the world stage, aligning the United Kingdom with the overwhelming international consensus.

This year's vote has particular urgency. There are credible reports of diplomatic pressure from the United States on allies, including in Europe and Latin America, to change their long-held positions on this matter. In the face of this campaign, the United Kingdom's vote is not merely a continuation of policy; it is a vital and principled stand for the rules-based international order and for the sovereign right of states to determine their own foreign policy.

For these reasons, we believe it is in the best interest of the United Kingdom to continue its established policy and to vote in favour of the resolution. Doing so would underscore our commitment to an independent, rules-based foreign policy that protects UK trading interests and upholds the sovereign equality of nations.

On behalf of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Cuba, we would be grateful if you would confirm that the UK delegation will be instructed to vote in favour of the resolution at the earliest opportunity.

Yours sincerely,

Grahame Morris MP – Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Cuba

Steve Witherden MP – Vice Chair

Lord Balfe – Vice Chair

Kim Johnson MP – Vice Chair

Andy McDonald MP

Baroness Blower

Bell Ribeiro-Addy MP

Ben Lake MP

Brian Leishman MP

Diane Abbott MP

Ian Byrne MP

Ian Lavery MP

Jeremy Corbyn MP

John McDonnell MP

Jon Trickett MP

Kate Osborne MP

Mary Kelly Foy MP

Neil Duncan-Jordan MP

Paula Barker MP

Rachael Maskell MP

Richard Burgon MP