



Resolution expressing concern and international solidarity regarding the integrity of 10,000 petitioners demanding the liberation of the National Coordinator of the MCL, Eduardo Cardet, whose signatures were confiscated by the Cuban political police

On 5 April this year, the provincial coordinator of the MCL in Havana, Rosa Rodriguez Gil, was detained as she was about to present a petition, signed by 10,000 citizens, to the Council of State of the Cuban Republic, demanding the liberation of Eduardo Cardet, National Coordinator of the MCL (Christian Liberation Movement), who was unjustly jailed in November 2016 for his action in favor of electoral reform toward a “one Cuban, one vote” system. For this, Mr Cardet was declared a “prisoner of conscience” by Amnesty International.

The State Security organs impounded this list of signatures before releasing Rodriguez Gil and her husband Alejandro Febles, thwarting their right to present this petition to the authorities according to Article 63 of the Cuban constitution. Thus, came the names and personal data of 10,000 signatories of this petition in the hands of the political police.

On 26 April, Rosa Rodriguez denounced this theft of the petition demanding the liberation of Eduardo Cardet by the repressive forces before the Council of State. Mrs. Felicia Martinez, responsible for citizens relations at the Council of State, assured her that the matter would be investigated and that a reply would be given within a time span not exceeding 60 days.

In view of the above, CDI:

1. EXPRESSES its deep concern about the safety of the persons signing the demand for the liberation of the Coordinator of the MCL, Eduardo Cardet, whose signatures were impounded by the Cuban political police at the moment they were to be presented to the Council of State;
2. DEMANDS from the government of Diaz Canel the immediate liberation of Eduardo Cardet and respect for the integrity and freedom of the persons who signed the petition to the Council of State of the Cuban Republic;
3. CALLS ON the European institutions, in particular on the High Representative of the Union for External Affairs and Security, Mrs. Federica Mogherini:
 - To undertake actions to prompt the Cuban regime to release Eduardo Cardet and all the Cuban political prisoners
 - To guarantee and protect the rights of the 10,000 signatories of the petition for the release of Mr. Cardet
 - To recognize and guarantee the Cuban laws regarding popular sovereignty and the return of all exiled citizens, including the spokesman of the MCL, Regis Iglesias, as demanded in July 2016 by the Christian Liberation Movement from the parliament of the Cuban regime when the proposal regarding the “one Cuban, one vote” reform was made.