

## THE CHRISTIAN LIBERATION MOVEMENT (CLM)



The Christian Liberation Movement (CLM) was founded on September 8th, 1988. Its leader is Oswaldo Paya and it counts among its members and sympathisers with devoted and brave human-rights activists from every corner of the country and the Cuban social spectrum. The Movement's vision is that of a nonviolent and democratic change and also that of respect towards human dignity. The CLM has been aggressively harassed by the Cuban government and its security police. During the repressive wave in 2003, known as The Cuban Spring, 42 out of the 75 prisoners of conscience were key factors related to The Varela Project and 13 were direct members of the CLM. Despite the hardships, the Movement insists on a peaceful and democratic change process by using the existing legal framework and holds the compromise with a Cuban People-led solution. Paya is one among many that have fought to see Cuba as a more open, democratic and socially equal country. The strategy of the CLM is to promote a change led by Cubans and for Cubans by means of a nonviolent and democratic course, focused on human beings and achieved through legal methods; it reflects one of many scopes on how a change can become true in Cuba. As a political body, the Movement's roots run deep inside the Christian Democratic vision of social justice. In spite of the monopolising power exerted by the Cuban government and the Communist Party, the opposition in Cuba reflects a wide range of political tendencies and backgrounds. The robust ideas presented by the CLM, its systematic drive towards its goals and its prompt response to challenges through a regeneration are the great achievements that Paya shares with former and present CLM members and allies. These achievements reach their highest point in the fight of the Ladies in White, a movement where we can find many CLM members' wives, mothers, sisters and daughters. The Cuban revolution, disregarding who has supported or defied it, was carried out in the name of the highest principles. Today, Latin America faces strong tendencies towards polarisation and militarisation. Cuba can become again the guiding light for the region, showing with its own example a reforming and fearless change process, founded on civic and peaceful ideas, and one that still maintains the principles of social justice and democracy that have inspired the Revolution and its opposition. The Cuban government can choose between trying to repress Paya and the rest of the opposition or opening the door and listen to their proposals. This is a choice between fear and hope, past and future, but this is also a possibility to build something remarkable out of the aspirations of different individuals. There are also the issues of the Chinese and the Vietnamese reform models, with their ample space for economic changes while no room for political change. The CLM calls Cubans to overstep such a dummy vision of change, one that imposes a unique option at the expense of the other. Certainly, Cubans need and deserve the opportunity to enjoy bigger levels of material prosperity. Nevertheless, a combination of economic and individual freedom could fight off the roots of the oppressive lack of hope under which so many Cubans live so far. The years to come will be decisive for Cuba in order to see if the wounds of the past can start healing.



CD "A VERY SPECIAL DISC"  
It counts with the participation of Cuban and Spanish artists.

### SONG

#### "ALL CUBANS (FREEDOM)"

Lyrics: Oswaldo Paya. Music: Carlos Paya.  
Listen to it in: [www.oswaldopaya.org](http://www.oswaldopaya.org)  
See it also in: YouTube. Channel: [oswaldopaya](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoswaldopaya)  
and in **UN DISCO MUY ESPECIAL**

Hey you, come on, wake up, fear is gone, hate is dead.  
Hey you, search for freedom, open your heart, feel such freedom. A new light, that of peace, rose over a world that wants a rebirth.  
It is the light of God, of love. It rose over a people that wants to be free. That is FREEDOM.  
Each one free, with their voice and their song.  
We want: altogether, live like brothers, like a family, in the same place. All, all Cubans. All in brotherhood and now freedom. Hey you, come on, wake up.

### AWARDS:

1999 Homo Homini Award, People in Need Foundation, Czech Republic.  
2002 Peace Nobel Prize Nominee, by Vaclav Havel, Czech Republic ex president.  
2002 W. Averell Harriman Democracy Award, National Democratic Institute, Washington, DC, USA.  
2002 Andrei Sakharov Human Rights Award, European Parliament.  
Doctor Honoris Causa of Laws, Miami University, Miami, FL, USA.  
2004 Peace Nobel Prize Nominee, by Vaclav Havel, Czech Republic ex president.  
Prince of Asturias for Award Concord Nominee, Principado de Asturias, Spain.  
2006 Doctor Honoris Causa of Laws, Columbia University, New York, NY, USA.  
2007 Holm Oak Freedom Award "New Generations" - Popular Party Youth. Spain.  
2008 Peace Nobel Prize Nominee.  
2008 Freedom Award, Miami Kiwanis, FL, USA.  
2010 Peace Nobel Prize Nominee by a Christian Democratic Party of Norway Parliament Member.  
2011 Peace Nobel Prize Nominee by 7 Norwegian Parliament Members.  
2012 Peace Nobel Prize Nominee by UPyD, Norwegian Parliament members, Unió Democràtica Catalunya, Chile Christian Dem. Party. USA Christian Dem. Party.



Movimiento Cristiano Liberación [www.oswaldopaya.org](http://www.oswaldopaya.org)

### INITIATIVES

(All information in: [www.oswaldopaya.org](http://www.oswaldopaya.org))

#### THE VARELA PROJECT

1996 - 2008

[www.proyecto-varela.org](http://www.proyecto-varela.org)

#### THE NATIONAL DIALOGUE AND THE "ALL CUBANS" PROGRAMME

2003 - 2004

[www.oswaldopaya.org](http://www.oswaldopaya.org)

#### THE AMNESTY BILL AND THE NATIONAL RE-UNION BILL

(THE HEREDIA PROJECT)

2007

[www.oswaldopaya.org](http://www.oswaldopaya.org)

#### THE CUBAN FORUM CAMPAIGN

2007 - 2011

[www.oswaldopaya.org](http://www.oswaldopaya.org)

#### SUMMONS TO THE NATIONAL DIALOGUE

2009

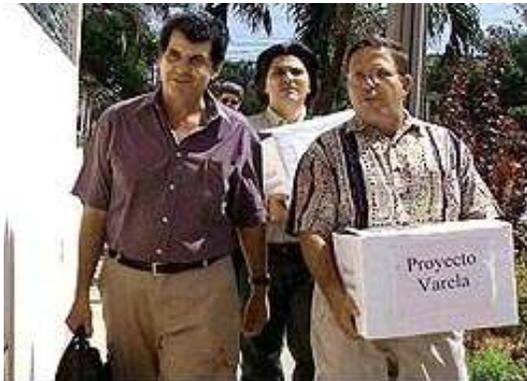
[www.oswaldopaya.org](http://www.oswaldopaya.org)

#### THE PATH OF PEOPLE

2011

[www.contodosloscubanos.com](http://www.contodosloscubanos.com)

## THE VARELA PROJECT 1996 - 2008



Antonio Diaz, Regis Iglesias and Oswaldo Paya presenting the first signatures backing up The Varela Project in May 2003.

The Varela Project opened a path to a nonviolent and democratic change process by means of the existing legal framework. The Varela Project is a constitutional request through which more than 25 000 Cubans urged the Cuban National Assembly of the Popular Power to organise a national referendum comprising five key issues:

- Freedom of speech,
- Freedom of Association,
- Amnesty for political prisoners,
- Freedom to organise private companies and,
- A new electoral bill.

Oswaldo Paya and other Varela Project representatives delivered 25,360 signatures to the Cuban National Assembly of the Popular Power (11,020 in 2002 and 14,340 in 2003).

According to the constitution in force, the assembly is obliged to pay attention to any popular request backed by more than 10 000 signatures. Up to date, a full debate on The Varela Project before the assembly is still pending.



## THE NATIONAL DIALOGUE AND THE "ALL CUBANS" PROGRAMME 2003-2004

Once the first The Varela Project signatures were successfully delivered in 2002 and 2003 and after a violent and inhuman repression against the Project's activists (known as The Cuban Spring), the CLM decided to press forward with its second step within the strategy to achieve changes in Cuba by means of peaceful and democratic methods. This second step was named: The National Dialogue.

More than 17,000 Cubans inside the country and abroad participated in the process of The National Dialogue.

The "All Cubans" Programme, issued in 2004, consists of four proposals:

- a. A draft for a new constitution,
- b. The "Cuba First" Plan, with change requests,
- c. A new Electoral Bill Draft (revised again in 2007)
- d. An Association Bill Draft.

## THE CUBAN FORUM CAMPAIGN 2007 - 2008

The Cuban Forum Campaign is a renewed popular initiative in order to achieved the aims that were initially expressed in The Varela Project and duly reflected in the proposals that brought The Nation Dialogue to life; later crystallised in the "All Cubans" Programme.

## THE AMNESTY BILL AND THE NATIONAL RE-UNION BILL (THE HEREDIA PROJECT) 2007

These proposals set up a schedule for nonviolent and democratic changes by means of the existing legal framework and through the development of the proposed solutions and the request that such solutions can be presented to the Cuban People to debate and approve in a referendum.



## SUMMONS TO A NATIONAL DIALOGUE 2009

The CLM summoned the Cuban government and the democratic opposition representatives to set up and carry out a joint dialogue in order to start the process of nonviolent changes within the Cuban society.

## ROADMAP FOR CHANGE 2010

1. Legal changes to ensure freedom of speech, press and association, as well as the right of Cubans to establish themselves in any part of the country they wish to live, to freely come in and out of the country, to have their own businesses and enterprises, to have worker's rights, to elect and be elected for public positions by means of a new electoral bill and the end of any kind of discrimination against Cubans in their own country.
2. If by means of the above legal changes we see the creation of participative spaces and in line with the practical respect of people's rights, there should be a request for a National Dialogue and for free elections comprising all public positions and a Constitutional Assembly.

## THE PATH OF PEOPLE 2011

[www.contodosloscubanos.com](http://www.contodosloscubanos.com)

This document was signed by a great percentage of the domestic opposition and backed by more than 300 Cubans from all over the world.

Only Cubans have the right to define and decide about the changes our society needs and how to carry out our national project. Nevertheless, for Cubans to design, decide and build a future, their rights must be warranted by law through an atmosphere of trust and respect for all. Hence forward, we will have the opportunity to carry out a true national dialogue and set off the process of legal changes with no exclusions so that Cubans can preserve all the positive conquests they have achieved and -in sovereign spirit- change all that they have decided to change.

## SOME CLM QUOTATIONS

*"We Cubans have the right to have rights like all human beings". "We Cubans are simple people and all we want is to live in peace and develop by means of our work, but we cannot; we do not know and we do not want to live without freedom" "A dictatorship is not left or right-winged, it is just that: a dictatorship" "I do not hate you, but I do not fear you either".*