

Alert of Permanent Secretariat of the Latin American and Caribbean Network for Democracy (Redlad):

Activist Yris Pérez is beaten by Cuban police

March, 2013.

*Unofficial translation done only for the purpose of being understood.

The Permanent Secretariat of the Latin American and Caribbean Network for Democracy (RedLad), warns about governmental persecution and abuse of police authority against Cuban activists.

Activist Yris Pérez Aguilera, president of the Women's Movement for Civil Rights Rosa Parks and awarded with the "Democracy Courage Tribute" by the World Movement for Democracy (WMD) in 2012, was hospitalized in very serious condition after being severely beaten by part of Cuban policemen.

Like her, the activists Damarys Moya, Yanisbel Valido, Natividad Blanco and Ramona Garcia were beaten and arrested in the province of Santa Clara, on their way to a peaceful march on March 7, 2013. Yris was hit so he lost consciousness and had to be admitted to a hospital after she being abandoned on the streets by the police. When she regained consciousness she was discharged by order of State Security, despite his condition. The activist has developed a cyst on the top of the column, suffers migraines, dizziness and acute pain due to repeated attacks against her. The officer who hit to her is the same as in 2012 threatened to rape the daughter of 5 years of Damarys Moya.

In response, the Permanent Secretariat of RedLad, platform to promotion democracy and human rights, comprising more than 480 organizations, Official Member of the Civil Society Forum of the Organization of American States (OAS) and Regional Chapter of the World Movement for Democracy (WMD):

1. Urges the international community to demand respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms of peaceful activists in Cuba.



- 2. Requests the Cuban government to respect the principles covered in the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) on human rights and fundamental freedoms.
- 3. It calls for civil society organizations on the continent to reject on the facts and denounce violence against women in Cuba and its institutionalized nature which inhibits and destroys any instance of internal complaint in which to present these unfortunate events.

Permanent Secretariat Latin American and Caribbean Newtork for Democracy San José, Costa Rica <u>http://www.redlad.org/</u>

