



## **Alert of Permanent Secretariat of the Latin American and Caribbean Network for Democracy (Redlad): activist Antonio Rodiles continues arrested in Cuba.**

**November, 2012.**

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

The Permanent Secretariat of the Latin American and Caribbean Network for Democracy (Redlad) joins the international campaign for the release of Cuban activist and defender of democracy and human rights Antonio Rodiles.

Last week, Rodiles was arrested along with more than 30 activists fighting for democracy and human rights on the island. Were recorded the arrest of the blogger Yoani Sánchez, the activists Wilfredo Vallin and Laritza Diversent, lawyers Veizant Boloj and Yaremis Flores. Both Redlad, as the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), Freedom House, the Inter American Press Association and a number of activists and international figures condemned the mass arrests of activists.

Currently, activists were released, except Antonio Rodiles, who will be judged by "resistance" and will be confined in custody until his trial date, which is still unknown.

Antonio Rodiles is the project leader of Estado de Sats and national promoter of the Cuban initiative "Demanda Ciudadana por otra Cuba", a campaign emerged from the womb of Cuban civil society seeking ratification of the UN Covenants by government . On November 7, Rodiles was arrested and severely beaten for appearing in Section 21 of the Cuban Interior Ministry to inquire about the arrest of independent counsel Yaremis Flores. It is a proof that the government wants to dismantle the "Demanda Ciudadana por Otra Cuba", as he tried in the past with initiatives such as the Varela Project, and as demonstrated in the repressive wave of 2003 in which were arrested 75 activists defenders of human rights and in this



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events appears dead, in dubious circumstances, Laura Pollan, leader of Ladies emblematic of White.

Recently, it is launching an international initiative that emerged from the womb of Cuban civil society, aimed at pressuring the government to release Rodiles. In this regard, they are using hashtags in Twitter # FreeRodiles, #OlaRepresiva and #LibertadAhora

The Permanent Secretariat Redlad, platform promotion of democracy and human rights, comprising more than 450 organizations, networks, activists and independent media, Official Member of the Civil Society Forum of the Organization of American States (OAS) and Regional Chapter of the World Movement for Democracy (WMD):

Urges democratic governments, Civil Society Organizations, Intergovernmental Organizations, international personalities, activists and citizens to demonstrate for the release of Antonio Rodiles, cessation of harassment of Cuban citizens, the immediate restoration of their rights and fundamental freedoms and the enforcement of democratic change in the country.

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