



REPRESSION AGAINST DAMAS DE BLANCO (LADIES IN WHITE), ACTIVISTS AND SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS IN CUBA BY THE INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS DAY.

December 10, 2013.

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

The Permanent Secretariat of Latin American and Caribbean Network for Democracy (REDLAD) alert on the wave of persecution, arbitrary detention, intimidation and police and military abuses unleashed in Cuba following the commemoration of the International Day of Human Rights.

Peaceful activists members of Damas de Blanco (Ladies in White) and their leader Berta Soler, who is also a member of the REDLAD, been disappeared at this moment. Great operations of police and special security forces of Cuban state have been raised today over the island. The democratic project Estado de Sats, initiated the First International Meeting on Human Rights and UN Covenants but its holding has tried to be prevented by the Cuban police.

Also, tending troops have been deployed to repel any peaceful demonstration by human rights activists. Over 30 activists and artists of Hip Hop movement, are demonstrating against the censorship imposed by the Cuban government and advocating for freedom of expression, however, have had the arbitrariness of the Cuban Institute of Music (ICM) that is property of government and the doubling of the police forces.

During this year, the Cuban government has increased the persecution of democracy activists and human rights , has exacerbated the arbitrary arrest of



<http://www.redlad.org/>

Damas de Blanco in door of the Mass and Churchs, as well as intimidation and physical violence against women, young and seniors who have demanded respect for freedom of press, speech and assembly.

The Permanent Secretariat of REDLAD, a platform of over 520 organizations , Official Member of the Civil Society Forum of the OAS (Organization of American States) and Regional Chapter of WMD (World Movement for Democracy):

Demands to the Cuban government respect for human rights and compliance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the cessation of violence against peaceful activists.

Urges the democratic governments of the world to demand full respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in Cuba.

Sympathizes with the Damas de Blanco and other social organizations defending human rights in Cuba, who clearly are threatened, persecuted and their rights are still violated.

Latin American and Caribbean Network for Democracy (REDLAD).



<http://www.redlad.org/>