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The Patmos Institute is a Cuban civil society organization founded by leaders of various faiths gathered at the Eben Ezer Baptist Church, Taguayabón, Cuba, on February 2, 2013: the exercise of inter-religious dialogue; political advocacy; monitoring and specific defense of religious freedoms and education in general of Fundamental Human Rights enshrined in the thirty articles of the Universal Declaration.

Cuba and the International Day of
Commemoration of the Victims of Acts of
Violence Motivated by Religion or Beliefs

On August 22, we commemorate the International Day of Commemoration of the Victims of Acts of Violence Based by Religion or Beliefs. The commemoration day was adopted by consensus on May 13, 2019 at the UN in order to condemn continued violence and acts of terrorism against persons, including persons belonging to religious minorities, on the basis of or in the name of religion or belief.

On this day, we reaffirm our unwavering support for the victims of violence motivated by religion and belief. We show that support by doing everything we can to prevent such attacks and hold those responsible to account for their actions.

We join the United Nations in its Strategy and Plan of Action on Hate Speech. The best way to overcome the threat of violence motivated by religion or belief is by joining our voices for good, countering messages of hatred with messages of peace, embracing diversity and protecting human rights. The world must mobilize to eradicate anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, the persecution of Christians and other religious groups, and all forms of racism, xenophobia, discrimination and incitement to violence. As members of the human family, we must foster mutual understanding. We all have a responsibility to care for one another, to respect differences, and to promote peaceful coexistence.

We agree with Tony Perkins, Vice President of USCIRF, that, "We must shed light on the continuing attacks by state and non-state actors against religious groups around the world. This includes the genocide of Yazidis, Christians and Shiite Muslims in Iraq and Syria by ISIS, abuses against Uighurs in China, and massive atrocities against Rohingya Muslims and Christians in Burma."

Regarding Cuba, in this sense we condemn religious hatred, exclusion, and religious repression, all

In practice, the Patmos Institute functions as an informal network that tries to involve Cubans of any religious affiliation, without excluding atheists or humanists, disseminating its ideas and joining forces through publications such as The Patmos Institute blog, the journals Cuadernos de Pensamiento Plural and Nota del Cielo, and the Cubano Confesante radio program that is transmitted to Cuba every Saturday at 10 pm as part of the programming of Radio República (of the Cuban Democratic Directorate), through the radio short wave by the 31 m band in 9490Khz. The Patmos Institute frequently publishes reports and reports on violations of religious freedoms and beliefs in Cuba, and supports the training of religious activists in Cuba on human rights and religious freedoms through workshops held both inside and outside Cuba. the island. Since 2014, the Patmos Institute has awarded an annual award dedicated "to a Cuban believer consistent with his faith, such as Juan de Patmos, on the island of Cuba", and these have been:

Amador Blanco Hernández, 2014;
 Father José Conrado Alegría, 2015;
 Dr. Oscar Elías Biscet, 2016;
 Dagoberto Valdés Hernández, 2017;
 Dr. Eduardo Cardet Concepción, 2018;
 Roberto de Jesús Quiñones Haces, 2019.

instigated from the top of the totalitarian Communist Party of Cuba and especially in its Central Committee by the Office of Attention to Religious Affairs, specifically against religious minorities that legal recognition is not even denied to begin with, such as:

- The Casa Rastafari in Cuba, in special with de members of the community Bobo Shanti
- Islamic Association for the Spread of Islam
- Free Yoruba from Cuba
- Mission Bereana Baptist Churches (outlaws since 1976)
- Jehovah's Witnesses (outlaws since 1976)
- Iglesia Misionera en Cuba
- Community of Messianic Jews "Hijos de Jacob"
- Community of Messianic Jews "Anfei Zait"
- Ministry "Fe Abundante Internacional"
- Apostolic Ministry "Mi Viña"
- Apostolic Ministry "Viento Recio"
- Apostolic Ministry "Fuego y Dinámica"
- Apostolic Ministry "Sendas de Justicia"
- Apostolic Ministry "Bet-El-Shalom"
- Apostolic Ministry "Rehobot"
- Apostolic Ministry "Estableciendo el Reino de Dios"
- Apostolic Ministry "Jehová Sama"
- Apostolic Ministry "Rey de Gloria"

Patmos Institute, Cuba, August 22, 2020