Miguel Díaz Canel Presidente de la República de Cuba Hidalgo Esquina 6, laza de la Revolución La Habana, CP 10400 KUBA

Dear President Díaz Canel,

José Daniel Ferrer García, activist and leader of the unofficial political opposition group "Patriotic Union of Cuba," was arrested on 11 July 2021 for attending a protest and charged with "public disorder". He has been imprisoned ever since and has been held incommunicado for the last month, according to his family. The only exception was one family visit on 12 July, after the UN Committee on Enforced Disappearances had written to Cuba asking the State to provide information about the fate and whereabouts of José Daniel to his family and lawyers, and to provide the Committee with detailed information about his current access to communication with the outside world.

There are also concerns for his health, as he has long reported health problems, related to his previous long-term detentions in prison, including, among other things, serious gastric problems, and chronic headaches.

Detention without access to the outside world – incommunicado detention – facilitates torture or other ill-treatment and enforced disappearance. In some circumstances, it can itself constitute torture or other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment.

In the light of the above, I urge you to release José Daniel Ferrer immediately and unconditionally, as he is a prisoner of conscience solely detained for peacefully exercising his freedom of expression.

Yours sincerely

Copy:

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