Question for written answer E-002312/2026
to the Commission
Rule 144
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Subject: Use of Anti-Coercion Instrument against Trump in Cuba

Since January 2026, the administration of Donald Trump has further escalated sanctions against Cuba by threatening retaliatory tariffs against countries supplying oil to the island. On 1 May 2026, a new US executive order introduced sanctions targeting third-country operators maintaining economic relations with Cuba, particularly in the energy, security and financial sectors[1].

US extraterritorial laws are having severe consequences for Cuba and risk significantly affecting European companies. In practice, these measures may compel European operators to abandon activities that are lawful under EU law, not as a result of free commercial decisions, but because of coercive pressure arising from US sanctions.

Council Regulation (EC) No 2271/96 (the Blocking Statute) has so far proven insufficient to counter the Trump administration's imperialist offensive. To protect its economic sovereignty and the activities of European companies, the European Union could consider activating the Anti-Coercion Instrument in order to establish a credible deterrent framework vis-à-vis the US.

1. Will the Commission condemn the illegal blockade imposed by Donald Trump on the Cuban people?

2. What measures does the Commission intend to take to ensure enforcement of the Blocking Statute and to give European operators the option of maintaining relations with Cuba?

3. Does the Commission intend to activate the Anti-Coercion Instrument in response to Trump's economic and commercial pressure on Cuba?

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[1] https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2026/05/imposing-sanctions-on-those-responsible-for-repression-in-cuba-and-for-threats-to-united-states-national-security-and-foreign-policy/.