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Honorable Prime Minister Stephen Harper:

**Re: Gerardo Hernández Nordelo, Antonio Guerrero Rodríguez, Ramón Labañino Salazar, René González Schwerert, and Fernando González Llort, collectively known as the Cuban Five.**

**The five Cubans named above have been unfairly imprisoned for eight years** in different jails in the U.S. with sentences of up to two life sentences accused of conspiracy to commit espionage. These men were tried and sentenced through a process full of legal irregularities well documented even in the verdicts given by the appeal judges of the Appeal Court in Atlanta last August.

This issue is related to terrorism, to the rule of law and to the abuse by the US judicial and penitentiary systems against five men who risked their lives in the fight against terrorism. It illustrates a gross double standard in tolerating active terrorist organizations that openly act from within the United States against Cuba and cause death, pain and material damage to the Cuban people. It exposes serious violations of the law and of procedure in the judicial process that incriminated these five Cuban men precisely for fighting terrorism. It depicts the abuses against these men and their families while under U.S. law enforcement and penitentiary systems.

**The Canadian government has been quite silent about this case** and yet DFAIT knows about the “Cuban Five”. It is important to remember that a Canadian resident tourist was killed as a result of a terrorist bomb in a Havana hotel.

It has recently been reported that unregistered FBI agents are in Canada – some carrying their weapons – gathering information about Canadian citizens supposedly to avert acts of terrorism. The Canadian government is not prosecuting those agents. The Cuban Five were in a similar ‘mission’ and they were harshly prosecuted by the US government. **Canada should not allow this double standard being used.** If the Canadian government finds FBI agents tolerable in our territory, so it should demand the same tolerance from the US government with the “Cuban Five”.

**We urge you to publicly call for the U. S. government to release the five Cubans, Gerardo Hernández Nordelo, Antonio Guerrero Rodriguez, Ramón Labañino Salazar, René González Schwerert, and Fernando González Llort, who have been imprisoned in the U. S. for defending the Cuban people against terrorist attacks.**

Sincerely,

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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City and Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

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