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Trends. United States Government (USG) Policy Towards Cuba: Holier Than the Pope?

Editor

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For close to 40 years the USG has instituted significant sanctions against the Cuban government. For close to 40 years, this has facilitated political control of a country by leaders who in many ways have failed their followers as well as other citizens. For close to 40 years, the USG response has been to maintain or even exacerbate sanctions in the face of their failure. For close to 40 years, the USG rationale for continuing a failing policy has alternatively been the need to block the victory of worldwide communism, to give the failing policy the time to "work," and--behind closed doors--the need to curry favor with anti-Castro Cuban-Americans for electoral purposes. For close to 40 years, an opponent of USG policy has risked being labeled as a communist, a fellow traveler, an apologist, an atheist, and a hater of freedom, democracy, liberty and fraternity, if not equality.