

The Lawton Foundation for Human Rights

Purpose and Objectives

The foundation was founded in 1997 in Havana, Cuba, as a non-governmental humanitarian and peaceful organization based upon the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Lawton Foundation for Human Rights promotes the study, defense, and denunciation of human rights violations inside Cuba and wherever the rights and liberties of human beings are disregarded. Its members' main objective is to establish a Cuban state based on the rule of law. The groundwork for their defense of all human rights is based upon the first human right: the right to life, without which all other liberties would be invalidated. Despite the risk to their personal safety, members are fully and actively committed to spreading their ideals inside Cuba. They are censured, mistreated physically and psychologically, and

blackmailed. In addition, they are arbitrarily incarcerated by Cuban authorities for defending their principles in the same prison as common criminals .

Declaration of Principles of Dr. Oscar Elias Biscet

1. We demand the unconditional freedom of the people of Cuba under a multiparty system of government democratically elected at all levels and with complete guarantee of freedom of expression for all, including the government's detachment from the country's media.

2. The repeal of the illegitimate communist constitution of 1976 and the establishment of a Sovereign Constitutional Assembly to draw amendments to the Democratic Constitution of 1940, including the absolute adhesion to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of the United Nations and the abolition of the death penalty. These amendments should be ratified by the elected representatives.

3. The establishment of a state based on the rule of law that will guarantee equality to all citizens before the law, without discrimination based on race, sex, ethnic group, or religious beliefs and which will end the system of oppression and apartheid established under the communist regime.

4. The dissolution of all political, propagandistic, and repressive organizations created by the communist regime since January, 1959, with a renewed emphasis on the development of independent civic institutions that will forge democracy for the new society.

5. Unconditional and immediate amnesty for all political prisoners.

6. Free access to Cubans and their children, who live outside the country, to enter and leave the country at will, and enjoy the same citizenship rights as those who live inside the Country.

7. The commitment to fund a first-rate free educational system, without political orientation as well as a basic health system that can be afforded by the poorest ones.

8. The recognition of private property and free enterprise as the main pillars for boosting the country's well-being along with a guarantee to workers of their right to organize independent labor unions that will promote their collective interests.

9. The restructuring of the armed forces and ensuring its strict separation from the economic and political activities and responsibilities of the country.

10. Once democracy has been established, lobby for the lifting of the United States commercial embargo and for the opening to foreign economic aid until Cuba can establish a basis for its economic recovery.