

## EUROPE CUBA NETWORK

### EUROPE CUBA NETWORK CALLS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF JORGE LUIS GARCÍA PÉREZ

The Europe Cuba Network is calling on the Cuban government to immediately release long time human rights defender, Jorge Luis García Pérez, also known as “Antúnez”.

The members of the Europe Cuba Network are gravely concerned for the welfare of Antúnez, a former Amnesty International Prisoner of Conscience, who presented video testimony to the United States Senate Foreign Relations Committee on “Countering Repression and Strengthening Civil Society in Cuba” on Thursday, 7 June.

On Saturday, 9 June, Antúnez was arrested. He was reportedly pepper-sprayed and beaten unconscious before being removed from his cell. His current whereabouts are unknown.

The Europe Cuba Network urges the European Union (EU) and its member states to make urgent representations on behalf of Antúnez to the Cuban government. The Europe Cuba Network also calls on the EU and other members of the international community to hold the Cuban government to account for all attacks on Cuban human rights defenders and specifically for the physical welfare of Antúnez.

Christian Solidarity Worldwide – *United Kingdom*  
Člověk v tísni/ People in Need – *Czech Republic*  
Cuba Futuro - *Netherlands*  
Eastern Europe Studies Centre- *Lithuania*  
Freedom and Democracy Foundation - *Poland*  
Fundación Hispano Cubana - *Spain*  
Italian Helsinki Committee for Human Rights – *Italy*  
Internationale Gesellschaft für Menschenrechte/International Society for Human Rights –  
*Germany*  
Kristdemokratiskt Internationellt Center/Christian Democratic International Center -*Sweden*  
OZ Clovek v ohrozeni / People in Peril Association– *Slovak Republic*  
Solidaridad Española con Cuba – *Spain*  
Unitas Foundation – *Estonia*  
Swedish International Liberal Centre – *Sweden*