

PUBLIC

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Further information on UA 307/98 (AMR 25/28/98, 9 December 1998) - Arrest of human rights defender

CUBA Nestor Rodríguez Lobaina, human rights defender

Nestor Rodríguez Lobaina, who was detained on 7 December 1998, was released on 15 December.

Lobaina, president of the *Movimiento de Jóvenes Cubanos por la Democracia* (MJCD), Cuban Youth Movement for Democracy, was ordered to stay out of Havana, and escorted by police to Santiago de Cuba. He has been told to return to his home town, Baracoa, in Guantánamo, but it is not clear how long he must stay there. His identity card has apparently been confiscated.

The government had refused to let him go to the Paris conference marking the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and he was apparently detained after trying to organize a demonstration in protest.

No further action by the UA network is necessary. Many thanks to all who sent appeals.