



**eastwest**  
European  
Institute

# Study Mission Havana - Cuba

6-13 February, 2022



In partnership  
with



*In cooperation with*

**Farnesina**  
*Ministero degli Affari Esteri  
e della Cooperazione Internazionale*

# About the Study Mission

Our Study missions are part of an **innovative training format** devised to offer to university students the opportunity to come face-to-face with today's most pressing challenges in international relations.

They are based on a hands-on approach to learning, in which students become the protagonists in the dialogue with **key interlocutors in institutions, diplomacy, global business and civil society.**

Participation in a Study Mission project means:



# Why Havana?

Cuba, the largest Caribbean island, gained its independence in 1898, after more than four centuries of Spanish domination. Since 1959, when the revolution led by Fidel Castro won, Cuba has been a historical and geopolitical reference for socialist countries and, after the end of the Cold War, **still holds a strategic role on a regional level and through all of Latin America.**

In the mid-nineties, Cuba embarked on a process of renovation of its economic model and opened its doors to international tourism. Presently, Cuba defines itself as a socialist country. Its new president, Miguel Diaz-Canel, promoted a series of **economic reforms which, while maintaining the central role of state-owned enterprises, open up to small and medium private enterprises as elements of diversification of the whole system.**

Thanks to a **solid structure in the fields of public healthcare, education and biotechnology, Cuba was able to confront the COVID pandemic efficiently and developed (only case in all of Latin America) nationally produced vaccines that ensured protection for its whole population.** Undoubtedly, the combined effect of the pandemic, the collapse of tourism and the **United States embargo** – which intensified under the Trump Administration – determined a critical situation from an economic point of view, with consequences that also reached internal politics.



# Target of the Study Mission

The Study Mission project will increase the student's knowledge and awareness of the **role of Cuba at a regional and global level**, also delving into the most sensitive issues, such as poverty, economic problems, the recognition of civil and political liberties.

The stay in Havana will be a unique occasion to meet with **senior Cuban officials and representatives of the international community**. At the end of the program, the participants will master the knowledge of the Caribbean and Central American dynamics and at the same time they will have a broad vision of the relations between the Country and the two old antagonists of the Cold War, the United States and Russia.

The ambition of the project is to allow participants to broaden their horizons and leave preconceived visions behind. Shedding light on the Cuban experience will be the ideal starting point to fully understand contemporary issues and **future prospects from a point of view other than the European one**.

Last but not least, the participants will have the opportunity to discover in practical terms what **dialogue and cooperation represent for a country like Cuba in relation to the major international actors, including the European Union, and in its bilateral relationship with Italy**.



# At a Glance

***Havana (Cuba)***

***6 – 13 February, 2022***

**Duration:** 7 days

**Course elements:** Pre-departure webinar course + study mission + simulation of a diplomatic negotiation

**Participants:** max. 35

**Language:** English

**Fee:** €1550

**Accommodation:** Hotel Nacional de Cuba



# Program

The structure of the Study Mission is divided into three parts:

- A webinar course held by experts, organized in 4 lessons, with special focus on current issues.
- In Havana, 7 days of meetings with institutions, diplomats, managers, professors and opinion makers.
- Site-visits to historically important areas of the city, exploring secrets and peculiarities of the local communities, religion and culture.



# Itinerary Plan

Sunday, February 6

*Arrival in Havana*

Afternoon: hotel check-in

18:00 - 19:00 kick-off meeting with EWEI tutor and the Chairman of eastwest European Institute, Giuseppe Scognamiglio.

*NB. The course program is subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances including changes in the availability of speakers or participating institutions.*



# Itinerary Plan

**Monday, February 7**

Morning:

10.00 – 12.00 **Meeting with Rector of the Higher Institute of International Relations of Cuba “Raul Roa Garcia”, Ambassador Rogelio Sierra Díaz**  
Location: Calzada e/ H e I, Vedado, Cuba

Afternoon:

15.00 – 17.00 **Meeting with Mrs. Lisset Gonzalez Lopez, Section General de Planeamiento Politico at MINREX, and Mr. Sierra Díaz, Dean of ISRI.**  
Location: Instituto Superior de Relaciones Internacionales (ISRI) Raúl Roa García, Calzada e/H-I Vedado.

18.00 – 20.00 **Meeting and aperitif with His Excellency Roberto Vellano, Italian Ambassador to Cuba**  
Location: Residence of the Ambassador, 5ta Avenida n.4607 esquina a Calle 60, Miramar

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# Itinerary Plan

Tuesday, February 8

## Morning:

10.00 – 12.00 **Meeting with Journalists at Cubadebate**  
Location: Calle 23, Esquina A I, Vedado

## Afternoon:

15.00 – 17.00 **Guided visit to the Monument to José Martí**  
Location: Calle 21 No. 661 e/ Paseo y A, Municipio Plaza de la Revolución

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# Itinerary Plan

Wednesday, February 9

Morning:

- 10.00 – 12.00 **Meeting with *Mrs. Inalvis Bonachea*, Head of the Comercial Policy Division with Europe of the Cuban Ministry for Foreign Trade and Investments with the Specialist of Italy, *Mrs. Laura Soler***  
Location: MINCEX Protocol's Lounge Ave 1ra y 18, Miramar, La Habana

Afternoon:

- 15.00 – 16.00 **Visit of the *Instituto Finlay de Vacunas (Soberana)***  
Location: Avenue No. 21, No. 19810, entre 198 y 200, Reparto Atabey, Playa, La Habana
- 16.00 – 17.00 Visit of ***Centro de Ingenieria Genética y Biotecnologica (CIGB – Abdala)***  
Location: Ave.31 No.15802 e/158 y 190 Cubanacan, Playa, CP 10600 P.O. Box6162

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# Itinerary Plan

Thursday, February 10

## Morning:

10.00 – 12.00 **Guided visit of *El Capitolio Nacional de Cuba* and introduction on the Cuban legislative system**

Location: Paseo del Prado 422 e/ San José y Dragones Havana Vieja, 4JPR+349, La Habana

## Afternoon:

14.00 – 17.00 **Briefing by the UN System in Cuba, the EU Delegation and the Italian Embassy**

Location: ReDi- Centro de Restauración y Diseño en Cuba. Palacio del Marqués de Arco, Calle de Mercaderes No 16 e/O'Reilly y Empedrado, La Habana Vieja

17.00 – 19.00 **Simulation of international negotiations “US Embargo: seeking ways out”**

Location: ReDi- Centro de Restauración y Diseño en Cuba. Palacio del Marqués de Arco, Calle de Mercaderes No 16 e/O'Reilly y Empedrado, La Habana Vieja

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# Itinerary Plan

Friday, February 11

Morning:

10.00 – 12.00 **Guided visit of the *Latinoamericano Stadium* and meeting with the President of the Cuban Baseball Federation.**  
Location: 4J9F+FJ6, La Habana, Cuba

Afternoon:

15.00 – 17.00 **Meeting with *Dr. José Ramón Cabañas Rodríguez*, Director of the International Policy Research Center and former Ambassador of the Republic of Cuba to the U.S.**  
Location: Instituto Superior de Relaciones Internacionales (ISRI) Raúl Roa García, Calzada e/H-I Vedado.

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# Itinerary Plan

Saturday, February 12

Morning: Visit of Old Havana and presentation by *Oficina del Historiador de la Habana*

Free Afternoon

Sunday, February 13  
*RETURN TRIP*

*NB. The course program is subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances including changes in the availability of speakers or participating institutions.*



# Useful Information

# 1

## Documents:

Italian citizens will need a valid **Passport** (with **residual validity of at least six months**), a **Visa** and a **health insurance** (covering **completely the period of stay**) upon arrival in the country

# 2

## Currency Exchange:

Cuban Peso: **1€ = 27,69 CUP**

# 3

## What is included in the participation fee?

- Preparatory course
- Hotel stay
- Breakfast
- All meetings and activities listed in the itinerary
- Certification of participation

# 4

## What is not included in the participation fee?

- Round-trip airfare to/from Havana
- Cost and support to obtain Visa
- Lunches and dinners
- City tours & Museum fees
- Airport-hotel transfers and short city transfer



# Scholarship Credits

The goal of **eastwest European Institute** is to involve students, selected on merit, providing them with specialized training, finalized to a career in diplomacy, international affairs, advocacy and international business.



**EWEI** scholarships cover partially the participation fee.

Credits will be awarded on the basis of the following criteria:

- ✓ Previous participation to an EWEI or Associazione Diplomatici course;
- ✓ Interview on general knowledge of International relations;
- ✓ English language at C1 level;
- ✓ Single – income family.

*Any documents to prove the indicated criteria may be randomly asked, but we will mainly count on the responsible statements of the candidates.*



# Internship opportunities

The **eastwest European Institute** sponsors the application for an internship in one of the following partner Companies and Associations for the **5 best participants to each WiP - Study Mission**



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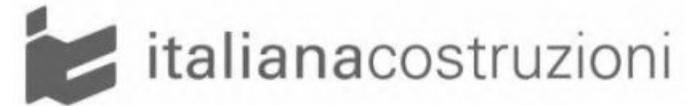
CONFINDUSTRIA



ABI  
Associazione  
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GRIMALDI | STUDIO  
LEGALE



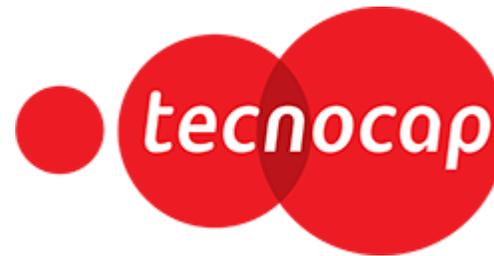
italianacostruzioni



PHILIP MORRIS



INSIDEART



tecnocap



Autotec  
service



ORGANIK HOLDING A.Ş.



VENTO  
& ASSOCIATI



UNIONCAMERE



# Publication opportunity

A group of 2 to 5 participants can apply to write a common article on the project for publication on the **eastwest magazine**. An editorial coordinator should be appointed within the team.



THE WORLD, PAGE AFTER PAGE  
**eastwest**





# Contact:

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Visit our website  
[www.ew-ei.eu](http://www.ew-ei.eu)

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