

Mending bridges: the US and Cuba, then and now

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Abstract: After more than fifty years of estrangement, Barack Obama and Raúl Castro recently announced a fruitful negotiation that reestablished diplomatic ties between the United States and Cuba. The event gives way to a series of questions – what stood in the way of mending those bridges before? What allowed its achievement now? What was the role of the mediators in the negotiations? What will the restoration of relations mean for the domestic sphere of both Cuba and the United States, for world and regional politics? Our aim is contemplating these inquiries by looking at both historical and contemporary drivers of relations, as well as the negotiation process itself and the prospects and challenges that lie ahead.

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