



Giving Up Authority

The Spain Herald

June 8, 2005

Classical liberal theory teaches government is composed of a group of elected politicians who are paid by the citizens to defend their interests - material or spiritual. However, different schools of thought have also developed: mainly Marxism, which long reigned supreme and in good measure persists today in our universities. For the Marxists, government is the revolutionary vanguard, the spearhead guiding the people toward liberation.

Different schools lead to different behaviors. Our revolutionary vanguard might not distinguish itself in intellectual capacity or cultural sensibility, but its voters don't seem to demand greater sophistication. What nobody can deny them is coherence: to similar problems, identical responses.

The Cuban government arbitrarily decides who can and cannot enter its territory depending on the visitor's intentions. If it is to meet, encourage and show concern for members of the democratic opposition, then the regime stops the visitor on the tarmac, puts him back on the plane and returns him to Madrid. For classical liberals the Spanish government should strongly

and immediately protest such action, apply sanctions and demand respect for the rights of Spanish citizens in the future. For the post-Marxist anti-globalization crowd, the important thing is to keep up a dialogue with the Cuban dictatorship and push to one side those radical democrats daring to question the revolution's legitimacy. Despite the humiliation, in Brussels our administration continues to defend the lifting of sanctions. Defending democracy, Spaniards's rights or national and European dignity is unimportant. The important thing is protecting the Marxist dictatorship.

The Moroccan government failed to live up to its international obligations and is not going to hold a referendum to resolve the problem in Western Sahara. That same government refused to allow a delegation of Spaniards to disembark from an airplane and meet with certain people to evaluate the situation there. Classical liberals would demand the referendum move forward and respect for our citizens, who should be able to talk with whomever they please. Our leaders have opted for backing Morocco in its refusal to celebrate a referendum and determination

to annex Western Sahara. As regards the violation of our citizens' rights, the administration bowed its head, smiled and put itself at the service of the Moroccan king to be humiliated as many times as it pleases his Majesty. Here, there is no sympathy for a revolution, just plain old weakness. They thought giving in on the Sahara issue would change everything. What is happening now, however, is logical -to greater weakness, greater demands. By surrendering, one loses authority and encourages future abuse.

The Zapatero government is comfortable seeing Spain's image deteriorate and its credibility disappear, both in and out of Europe; it runs from its responsibilities to citizens and puts itself at the beck and call of anti-democratic regimes. Still, it is an original path toward the position of European leadership to which the administration supposedly aspires.

[Libertad Digital](#)