

ABSTRACT

This research is titled "*Cuba under Castro: the Resistance against Neoliberal Regime*". The research aims to explain how Fidel Castro led Cuban people to resist against neoliberal policies that tried to apply by the United States and its allies.

I use the concept of neoliberalism and the Antonio Gramsci's theory of Counter Hegemony, to analyze. The hypothesis of this study depicts that the first resistance of the Fidel Castro against neoliberal regime in Cuba was to seize political power in Cuba by armed struggle and create a social revolution, and then making economic policies and political resistance to the neoliberal regime in Cuba.

Data collection methods used in this research is through the study of literature. In gathering facts and data, I use literature studies assisted with quantitative methods. Therefore, the data obtained is secondary data founded from books, scientific papers, journals, magazines, internet, newspapers and other sources those are relevant to the subject.

Cuba is a country that has sea borders directly to the United States. Indeed, Cuba's struggle for independence from colonial Spain was supported by the United States. Consequently, at the beginning of its independence, Cubans lived in the shadow of the United States. In practice, the United States also controlled of Cuban natural resources. Nonetheless, Cuba's post-independence state, in fact, full of social unrest and political instability. This happened because the ruler in Cuba tended to run a non democratic politics, arbitrary law enforcement, and the low level of prosperity of its citizens. Cuban Government under Batista was also very corrupt, militaristic, and more in favor to foreign capital.

Fidel Castro with his insurrection movements builds political strength and armed resistance group to fight against Batista. It sparked a social revolution in Cuba. On January 1, 1959, Fidel Castro managed to liberate Cuba from Batista regime. After Batista stepped down, then Cuba was governed by Fidel Castro. Under Castro's rule, Cuba began to perform a variety of changes, especially in politics and policy orientation of foreign relations, as well as changes in economic policies. Economic embargo by the United States and its allies required Cuba to build political balance and to build cooperative relationships to the Eastern Bloc countries led by the Soviet Union. Its close relationship with the UUSR, in turn, also leads to ideological changes to Marxism-Leninism in Cuba. It reflected in the Cuban constitution amendment in 1976