



**Clarkson-Montesinos Institute**  
*A Cry for Freedom and Justice*

# PRESS RELEASE

**Clarkson-Montesinos Institute**

<https://clarkson-montesinos.org/es/>

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***The Clarkson-Montesinos Institute condemns the covert traffic of thousands of tons of sugar destined for the United States, this sugar is processed by Central Romana, Corp. (property of the Fanjul brothers) by way of CAEI (property of the Vicini brothers), thus illegally circumventing the CBP prohibition accord, which disallows the harvesting and production of sugar from Central Romana.***

1.- On November 23<sup>rd</sup> 2022, United States' Customs and Border Protection, CBP, issued an order prohibiting the importation of sugar produced by Central Romana Corporation (owned by the Fanjul Family), due to repeated abusive practices against the human and labor rights of sugar cane plantation workers—abuses that include physical mistreatment, isolation, threats, salary retention, human trafficking, child labor, appalling housing and living conditions in the barracks, conditions of quasi-slavery, and forced labor, among many other fundamental and infrastructural manners of abuse.

2.- Nevertheless, credible sources have notified the Clarkson-Montesinos Institute that an illicit pact exists between the two families, the Fanjuls (Central Romana), and the Vicinis (CAEI), allowing the illegal and unimpeded production of sugar by Central Romana to be exported to the United States under the new quotas assigned by INAZUCAR to the Vicini family (CAEI).

3.- It is public knowledge that, due to the current veto by the United States (source, Diario Libre) prohibiting the entry of sugar produced by Central Romana Corporation, the board of directors of INAZUCAR (Council of Dominican Sugar Producers) subsequently approved a resolution to redistribute the totality of the exportation quotas to other preferential sugar mill markets, thus increasing the production of the Cristóbal Colón (CAEI) to 70.10% and the Barahona (CAC, owned by the Campollo family) to 29.90%.

An astute financial acumen is not required to understand that if the Vicini family is the beneficiary of an unexpected American preferential quota, almost doubling last year's fiscal share, it is IMPOSSIBLE to suddenly double up its sugar production and exportation to the United States.

Which begs the question: What course of illegitimate action have the Vicinis and the Fanjuls taken? In a classic example of "no honor among thieves," they have united their efforts to export sugar, produced by Central Romana Corporation, to the United States with impunity, by way of the new quota assigned to the Vicini family.

This is a grave crime against the United States, and a shameful mockery of its laws and regulations, and must not go unpunished. The United States must apply the full extent of the law and levy comparably reasonable sanctions.

4.- Incontrovertible data show that since November 23<sup>rd</sup> 2022, an order was issued to stop the entrance of Central Romana sugar. However, this company has never halted its sugar production. Both fiscally and operationally, it remains fully functional, to this day, in its sugar canes fields and in its sugar mills—as if the prohibition mandate never took place.

The question then arises: Why would the Central Romana sugar mill continue to produce thousands of tons of sugar if no one is able to purchase the product? Herein lies the answer: collusion between the Fanjul and the Vicini families.

5.- Our credible and reliable sources implored anonymity—both the whistleblowers from the Dominican Republic, and especially those from inside the West Palm Beach (Florida) area. These are influential people from within the Fanjul family business, who have informed us that, they fear clear and imminent retaliation against their lives, their families' lives, and most certainly their livelihoods, should they be exposed

6.- Based on these findings, the Clarkson-Montesinos Institute asks the following authorities within the United States Government—the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL); Customs and Border Protection (CBP); the U.S. State Department; the U.S. Embassy in the Dominican Republic, and other US government entities—to conduct an extensive investigation to elucidate whether fraudulent acts have been perpetrated by these families that are in clear violation of the prohibition of November 23<sup>rd</sup> of 2022. Furthermore, should fraudulent activity be proven, each U.S. Department must impose the most severe sanctions applicable by law upon the Fanjul and the Vicini families. Additionally, should the sugar mill Cristóbal Colón (owned by the Vicini family) be found in complicit fraudulent collusion, they must be sanctioned accordingly, as well, in the same fashion as the Central Romana Corporation.

BONSUCRO is also urged to conduct its own investigation into these allegations of fraud, and pending credible proof of corruption, the imminent expulsion of CAEI-Vicini from its organization should follow; moreover, its accreditation in said organization, which promotes the highest standards of ethical commerce, should be revoked