

[REDACTED]

Asylum application

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CONFIDENTIAL

APPROVED

I-589, Application for Asylum and for Withholding of Removal

START HERE - Type or print in black ink. See the instructions for information about eligibility and how to complete and file this application. There is no filing fee for this application.

NOTE: Check this box if you also want to apply for withholding of removal under the Convention Against Torture.

Part A.I. Information About You					
1. Alien Registration Number(s) (A-Number) (if any) NONE		2. U.S. Social Security Number (if any) NONE		3. USCIS Online Account Number (if any) NONE	
4. Complete Last Name [REDACTED]		5. First Name [REDACTED]		6. Middle Name NONE	
7. What other names have you used (include maiden name and aliases)? NONE					
8. Residence in the U.S. (where you physically reside)					
Street Number and Name [REDACTED]				Apt. Number [REDACTED]	
City BROOKLYN		State NY	Zip Code 11235	Telephone Number [REDACTED]	
Mailing Address in the U.S. (if different than the address in Item Number 8)					
In Care Of (if applicable):				Telephone Number ()	
Street Number and Name				Apt. Number	
City		State		Zip Code	
10. Gender: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female		11. Marital Status: <input type="checkbox"/> Single <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Married <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced <input type="checkbox"/> Widowed			
12. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) [REDACTED]		13. City and Country of Birth [REDACTED]			
14. Present Nationality (Citizenship) BELARUS		15. Nationality at Birth BELARUSIAN		16. Race, Ethnic, or Tribal Group WHITE	17. Religion ORTHODOX
18. Check the box, a through c, that applies: a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I have never been in Immigration Court proceedings. b. <input type="checkbox"/> I am now in Immigration Court proceedings. c. <input type="checkbox"/> I am not now in Immigration Court proceedings, but I have been in the past.					
19. Complete 19 a through c. a. When did you last leave your country? (mmm/dd/yyyy) 02/16/2019 b. What is your current I-94 Number, if any? [REDACTED] c. List each entry into the U.S. beginning with your most recent entry. List date (mm/dd/yyyy), place, and your status for each entry. (Attach additional sheets as needed.)					
Date 02/16/2019	Place JFK AIRPORT NY	Status B2	Date Status Expires 08/15/2019		
Date [REDACTED]/2018	Place JFK AIRPORT NY	Status B2			
Date	Place	Status			
20. What country issued your last passport or travel document? BELARUS		21. Passport Number [REDACTED] Travel Document Number NONE		22. Expiration Date (mm/dd/yyyy) 10/[REDACTED]/2027	
23. What is your native language (include dialect, if applicable)? BELARUSIAN		24. Are you fluent in English? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		25. What other languages do you speak fluently? RUSSIAN	
For EOIR use only.		For USCIS use only.		Action: Interview Date: _____ Asylum Officer ID No.: _____ Decision: Approval Date: _____ Denial Date: _____ Referral Date: _____	

Part A.II. Information About Your Spouse and Children

Your spouse I am not married. (Skip to **Your Children** below.)

1. Alien Registration Number (A-Number) (if any) NONE		2. Passport/ID Card Number (if any) [REDACTED]		3. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) 09/[REDACTED]/1996		4. U.S. Social Security Number (if any) NONE	
5. Complete Last Name [REDACTED]			6. First Name [REDACTED]		7. Middle Name NONE		8. Other names used (include maiden name and aliases) [REDACTED]
9. Date of Marriage (mm/dd/yyyy) 07/[REDACTED]/2016			10. Place of Marriage GRODNO BELARUS			11. City and Country of Birth GRODNO BELARUS	
12. Nationality (Citizenship) BELARUS			13. Race, Ethnic, or Tribal Group WHITE			14. Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female	
15. Is this person in the U.S.? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (Complete Blocks 16 to 24.) <input type="checkbox"/> No (Specify location): _____							
16. Place of last entry into the U.S. JFK AIRPORT NY		17. Date of last entry into the U.S. (mm/dd/yyyy) 02/[REDACTED]/2019		18. I-94 Number (if any) [REDACTED]		19. Status when last admitted (Visa type, if any) B2	
20. What is your spouse's current status? B2 EXPIRED		21. What is the expiration date of his/her authorized stay, if any? (mm/dd/yyyy) 08/[REDACTED]/2019		22. Is your spouse in Immigration Court proceedings? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		23. If previously in the U.S., date of previous arrival (mm/dd/yyyy) 05/[REDACTED]/2018	
24. If in the U.S., is your spouse to be included in this application? (Check the appropriate box.) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (Attach one photograph of your spouse in the upper right corner of Page 9 on the extra copy of the application submitted for this person.) <input type="checkbox"/> No							

Your Children. List all of your children, regardless of age, location, or marital status.

I do not have any children. (Skip to Part A.III., **Information about your background.**)

I have children. Total number of children: _____

(NOTE: Use Form I-589 Supplement A or attach additional sheets of paper and documentation if you have more than four children.)

1. Alien Registration Number (A-Number) (if any)		2. Passport/ID Card Number (if any)		3. Marital Status (Married, Single, Divorced, Widowed)		4. U.S. Social Security Number (if any)	
5. Complete Last Name			6. First Name		7. Middle Name		8. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)
9. City and Country of Birth			10. Nationality (Citizenship)		11. Race, Ethnic, or Tribal Group		12. Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
13. Is this child in the U.S.? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Complete Blocks 14 to 21.) <input type="checkbox"/> No (Specify location): _____							
14. Place of last entry into the U.S.		15. Date of last entry into the U.S. (mm/dd/yyyy)		16. I-94 Number (If any)		17. Status when last admitted (Visa type, if any)	
18. What is your child's current status?			19. What is the expiration date of his/her authorized stay, if any? (mm/dd/yyyy)		20. Is your child in Immigration Court proceedings? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
21. If in the U.S., is this child to be included in this application? (Check the appropriate box.) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Attach one photograph of your child in the upper right corner of Page 9 on the extra copy of the application submitted for this person.) <input type="checkbox"/> No							

Part A.II. Information About Your Spouse and Children (Continued)

1. Alien Registration Number (A-Number) (if any)	2. Passport/ID Card Number (if any)	3. Marital Status (Married, Single, Divorced, Widowed)	4. U.S. Social Security Number (if any)
5. Complete Last Name	6. First Name	7. Middle Name	8. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)
9. City and Country of Birth	10. Nationality (Citizenship)	11. Race, Ethnic, or Tribal Group	12. Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
13. Is this child in the U.S.? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Complete Blocks 14 to 21.) <input type="checkbox"/> No (Specify location): _____			
14. Place of last entry into the U.S.	15. Date of last entry into the U.S. (mm/dd/yyyy)	16. I-94 Number (If any)	17. Status when last admitted (Visa type, if any)
18. What is your child's current status?	19. What is the expiration date of his/her authorized stay, if any? (mm/dd/yyyy)	20. Is your child in Immigration Court proceedings? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
21. If in the U.S., is this child to be included in this application? (Check the appropriate box.) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Attach one photograph of your spouse in the upper right corner of Page 9 on the extra copy of the application submitted for this person.) <input type="checkbox"/> No			
1. Alien Registration Number (A-Number) (if any)	2. Passport/ID Card Number (if any)	3. Marital Status (Married, Single, Divorced, Widowed)	4. U.S. Social Security Number (if any)
5. Complete Last Name	6. First Name	7. Middle Name	8. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)
9. City and Country of Birth	10. Nationality (Citizenship)	11. Race, Ethnic, or Tribal Group	12. Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
13. Is this child in the U.S.? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Complete Blocks 14 to 21.) <input type="checkbox"/> No (Specify location): _____			
14. Place of last entry into the U.S.	15. Date of last entry into the U.S. (mm/dd/yyyy)	16. I-94 Number (If any)	17. Status when last admitted (Visa type, if any)
18. What is your child's current status?	19. What is the expiration date of his/her authorized stay, if any? (mm/dd/yyyy)	20. Is your child in Immigration Court proceedings? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
21. If in the U.S., is this child to be included in this application? (Check the appropriate box.) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Attach one photograph of your spouse in the upper right corner of Page 9 on the extra copy of the application submitted for this person.) <input type="checkbox"/> No			
1. Alien Registration Number (A-Number) (if any)	2. Passport/ID Card Number (if any)	3. Marital Status (Married, Single, Divorced, Widowed)	4. U.S. Social Security Number (if any)
5. Complete Last Name	6. First Name	7. Middle Name	8. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)
9. City and Country of Birth	10. Nationality (Citizenship)	11. Race, Ethnic, or Tribal Group	12. Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
13. Is this child in the U.S.? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Complete Blocks 14 to 21.) <input type="checkbox"/> No (Specify location): _____			
14. Place of last entry into the U.S.	15. Date of last entry into the U.S. (mm/dd/yyyy)	16. I-94 Number (If any)	17. Status when last admitted (Visa type, if any)
18. What is your child's current status?	19. What is the expiration date of his/her authorized stay, if any? (mm/dd/yyyy)	20. Is your child in Immigration Court proceedings? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
21. If in the U.S., is this child to be included in this application? (Check the appropriate box.) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Attach one photograph of your spouse in the upper right corner of Page 9 on the extra copy of the application submitted for this person.) <input type="checkbox"/> No			

Part A.III. Information About Your Background

1. List your last address where you lived before coming to the United States. If this is not the country where you fear persecution, also list the last address in the country where you fear persecution. (List Address, City/Town, Department, Province, or State and Country.)
(NOTE: Use Form I-589 Supplement B, or additional sheets of paper, if necessary.)

Number and Street (Provide if available)	City/Town	Department, Province, or State	Country	Dates	
				From (Mo/Yr)	To (Mo/Yr)
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	GRODNENSKAYA	BELARUS	07/92	02/19

2. Provide the following information about your residences during the past 5 years. List your present address first.
(NOTE: Use Form I-589 Supplement B, or additional sheets of paper, if necessary.)

Number and Street	City/Town	Department, Province, or State	Country	Dates	
				From (Mo/Yr)	To (Mo/Yr)
[REDACTED]	BROOKLYN	NY	USA	[REDACTED]/19	TODAY
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	GRODNENSKAYA	BELARUS	07/92	02/19

3. Provide the following information about your education, beginning with the most recent school that you attended.
(NOTE: Use Form I-589 Supplement B, or additional sheets of paper, if necessary.)

Name of School	Type of School	Location (Address)	Attended	
			From (Mo/Yr)	To (Mo/Yr)
STATE [REDACTED] COLLEGE	COLLEGE	GRODNO BELARUS	09/08	06/11
SCHOOL [REDACTED]	SCHOOL	SKIDEL BELARUS	09/98	06/08

4. Provide the following information about your employment during the past 5 years. List your present employment first.
(NOTE: Use Form I-589 Supplement B, or additional sheets of paper, if necessary.)

Name and Address of Employer	Your Occupation	Dates	
		From (Mo/Yr)	To (Mo/Yr)
[REDACTED] SERVICES, [REDACTED] BELARUS	LOCKSMITH	01/14	05/18
[REDACTED] SERVICES, [REDACTED] BELARUS	DRIVER	02/13	01/14

5. Provide the following information about your parents and siblings (brothers and sisters). Check the box if the person is deceased.
(NOTE: Use Form I-589 Supplement B, or additional sheets of paper, if necessary.)

Full Name	City/Town and Country of Birth	Current Location
Mother [REDACTED]	KIEV UKRAINE	<input type="checkbox"/> Deceased SKIDEL BELARUS
Father [REDACTED]	GRODNO BELARUS	<input type="checkbox"/> Deceased SKIDEL BELARUS
Sibling [REDACTED]	SKIDEL BELARUS	<input type="checkbox"/> Deceased SKIDEL BELARUS
Sibling NONE	NONE	<input type="checkbox"/> Deceased NONE
Sibling NONE	NONE	<input type="checkbox"/> Deceased NONE
Sibling NONE	NONE	<input type="checkbox"/> Deceased NONE

Part B. Information About Your Application

(NOTE: Use Form I-589 Supplement B, or attach additional sheets of paper as needed to complete your responses to the questions contained in Part B.)

When answering the following questions about your asylum or other protection claim (withholding of removal under 241(b)(3) of the INA or withholding of removal under the Convention Against Torture), you must provide a detailed and specific account of the basis of your claim to asylum or other protection. To the best of your ability, provide specific dates, places, and descriptions about each event or action described. You must attach documents evidencing the general conditions in the country from which you are seeking asylum or other protection and the specific facts on which you are relying to support your claim. If this documentation is unavailable or you are not providing this documentation with your application, explain why in your responses to the following questions.

Refer to Instructions, Part 1: Filing Instructions, Section II, "Basis of Eligibility," Parts A - D, Section V, "Completing the Form," Part B, and Section VII, "Additional Evidence That You Should Submit," for more information on completing this section of the form.

1. Why are you applying for asylum or withholding of removal under section 241(b)(3) of the INA, or for withholding of removal under the Convention Against Torture? Check the appropriate box(es) below and then provide detailed answers to questions A and B below.

I am seeking asylum or withholding of removal based on:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Race | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political opinion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Religion | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership in a particular social group |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nationality | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Torture Convention |

- A. Have you, your family, or close friends or colleagues ever experienced harm or mistreatment or threats in the past by anyone?

- No Yes

If "Yes," explain in detail:

1. What happened;
2. When the harm or mistreatment or threats occurred;
3. Who caused the harm or mistreatment or threats; and
4. Why you believe the harm or mistreatment or threats occurred.

YES I HAVE EXPERIENCED HARM AND MISTREATMENT IN [REDACTED] BECAUSE OF MY POLITICAL OPINION AND ACTIVITIES. I HAVE BEEN HARASSED IN [REDACTED]. PLEASE SEE MY STATEMENT FOR MORE DETAILS.

- B. Do you fear harm or mistreatment if you return to your home country?

- No Yes

If "Yes," explain in detail:

1. What harm or mistreatment you fear;
2. Who you believe would harm or mistreat you; and
3. Why you believe you would or could be harmed or mistreated.

YES I FEAR HARM AND MISTREATMENT IF I RETURN TO BELARUS BECAUSE [REDACTED]. PLEASE SEE MY STATEMENT FOR MORE DETAILS.

Part B. Information About Your Application (Continued)

2. Have you or your family members ever been accused, charged, arrested, detained, interrogated, convicted and sentenced, or imprisoned in any country other than the United States (including for an immigration law violation)?

No Yes

If "Yes," explain the circumstances and reasons for the action.

YES I HAVE [REDACTED] D, INTERROGATED AND BEATEN UP BY [REDACTED] AND OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT MY STATEMENT FOR MORE DETAILS.

3.A. Have you or your family members ever belonged to or been associated with any organizations or groups in your home country, such as, but not limited to, a political party, student group, labor union, religious organization, military or paramilitary group, civil patrol, guerrilla organization, ethnic group, human rights group, or the press or media?

No Yes

If "Yes," describe for each person the level of participation, any leadership or other positions held, and the length of time you or your family members were involved in each organization or activity.

[Empty box for describing participation in organizations]

3.B. Do you or your family members continue to participate in any way in these organizations or groups?

No Yes

If "Yes," describe for each person your or your family members' current level of participation, any leadership or other positions currently held, and the length of time you or your family members have been involved in each organization or group.

[Empty box for describing current participation in organizations]

4. Are you afraid of being subjected to torture in your home country or any other country to which you may be returned?

No Yes

If "Yes," explain why you are afraid and describe the nature of torture you fear, by whom, and why it would be inflicted.

FORTUNATELY, I [REDACTED], BUT I KNOW [REDACTED] HOW WIDELY TORTURE IS USED BY LAW ENFORCEMENT AFRAMED THAT WHEN I RETURN, I MAY BECOME A VICTIM.

[Empty box for explaining fear of torture]

Part C. Additional Information About Your Application

(NOTE: Use Form I-589 Supplement B, or attach additional sheets of paper as needed to complete your responses to the questions contained in Part C.)

1. Have you, your spouse, your child(ren), your parents or your siblings ever applied to the U.S. Government for refugee status, asylum, or withholding of removal?

No Yes

If "Yes," explain the decision and what happened to any status you, your spouse, your child(ren), your parents, or your siblings received as a result of that decision. Indicate whether or not you were included in a parent or spouse's application. If so, include your parent or spouse's A-number in your response. If you have been denied asylum by an immigration judge or the Board of Immigration Appeals, describe any change(s) in conditions in your country or your own personal circumstances since the date of the denial that may affect your eligibility for asylum.

- 2.A. After leaving the country from which you are claiming asylum, did you or your spouse or child(ren) who are now in the United States travel through or reside in any other country before entering the United States?

No Yes

- 2.B. Have you, your spouse, your child(ren), or other family members, such as your parents or siblings, ever applied for or received any lawful status in any country other than the one from which you are now claiming asylum?

No Yes

If "Yes" to either or both questions (2A and/or 2B), provide for each person the following: the name of each country and the length of stay, the person's status while there, the reasons for leaving, whether or not the person is entitled to return for lawful residence purposes, and whether the person applied for refugee status or for asylum while there, and if not, why he or she did not do so.

YES, I TRAVELLED TO USA		BECAUSE THERE		FROM		TO USA.

3. Have you, your spouse or your child(ren) ever ordered, incited, assisted or otherwise participated in causing harm or suffering to any person because of his or her race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group or belief in a particular political opinion?

No Yes

If "Yes," describe in detail each such incident and your own, your spouse's, or your child(ren)'s involvement.

Part C. Additional Information About Your Application (Continued)

4. After you left the country where you were harmed or fear harm, did you return to that country?

No Yes

If "Yes," describe in detail the circumstances of your visit(s) (for example, the date(s) of the trip(s), the purpose(s) of the trip(s), and the length of time you remained in that country for the visit(s).)

Blank response area for question 4.

5. Are you filing this application more than 1 year after your last arrival in the United States?

No Yes

If "Yes," explain why you did not file within the first year after you arrived. You must be prepared to explain at your interview or hearing why you did not file your asylum application within the first year after you arrived. For guidance in answering this question, see Instructions, Part 1: Filing Instructions, Section V. "Completing the Form," Part C.

Blank response area for question 5.

6. Have you or any member of your family included in the application ever committed any crime and/or been arrested, charged, convicted, or sentenced for any crimes in the United States (including for an immigration law violation)?

No Yes

If "Yes," for each instance, specify in your response: what occurred and the circumstances, dates, length of sentence received, location, the duration of the detention or imprisonment, reason(s) for the detention or conviction, any formal charges that were lodged against you or your relatives included in your application, and the reason(s) for release. Attach documents referring to these incidents, if they are available, or an explanation of why documents are not available.

Blank response area for question 6.

Part D. Your Signature

I certify, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America, that this application and the evidence submitted with it are all true and correct. Title 18, United States Code, Section 1546(a), provides in part: Whoever knowingly makes under oath, or as permitted under penalty of perjury under Section 1746 of Title 28, United States Code, knowingly subscribes as true, any false statement with respect to a material fact in any application, affidavit, or other document required by the immigration laws or regulations prescribed thereunder, or knowingly presents any such application, affidavit, or other document containing any such false statement or which fails to contain any reasonable basis in law or fact - shall be fined in accordance with this title or imprisoned for up to 25 years. I authorize the release of any information from my immigration record that U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) needs to determine eligibility for the benefit I am seeking.

Staple your photograph here or the photograph of the family member to be included on the extra copy of the application submitted for that person.

WARNING: Applicants who are in the United States unlawfully are subject to removal if their asylum or withholding claims are not granted by an asylum officer or an immigration judge. Any information provided in completing this application may be used as a basis for the institution of, or as evidence in, removal proceedings even if the application is later withdrawn. Applicants determined to have knowingly made a frivolous application for asylum will be permanently ineligible for any benefits under the Immigration and Nationality Act. You may not avoid a frivolous finding simply because someone advised you to provide false information in your asylum application. If filing with USCIS, unexcused failure to appear for an appointment to provide biometrics (such as fingerprints) and your biographical information within the time allowed may result in an asylum officer dismissing your asylum application or referring it to an immigration judge. Failure without good cause to provide DHS with biometrics or other biographical information while in removal proceedings may result in your application being found abandoned by the immigration judge. See sections 208(d)(5)(A) and 208(d)(6) of the INA and 8 CFR sections 208.10, 1208.10, 208.20, 1003.47(d) and 1208.20.

Print your complete name. [REDACTED]	Write your name in your native alphabet. [REDACTED]
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Did your spouse, parent, or child(ren) assist you in completing this application? No Yes (If "Yes," list the name and relationship.)

(Name)	(Relationship)	(Name)	(Relationship)
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Did someone other than your spouse, parent, or child(ren) prepare this application? No Yes (If "Yes," complete Part E.)

Asylum applicants may be represented by counsel. Have you been provided with a list of persons who may be available to assist you, at little or no cost, with your asylum claim? No Yes

Signature of Applicant (The person in Part A.I.)
 → [_____] _____
 Sign your name so it all appears within the brackets Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

Part E. Declaration of Person Preparing Form, if Other Than Applicant, Spouse, Parent, or Child

I declare that I have prepared this application at the request of the person named in Part D, that the responses provided are based on all information of which I have knowledge, or which was provided to me by the applicant, and that the completed application was read to the applicant in his or her native language or a language he or she understands for verification before he or she signed the application in my presence. I am aware that the knowing placement of false information on the Form I-589 may also subject me to civil penalties under 8 U.S.C. 1324c and/or criminal penalties under 18 U.S.C. 1546(a).

Signature of Preparer		Print Complete Name of Preparer	
Daytime Telephone Number ()		Address of Preparer: Street Number and Name	
Apt. Number	City	State	Zip Code

To be completed by an attorney or accredited representative (if any).	<input type="checkbox"/> Select this box if Form G-28 is attached.	Attorney State Bar Number (if applicable) [REDACTED]	Attorney or Accredited Representative USCIS Online Account Number (if any) [REDACTED]

Part F. To Be Completed at Asylum Interview, if Applicable

NOTE: You will be asked to complete this part when you appear for examination before an asylum officer of the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

I swear (affirm) that I know the contents of this application that I am signing, including the attached documents and supplements, that they are all true or not all true to the best of my knowledge and that correction(s) numbered ____ to ____ were made by me or at my request. Furthermore, I am aware that if I am determined to have knowingly made a frivolous application for asylum I will be permanently ineligible for any benefits under the Immigration and Nationality Act, and that I may not avoid a frivolous finding simply because someone advised me to provide false information in my asylum application.

Signed and sworn to before me by the above named applicant on:

Signature of Applicant

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

Write Your Name in Your Native Alphabet

Signature of Asylum Officer

Part G. To Be Completed at Removal Hearing, if Applicable

NOTE: You will be asked to complete this Part when you appear before an immigration judge of the U.S. Department of Justice, Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR), for a hearing.

I swear (affirm) that I know the contents of this application that I am signing, including the attached documents and supplements, that they are all true or not all true to the best of my knowledge and that correction(s) numbered ____ to ____ were made by me or at my request. Furthermore, I am aware that if I am determined to have knowingly made a frivolous application for asylum I will be permanently ineligible for any benefits under the Immigration and Nationality Act, and that I may not avoid a frivolous finding simply because someone advised me to provide false information in my asylum application.

Signed and sworn to before me by the above named applicant on:

Signature of Applicant

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

Write Your Name in Your Native Alphabet

Signature of Immigration Judge

A-Number (If available) NONE	Date
Applicant's Name [REDACTED]	Applicant's Signature

List All of Your Children, Regardless of Age or Marital Status

(NOTE: Use this form and attach additional pages and documentation as needed, if you have more than four children)

1. Alien Registration Number (A-Number) (if any)	2. Passport/ID Card Number (if any)	3. Marital Status (Married, Single, Divorced, Widowed)	4. U.S. Social Security Number (if any)
5. Complete Last Name	6. First Name	7. Middle Name	8. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)
9. City and Country of Birth	10. Nationality (Citizenship)	11. Race, Ethnic, or Tribal Group	12. Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
13. Is this child in the U.S. ? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Complete Blocks 14 to 21.) <input type="checkbox"/> No (Specify location):			
14. Place of last entry into the U.S.	15. Date of last entry into the U.S. (mm/dd/yyyy)	16. I-94 Number (If any)	17. Status when last admitted (Visa type, if any)
18. What is your child's current status?	19. What is the expiration date of his/her authorized stay, if any? (mm/dd/yyyy)	20. Is your child in Immigration Court proceedings? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
21. If in the U.S., is this child to be included in this application? (Check the appropriate box.) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Attach one photograph of your child in the upper right corner of Page 9 on the extra copy of the application submitted for this person.) <input type="checkbox"/> No			
1. Alien Registration Number (A-Number) (if any)	2. Passport/ID Card Number (if any)	3. Marital Status (Married, Single, Divorced, Widowed)	4. U.S. Social Security Number (if any)
5. Complete Last Name	6. First Name	7. Middle Name	8. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)
9. City and Country of Birth	10. Nationality (Citizenship)	11. Race, Ethnic, or Tribal Group	12. Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
13. Is this child in the U.S. ? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Complete Blocks 14 to 21.) <input type="checkbox"/> No (Specify location):			
14. Place of last entry into the U.S.	15. Date of last entry into the U.S. (mm/dd/yyyy)	16. I-94 Number (If any)	17. Status when last admitted (Visa type, if any)
18. What is your child's current status?	19. What is the expiration date of his/her authorized stay, if any? (mm/dd/yyyy)	20. Is your child in Immigration Court proceedings? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
21. If in the U.S., is this child to be included in this application? (Check the appropriate box.) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Attach one photograph of your child in the upper right corner of Page 9 on the extra copy of the application submitted for this person.) <input type="checkbox"/> No			

Additional Information About Your Claim to Asylum

A-Number (if available) NONE	Date
Applicant's Name [REDACTED]	Applicant's Signature

NOTE: Use this as a continuation page for any additional information requested. Copy and complete as needed.

Part _____

Question _____

[Large empty box for providing additional information]



For: [REDACTED]



U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Securing America's Borders

Most Recent I-94

Admission (I-94) Record Number : [REDACTED]

Most Recent Date of Entry: 2019 [REDACTED] 16

Class of Admission : B2

Admit Until Date : 08/[REDACTED]/2019

Details provided on the I-94 Information form:

Last/Surname : [REDACTED]

First (Given) Name : [REDACTED]

Birth Date : [REDACTED]

Passport Number : [REDACTED]

Country of Issuance : Belarus

[Get Travel History](#)

► Effective April 26, 2013, DHS began automating the admission process. An alien lawfully admitted or paroled into the U.S. is no longer required to be in possession of a preprinted Form I-94. A record of admission printed from the CBP website constitutes a lawful record of admission. See 8 CFR § 1.4(d).

► If an employer, local, state or federal agency requests admission information, present your admission (I-94) number along with any additional required documents requested by that employer or agency.

► Note: For security reasons, we recommend that you close your browser after you have finished retrieving your I-94 number.

OMB No. 1651-0111
Expiration Date: 11/30/2019

[For inquiries or questions regarding your I-94, please click here](#)

[Accessibility](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)

 For: [REDACTED]



Most Recent I-94

Admission (I-94) Record Number :
[REDACTED]

Most Recent Date of Entry: 2019
[REDACTED]

Class of Admission : B2

Admit Until Date : 08/[REDACTED]/2019

Details provided on the I-94

Information form:

Last/Surname : [REDACTED]

First (Given) Name : [REDACTED]

Birth Date : 1996
[REDACTED]

Passport Number : [REDACTED]

Country of Issuance : Belarus

[Get Travel History](#)

► Effective April 26, 2013, DHS began automating the admission process. An alien lawfully admitted or paroled into the U.S. is no longer required to be in possession of a preprinted Form I-94. A record of admission printed from the CBP website constitutes a lawful record of admission. See 8 CFR § 1.4(d).

► If an employer, local, state or federal agency requests admission information, present your admission (I-94) number along with any additional required documents requested by that employer or agency.

► Note: For security reasons, we recommend that you close your browser after you have finished retrieving your I-94 number.

OMB No. 1651-0111
Expiration Date: 12/31/2019

For inquiries or questions regarding your I-94, please [click here](#)

[Accessibility](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)

For Your Info

Effective April 26, 2013, DHS began automating the admission process.

An alien lawfully admitted or paroled into the U.S. is no longer required to be in possession of a preprinted Form I-94.

A record of admission printed from the CBP website constitutes a lawful record of admission. See 8 CFR § 1.4(d).

What to do if someone requests

32

РЭСПУБЛІКА БЕЛАРУСЬ / РЕСПУБЛИКА БЕЛАРУСЬ
REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

[Redacted Signature]

(ПОДПИС / SIGNATURE)



[Redacted Name]

ПОДПИС (ПОДПИС)

ПАШПАРТ (ПАШПАРТ / ПАСПОРТ / PASSPORT)

РЭСПУБЛІКА БЕЛАРУСЬ / REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

ПАШПАРТ
PASSPORT

ТЫП / TYPE: Р
КОД ДЗЯРЖАВЫ / CODE OF ISSUING STATE: BLR

НУМАР ПАШПАРТА / PASSPORT No. [Redacted]

[Redacted Name and Surname]

ПРозвішча / SURNAME: [Redacted]
Імя / GIVEN NAMES: [Redacted]

ГРАМАДЗЯНСТВА / NATIONALITY: REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

ДАТА НАРАДЖЭННЯ / DATE OF BIRTH: [Redacted]

ІДЕНТЫФІКАЦЫЙНЫ НУМАР / IDENTIFICATION No. [Redacted]

ПОЛ / SEX: М

МЕСЦА НАРАДЖЭННЯ / PLACE OF BIRTH: REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

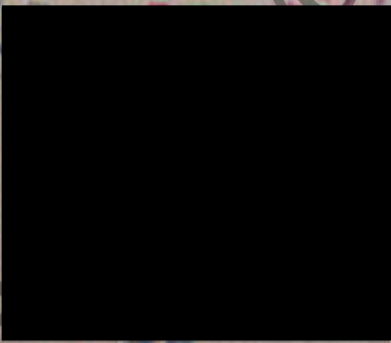
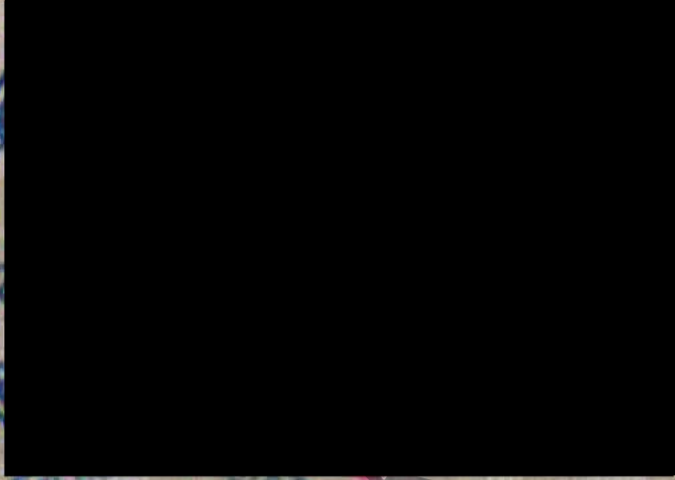
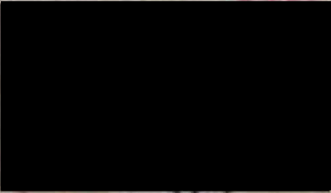
ДАТА ВЫДААННЯ / DATE OF ISSUE: 12 [Redacted] 2017

ОРГАНА, ЯКІ ВЫДАў ПАШПАРТ / AUTHORITY: MINISTRY OF

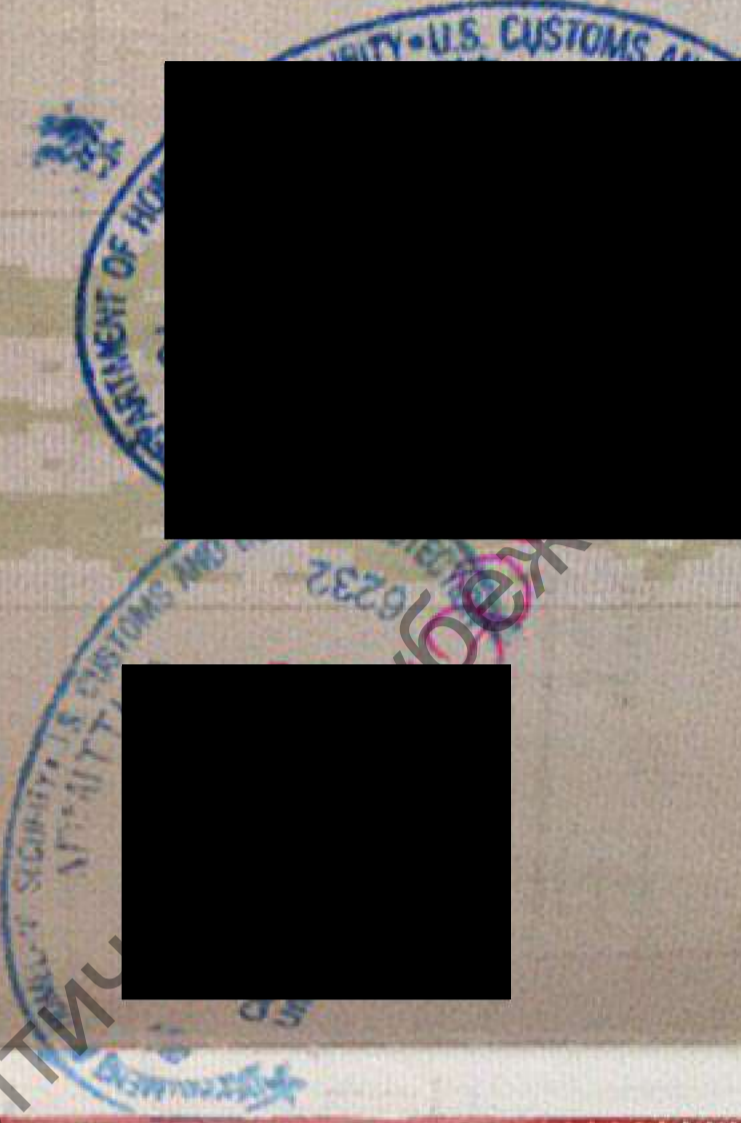
ТЭРМІН ДЭЛІ / DATE OF EXPIRY: 12 [Redacted] 2027

INTERNAL AFFAIRS

[Redacted Address]



ВІЗИ / B1/B2 / VISAS



VISA

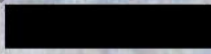
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



Issuing Post Name

MINSK

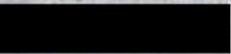
Surname



Given Name



Passport Number



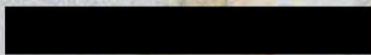
Entries

M

Annotation

S and our posterity.

Control Number



Visa Type /Class

R B1/B2

Nationality

BYS

Sex

M

Birth Date

02 [redacted] 1992

Issue Date

04 [redacted] 2018

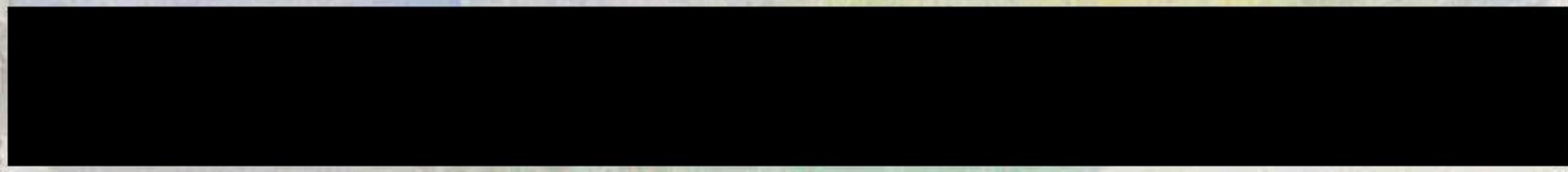
Expiration Date

02 [redacted] 2019

1011



**



РЭСПУБЛІКА БЕЛАРУСЬ / РЕСПУБЛИКА БЕЛАРУСЬ
REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

ПОДПИСЬ ВЛАДЕЛЬЦА / BEARER'S SIGNATURE
(ПОДПИСЬ ВЛАДЕЛЬЦА / BEARER'S SIGNATURE)



ПОДПИСЬ ОТВЕТАВШЕГО ЗА ВЫДАЧУ ПАСПОРТА
(ПОДПИСЬ ОТВЕТАВШЕГО ЗА ВЫДАЧУ ПАСПОРТА)
SIGNATURE OF THE AUTHORITY ISSUING THE PASSPORT

РЭСПУБЛІКА БЕЛАРУСЬ / REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

ПАШПАРТ
PASSPORT

ТЫП/TYPE КОД Дзяржавы/STATE CODE OF ISSUING STATE
P BLR STATE

НУМАР ПАШПАРТА/PASSPORT No

ПРОЗВИШЧА/SURNAME

ІМЯ/GIVEN NAMES

ГРАМАДЗЯНСТВА/NATIONALITY
REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

ДАТА НАРАДЖЭННЯ/DATE OF BIRTH

30 1996

ІДЭНТЫФІКАЦЫЙНЫ НУМАР/IDENTIFICATION No

ПОЛ/SEX

F

МЕСЦА НАРАДЖЭННЯ/PLACE OF BIRTH

REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

ДАТА ВЫДАЧЫ/DATE OF ISSUE

09 2016

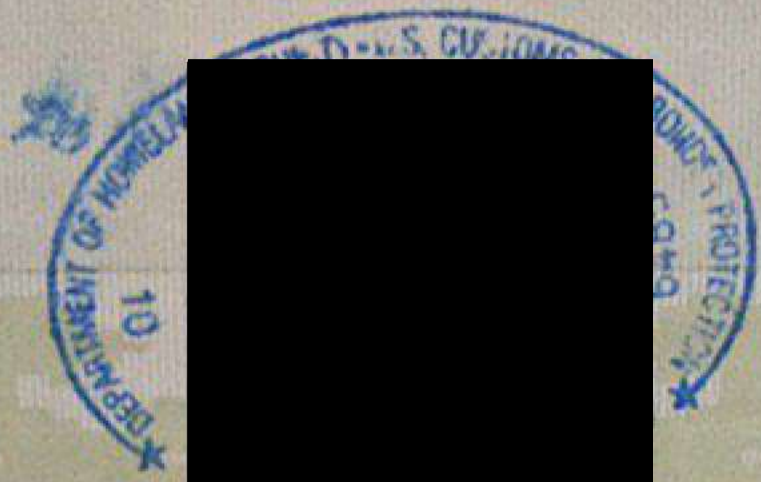
ОРГАІЯКІ ВЫДАЎ ПАШПАРТ/AUTHORITY

MINISTRY OF

ТЭРМІН ДЭЯНАСІ/DATE OF EXPIRY

09 2026

INTERNAL AFFAIRS



VISA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Issuing Post Name

MINSK

Control Number

Surname

Given Name

Visa Type /Class

R - B1/B2

Passport Number

Sex

Birth Date

Nationality

F

30 [redacted] 1996

BYS

Entries

Issue Date

Expiration Date

M

04 [redacted] 2018

02 [redacted] 2019

1011

Annotation

ПАСВЕДЧАННЕ АБ ЗАКЛЮЧЭННІ ШЛЮБУ

Грамадзянін _____

які нарадзіўся « _____ » _____ г.

месца нараджэння **РЭСПУБЛІКА БЕЛАРУСЬ, ГРОДЗЕНСКАЯ**

ВОБЛАСЦЬ, ГРОДЗЕНСКІ РАЁН, _____

і грамадзянка _____

якая нарадзілася « _____ » _____ г.

месца нараджэння **РЭСПУБЛІКА БЕЛАРУСЬ, ГРОДЗЕНСКАЯ**

ВОБЛАСЦЬ, ГРОДЗЕНСКІ РАЁН, _____

заклучылі шлюб **16** _____ **2016**

чысло, месяц, год лічбамі і літарамі

шаснаццатага _____ дзве тысячы шаснаццатага
года

аб чым у кнізе рэгістрацыі актаў аб заключэнні шлюбу

16 чысла _____ **2016** года

зроблен запіс за № **12**

Пасля заключэння шлюбу прысвоены прозвішчы:

мужу _____

жонцы _____

Месца рэгістрацыі заключэння шлюбу **Абухаўскі сельскі**

выканаўчы камітэт Гродзенскага раёна

Дата выдачы **16** _____ **2016** г.

Кіраўнік органа загі...

I-ДР № _____

СВИДЕТЕЛЬСТВО О ЗАКЛЮЧЕНИИ БРАКА

Гражданин _____

родившийся « _____ » _____ г.

собственное имя, отчество

место рождения **РЕСПУБЛИКА БЕЛАРУСЬ, ГРОДНЕНСКАЯ**

ОБЛАСТЬ, ГРОДНЕНСКИЙ РАЙОН, _____

и гражданка _____

родившаяся « _____ » _____ г.

собственной имя, отчество

место рождения **РЕСПУБЛИКА БЕЛАРУСЬ, ГРОДНЕНСКАЯ**

ОБЛАСТЬ, ГРОДНЕНСКИЙ РАЙОН, _____

заклучили брак **16** _____ **2016**

число, месяц, год цифрами и прописью

шестнадцатого _____ две тысячи шестнадцатого
года

о чем в книге регистрации актов о заключении брака

16 числа _____ **2016** года

произведена запись за № **12**

После заключения брака присвоены фамилии:

мужу _____

жене _____

Место регистрации заключения бра **Обуховский сельский**

исполнительный комитет Гродненского района

Дата выдачи « **16** » _____ **2016** г.

Руководитель органа загі...

I-ДР № _____

Stamp: Grodninskiy ROVD (Regional Department of Internal Affairs)

PASSPORT ISSUED

/illegible/

09 2016

Identification No. [REDACTED]

MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE

Citizen [REDACTED]
(surname)

[REDACTED]
name and patronymic)

Born on [REDACTED]

Place of birth: Republic of Belarus, Grodnenskaya oblast, Grodnenskiy region,

And citizen [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
name and patronymic)

Born on [REDACTED]

Place of birth: Republic of Belarus, Grodnenskaya oblast, Grodnenskiy region,

Entered into marriage 16 2016

(in words and in numbers year, month, date)

The sixteenth of July two thousand sixteen

In whiteness whereof the entry of birth was made in the civil registry book on

16, 2016, under the number 12

After the marriage the following surnames were assigned:

To husband: [REDACTED]

To wife: [REDACTED]

Place of registration Obukhovskiy village executive committee of the Grodnenskiy region

Date of issue: 16 2016

Head of bureau of Civil Registry Office

Signature [REDACTED]

Official seal of issuing authority [REDACTED]

I, [REDACTED], HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE IS AN EXACT AND ACCURATE TRANSLATION OF THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT SUBMITTED TO ME IN THE RUSSIAN LANGUAGE AND THAT I AM COMPETENT IN BOTH ENGLISH AND RUSSIAN LANGUAGES TO RENDER SUCH TRANSLATION.

■■■■■. г.р. и моя супруга, ■■■■■ обращаемся к вам с просьбой предоставления нам политического убежища на территории Соединенных Штатов Америки. Сейчас это наш единственный шанс начать строить жизнь, свободную от давления со стороны властей.

Текущая ситуация такова, что я и моя жена были вынуждены покинуть территорию родной страны – Республики Беларусь – из-за политически мотивированного преследования органами государственной безопасности. В связи с этим есть все основания полагать, что возвращение в Беларусь может представлять угрозу нашей личной безопасности вплоть до ареста и лишения свободы для меня и моей жены.

Причина преследования – моя оппозиционная деятельность и активная гражданская позиция, которая уже становилась поводом для неоднократного задержания.

Ниже я привожу перечень фактов и хронологию преследования меня и моей семьи органами власти Республики Беларусь.

Март ■■■■■ Участие в «■■■■■»

Присутствовал на печально известном «■■■■■» (шествии протеста против принятого Правительством декрета о налогообложении неработающих, в т.ч. вынужденно, граждан республики). Маршрут акции проходил по ул. Ленина, неподалеку от сквера Жилибера, в процессе которого происходило «общение» (по факту как такового его не было) протестующих с заместителем представителя горисполкома Зоей Кулешовой на эту тему.

25 ■■■■■, Минск. Избиение и задержание на «■■■■■».

Несанкционированная акция протеста проходила возле станции метро «■■■■■». Свыше тысячи человек (среди них находился и я) было задержано милицией с применением жестких силовых мер, более сотни обратились за медицинской помощью после разгона демонстрантов отрядами ОМОН.

В процессе задержания я получил несколько сильных ударов дубинкой по телу и ногам, после чего был помещен в автозак. Позже, в составе группы также задержанных оппозиционеров, я был доставлен в РУВД Первомайского района г. Минска (■■■■■, 10), о чем имеются:

- ■■■■■
- протокол об административном правонарушении
- постановление суда о возбуждении дела об административном правонарушении, по итогам которого на меня был наложен административный арест. Кроме того, суд обязал меня выплатить штраф в размере 30 минимальных размеров оплаты труда.

После более чем суток, проведенных в указанном отделении милиции, я обратился за медицинской консультацией в больницу скорой помощи (■■■■■). Врач зафиксировал побои: ушибы грудной клетки справа и мягких

тканей поясничной области, ушибленную рану правой ягодичной области и ушиб мягких тканей передней поверхности правого бедра.

Копии указанных документов прилагаю.

1. Протоколы и постановление о правонарушении — см. Приложение 1.
2. Медицинская справка — см. Приложение 2.

Митинги в Минске

Несмотря на административный арест, я не прекращал публично высказывать свою гражданскую позицию и уже через месяц вновь принял участие в несанкционированном митинге в апреле 2017 года. В день шестивия в Минске аналогичные акции проходили и в других городах Беларуси с требованием отставки Президента Республики Беларусь, освобождения политических заключенных, а также отмены вопиюще несправедливого декрета №3 (т.н. «закон о тунеядцах»), прямо нарушающего права человека.

По итогам апрельского митинга я не был задержан (в отличие от его организатора, Николая Статкевича, который был помещен под арест еще до начала акции).

2017

2017 года я принял участие в оппозиционном митинге, проходившем в Минске. В тот день по призыву политика Николая Статкевича на улицы столицы вышли тысячи людей, желавших заявить власти о своих правах.

В очередной раз мне удалось избежать задержания, что позволило мне активно освещать в социальных сетях оппозиционные митинги и свое участие в них на всем протяжении лета и осени 2017 года. В том числе, я подробно рассказывал о своем задержании и избииении.

Именно эти материалы позднее стали причиной шантажа со стороны моего руководства. Угрожая увольнением с работы, от меня потребовали удалить опубликованную информацию. Я был вынужден выполнить эти требования. В противном случае, в тот момент я бы потерял место работы – как случилось позднее, в 2018 году по все той же причине.

Март 2018. » и увольнение.

Очередная акция протеста, в которой я принял участие, закончилась не только избииением и задержанием, но и моим увольнением с работы. В ОВД администрации Октябрьского района г. Гродно на меня был составлен протокол об административном правонарушении и выписан штраф, копии отправлены работодателю.

Проведя более суток в ОВД, я обратился за медицинской помощью [REDACTED] [REDACTED]). Врач зафиксировал побои, нанесенные мне при задержании, о чем ниже прилагаю соответствующую справку.

После задержания, в середине [REDACTED] я был вызван руководством на беседу, в ходе которой мне было предложено написать заявление об увольнении с работы. При этом не скрывалось, что мотивировано это было моим участием в оппозиционных митингах. Тем не менее, я отказался увольняться по собственному желанию: аргументировал это правовыми аспектами моего трудового договора.

В ответ на это руководство развязало в отношении меня настоящую травлю. Это касалось как дисциплинарных, так и профессиональных претензий. В результате, я не выдержал и [REDACTED] 2018 года написал заявление об увольнении по собственному желанию.

- Трудовая книжка — См. Приложение 3.
- Медицинская справка – См. Приложение 5

Вызов на допрос в Следственный Комитет

После длительного отпуска и туристической поездки в США [REDACTED] по возвращении на родину я получил повестку по месту жительства от Следственного комитета по Гродненской области. В ней мне предписывалось прибыть на допрос в качестве [REDACTED].

В соответствии с требованием, изложенным в повестке, в назначенное время я прибыл в Комитет ([REDACTED] для уточнения причин вызова на допрос. Как оказалось, интерес Следственного Комитета был вызван моим участием в акциях протеста и оппозиционной деятельностью.

После установления моей личности и дежурных вопросов, меня начали расспрашивать о причинах, по которым я неоднократно участвовал в акциях протеста. Правды я не скрывал, честно изложив свою позицию по отношению к действующему Президенту Республики Беларусь, действиям ее властей и принимаемых законов (в частности, декрета №3).

В ответ от следователя стали поступать угрозы об открытии уголовного дела в случае, если я не прекращу участвовать в оппозиционных акциях. После этого я был отпущен домой, однако извещен о том, что со мной, возможно, свяжутся спустя некоторое время.

[REDACTED] 2019 года мне поступил повторный звонок из Следственного Комитета. Я вновь был вызван на допрос [REDACTED] февраля. На этот раз я уведомил собеседника, что предпочитаю ответить на имеющиеся вопросы по телефону, без личного визита. В ответ я получил угрозы об открытии уголовного дела в случае моего отсутствия.

Тем не [REDACTED] на допрос я не явился из-за опасений относительно моей личной безопасности. Вечером того же дня мне стали поступать звонки с неизвестных номеров, на которые я не отвечал.

[REDACTED] по моему адресу прибывали люди в штатском (предполагаю, из органов госбезопасности), которые опрашивали соседей на неизвестные мне темы. В эти и еще несколько дней я не покидал квартиру, опасаясь задержания на улице, в момент выхода из дома.

- Повестка из Следственного комитета — См. приложение

Прошение о политическом убежище

Описанная ситуация и угрозы уголовного преследования, поступающие от органов госбезопасности, вынудили меня и мою жену незамедлительно покинуть Беларусь. Уже в 2 [REDACTED] году мы вылетели в США, где и находимся до настоящего времени.

Мне достоверно известно, что Следственный Комитет Беларуси по-прежнему продолжает мой розыск, а милиция – допросы моих родственников и соседей. Возвращение на родину для меня - прямой путь в тюрьму. Именно поэтому я принял решение подать прошение о предоставлении политического убежища в США. Это единственный способ спастись для меня и моей жены.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

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ПРОТОКОЛ
об административном задержании

«25» [redacted] 2017. «15» час. «30» мин. г. Минск

Я, УИМ ОБИИ Центрального р-на РОВД г. Минска

в соответствии со статьей 8.2, 8.5 Кодекса Республики Беларусь об административных правонарушениях составил

настоящий протокол о том, что гражданин(ка) [redacted]

[redacted] (фамилия, имя, отчество)

2. р. Уроженца г. [redacted] (место рождения)

место постоянного жительства 2. [redacted], ул. Первомайская, 41 тел. [redacted]

работавший(ая) / учащийся(ся) ЖЖХ (наименование и адрес организации, телефон)

[redacted], должность [redacted]

доставлен(а) РОВД Центрального р-на г. Минска (кем, куда)

нарушившего(ей) 2. 1 ст. 23.34 КоАП РБ, выехавшая в

напр. в несанкционированном порядке и

В соответствии с п.5 ч.1 статьи 4.1 Кодекса Республики Беларусь об административных правонарушениях задержанный(ая) имеет право пригласить защитника.

В присутствии понятых, которым разъяснены их права и обязанности, предусмотренные статьей 4.10 Кодекса Республики Беларусь об административных правонарушениях

1. Фамилия [redacted] имя [redacted] отчество [redacted]

адрес места жительства [redacted]

телефон [redacted] подпись ✓

2. Фамилия [redacted] имя [redacted] отчество [redacted]

адрес места жительства [redacted]

телефон [redacted] подпись ✓

осуществлен личный досмотр, досмотр вещей, находящихся при физическом лице, досмотр транспортного средства, изъяты вещи, документы (ненужное зачеркнуть):

Ключи, кошелек, герман, деньги

на сумму 120 (сто двадцать) рублей

НБ РБ.

применении фото-, кино-, видео-, аудиозаписи, иных способов фиксации вещественных доказательств, сведения об упаковке, печати)

К протоколу прилагается [redacted]

Объяснения и замечания задержанного(ой) [redacted]

[redacted]

задержанном на согласии

[redacted]

[redacted]

Задержанный(ая) просил(а) уведомить о факте задержания и месте его (её) нахождения

(кого именно, номер телефона, адрес)

О месте нахождения задержанного(ой) сообщено в « [redacted] » ч. « [redacted] »

« [redacted] » 20 г.

Подпись задержанного лица (запись об его отказе подписывать протокол) [redacted]

Подпись должностного лица, составившего протокол [redacted]

Копию протокола получил(а) [redacted]

(вручается задержанному лицу по его просьбе)

Прекращение срока задержания « [redacted] » ч. « [redacted] » мин.

Изъятые при досмотре предметы, вещи, документы и ценности получил(а) [redacted]

Порядок обжалования административного задержания мне разъяснен [redacted]



ПРОТОКОЛ № 3

об административном правонарушении
«25» 2017г.

Рег. № ЕГБДП

2. Минск

(место составления)

УИМ ОБП Центрального РОББЗ. Минск
(должность, фамилия, имя, отчество лица, составившего протокол)

ст. лейтенант милиции Матюшко В.М.
руководствуясь статьями 3.30, 10.2 ПИКоАП Республики Беларусь, составил настоящий протокол о том, что

[Redacted]

[Redacted]
(число, месяц, год и место рождения)

место жительства (пребывания) Республика Беларусь
(область, район, населенный пункт, улица, дом, корпус, квартира, телефон)

ул. Первомайская, 41
место регистрации (в отношении временно пребывающих иностранных граждан)

место работы (учебы) ЖКХ должность начальник
(наименование организации (учреждения образования))

гражданство Республика Беларусь образование
ранее привлекавший(ая) к административной ответственности [Redacted]

совершил(а) правонарушение [Redacted] 25.02.2017г.
(дата, время, место и обстоятельства совершения административного правонарушения)

около 14 часов 25 минут по адресу
г. Минск, [Redacted]
наименование [Redacted]
в составе группы людей там
улицы [Redacted] совершил
нарушение [Redacted]

Ответственность, за которое предусмотрена 2.1 КоАП РБ
(часть, статья, наименование нормативного правового акта)

Лицо, в отношении которого ведется административный процесс: права и обязанности, предусмотренные статьей 4.1 ПИКоАП Республики Беларусь, разъяснены.

Потерпевший(ая): права и обязанности, предусмотренные статьей 4.2 ПИКоАП Республики Беларусь, разъяснены
Фамилия _____ Имя _____ Отчество _____

адрес места жительства (пребывания) _____

Свидетели: права и обязанности, предусмотренные статьей 4.6 ПИКоАП Республики Беларусь, разъяснены

1. Фамилия [Redacted] Имя [Redacted]
адрес места жительства (пребывания) 2. Минск [Redacted]

2. Фамилия [Redacted] Имя [Redacted]
адрес места жительства (пребывания) 2. Минск [Redacted]

Замечания и объяснения лица, в отношении которого ведется административный процесс

С протоколом не согласен, вижу
на основании

Иные сведения, необходимые для разрешения дела

Перечень материалов, предлагающихся к протоколу об административном правонарушении

протокол осмотра, справки
и объяснения; ордера

Подпись лица, составившего протокол [Redacted]

Подпись лица, в отношении которого ведется административный процесс [Redacted]

Копию протокола получил(а) [Redacted]

Лицо, в отношении которого ведется административный процесс [Redacted]
(фамилия, имя, отчество)

отказалось подписать протокол об административном правонарушении.

« _____ » _____ 20 _____ г.
(подпись) (должность, инициалы, фамилия лица, составившего протокол)



The protocol of Administrative Detention

25 [REDACTED] 2017 at 15 hours 30 minutes Minsk
(date of settling) (time of settling) (place of settling)

I, UIM OOPP of the Central District Department of Internal Affairs of [REDACTED]
(position, rank, department and surname, initials of the officer who settled the protocol)

in accordance with articles 8.2, 8.5 of the Administrative Offenses Code of the Republic of Belarus has settled the present protocol that the citizen [REDACTED]
(surname, name, patronymic)

born [REDACTED] n [REDACTED]
(date and place of birth)

Place of permanent residence: [REDACTED] 41 Pervomayskaya street, phone: _____

Student/employed in: Housing and public utilities, position: mechanic
(name and address of the organization, phone)

Was brought to [REDACTED] of Internal Affairs of Minsk
(by whom and where)

Has violated a part 1 of the article [REDACTED] of the Administrative Offenses Code of the Republic of Belarus, expressed in participation in unauthorized rally and street procession

In accordance with paragraph 5 part 1 of the article 4.1. of the Administrative Offenses Code of the Republic of Belarus, the detained has a right to invite a defense council

In presence of witnesses, who were explained their rights and obligations, stipulated by the article 4.10 of the Administrative Offenses Code of the Republic of Belarus

1. Surname [REDACTED] name [REDACTED] patronymic [REDACTED]
Permanent residence address: [REDACTED]
Phone: _____ Signature: _____

2. Surname [REDACTED] name [REDACTED] patronymic [REDACTED]
Permanent residence address: [REDACTED]
Phone: _____ Signature: _____

personal inspection, an inspection of things that are with an individual, inspection of a vehicle were executed and things, documents were seized (cross out unnecessary):

Keys, black wallet, money in the amount of 120 (one hundred twenty) rubles of the National Bank of the Republic of Belarus

(information about type, quantity, identification features of things, including about the brand, model, caliber, series, number and other identification features of the weapon, type and quantity of ammunition, type and details of documents, information about the application of photography, video recording, other ways of fixing material evidence, information about packaging, seals)

Attached to the protocol: the record of interview, inquiry EGBDP, form 1-AP, rights, and obligations

Explanations and observations of the detained: does not agree with detention

The detained asked to notify about a fact of detention and location: _____
(whom exactly, phone number, address)

The location of the detained was reported at “__” hours “__” minutes on ____ year 20__

Signature of the detained (record of his refusal to sign the protocol):

Signature of the officer, drawn up a protocol: Signature

A copy of the protocol was obtained _____ Signature
(is given to the detained upon his request)

Termination of detention on _____ year 20__ at “__” hours “__” minutes

A copy of judgment was sent on _____ reference number _____

Things, belongings, documents and valuables, seized at detention, were received back:

Appeal procedure for the detention was explained to me:

Stamp:

Ministry of Inner Affairs of the Republic of Belarus Department of Inner Affairs of the Administration of the Central Region of Minsk

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Protocol No. [REDACTED]
On administrative offense

registration number in EGBDP _____

25 [REDACTED] 2017
(date of settling)

Minsk
(place of settling)

UIM OOPP of the Central District Department of Internal Affairs of Minsk, senior militia [REDACTED]
(position, rank, department and surname, initials of the officer who settled the protocol)

in accordance with articles [REDACTED] of the Code of Execution Procedure on Administrative Offenses of the Republic of Belarus has settled the present protocol that [REDACTED]
(surname, name, patronymic of the person subject to administrative process)

[REDACTED]
(date and place of birth)

[REDACTED]
(identification number)

Place of permanent residence: Republic of Belarus, [REDACTED] Pervomayskaya street, 41 phone: _____
(oblast, region, settlement, street, building, block, apartment, phone)

Place of registration (in regard of temporary visiting foreign citizens): _____

Student/employed in: Housing and public utilities, position: mechanic
(name and address of organization/educational institution)

Citizenship: Republic of Belarus

With previous criminal administrative background: inquiry EGBDP
(where and for what was imposed)

Has committed an offense: [REDACTED] n [REDACTED] approximately at 14 hours 25 minutes
(date, time, place, and circumstances of committed administrative offense)

At the following address: Minsk, near the [REDACTED] metro station participated in unauthorized rally and street procession as a part of a group of people that deliberately disturbed public order and calmness of citizens

Responsibility for what is stipulated in part 1 article [REDACTED] of the Administrative Offenses Code of the Republic of Belarus
(part, article, and the name of the normative document)

Republic of Belarus

A person in respect of whom the administrative process is being conducted: the rights provided for in article 4.1 of the Code of Execution Procedure on Administrative Offenses of the Republic of Belarus have been explained

Signature

Victim: the rights provided for in article 4.2 of the Code of Execution Procedure on Administrative Offenses of the Republic of Belarus have been explained: Surname _____ Name _____ Patronymic _____

Place of residence _____ Signature *Signature*

Witnesses: the rights provided for in article 4.2 of the Code of Execution Procedure on Administrative Offenses of the Republic of Belarus have been explained:

1. Surname [REDACTED] ame [REDACTED] patronymic [REDACTED]

Permanent residence address: [REDACTED]

Phone: _____ Signature: _____

2. Surname [REDACTED] name [REDACTED] patronymic [REDACTED]

Permanent residence address: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Signature: _____

Explanations and observations of the person in respect of whom the administrative process is being conducted: does not agree with the protocol, pledge not guilty

Other information, required for the case settlement: _____

List of documents, attached to the protocol of the administrative offense: the record of interview, inquiry EGBDP, rights and obligations, form 1-AP

Signature of the officer, drawn up a protocol: *Signature*

Signature of the person in respect of whom the administrative process is being conducted: *Signature*

A copy of the protocol was obtained *Signature*

(Signature of the person in respect of whom the administrative process is being conducted)

A person in respect of whom the administrative process is being conducted refused to sign a protocol: _____
(surname, name, patronymic)

(signature)

(position, initials, surname of the officer who drew up the protocol)

Stamp:

Ministry of _____
_____ of Minsk

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Judgment on the case of administrative detention

26 [REDACTED] 2017 at 14 hours 00 minutes in Minsk
place of sentence imposition

I, Head of Central District Department of Internal Affairs, colonel of militia [REDACTED] IAI
position and name of authority (subdivision) of internal affairs, rank, surname, initials of the officer

examined administrative case regarding [REDACTED]
surname name patronymic

[REDACTED]
date, month, year of birth

ESTABLISHED:

citizen [REDACTED] violated articles [REDACTED] part 1
surname, initials of the person subject to administrative proceedings

of the Administrative Offenses Code of the Republic of Belarus expressed, in fact, that on [REDACTED]
brief circumstances established during the investigation of an administrative offense
about 14: [REDACTED] near [REDACTED] metro station participated in unauthorized rally and street procession as a part of a
group of people

justification for the adoption of a certain decision (articles 7.1-7.3, 8.1-8.8 of the Administrative Offenses Code of the
Republic of Belarus [REDACTED] pleaded not guilty
admission or non-admission of guilt, nature of the offense committed, the personality of an individual, degree of guilt

[REDACTED]
wealth status, as well as circumstances mitigating or aggravating administrative responsibility

Based on the material collected, taking into account the evidence of witnesses

seeing in his actions the signs of an offense under articles 23.34 part 1 of the Administrative Offenses Code of the
Republic of Belarus and articles 2.2, 2.3, 2.7, 2.8, 2.10, 2.11, 2.14, 3.3.1, 11.5, 11.6, 11.10, 11.11 of the Code of
Execution Procedure on Administrative Offenses of the Republic of Belarus

RESOLVED:

subject a citizen [REDACTED] to an administrative penalty in the form of
surname and initials

administrative arrest for 1 day; a fine in the amount of 30 basic units
warning a fine of

relieve from administrative responsibility and terminate the case of an administrative offense:

transfer administrative materials to:

[REDACTED]
name of the place of work (service), the name of the organization (authority)

Signature

Signature [REDACTED]
initials and surname of the officer issuing an order

Stamp:

Ministry [REDACTED] f Minsk

The decision was announced to me, with which I reviewed. The rules, procedures, and deadlines for appealing the decision in an administrative
case in accordance with the articles 12.1, 12.2 and 12.4 of the Code of Execution Procedure on Administrative Offenses of the Republic of
Belarus have been explained to me

Signature

Signature [REDACTED]
surname, name, and patronymic

A copy of the judgment was obtained

Signature

Signature

surname and initials

A copy of judgment was sent on _____ reference number _____

I, _____, HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE IS AN EXACT AND ACCURATE TRANSLATION OF THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT SUBMITTED TO ME IN THE RUSSIAN LANGUAGE AND THAT I AM COMPETENT IN BOTH ENGLISH AND RUSSIAN LANGUAGES TO RENDER SUCH TRANSLATION.

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МЕДИЦИНСКАЯ СПРАВКА
о состоянии здоровья

Дана [redacted] (фамилия, собственное имя, отчество)
Дата рождения [redacted] Пол: мужской/женский (подчеркнуть)
(число, месяц, год)
Место жительства (место пребывания) Тверьская область, Торжокский район, [redacted]
Цель выдачи справки по месту пребывания
Перенесенные заболевания (иные анамнестические сведения) Вег-фрагм № 619 которая сущесвует по месту в 2-х экземплярах [redacted] № 157 [redacted] № 26.03.2017, Адреса: 801; [redacted]
Дополнительные медицинские сведения (результаты медицинских осмотров, обследований и прочее) _____

Заключение: Ушиб / ушибленной травмы, ушиб и/травмы поясничной области, [redacted]

Рекомендации: Лечеб. массаж тканей передней поверхности живота. Для не повторное травма в [redacted] 27.07.2017 г., для дальнейшее наблюдение [redacted]

Дата выдачи справки « [redacted] »
Срок действия справки _____

Врач-с [redacted] (подпись) [redacted] (фамилия)

Руковод [redacted] (подпись) [redacted] (инициалы, фамилия)
(заведующий подразделением)

Healthcare institution
"City clinical hospital
of the emergency medical service of the
Minsk"

Appendix No. 1
to the decree of the Ministry of Healthcare of the Republic of Belarus
09.07.2010 No. 92
Form 1 zdr/u-10

Statement of health

Is given to

[REDACTED]

Date of birth

[REDACTED]

Gender: male/female (to be underlined)

(date, month, year)

Place of permanent (or temporarily) residence

Grodnenskaya oblast, Grodnenskiy region,
[REDACTED]

Purpose of issue of the statement

to whom it may concern

Previous diseases (other medical history data) X-ray picture N698 plain radiograph of the thoracic region
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Treatment: 80% Ketorolaci 30mg intramuscular

Additional medical information (results of medical examinations, assessments and other)

Medical conclusion

right-sided chest injury, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] in the frontal area of the right thigh

Recommendations

Return visit to the polyclinic [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] by traumatologist

Date of statement issue

[REDACTED]

The statement is valid until

Medical specialist

Signature

Stamp: [REDACTED]

Signature

Head of organization

(Head of the functional unit)

Signature

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Place of stamp

Stamp: Healthcare institution [REDACTED]

I, [REDACTED], HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE IS AN EXACT AND ACCURATE TRANSLATION OF THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT SUBMITTED TO ME IN THE RUSSIAN LANGUAGE AND THAT I AM COMPETENT IN BOTH ENGLISH AND RUSSIAN LANGUAGES TO RENDER SUCH TRANSLATION.



ПРАЦОЇНАЯ КНІЖКА
ТРУДОВАЯ КНИЖКА

220

ПК №

Прозвішча
Фамилия

[Redacted]

Імя
Имя

[Redacted]

Імя па бацьку
Отчество

[Redacted]

Дата нараджэння
Дата рождения

[Redacted]

Адукацыя
Образование

професійнальна -
технічнае

Прафесія, спецыяльнасць
Профессия, специальность

сварыць

Дата зааўнення
Дата зачисления

[Redacted]

Подпіс уладальніка кніжкі
Подпись владельца книжки

[Redacted]

М.П.

Подпіс асобы, якая адказна за выдачу працоўнай кніжкі
Подпись лица, ответственного за выдачу трудовой книжки

[Redacted]

(разборліва, разборчиво)

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Звестки
Сведения

Пункт записи Номер записи	Дата			Звестки об приеме на работу, увольнении (с указанием причин пункт Сведения о приеме на работу, увольнении (с указанием причин пункт
	число число	месяц месяц	год год	
1	2			3

[REDACTED]

01.06.2011 в кино и пробы
или комедии про

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

адреса: [REDACTED]
14 (человек)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

об работе
о работе

переводы на иную работу,
(с ссылкой на статью,
закон)
переходы на другую работу
и со ссылкой на статью,
закон)

На основании чего
уведомлен записи (назва доку-
мента, его дата и номер)
На основании чего вве-
дена запись (название до-
кумента, его дата и номер)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

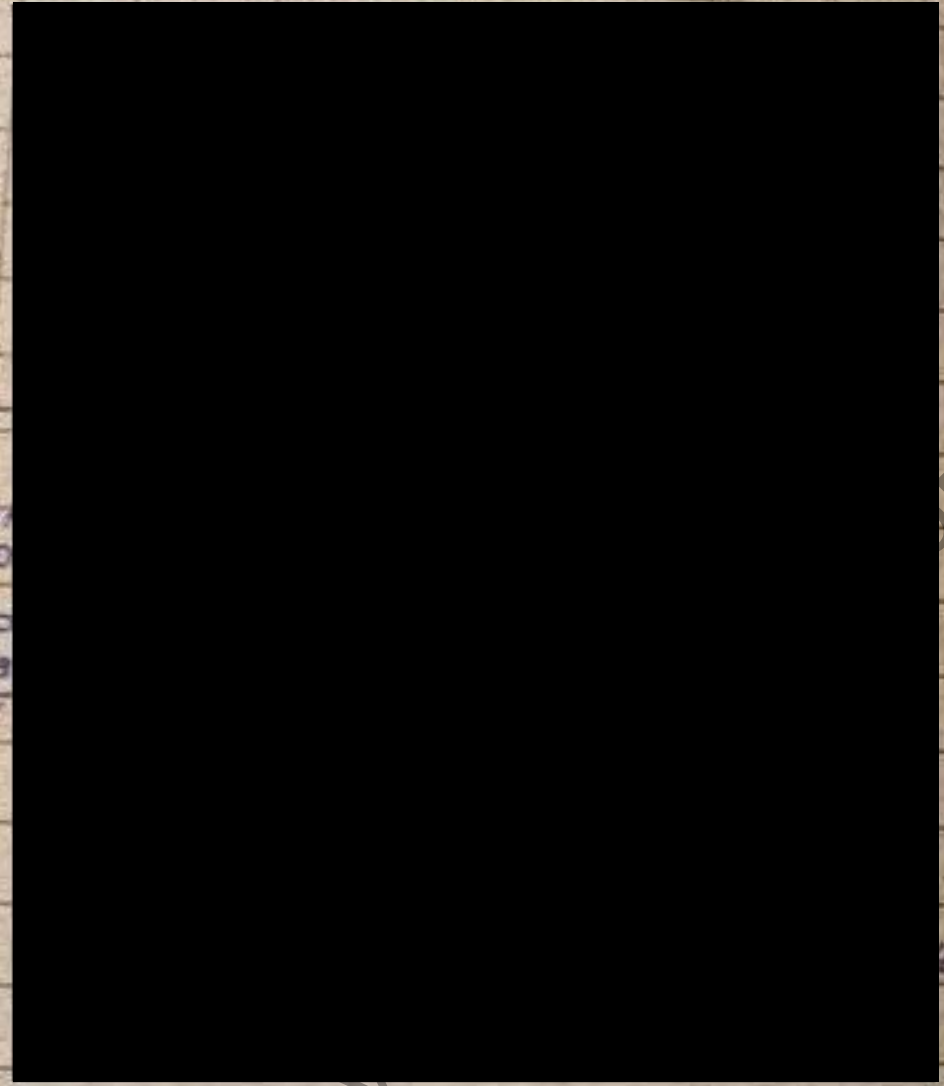
01.06.2011

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Звестки
Сведения

Номер записи и номер документа	Дата			Звестки об приеме на работу, увольнении (с указанием причин, пункт Сведения о приеме на работу, увольнении (с указанием причин, пункт
	число число	месяц месяц	год год	
1	2			3

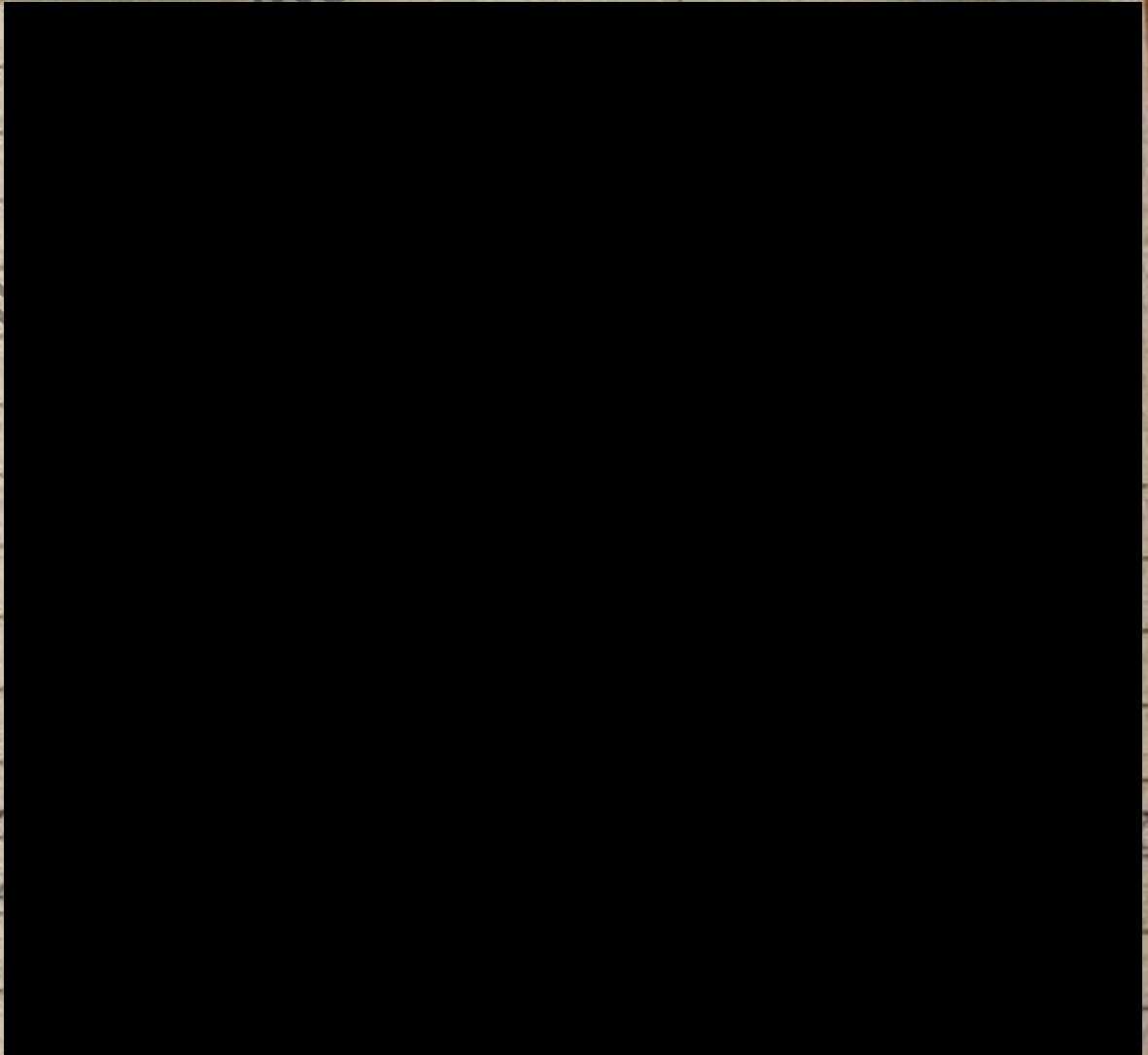


аб работе
о работе

ПК № 1878644

переводом на иную работу,
и со ссылкой на статью,
закону)
переводом на другую работу,
и со ссылкой на статью,
закону)

На podstawie czego
унесены записи (назва доку-
мента, яго дата і нумар)
На основании чего вно-
сены записи (название до-
кумента, его дата и номер)



Trey

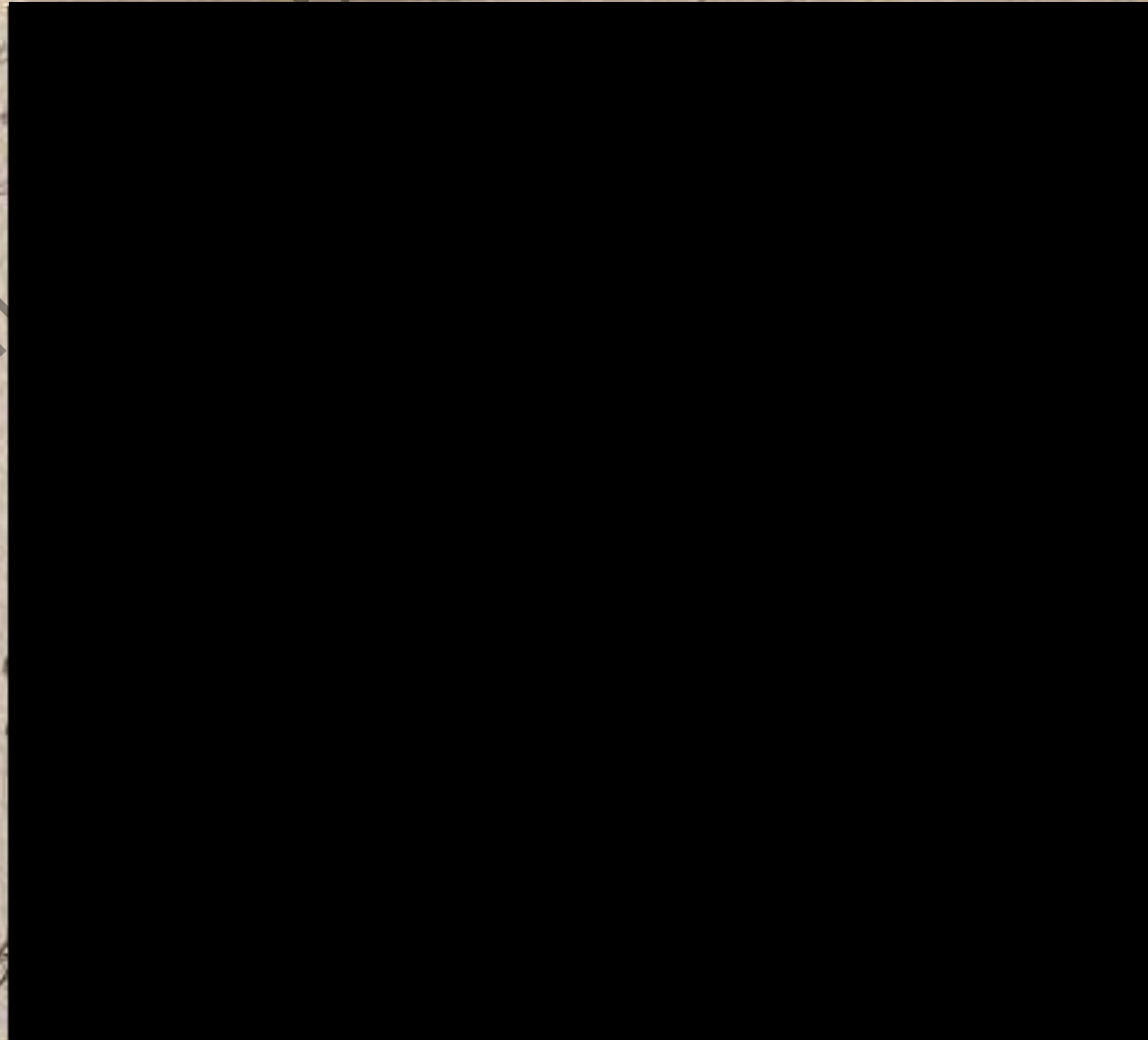
Звесткі Сведения

Лічбы запісу Номер запісу	Дата			Звесткі аб прыёме на работу, звальненні (з указаннем прычын пункт Сведения о приеме на работу, увольнении (с указанием причин пункт	3
	число число	месяц месяц	год год		
1	2				

аб рабоце о работе

пераводзе на іншую работу, і са спасылкай на артыкул, закону) переводе на другую работу, и со ссылкой на статью, закона)	На падставе чаго ўнесены запіс (назва доку- мента, яго дата і нумар) На основании чего вно- сена запись (название до- кумента, его дата и номер)
	4

бежище в США



Звесткі
Сведения

Прымяніць
Польскую літару

№	Дата		
	квартал	месяц	дзень
1			
2			

Звесткі аб прыёме на работу,
звядзенні (з указаннем прычын)
Сведения о приеме на работу,
увольнении (с указанием причин)

аб рабоце
о работе

ПР...
1878644

перасяленне на іншую работу,
са спецыяльнай на арыкул,
звестку)
перасяленне на другую работу,
і са спецыяльнай на арыкул,
звестку)

НЕ ПРАСТАВІЎ НАЗІСЬ
Рэгістрацыйны нумар даку-
мента, яго дата і нумар
на аснове якіх чытаць вы-
сновы дадзенага навесткі др-
жывага, яго дата і нумар)



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жище в США

Employment Book

PK No. [REDACTED]

Surname [REDACTED]

First name [REDACTED]

Patronymic [REDACTED]

Date of birth [REDACTED]
(date, month, year)

Education: *Vocational and Technical Education*

Profession, major *metal worker*

Date of filling [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] book owner`s signature
/signature/

Signature of a person, who is
responsible for employment books issue

/signature/ [REDACTED]
(legibly)

Seal:
[REDACTED]

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EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

№ of record	Date			Information on incentives got due to the work at an enterprise, institution or organization	On the grounds of what a record was made (document, its date, and number)
	date	month	year		
1	2			3	4
01	01	09	2008	[REDACTED]	<i>D No. 0724020 dated 22.06.2011</i>
02	22	06	2011	[REDACTED]	
				[REDACTED]	
				[REDACTED]	<i>Order No. 274-k dated 26.07.2011</i>
04	06	09	2011	[REDACTED]	
				[REDACTED]	
				[REDACTED]	<i>dated 15.02.2012, minutes No. 37</i>
				[REDACTED]	
				[REDACTED]	<i>16.03.2012, minutes No. 39</i>
05	02	04	2012	[REDACTED]	<i>Order No. 35-k dated 02.04.2012</i>
06	05	09	2012	[REDACTED]	<i>Order No. 991 dated 05.09.2012</i>
				<i>Director of Human Resources /signature/</i> [REDACTED]	
				[REDACTED]	<i>Republic of Belarus</i>

				Stamp: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Services”	
07	26	02	2013	Employed [REDACTED]	Order No. 34 dated 25.02.2013
08	27	01	2014	Transferred to the position [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Order No. 47 dated 04.05.2018
				Seal: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Services” Personnel Department	

I, [REDACTED], HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE IS AN EXACT AND ACCURATE TRANSLATION OF THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT SUBMITTED TO ME IN THE RUSSIAN LANGUAGE AND THAT I AM COMPETENT IN BOTH ENGLISH AND RUSSIAN LANGUAGES TO RENDER SUCH TRANSLATION.

ПРОТОКОЛ
об административном задержании

«25» [redacted] 2018 г. « » час. « » мин.

Я, УИИ ООПТ ОБРД [redacted]
(должность, звание, подразделение, фамилия, инициалы должностного лица составившего протокол)
в соответствии со статьей 8.2, 8.5 Кодекса Республики Беларусь об административных правонарушениях составил
настоящий протокол о том, что гражданин(ка) [redacted]

[redacted] (фамилия, имя, отчество)
г.р. УИИ ООПТ ОБРД
место постоянного жительства: [redacted] тел. [redacted]

работавший(ая)/ учащийся(ся) УИИ
(наименование и адрес организации, телефон)

доставлен(а) в ОБРД административного отдела УИИ г. Гродно
(кем, куда)

нарушившего(ей) [redacted] что
(вид правонарушения и мотивы задержания)

угрожавшая в умышленном шествии
В соответствии с п.5 ч.1 статьи 4.1 Кодекса Республики Беларусь об административных правонарушениях задержан-
ный(ая) имеет право пригласить защитника.

В присутствии понятых, которым разъяснены их права и обязанности, предусмотренные статьей 4.10 Кодекса Респуб-
лики Беларусь об административных правонарушениях

1. Фамилия [redacted] имя [redacted] отчество [redacted]
адрес места жительства г. Гродно телефон [redacted] подпись [redacted]

2. Фамилия [redacted] имя [redacted] отчество [redacted]
адрес места жительства г. Гродно телефон [redacted] подпись [redacted]

осуществлен личный досмотр, досмотр вещей, находящихся при физическом лице, досмотр транспортного средства,
изъяты вещи, документы (ненужное зачеркнуть):

Ключи [redacted] цветная ручка в сумке
(сведения о виде, количестве, идентификационных признаках вещей, в том числе о типе, марке, модели, калибре, серии, номере, об
70 рублей НБ РБ
иных идентификационных признаках оружия, о виде и количестве боеприпасов, о виде и реквизитах документов, информация о
применении фото, видеосъемки, видеозаписи, иных способов фиксации вещественных доказательств, сведения об упаковке, печати)

К протоколу прилагается протокол [redacted] ЕГБД, рапорт
Объяснения и замечания задержанного(ой)

в задержании не согласен

Задержанный(ая) просил(а) уведомить о факте задержания и месте его (ее) нахождения

О месте нахождения задержанного(ой) сообщено в « [redacted] » г. [redacted] [redacted] (кого именно, номер телефона, адрес)
« [redacted] » 20 г. [redacted] (номер телефона)

Подпись задержанного лица (запись об его отказе подписать протокол) [redacted]
Подпись должностного лица, составившего протокол [redacted]

Копию протокола получил(а) [redacted] (подпись задержанного лица)
Прекращение срока задержания « [redacted] » 20 г. в « [redacted] » ч. « [redacted] » мин.

Изъятые при досмотре предметы, вещи, документы и ценности получил(а) [redacted]
Порядок обжалования административного задержания мне разъяснен [redacted]

ПРОТОКОЛ № [REDACTED]

об административном правонарушении

Рег. № ЕГБДП

« 25 » [REDACTED] 2018 г.

г. Тюрно

Учаснік чыстава пратакола [REDACTED]

г. Тюрно

составившего протокол

пиководствуясь ст. 30, 40.2 ПИКоАП Республікі Беларусь, составила настоящий протокол о том, что

место жительства (преживания) Республика Беларусь, [REDACTED] (число, месяц, год и место рождения) [REDACTED] (фикационный номер)

Уч. [REDACTED] г. 41 (область, район, населенный пункт, улица, дом, корпус, квартира, телефон)

место регистрации (в отношении временно пребывающих иностранных граждан)

место работы (учебы) ФСКХ (наименование организации (учреждения образования)) должность Служба

гражданство Республика Беларусь образование скравка ЕГБДП (когда и за что привлекался(лась))

совершил(а) правонарушение

[REDACTED] 45 минут по адресу г. Тюрно ул. Ленина уведомил в чуждом месте в отношении скравки

Ответственность, за которое предусмотрена ст. [REDACTED] Республики Беларусь (часть, статья, наименование нормативного правового акта)

Лицо, в отношении которого ведется административный процесс: права и обязанности ст. 4.1 ПИКоАП Республики Беларусь, разъяснены.

Потерпевший(ая): права и обязанности, предусмотренные ст. 4.2 ПИКоАП Республики Беларусь, разъяснены. Подпись [REDACTED] Фамилия [REDACTED] Имя [REDACTED] Отчество [REDACTED] адрес места жительства (преживания) [REDACTED]

Свидетели, права и обязанности, предусмотренные ст. 4.6 ПИКоАП Республики Беларусь, разъяснены. Подпись [REDACTED] 1. Фамилия [REDACTED] Имя [REDACTED] Отчество [REDACTED] адрес места жительства (преживания) [REDACTED]

2. Фамилия [REDACTED] Имя [REDACTED] Отчество [REDACTED] адрес места жительства (преживания) [REDACTED] Подпись [REDACTED]

Замечания и объяснения лица, в отношении которого ведется административный процесс: с протоколом не согласен

Иные сведения, необходимые для разрешения дела

Перечень материалов, предлагающихся к протоколу об административном правонарушении: протокол скравки, скравка ЕГБДП, права и обязанности [REDACTED]

Подпись лица, составившего протокол

Подпись лица, в отношении которого ведется административный процесс

Копию протокола получил(а)

Лицо, в отношении которого ведется административный процесс

(фамилия, имя, отчество)

отказалось подписать протокол об административном правонарушении.

(подпись)

(должность, инициалы, фамилия лица, составившего протокол)

Protocol of administrative detention

██████████ at ___ hours ___ minutes _____
(date of settling) (time of settling) (place of settling)

I, UIM OOPP of ██████████
██████████ rank, department and surname, initials of the officer who settled the protocol)

in accordance with ██████████ Offenses Code of the Republic of Belarus has
settled the present protocol that the citizen ██████████
(surname, name, patronymic)

born on ██████████ in ██████████
(date and place of birth)

Place of permanent residence: ██████████ 41 ██████████ street phone: _____
Student/employed in: Housing and public utilities, position: mechanic
(name and address of the organization, phone)

Was brought to the Department of Internal Affairs administration of ██████████ at the
following address: ██████████
(by whom and where)

Has violated part 1 of the article 23.34 of the Administrative Offenses Code of the Republic of Belarus,
expressed in participation in a street procession

In accordance with paragraph ██████████ Administrative Offenses Code of the
Republic of Belarus, the detained has a right to invite a defense council

In presence of witnesses, who were explained their rights and obligations, stipulated by the article 4.10
of the Administrative Offenses Code of the Republic of Belarus

1. ██████████ ██████████ ██████████ ██████████
██
Phone: _____ Signature: *Signature*

2. ██████████ ██████████ ██████████ ██████████
██
Phone: _____ Signature: *Signature*

personal inspection, an inspection of things that are with an individual, inspection of a vehicle were
executed and things, documents were seized (cross out unnecessary):

██

██████████
██████████ about type, quantity, identification features of things, including about the brand, model, caliber, series, number
and other identification features of the weapon, type and quantity of ammunition, type and details of documents, information
about the application of photography, video recording, other ways of fixing material evidence, information about packaging,
seals)

Attached to the protocol: the record of interview, inquiry EGBDP, report
Explanations and observations of the detained: does not agree with detention

The detained asked to notify about a fact of detention and location: _____

(whom exactly, phone number, address)

The location of the detained was reported at “__” hours “__” minutes on ____ year 20__

Signature of the detained (record of his refusal to sign the protocol): *Signature*

Signature of the officer, drawn up a protocol: *Signature*

A copy of the protocol was obtained *Signature*

(is given to the detained upon his request)

Termination of detention on _____ year 20__ at “__” hours “__” minutes

A copy of judgment was sent on _____ reference number _____

Things, belongings, documents and valuables, seized at detention, were received back:

Appeal procedure for the detention was explained to me:

Stamp:

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Protocol No. [REDACTED]

On administrative offense

registration number in EGBDP _____

25 [REDACTED]
(date of settling)

[REDACTED]
(place of settling)

UIM OOPP [REDACTED] Affairs of Oktyabrsky district of Hrodna Vladimir Antonovich
Pmoto

(position, rank, department and surname, initials of the officer who settled the protocol)

in accordance with [REDACTED] Code of Execution Procedure on Administrative Offenses of
the Republic of Belarus has settled the present protocol that [REDACTED]
(surname, name, patronymic of the person subject to administrative process)

born on [REDACTED] in Skidel [REDACTED]
(date and place of birth) (identification number)

Place of permanent residence: [REDACTED] e: _____
(oblast, region, settlement, street, building, block, apartment, phone)

Place of registration (in regard of temporary visiting foreign citizens): _____

Student/employed in: [REDACTED]
(name and address of organization/educational institution))

Citizenship: Republic of Belarus

With previous criminal administrative background: inquiry EGBDP
(where and for what was imposed)

Has committed an offense: [REDACTED] on [REDACTED] approximately at 12 hours 45 minutes
(date, time, place, and circumstances of committed administrative offense)

At the following address: Hrodna, Lenina street participated in unauthorized rally and street procession
as a part of a group of people that deliberately disturbed public order and calmness of citizens

Responsibility for what is stipulated in [REDACTED] of the Administrative Offenses Code of the
(part, article, and the name of the normative document)

Republic of Belarus

A person in respect of whom the administrative process is being conducted: the rights provided for in
article [REDACTED] c of Belarus
have been explained *Signature*

Victim: [REDACTED] of Execution Procedure on Administrative
Offenses of the Republic of Belarus have been explained: Surname _____ Name _____
Patronymic _____

Place of residence _____ *Signature Signature*

Witnesses: [REDACTED] Procedure on Administrative
Offenses of the Republic of Belarus have been explained:

1. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Phone: [redacted]
[redacted] [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] [redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]

Explanations and observations of the person in respect of whom the administrative process is being conducted: does not agree with the protocol

Other information, required for the case settlement: _____

List of documents, attached to the protocol of the administrative offense: the record of interview, inquiry EGBDP, rights and obligations, form 1-AP,

Signature of the officer, drawn up a protocol: *Signature*

Signature of the person in respect of whom the administrative process is being conducted: *Signature*

A copy of the protocol was obtained *Signature*
(Signature of the person in respect of whom the administrative process is being conducted)

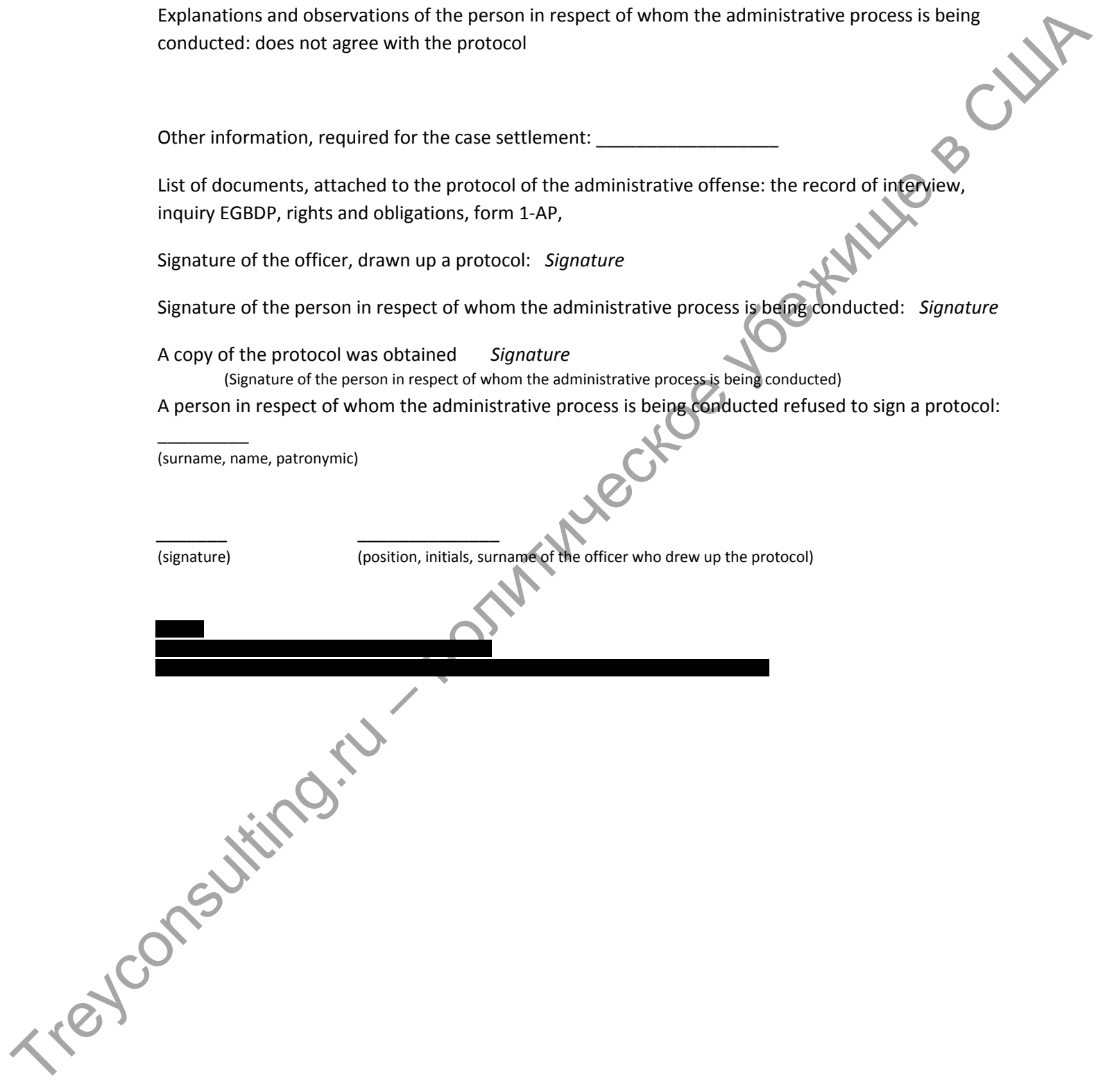
A person in respect of whom the administrative process is being conducted refused to sign a protocol:

(surname, name, patronymic)

(signature)

(position, initials, surname of the officer who drew up the protocol)

[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]



Judgment on the case of administrative detention

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

I, [Redacted]
[Redacted]

position and name of authority (subdivision) of internal affairs, rank, surname, initials of the officer

examined administrative case regarding [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted]
surname name patronymic

[Redacted]
date, month, year of birth

ESTABLISHED:

citizen [Redacted] violated [Redacted] 1
surname, initials of the person subject to administrative proceedings

of the Administrative Offenses Code of the Republic of Belarus expressed, in fact, [Redacted]
brief circumstances established during the investigation of an administrative offense

circa at 14:25 [Redacted]
[Redacted]

justification for adoption of a certain decision (articles 7.1-7.3, 8.1-8.8 of the Administrative Offenses Code of the [Redacted]
admission or non-admission of guilt, nature of the offense committed, personality of an individual, degree of guilt

wealth status, as well as circumstances mitigating or aggravating administrative responsibility

Based on the material collected, taking into account the evidence of witnesses

seeing in his actions the signs of an offense under articles 23.34 part 1 of the Administrative Offenses Code of the Republic of Belarus and articles [Redacted]
[Redacted] of the Code of Execution Procedure on Administrative Offenses of the Republic of Belarus

RESOLVED:

subject a citizen [Redacted] to an administrative penalty in the form of
surname and initials

administrative arrest; a fine [Redacted]
warning a fine of

relieve from administrative responsibility and terminate the case of an administrative offense:

transfer administrative materials to:

name of a place of work (service), the name of the organization (authority)

Signature

Signature

initials and surname of the officer issuing an order

Stamp:

The decision was announced to me, with which I reviewed. The rules, procedures, and deadlines for appealing the decision in an administrative case in accordance with the articles 12.1, 12.2 and 12.4 of the Code of Execution Procedure on Administrative Offenses of the Republic of Belarus have been explained to me

Signature

Signature

surname, name, and patronymic

A copy of the judgment was obtained

Signature

Signature

surname and initials

A copy of judgment was sent on _____ reference number _____

Stamp:

I, _____, HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE IS AN EXACT AND ACCURATE TRANSLATION OF THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT SUBMITTED TO ME IN THE RUSSIAN LANGUAGE AND THAT I AM COMPETENT IN BOTH ENGLISH AND RUSSIAN LANGUAGES TO RENDER SUCH TRANSLATION.

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Учреждение здравоохранения
«Городская клиническая больница»
скорой медицинской помощи г. Гродно»

Приложение 1
к постановлению
Министерства здравоохранения
Республики Беларусь
09.07.2010 № 92
Форма 1 здр/у-10

МЕДИЦИНСКАЯ СПРАВКА о состоянии здоровья

Дана [redacted] (фамилия, собственное имя, отчество)
Дата рождения [redacted] Пол: мужской/женский (подчеркнуть)

Место жительства (место пребывания) [redacted]

ул. Первомайская д. 41

Цель выдачи справки по месту требования

Перенесенные заболевания (иные анамнестические сведения)

Дополнительные медицинские сведения (результаты медицинских осмотров, обследований и прочее)

показатели ЭКГ норм

сердце: Sol: 100/70/100 мм рт.ст. - 2.0+

Sol: 120/80/70 мм рт.ст. - 1.0 В/м

Уши: в ушах тканей правого уха

Заключение [redacted]

проверено [redacted]

рекомендации [redacted]

Анализ мочи повторенный при приеме в

поликлинику по адресу г. Гродно ул. 25.05.2010

для дальнейшего наблюдения врач [redacted]

Дата выдачи справки [redacted]

Срок действия справки [redacted]

подпись

фамилия

подпись

М.П.

Healthcare institution
"City clinical hospital"
of the emergency medical service of
Hrodna"

Appendix No. 1
to the decree of the Ministry of Healthcare of the Republic of Belarus
09.07.2010 No. 92
Form 1 zdr/u-10

Statement of health

Is given to [redacted]
(surname, name, patronymic)

Date of birth [redacted] Gender: male/female (to be underlined)
(date, month, year)

Place of permanent (or temporarily) residence [redacted]

Purpose of issue of the statement to whom it may concern

Previous diseases (other medical history data)

Additional medical information (results of medical examinations, assessments and other)
Ultrasound investigation of abdominal cavity organs, ultrasound investigation of renal system

Treatment: Solution [redacted]
[redacted]
Solution Dimedroll 1% - 1.0 intramuscular

Medical conclusion Bruise of [redacted] of the right
infrascapular region, interfascial hematoma, blunt abdominal trauma

Recommendations Return visit to the [redacted]
[redacted] specialist

Date of statement is [redacted]

The statement is valid until

Medical specialist [redacted] Signature [redacted] Seal: Trauma surgeon, orthopedist

Head of organization
(Head of the functional unit) Signature [redacted]
Signature [redacted] Surname, initials
Place of stamp [redacted]

Seal: Healthcare institution "City clinical hospital" of the emergency medical service of Hrodna"

I, [redacted], HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE IS AN EXACT AND ACCURATE TRANSLATION OF THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT SUBMITTED TO ME IN THE RUSSIAN LANGUAGE AND THAT I AM COMPETENT IN BOTH ENGLISH AND RUSSIAN LANGUAGES TO RENDER SUCH TRANSLATION.

ПОВЕСТКА

от « [REDACTED] »

Вам надлежит явиться для производства следственных и иных процессуальных действий « [REDACTED] »

в Спорненский 2018 г. [REDACTED] мин.
(наименование подразделения Следственного комитета Республики Беларусь)

по адресу г. Прорпо ул. Робькова
д. 21, каб. [REDACTED]
(должность, фамилия и инициалы)

тел. [REDACTED], в качестве [REDACTED]
(свидетеля, потерпевшего или его представителя, эксперта, специалиста, понятого, переводчика, обвиняемого, подозреваемого и другое)

принести документ, удостоверяющий личность, или документ его заменяющий.
[REDACTED] (подпись) [REDACTED] (инициалы, фамилия)

Последствия неявки:

Без уважительных причин подозреваемый, обвиняемый, а также потерпевший, свидетель в уголовном процессе подвергнуты приводу в соответствии со статьей 130 Уголовно-процессуального кодекса Республики Беларусь.

О наличии причин, препятствующих явке по вызову в назначенный срок, лицо, его получившее, обязано уведомить подразделение Следственного комитета Республики Беларусь.

В случае неявки по вызову без уважительных причин физическое лицо, в отношении которого ведется административный процесс, а также потерпевший - физическое лицо, свидетель в административном процесс могут быть подвергнуты приводу в соответствии со статьей 8.12 Процессуально-исполнительного кодекса Республики Беларусь об административных правонарушениях.

Уклонение без уважительных причин от явки в подразделение Следственного комитета Республики Беларусь влечёт административную ответственность в соответствии со статьей 24.6 Кодекса Республики Беларусь об административных правонарушениях.

Кому _____

Куда _____

Адрес отправителя _____

(Адреса, собственное имя, отчество)

(квартира, город, индекс)

(почтовый индекс, город, улица, дом)

ОТМЕТКА О ЯВКЕ

_____ находился(лась) (с учетом

_____ (фамилия, инициалы)

времени на дорогу) в подразделении Следственного комитета Республики Беларусь

с _____ ч. « _____ 20 ¹⁹ г.

до _____ ч. « _____ 20 ¹⁹ г.,

В том числе непосредственно в подразделении Следственного комитета Республики Беларусь:

с _____ » _____ 20 ¹⁹ г.

до _____ » _____ 20 ¹⁹ г.

_____ (по пись)

_____ (инициалы, фамилия)

SUMMON

Dated [REDACTED]

You must come to conduct investigative and procedural actions on [REDACTED] the Grodnenskiy [REDACTED] (name of the department of Investigative committee of the Republic of Belarus)

Located at the following address: [REDACTED]

Bakun

(position, surname and initials)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] representative, expert, specialist, attesting witness, interpreter, accused person, presumptive criminal and other)

Seal: Grodnenskiy [REDACTED] oblast

You must have an ID with you or a document replacing it

Investigator
(position)

Signature
(signature)

[REDACTED]
(initials, surname)

Consequences of failure to appear:

In case of failure to appear on a call without a good reason, the appearance of the suspect, the accused, as well as the victim, the witness in the criminal trial may be compelled in accordance with Article 130 of the Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Belarus.

The person who received the summons must notify the department of the Investigative Committee of the Republic of Belarus about the reasons preventing the appearance at the appointed time.

In case of failure to appear on a call without a good reason, the appearance of the physical person in respect of whom the administrative process is being conducted, as well as the victim - the physical person, the witness in the administrative process can be compelled in accordance with article 8.12 of the Code of Execution Procedure on Administrative Offenses of the Republic of Belarus.

Failure to appear without good reason in the Department of Investigative Committee of the Republic of Belarus entails an administrative responsibility in accordance with article 24.6 of the Administrative Offenses Code of the Republic of Belarus.

(overleaf)

To whom: [REDACTED]
(surname, name, patronymic)

Where: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] building, apartment, town, postal code)

Address of the sender: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] code, town, street, building)

ДЫПЛОМ

Д № [REDACTED]

аб прафесіянальна-тэхнічнай адукацыі

У тым, што ён (яна)

1 *Вячаслаў*

[REDACTED]

поступил

в том, что он (она) 1 *Вячаслаў*

Учэбнага аб'яднання "Траўніцкі інтэрнацыянальны ўніверсітэт"

агульнай сярэдняй адукацыі па нучэбнай спецыяльнасці

(п

[REDACTED]

общественного образования по учебной специальности

[REDACTED]

РЭСПУБЛІКА
БЕЛАРУСЬ

РЭСПУБЛІКА
БЕЛАРУСЬ

М.П.

Старшыня колегіі

Дырэктар

Намеснік дыр

Выданы

М.П.

Прядсе

Дырэкт

Замест

Выдан

Рэгістрацыйны № [REDACTED]

THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

DIPLOMA
of vocational technical education

D No. [REDACTED]

This diploma is issued to [REDACTED]
to certify that he entered the [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

and [REDACTED], completed the full course of the *aforementioned college*
and got secondary general education majoring in [REDACTED]

By the decision of the State Examination Board
dated *June 21, 2011*

[REDACTED] was awarded with a qualification of a [REDACTED],
and [REDACTED]

Chairperson of the State Examination Board *signature*

Head of the Educational Institution *signature*

Deputy Head of the Educational Institution *signature*

L.S.

[REDACTED]

Registration number [REDACTED]

Seal:

[REDACTED]

/illegible/

I, [REDACTED], HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE IS AN EXACT AND ACCURATE TRANSLATION OF
THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT SUBMITTED TO ME IN THE RUSSIAN LANGUAGE AND THAT I AM COMPETENT
IN BOTH ENGLISH AND RUSSIAN LANGUAGES TO RENDER SUCH TRANSLATION.

My name is [REDACTED]. I am a [REDACTED] of Belarus; my Belarusian passport number is [REDACTED]

I met [REDACTED] in a police van during the detention at a protest action on March 25, 2017. [REDACTED] came to Minsk [REDACTED] intentionally to participate in this protest, and both of us were detained by the police, we exchanged phone numbers while sitting in the police van.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] to 26 of March.

After [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], the people won't come and it will be more difficult for oppositionists to work together.

The last time I saw [REDACTED] was on [REDACTED] at a short protest organized by Nikolai Statkevich on Oktyabrskaya Square in Minsk. On October 20, I wrote [REDACTED] and offered [REDACTED] communities wrote on the Internet that several people were taken to the Department.

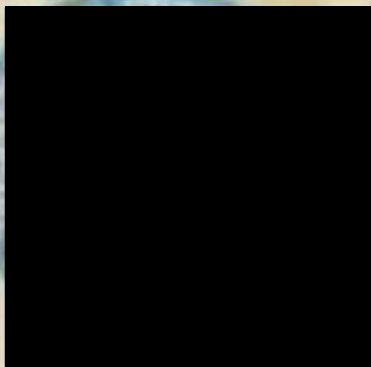
Now we are in contact with [REDACTED] by [REDACTED] in Belarus because of oppositional activities, he cannot return to the country soon.

[REDACTED], HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE IS AN EXACT AND ACCURATE TRANSLATION OF THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT SUBMITTED TO ME IN THE RUSSIAN LANGUAGE AND THAT I AM COMPETENT IN BOTH ENGLISH AND RUSSIAN LANGUAGES TO RENDER SUCH TRANSLATION.

РЭСПУБЛІКА БЕЛАРУСЬ / REPUBLIC OF BELARUS



ПРАДПІСЬ НА ПАСПОРТ
PASSPORT APPLICATION FORM



ПРАДПІСЬ НА ПАСПОРТ
SIGNATURE OF THE APPLICANT (FOR THE APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE)

РЭСПУБЛІКА БЕЛАРУСЬ / REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

ПАСПОРТ
PASSPORT

ТАМТІП
P BLR STATE

ПРАДПІСЬ НА ПАСПОРТ
[Redacted]

ПРАДПІСЬ НА ПАСПОРТ
[Redacted]

ПРАДПІСЬ НА ПАСПОРТ
[Redacted]

НАЦІОНАЛЬНА ПРАДПІСЬ НА ПАСПОРТ
REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

ДАТА НАРАДЖЕННЯ (OF BIRTH)
30 [Redacted] 1983

СЕРЫЯ ІМ'Я ПРАДПІСЬ НА ПАСПОРТ
[Redacted]

ПРАДПІСЬ НА ПАСПОРТ
REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

ДАТА ВИДАЧЕННЯ ПАСПОРТУ (OF PASSPORT)
09 [Redacted] 2016

МІНІСТЕРСТВО ВІСНОВАННЯ ПАСПОРТІВ
MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS

ТЕРМІН ДІЯЛЬНОСТІ ПАСПОРТУ (OF PASSPORT)
09 [Redacted] 2026



Политическое убежище в США

Я, [redacted], род. [redacted]
[redacted] года Номер моего паспорта [redacted]
Я - супруга [redacted]

[redacted] оппозиционной
[redacted] ми
во [redacted] ке,
столице Беларуси.

Активно участвовать в антиправительственной
ной деятельности [redacted] начал весной

[redacted]

несколько листов в Минске и Гродно и

Ден [redacted]
дея [redacted]
и н [redacted]
ара [redacted]
заб [redacted]
угр [redacted]

Т [redacted] мне ещё ничего не было,

[redacted]

забер [redacted], как [redacted] в больницу, как

руководники правоохранительной
авиация на
не знаю, вернётся ли он

в Беларуси угрожает большая

политическое убежище.

26. года

Treyconsulting.ru — политическое убежище

I am [REDACTED], born on [REDACTED]. My passport number is KN

[REDACTED] I am the wife of [REDACTED].

My husband was involved in [REDACTED], where we were living until our enforced departure to [REDACTED], and in Minsk, the capital of Belarus.

[REDACTED] began actively participating in anti-[REDACTED] activities in the spring of [REDACTED] when a protest [REDACTED] [REDACTED] in 2015 was held in [REDACTED].

After that, there was Freedom [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] several protests in Minsk, Grodno and Freedom [REDACTED] and forums, [REDACTED] problems with law enforcement agencies. These include [REDACTED] fines and arrests, interrogations and [REDACTED].

I've never [REDACTED] so scared before, and I have nothing to do with it anymore. I remember how we [REDACTED] not ready to see all this blood again.

I [REDACTED] him being detained [REDACTED], how law enforcement officers [REDACTED] us and demanding [REDACTED] come for [REDACTED] and I don't even [REDACTED] return home.

[REDACTED] is in big [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and grant us [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

I, [REDACTED], HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE IS AN EXACT AND ACCURATE TRANSLATION OF THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT SUBMITTED TO ME IN THE RUSSIAN LANGUAGE AND THAT I AM COMPETENT IN BOTH ENGLISH AND RUSSIAN LANGUAGES TO RENDER SUCH TRANSLATION.

РЭСПУБЛІКА БЕЛАРУСЬ / РЕСПУБЛИКА БЕЛАРУСЬ
REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

32

[REDACTED]

ПОДПІС УЛАДАЛЬНІКА
(ПОДПИСЬ ВЛАДЕЛЬЦА / BEARER'S SIGNATURE)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

ПОДПІС СЛУЖБЫ, ЯКАЯ ВЫДАЛА ПАШПАРТ
(ПОДПИСЬ ОТВЕТСТВЕННОГО, КОТОРОЕ ВЫДАЛО ПАСПОРТ/
SIGNATURE OF THE AUTHORITY ISSUING THE PASSPORT)

РЭСПУБЛІКА БЕЛАРУСЬ / REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

ПАШПАРТ
PASSPORT

ТЫП/TYPE КОД Дзяржавы/CODE OF ISSUING STATE
P BLR STATE

НУМЕР ПАШПАРТА/PASSPORT No

[REDACTED]

ПРОЗВИШЧА/SURNAME

[REDACTED]

ІМЯ/GIVEN NAMES

[REDACTED]

ГРАМАДЗЯНСТВА/NATIONALITY
REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

ДАТА НАРАДЖЭННЯ/DATE OF BIRTH

[REDACTED]

ІДЭНТЫФІКАЦЫЯ/IDENTIFICATION

[REDACTED]

ПОЛ/SEX

F

МЕСЦА НАРАДЖЭННЯ/PLACE OF BIRTH

REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

ДАТА ВЫДАЧЫ/DATE OF ISSUE

09 2016

ОРГАН ЯКІ ВЫДАЎ ПАШПАРТ/AUTHORITY

MINISTRY OF

ТЭРМІН ДЭЯВНАСЦЬ/DATE OF EXPIRY

09 2026

INTERNAL AFFAIRS

[REDACTED]

I'm [REDACTED] I was born on [REDACTED], passport number is K [REDACTED] I confirm that my friend and neighbor [REDACTED] left Belarus on [REDACTED] persecution which he came across in his [REDACTED] of his oppositional activity.

[REDACTED] did [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] him.

Starting with the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Minsk. On some of them, he was detained and beaten by law enforcement officials.

I know that because of these detentions, [REDACTED] started having problems at work and was forced to quit the job.

I am sure, despite [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] he was about to be led - they didn't call anyone to this body without any reason.

After one interrogation, which included questions about [REDACTED] opposition activities and threats against him, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] your disagreement with the current government.

After [REDACTED] departure, they continued to search for him - they repeatedly came and asked his [REDACTED] my own eyes since I live in the neighborhood.

[REDACTED] cannot [REDACTED] he is in great danger.

[REDACTED]

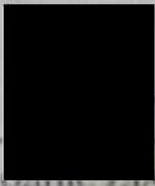
[REDACTED]

Signature

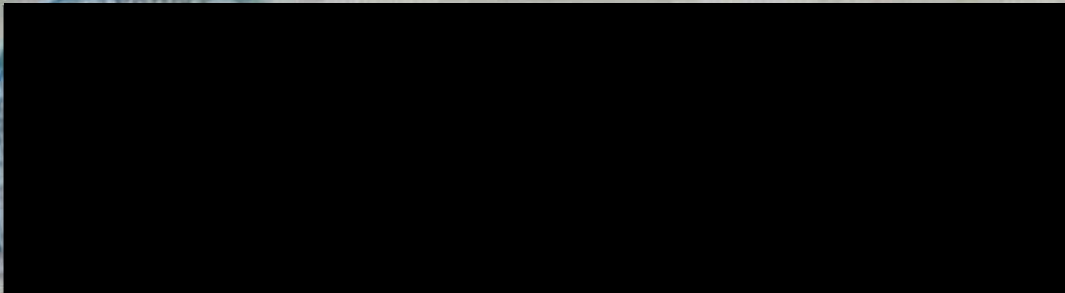
I, [REDACTED], HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE IS AN EXACT AND ACCURATE TRANSLATION OF THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT SUBMITTED TO ME IN THE RUSSIAN LANGUAGE AND THAT I AM COMPETENT IN BOTH ENGLISH AND RUSSIAN LANGUAGES TO RENDER SUCH TRANSLATION.

32

РЭСПУБЛІКА БЕЛАРУСЬ / РЕСПУБЛИКА БЕЛАРУСЬ
REPUBLIC OF BELARUS



ПОДПІСЬ ВЛАДЕЛЬЦЯ / BEARER'S SIGNATURE



М. П.



ПОДПІСЬ ВЛАДЕЛЬЦЯ ПАСПОРТА / SIGNATURE OF THE AUTHORITY ISSUING THE PASSPORT)

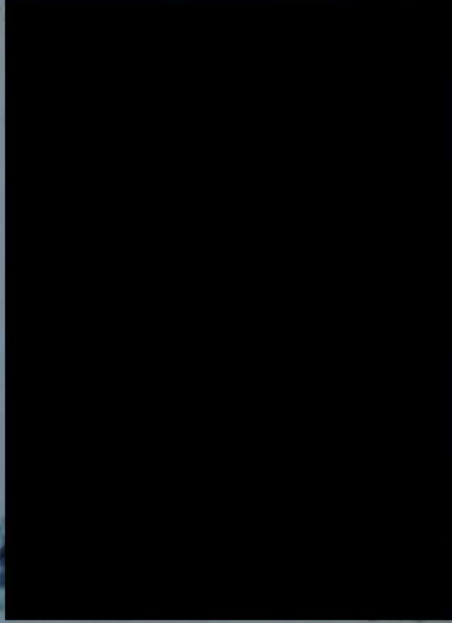
не в США

РЭСПУБЛІКА БЕЛАРУСЬ / REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

ПАШПАРТ
PASSPORT

ТЫП/TYPE: Р
КОД ДЕРЖАВЫ/CODE OF ISSUING: BLR
STATE

НОМЕР ПАСПОРТА/PASSPORT NO. [REDACTED]



ІМЯ/NAME: [REDACTED]

ПРІЗВІСЦЯ/NAME: [REDACTED]

ПРАМАДЗІНСТВА/NATIONALITY: REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

ДАТА НАРАДЖЭННЯ/DATE OF BIRTH: [REDACTED]

ЦЕНТРАЛІЗАЦЫЯ НУМАР/IDENTIFICATION NO.: [REDACTED]

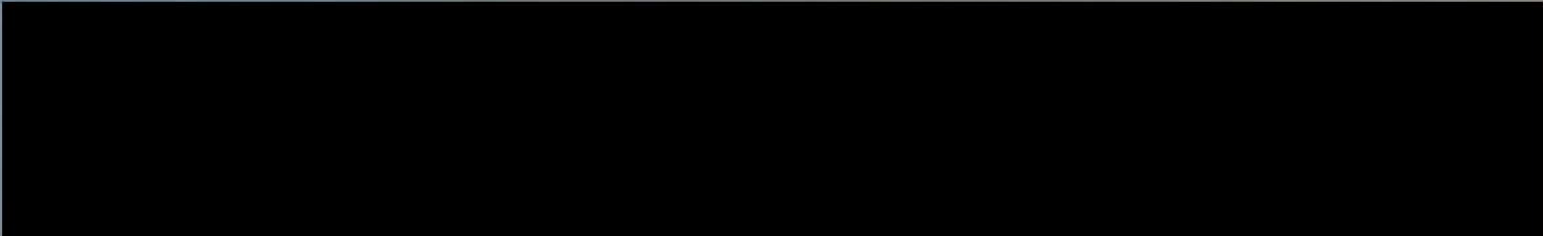
ПОЛ/SEX: М

МЕСЦА НАРАДЖЭННЯ/PLACE OF BIRTH: REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

ДАТА ВЫДААННЯ/DATE OF ISSUE: 06 2017

ОРГАІКІ ВЯДАУ ПАШПАРТ/AUTHORITY: MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS

ТЭРМІН ДЭЯНА/DATE OF EXPIRY: 06 2027



Protesters arrested in Belarus during opposition rally

Demonstration in Minsk was banned by Alexander Lukashenko's government



The Guardian

Sun 25 Mar 2018 17.29 BST

Scores of people have been arrested in the Belarus capital, Minsk, as supporters of the country's repressed opposition tried to hold a protest march.

The attempted demonstration was to mark the 100th anniversary of the short-lived Belarusian People's Republic of 1918-19, seen by the opposition as the foundation of an independent Belarus.

The anniversary is traditionally a day for opponents of President Alexander Lukashenko's authoritarian government to try to rally.

Journalists at the scene counted at least 70 people taken away by police. The human rights group Viasna said five of its observers were among those arrested.

One of Belarus's most prominent opposition figures, Nikolai Statkevich, was arrested outside his home as he headed to the gathering, said his wife, Marina Adamovich. She said he had been sentenced to 10 days in jail.

Lukashenko, in office since 1994, sharply restricts opposition activities and independent news media.

Although the march was banned, authorities allowed thousands of people to gather in a park to mark the independence proclamation's 100th anniversary.

"Today it's well visible that Lukashenko is the Soviet past and we are the future," said one

participant, Mikhail Yaremchik, a 20-year-old student.

Lukashenko said on Friday that the 1918 Belarus republic was a “dismal page of our history”, but nevertheless allowed 25 March to be publicly celebrated this year for the first time in his 24-year rule.

However, while the authorities sanctioned a concert in central Minsk, the opposition march was banned.

Thousands of “Freedom Day” protesters attended Sunday’s concert, many carrying the red and white flag of the 1918 republic, which has become an opposition symbol.

Last year more than 700 people were arrested during a 25 March opposition rally, prompting warnings from the EU, which had lifted sanctions on Belarus after Lukashenko freed imprisoned opposition politicians in 2016.

Analysts said authorities allowed the holiday to be celebrated this year to avoid a repeat of last year’s unrest and a possible new reprimand from Brussels.

June 25, 2018 11:56AM EDT

UN Rights Body: Strengthen Scrutiny of Human Rights in Belarus

Item 4 Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on Belarus

The Special Rapporteur's latest report finds that the Belarusian government is continuing its pattern of systemic oppression and human rights abuses and that there has been no improvement of the human rights situation in the country. Human Rights Watch's monitoring of Belarus supports the report's conclusions.

An illustrative example was this year's "Freedom Day" centenary event on March 25, when over 100 peaceful protesters were detained or otherwise prevented from participating in the rally. A law which requires state authorization for any public gathering allows the government to criminalize and routinely arrest protesters, a powerful tool in the state's repression mechanism.

Several days prior to the event, opposition leaders and former presidential candidates, among others, were placed under pre-emptive house arrest. These actions are part of the broader pattern of silencing journalists, activists, and lawyers through detention, often supplemented by using judicial proceedings and the like to harass perceived critics and impose severe fines. In one such example, the Justice Ministry revoked the license of a defense lawyer who worked on many politically motivated criminal cases. Despite the lawyer's 38 years of legal experience, the commission conducting a re-certification procedure, concluded she "lacked professional skills."

The government has also sought to further restrict access to online media, shown in the recent blocking of the charter97.org website. Draft amendments to the Law on Media that would allow authorities to block any online content, without the need for a court order, are currently before parliament.

Belarus has consistently ignored calls from the U.N. and human rights organizations to end its use of the death penalty, and the government continues to execute people sentenced to death.

In April, the Committee Against Torture reviewed Belarus. But Belarus has not implemented recommendations made by the committee, or by other treaty bodies.

This is part of Belarus's broader, persistent unwillingness to meet the standards and recommendations of international human rights mechanisms. This underscores the importance of the U.N. Special Rapporteur's role: there needs to be a strengthened, rather than diminished presence of international human rights bodies on Belarus. We call on the Human Rights Council to ensure continued monitoring of government abuses and work toward the protection of human rights for everyone in Belarus.

MORE READING



June 18, 2018 | Letter

Joint NGO Letter on Belarus: UN Human Rights Body Should Renew the Mandate of the UN Special Rapporteur



September 7, 2017 | Dispatches

Belarus Police Stop a Chechen Woman En Route To Safety in Norway

MOST VIEWED

MOST SHARED

1 August 7, 2019 | News Release

South Africa: Decriminalise Sex Work



2 November 5, 2019 | News Release

Israel: Supreme Court Greenlights Deporting Human Rights Watch Official



3 November 4, 2019 | News Release

Saudi Arabia: Change Comes with Punishing Cost



4 August 7, 2019 | Report

Why Sex Work Should be Decriminalized in South Africa





Belarus: Politically motivated trial against former prisoner of conscience starts behind closed doors

16 October 2019, 14:49 UTC

The Belarusian authorities must uphold the right of former prisoner of conscience Dzmitry Paliyenka to a fair trial and ensure his hearing is open to the public, Amnesty International said ahead of the start of his trial on 17 October.

“Dzmitry Paliyenka’s prosecution follows a well-documented history of being targeted and harassed by the authorities for his activism. The Belarusian authorities must drop all charges against him that stem from the peaceful exercise of his right to freedom of expression and open his trial to public and media scrutiny,” said Aisha Jung, Amnesty International’s Senior Campaigner.

“Dzmitry Paliyenka’s prosecution follows a well-documented history of being targeted and harassed by the authorities for his activism ”

Aisha Jung, Amnesty International's Senior Campaigner

“Despite constant harassment that led him to serve two years in a penal colony simply for peacefully protesting, Dzmitry Paliyenka has continued with his activism. This appears to be the reason why the Belarusian authorities have targeted him with a new set of criminal charges. Amnesty International has

reviewed his case and concluded that at least three charges against him are illegitimate and should be dropped immediately.

“The onus is on the Belarusian authorities to demonstrate that allegations leading to a fourth charge of malicious hooliganism are genuine and that Dzmitry Paliyenka’s guilt is proven beyond any reasonable doubt. So far, their decision to keep the trial behind closed doors raises serious questions as to the real motivation of this charge.”

Background

On 20 March 2019, Dzmitry Paliyenka was arrested on suspicion of malicious hooliganism following an incident in which he allegedly used pepper-spray against another individual. Use of pepper-spray in self-defence is legal in Belarus. Dzmitry Paliyenka has maintained he acted in self-defence.

Three other criminal charges were subsequently brought against him: “insulting a representative of the authorities”, “incitement to racial, ethnic, religious or other social hatred or enmity”, and “desecration of buildings and property damage” – related to a graffiti painting he did on a wall. Amnesty International believes these charges stem solely from the peaceful exercise of his right to freedom of expression and are consistent with the history of harassment Dzmitry Paliyenka has faced for many years.

BELARUS 2018 HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Belarus is an authoritarian state. The constitution provides for a directly elected president who is head of state, and a bicameral parliament, the National Assembly. A prime minister appointed by the president is the nominal head of government, but power is concentrated in the presidency, both in fact and in law. Citizens were unable to choose their government through free and fair elections. Since his election as president in 1994, Aliaksandr Lukashenka has consolidated his rule over all institutions and undermined the rule of law through authoritarian means, including manipulated elections and arbitrary decrees. All subsequent presidential elections fell well short of international standards. The 2016 parliamentary elections also failed to meet international standards.

Civilian authorities, President Lukashenka in particular, maintained effective control over security forces.

Human rights issues included torture; arbitrary arrest and detention; life-threatening prison conditions; arbitrary or unlawful interference with privacy; undue restrictions on free expression, the press and the internet, including censorship, site blocking, and criminal libel and defamation of government officials; violence against and detention of journalists; severe restrictions on freedoms of assembly and association, including by imposing criminal penalties for calling for a peaceful demonstration and laws criminalizing the activities and funding of groups not approved by the authorities; restrictions on freedom of movement, in particular of former political prisoners whose civil rights remained largely restricted; failure to account for longstanding cases of politically motivated disappearances; restrictions on political participation; corruption in all branches of government; allegations of pressuring women to have abortions; and trafficking in persons.

Authorities at all levels operated with impunity and failed to take steps to prosecute or punish officials in the government or security forces who committed human rights abuses.

Section 1. Respect for the Integrity of the Person, Including Freedom from:

a. Arbitrary Deprivation of Life and Other Unlawful or Politically Motivated Killings

During the year there were no reports that the government or its agents committed arbitrary or unlawful killings and no reports of deaths from torture.

b. Disappearance

During the year there were no reports of new disappearances by or on behalf of government authorities. There were no developments in the reportedly continuing investigations into the 1999 disappearances of former deputy prime minister Viktor Hanchar, businessman Anatol Krasouski, and former interior minister Yuri Zakharanka. There was evidence of government involvement in the disappearances, but authorities continued to deny any connection with them.

c. Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman, or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

The law prohibits such practices. Nevertheless, the Committee for State Security (KGB), riot police, and other security forces, often without identification and in plain clothes, beat detainees on occasion. Security forces also reportedly mistreated individuals during investigations. Police occasionally beat persons during arrests.

Human rights advocates, opposition leaders, and activists released from detention facilities reported maltreatment and other forms of physical and psychological abuse of suspects during criminal and administrative investigations.

There were numerous reports of hazing of conscripts into the army that included beatings and other forms of physical and psychological abuse. Some of those cases reportedly resulted in deaths. For example, in October 2017 a senior official from the Investigative Committee announced a criminal investigation into alleged hazing and violence that preceded the discovery of the body of a 21-year-old soldier, Aliaksandr Korzhych, in the basement of his military barracks near Barysau. On November 5, the Minsk regional court sentenced three former sergeants to nine, seven, and six years in prison respectively for driving Korzhych to suicide by abusing and mistreating him. Authorities also charged the three with theft, bribery, and abuse of power. The sergeants claimed at hearings that investigators pressured them into testifying against themselves and admitting to the charges.

Korzhych's former commanders, Senior Lieutenant Paval Sukavenka and Chief Warrant Officer Artur Virbal, were tried separately for abuse of power and sentenced on October 19 to six and four years respectively.

At a press conference on February 14, Defense Minister Andrey Raukou committed to eradicating hazing and said the ministry had opened 48 criminal cases to investigate allegations of mistreatment and bullying in the armed forces. Accepting Korzhych's case as his "personal fault," Raukou said that the army registered three cases of suicide in 2017 and four cases in 2016. Raukou said that many of the conscripts involved in hazing had mental and psychological problems, histories of alcohol and drug abuse, criminal records, and lacked motivation to serve in the army.

On July 31, the Supreme Court reported that between January and June courts across the country convicted 28 officers on charges related to bullying, hazing, and abuse of power in the armed forces. Courts convicted 31 officers on similar charges in 2017. For example, on March 30, a district court in Barysau sentenced an army warrant officer to five years in jail for abusing his powers, taking bribes, and beating conscripts.

Prison and Detention Center Conditions

Prison and detention center conditions remained poor and in many cases posed threats to life and health.

Physical Conditions: According to local activists and human rights lawyers, there were shortages of food, medicine, warm clothing, and bedding as well as inadequate access to basic or emergency medical care and clean drinking water. Ventilation of cells and overall sanitation were poor, and authorities failed to provide conditions necessary for maintaining proper personal hygiene. Prisoners frequently complained of malnutrition and low-quality uniforms and bedding. Some former political prisoners reported psychological abuse and sharing cells with violent criminals or prisoners with contagious diseases. The law permits family and friends to provide detainees with food and hygiene products and to send them parcels by mail, but authorities did not always allow this.

On November 15, the Minsk city court dismissed an appeal filed by Alena Doubovik and Maryna Doubina, who were detained for up to 14 days in March 2017 on charges related to unsanctioned demonstrations. The two activists complained that holding facilities in Minsk and Zhodzina did not have female

personnel to search them and that the two were deprived of privacy, including for personal hygiene, and were always visible to male officers.

Overcrowding of pretrial holding facilities, and prisons generally, was a problem.

Although there were isolated reports that police placed underage suspects in pretrial detention facility cells with adult suspects and convicts, authorities generally held juvenile prisoners separately from adults at juvenile penal colonies, arrest houses, and pretrial holding facilities. In general conditions for female and juvenile prisoners were slightly better than for male prisoners.

According to human rights NGOs and former prisoners, authorities routinely abused prisoners.

Credible sources maintained that prison administrators employed inmates to intimidate political prisoners and compel confessions. They also reported that authorities neither explained nor protected political prisoners' legal rights and excessively penalized them for minor violations of prison rules.

Observers believed tuberculosis, pneumonia, HIV/AIDS, and other communicable diseases were widespread in prisons because of generally poor medical care.

Administration: As in the previous year, authorities claimed to have conducted annual or more frequent investigations and monitoring of prison and detention center conditions. Human rights groups, however, asserted that such inspections, when they did occur, lacked credibility in view of the absence of an ombudsperson and the inability of reliable independent human rights advocates to visit prisons or provide consultations to prisoners.

On March 15, prison authorities in Horki refused to allow independent observers to meet with Mikhail Zhamchuzhny, cofounder of the prison monitoring NGO Platforma. According to human rights groups, Zhamchuzhny, who was serving a six and a half year sentence on charges of deliberately disclosing classified information and offering a bribe, was subject to mistreatment and inhuman prison conditions, including beatings by a fellow inmate. Human rights groups claimed that prison authorities continued to isolate Zhamchuzhny to punish him for allegedly violating prison regulations. The courts repeatedly dismissed Zhamchuzhny's complaints of mistreatment.

Prisoners and detainees had limited access to visitors, and denial of meetings with families was a common punishment for disciplinary violations. Authorities often denied or delayed political prisoners' meetings with family as a means of pressure and intimidation.

Although the law provides for freedom of religion, and there were no reports of egregious infringements, authorities generally prevented prisoners from holding religious services and performing ceremonies that did not comply with prison regulations.

Former prisoners reported that prison officials often censored or did not forward their complaints to higher authorities and that prison administrators either ignored or selectively considered requests for investigation of alleged abuses. Prisoners also reported that prison administrators frequently refused to provide them with copies of responses to their complaints, which further complicated their defense. Complaints could result in retaliation against prisoners, including humiliation, death threats, or other forms of punishment and harassment.

Corruption in prisons was a serious problem, and observers noted that parole often depended on bribes to prison personnel or on a prisoner's political affiliation.

Independent Monitoring: Despite numerous requests to the Ministries of Internal Affairs and Justice, government officials refused to meet with human rights advocates or approve requests from NGOs to visit detention and prison facilities.

d. Arbitrary Arrest or Detention

The law limits arbitrary detention, but the government did not respect these limits. Authorities arrested or detained individuals for political reasons and used administrative measures to detain political activists before, during, and after protests and other major public events.

Role of the Police and Security Apparatus

The Ministry of Internal Affairs exercises authority over police, but other bodies outside of its control, for example, the KGB, the Financial Investigations Department of the State Control Committee, the Investigation Committee, and presidential security services exercise police functions. The president has the authority to subordinate all security bodies to his personal command and he maintained effective control over security forces. Impunity among law

enforcement personnel remained a serious problem. Individuals have the right to report police abuse to a prosecutor, although the government often did not investigate reported abuses or hold perpetrators accountable.

Arrest Procedures and Treatment of Detainees

By law police must request permission from a prosecutor to detain a person for more than three hours, but police usually ignored this procedure and routinely detained and arrested individuals without warrants. Authorities may hold a criminal suspect for up to 10 days without filing formal charges and for up to 18 months after filing charges. By law, prosecutors, investigators, and security service agencies have the authority to extend detention without consulting a judge. Detainees have the right to petition the court system regarding the legality of their detention, but authorities frequently suppressed or ignored such appeals. The country has no functioning bail system.

Arbitrary Arrest: Authorities detained opposition and civil society activists for reasons widely considered politically motivated. In isolated cases authorities used administrative measures to detain political activists before, during, and after planned demonstrations and protests, as well as other public events.

On March 21, police arrested former presidential candidate and opposition activist Uladzimir Nyaklyaeu, European Belarus activist Maksim Vinyarski, and opposition activist Vyachyaslau Siuchyuk. The three supported former presidential candidate and opposition activist Mikalai Statkevich in his plans to lead an unauthorized march in central Minsk to mark the 100th anniversary of the Belarusian People's Republic (BPR) on March 25. Authorities sentenced Vinyarski to 10 days of administrative detention for posting an opposition banner in central Minsk in March. Siuchyuk was transported to a holding facility to serve five days in jail for participating in a September 2017 protest against the joint Russia-Belarus military exercise ZAPAD. Nyaklyaeu was also placed in a holding facility to serve 10 days for calling in an interview for persons to participate in unauthorized demonstrations in November 2017.

Despite wearing blue vests and badges, which marked them as "observers," police detained the group of observers on March 25 while they were monitoring a protest in central Minsk. The observers complained police refused to provide them with access to their defense lawyers, kept them outside against the wall of the precinct building without food and water, and failed to ensure access to personal hygiene for up to eight hours before charging them with participating in an unauthorized

demonstration and resisting police. On April 13, investigators questioned human rights group Vyasna's observer Tatsyana Mastykina after she filed a complaint. Authorities dismissed the complaint and dropped all charges against the observers.

Pretrial Detention: Authorities may hold a criminal suspect for up to 10 days without filing formal charges. Prior to being charged, the law provides detainees with no access to their families or to outside food and medical supplies, both of which are vital in view of the poor conditions in detention facilities. Police routinely held persons for the full 10-day period before charging them.

Police often detained individuals for several hours, ostensibly to confirm their identity; fingerprinted them; and then released them without charge. Police and security forces frequently used this tactic to detain members of the democratic opposition and demonstrators, to prevent the distribution of leaflets and newspapers, or to break up civil society meetings and events.

Detainee's Ability to Challenge Lawfulness of Detention before a Court:

Detainees have the right to petition the court system regarding the legality of their detention, but authorities frequently suppressed or ignored such appeals. By law courts have 24 hours to issue a ruling on a detention and 72 hours on an arrest. Courts hold closed hearings in these cases, which the suspect, a defense lawyer, and other legal representatives may attend. Prosecutors, suspects, and defense lawyers may appeal lower court decisions to higher courts within 24 hours of the ruling. Higher courts have three days to rule on appeals, and their rulings may not be challenged. Further appeals may be filed only when investigators extend the period of detention.

e. Denial of Fair Public Trial

The constitution provides for an independent judiciary, but authorities did not respect judicial independence and impartiality. Observers believed corruption, inefficiency, and political interference with judicial decisions were widespread. Courts convicted individuals on false and politically motivated charges brought by prosecutors, and observers believed that senior government leaders and local authorities dictated the outcomes of trials.

As in previous years, according to human rights groups, prosecutors wielded excessive and imbalanced authority because they may extend detention periods without the permission of judges. Defense lawyers were unable to examine investigation files, be present during investigations and interrogations, or examine

evidence against defendants until a prosecutor formally brought the case to court. Lawyers found it difficult to challenge some evidence because the Prosecutor's Office controlled all technical expertise. According to many defense attorneys, this power imbalance persisted throughout the year, especially in politically motivated criminal and administrative cases. Courts did not exonerate criminal defendants except in rare circumstances.

By law, bar associations are independent, and licensed lawyers are permitted to establish private practices or bureaus. All lawyers must be licensed by the Ministry of Justice and must renew their licenses every five years.

No repressive or retaliatory measures against lawyers were reported during the year. In September 2017 a Ministry of Justice standing commission, which reviews lawyers' performance, found that prominent independent lawyer Ana Bakhtsina had "insufficient professional skills" to be a defense lawyer. Bakhtsina appealed the commission's decision revoking her license but her appeal was dismissed. Additionally, at least seven more defense lawyers were ordered to retake their bar exams within six months following the ministry's determination that their professional skills were "partially insufficient."

Trial Procedures

The law provides for the right to a fair and public trial, but authorities occasionally disregarded this right.

The law provides for the presumption of innocence. Nevertheless, the lack of judicial independence, state media practice of reporting on high-profile cases as if guilt were already certain, and widespread limits on defense rights frequently placed the burden of proving innocence on the defendant.

The law also provides for public trials, but authorities occasionally held closed trials in judges' chambers. Judges adjudicate all trials. For the most serious cases, two civilian advisers assist the judge.

The law provides defendants the right to attend proceedings, confront witnesses, and present evidence on their own behalf, but authorities did not always respect these rights.

The law provides for access to legal counsel for the defendant and requires courts to appoint a lawyer for those who cannot afford one. Although by law defendants

may ask for their trials to be conducted in Belarusian, most judges and prosecutors were not fluent in this language, rejected motions for interpreters, and proceeded in Russian. Interpreters are provided when the defendant speaks neither Belarusian nor Russian. The law provides for the right to choose legal representation freely; however, a presidential decree prohibits NGO members who are lawyers from representing individuals other than members of their organizations in court. The government's past attempts to disbar attorneys who represented political opponents of the regime further limited defendants' choice of counsel. The government also required defense attorneys to sign nondisclosure statements that limited their ability to release any information regarding the case to the public, media, and even defendants' family members.

Courts often allowed statements obtained by force and threats of bodily harm during interrogations to be used against defendants. Some defendants were tried in absentia.

Defendants have the right to appeal convictions, and most defendants did so. Nevertheless, appeals courts upheld the verdicts of the lower courts in the vast majority of cases.

Political Prisoners and Detainees

Local human rights organizations reported several different lists of political prisoners in the country. Leading local human rights groups, including Vyasna and the Belarusian Helsinki Committee (BHC), recognized two individuals as prisoners of conscience.

Dzmitry Palienka, an opposition and anarchist movement activist who participated in the "Critical Mass" bicycle ride of April 2016, was sentenced to a two-year suspended term for using violence against a traffic police officer during his detention and for distributing pornographic images on social media in October 2016. He was rearrested and had the suspension of his sentence revoked in April 2017, allegedly for participating in unauthorized mass events. On a judge's order, he spent 18 months and 13 days (the remainder of the two-year sentence) in prison and was released in October. Local human rights advocates called for his unconditional and immediate release, pointing to the peaceful nature of the "Critical Mass" ride and all subsequent protest events in which Palienka participated.

Mikhail Zhamchuzhny, cofounder of the now-defunct prison monitoring NGO Platforma, continued to serve a six and a half year sentence. He was convicted in 2015 in a closed-door session for deliberately disclosing classified information, illegally acquiring or making equipment for obtaining classified information, and offering a bribe to an official.

Former political prisoners released in August 2015 continued to be unable to exercise some civil and political rights at year's end.

Civil Judicial Procedures and Remedies

The law provides that individuals may file lawsuits seeking damages for a human rights violation, but the civil judiciary was not independent and was rarely impartial in such matters.

Property Restitution

There are no laws providing for restitution or compensation for immovable private property confiscated during World War II and the Holocaust. The country also has no legislative regime for restitution of communal property or of heirless property. The government reported that, in the last 10 years, it did not receive any requests or claims from individuals, NGOs, or any other public organization, either Jewish or foreign, seeking compensation or restitution of any property.

f. Arbitrary or Unlawful Interference with Privacy, Family, Home, or Correspondence

The law prohibits such actions, but the government did not respect these prohibitions. Authorities used wiretapping, video surveillance, and a network of informers that deprived persons of privacy.

By law persons who obstruct law enforcement personnel in the performance of their duties may be penalized or charged with an administrative offense, even if the "duties" are inconsistent with the law. "Obstruction" could include any effort to prevent KGB or law enforcement officers from entering the premises of a company, establishment, or organization; refusing to allow KGB audits; or denying or restricting KGB access to information systems and databases.

The law requires a warrant before, or immediately after, conducting a search. Nevertheless, some democratic activists believed the KGB entered their homes

unannounced. The KGB has the authority to enter any building at any time, as long as it applies for a warrant within 24 hours after the entry.

Security forces continued to target prominent opposition and civil society leaders with arbitrary searches and interrogations at border crossings and airports. On March 7, the independent Belarusian Trade Union of Workers of Radio and Electronics Industry (REP) reported that its deputy chair Zinaida Mikhnyuk and youth network coordinator Hanna Dous were briefly detained and searched at the Belarus-Lithuania border. Dous told the media that border officers searched her belongings without giving an explanation or bringing any charges.

While the law prohibits authorities from intercepting telephone and other communications without a prosecutor's order, authorities routinely monitored residences, telephones, and computers. Nearly all opposition political figures and many prominent members of civil society groups claimed that authorities monitored their conversations and activities. The government continued to collect and obtain personally identifiable information on independent journalists and democratic activists during raids and by confiscating computer equipment.

The law allows the KGB, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, special security services, financial intelligence personnel, and certain border guard detachments to use wiretaps. Wiretaps require the permission of a prosecutor, but the lack of prosecutorial independence rendered this requirement meaningless.

The independent election observation group Prava Vybaru (Right to Choose) claimed that the two state-controlled television channels broadcast illegally wiretapped conversations between its activists. According to Prava Vybaru, the channels misrepresented the recording's content in order to discredit the group before February local elections.

The Ministry of Communications has the authority to terminate the telephone service of persons who violate telephone contracts, which prohibit the use of telephone services for purposes contrary to state interests and public order.

Authorities continued to harass family members of NGO leaders and civil society and opposition activists through selective application of the law. Maryna Adamovich, the spouse of opposition activist Mikalai Statkevich, told the press that the tires of their two cars were damaged on the eve of Statkevich's arrest on March 25. Adamovich filed a police complaint but there were no developments in the case.

Section 2. Respect for Civil Liberties, Including:

a. Freedom of Expression, Including for the Press

The constitution provides for freedom of expression, including for the press. The government did not respect these rights and enforced numerous laws to control and censor the public and media. Moreover, the state press propagated views in support of the president and official policies, without giving room for critical voices.

Freedom of Expression: Individuals could not criticize the president and the government publicly or discuss matters of general public interest without fear of reprisal. Authorities videotaped political meetings, conducted frequent identity checks, and used other forms of intimidation. Authorities also prohibited wearing facemasks, displaying certain historical flags and symbols, and displaying placards bearing messages deemed threatening to the government or public order.

On March 25, a Radio Liberty journalist reported that she and at least four individuals were detained for carrying white-red-white flags beyond the police perimeter near the Minsk Opera House, following a concert commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Belarusian People's Republic.

On September 10, police detained opposition activist Nina Bahinskaya for holding a banner that read "No to Communism" in central Minsk. Authorities fined her 1,225 rubles (\$612) for purportedly holding an unauthorized protest.

The law also limits free speech by criminalizing actions such as giving information that authorities deem false or derogatory to a foreigner concerning the political, economic, social, military, or international situation of the country.

Press and Media Freedom: Government restrictions limited access to information and often resulted in media self-censorship. State-controlled media did not provide balanced coverage and overwhelmingly presented the official version of events. Appearances by opposition politicians on state media were rare and limited primarily to those required by law during election campaigns. Authorities warned, fined, detained, and interrogated members of independent media.

By law the government may close a publication, printed or online, after two warnings in one year for violating a range of restrictions on the press.

Additionally, regulations give authorities arbitrary power to prohibit or censor reporting. The Ministry of Information may suspend periodicals or newspapers for three months without a court ruling. The law also prohibits media from disseminating information on behalf of unregistered political parties, trade unions, and NGOs.

Limited information was available in the state-run press concerning the February 18 local elections, including on independent candidates.

While no independent media outlets, including newspapers and internet news websites, applied for registration to the Ministry of Information, they continued to seek to provide coverage of events. They operated, however, under repressive media laws, and most faced discriminatory publishing and distribution policies, including limiting access to government officials and press briefings, controlling the size of press runs of newspapers, and raising the cost of printing.

State-owned media dominated the information field and maintained the highest circulation through generous subsidies and preferences. There was no countrywide private television. The state-owned postal system, Belposhta, and the state distributor of printed publications, Belsayuzdruk, allowed the distribution of at least nine independent newspapers and magazines that covered politics, including *Novy Chas*, *Borisovskie Novosti*, and *Intexpress*, which have been banned from distribution for 11 years.

The exclusion of independent print media from the state distribution system and the requirement that private stores secure registration to sell newspapers and magazines effectively limited the ability of the independent press to distribute their publications.

International media continued to operate in the country but not without interference and prior censorship. Euronews and the Russian channels First Channel, NTV, and RTR were generally available, although only through paid cable services in many parts of the country and with a time lag that allowed the removal of news deemed undesirable.

At times authorities blocked, censored, or replaced their international news programs with local programming.

Violence and Harassment: Authorities continued to harass and detain local and foreign journalists routinely.

Security forces continually hampered efforts of independent journalists to cover demonstrations and protests in Minsk and across the country. The independent Belarusian Association of Journalists reported that, as of September 15, police fined, detained, and arrested at least 30 journalists who were performing their professional duties in more than 108 separate cases.

On August 7, the Investigative Committee reported it had opened a criminal case, based on materials submitted by the Interior Ministry's cybersecurity department, to investigate "illegal access to computer information stemming from personal interests which caused significant damages." The case was reportedly triggered by a complaint filed by state-run news agency *Belta*. The Interior Ministry's preliminary investigation found that "information held on *Belta*'s computer systems was illegally accessed more than 15,000 times without the knowledge or agreement of *Belta* in 2017-2018." Authorities detained and interrogated more than 20 journalists from the independent news agencies *tut.by*, *BelaPAN*, *realt.by*, and *Deutsche Welle* among others. Investigators also searched their residences and offices, confiscating computer equipment. In November investigators charged 15 journalists for illegal access, including *BelaPAN* staff writer Tatsyana Karavenkova, *BelaPAN* chief editor Iryna Leushyna, and eight *tut.by* journalists, including Chief Editor Maryna Zolatava. Observers said the investigation and charges were disproportionate to the alleged crime, because the subscription-only *Belta* news service the journalists were accused of illegally accessing posted the same information for free public consumption shortly after its release to paid subscribers. Charges against all except Zolatava were later dropped when the journalists agreed to pay a penalty of 735 rubles (\$350) each and up to 17,000 rubles (\$7,980) in compensation for damage their actions allegedly caused. Zolatava was charged with "executive inaction" and faced up to five years in prison.

The government refused to recognize some foreign media, such as Poland-based Belsat TV and Radio Racyja, and routinely fined free-lance journalists working for them. As of September 25, at least 31 journalists were fined in 80 cases for not having government accreditation or cooperating with a foreign media outlet. According to the Belarusian Association of Journalists, freelance journalists received fines totaling more than 66,000 rubles (\$33,000). Most of the fines were imposed on journalists working for Belsat TV.

Censorship or Content Restrictions: The government exerted pressure on the vast majority of independent publications to exercise self-censorship, warning them not

to report on certain topics or criticize the government. The government tightly and directly controlled the content of state broadcast and print media. Television channels are required to air at least 30 percent local content. Local independent television stations operated in some areas and reported local news, although most were under government pressure to forgo reporting on national and sensitive issues or risk censorship.

Authorities allowed only state-run radio and television networks to broadcast nationwide. The government used this national monopoly to disseminate its version of events and minimize alternative or opposing viewpoints.

Authorities warned businesses not to advertise in newspapers that criticized the government. As a result, independent media outlets operated under severe budgetary constraints.

Libel/Slander Laws: Libel and slander are criminal offenses. There are large fines and prison sentences of up to four years for defaming or insulting the president. Penalties for defamation of character make no distinction between private and public persons. A public figure who is criticized for poor performance while in office may sue both the journalist and the media outlet that disseminated the critical report. On November 22, authorities convicted a resident of the village of Vetryna in the Vitsyebsk region on charges of “publicly insulting the president” and causing a false bomb alert and sentenced him to two years of restricted freedom. The charges reportedly stemmed from the resident’s post on his social media, using derogatory language and saying that he allegedly planted a bomb at a local shopping center.

National Security: Authorities frequently cited national security as grounds for censorship of media.

Internet Freedom

The government interfered with internet freedom by monitoring email and internet chat rooms. While individuals, groups, and publications were generally able to engage in the peaceful expression of views via the internet, including by email, all who did so risked possible legal and personal repercussions, and at times were believed to practice self-censorship. Opposition activists’ emails and other web-based communications were likely to be monitored.

Under amendments to the Media Law that came into force December 1, news websites and any internet information sources are subject to the same regulations as print media. If websites choose not to apply for registration, they can continue to operate but without the status of a media outlet. Unregistered online media cannot receive accreditation from state agencies for its correspondents, who will also not be able to cover mass events or protect sources of information, among other things. Registration requires the site to have an office located in nonresidential premises with a chief editor who is a citizen with at least five years of experience in managerial media positions.

Online news providers must remove content and publish corrections if ordered to do so by authorities and must adhere to a prohibition against “extremist” information. The law also restricts access to websites whose content includes promotion of violence, wars, or “extremist activities”; materials related to illicit weapons, explosives, and drugs; trafficking in persons; pornography; and information that may harm the national interests of the country. Authorities may block access to sites that fail to obey government orders, including because of a single violation of distributing prohibited information, without a prosecutor or court’s mandate. If blocked, a network publication loses its media registration. Owners of a website or a network publication will be able to appeal a decision to limit access to their sites or to deny restoring access to them in court within a month.

In addition, owners of internet sites may be held liable for users’ comments that carry any prohibited information, and these sites may be blocked. The amended law also mandates the creation of a database of news websites and identification of all commentators by personal data and cell phone numbers. If a news website receives two or more formal warnings from authorities, it may be removed from the database and lose its right to distribute information. On January 24, authorities blocked opposition news website Charter’97 for allegedly publishing information that harmed national interests. The Information Ministry claimed that the site ran articles announcing the time and venue of unauthorized demonstrations and published information on behalf of unregistered groups.

Authorities monitored internet traffic. By law the telecommunications monopoly Beltelekam and other organizations authorized by the government have the exclusive right to maintain internet domains.

A presidential edict requires registration of service providers and internet websites, and requires the collection of information on users at internet cafes. It requires

service providers to store data on individuals' internet use for a year and provide that information to law enforcement agencies upon request. Violations of the edict are punishable by prison sentences.

In response to the government's interference and internet restrictions, many opposition groups and independent newspapers switched to internet domains operating outside the country. Observers reported that the few remaining independent media sites with the country domain BY practiced self-censorship at times.

On several occasions, cyberattacks of unknown origin temporarily took down independent news portals and social networking sites.

According to various media sources, the number of internet users reached nearly seven million persons, or more than 70 percent of population, of which approximately 90 percent used the internet daily or numerous times a month. Internet penetration was approximately 83 percent among users ages 15 to 50.

Academic Freedom and Cultural Events

The government restricted academic freedom and cultural events.

Educational institutions were required to teach an official state ideology that combined reverence for the achievements of the former Soviet Union and of Belarus under the leadership of Lukashenka. Government-mandated textbooks contained a heavily propagandized version of history and other subjects. Authorities obligated all schools, including private institutions, to follow state directives to inculcate the official ideology and prohibited schools from employing opposition members as their principals. The minister of education has the right to appoint and dismiss the heads of private educational institutions.

Use of the word "academic" was restricted, and NGOs were prohibited from including the word "academy" in their titles. Opportunities to receive a higher education in the Belarusian language (vice Russian) in the majority of fields of study were scarce. While the administrations of higher educational institutions made no effort to accommodate students wishing to study in Belarusian-language classes, on March 27 authorities registered as a legal entity a private university, named after prominent Belarusian poet Nil Hilevich, where all instruction will be in the Belarusian language. In September the university, run by the independent Belarusian Language Society and funded from private sources, opened pre-

enrollment courses for students to major in the humanities, linguistics, and other disciplines.

Students, writers, and academics said authorities pressured them to join ostensibly voluntary progovernment organizations, such as the Belarusian Republican Youth Union (BRYU) and the Union of Writers of Belarus. Students who declined to join the BRYU risked economic hardships, including lack of access to dormitories, which effectively limited their ability to attend the country's top universities.

Students from various universities and colleges reported to an independent election-monitoring group that their faculties were pressuring students into early voting by threatening them with eviction from their dormitories. Additionally, authorities at times reportedly pressured students to act as informants for the country's security services.

According to a Ministry of Education directive, educational institutions may expel students who engage in antigovernment or unsanctioned political activity and must ensure the proper ideological education of students. School officials, however, cited poor academic performance or absence from classes as the official reason for expulsions. In January Belarus State University expelled Hanna Smilevich, a Belarusian Popular Front youth group member, after she had become chair of the group in December 2017.

b. Freedoms of Peaceful Assembly and Association

The constitution provides for freedom of peaceful assembly; however, the government severely restricted this right. Authorities employed a variety of means to discourage demonstrations, disperse them, minimize their effect, and punish the participants. The law provides for freedom of association, but the government restricted it and selectively enforced laws and registration regulations to restrict the operation of independent associations that might criticize the government.

Freedom of Peaceful Assembly

Only registered political parties, trade unions, and NGOs could request permission to hold a demonstration of more than 1,000 persons. Authorities usually denied requests by independent and opposition groups as well as those of self-organized citizens' groups in various communities around the country. A general atmosphere of repression and the threat of imprisonment or large fines exercised a chilling effect on potential protest organizers.

The law criminalizes the announcement of an intention to hold demonstrations via the internet or social media before official approval, participation in the activities of unregistered NGOs, training of persons to demonstrate, financing of public demonstrations, or solicitation of foreign assistance “to the detriment” of the country. Violations are punishable by up to three years’ imprisonment. Persons with unexpunged criminal records for crimes related to violating peace and order, statehood and governance, public security, safety, and public morals did not have the right to act as mass event organizers. Such organizers must apply at least 15 days in advance for permission to conduct a public demonstration, rally, or meeting, and government officials are required to respond no later than five days prior to the scheduled event. Authorities, however, generally granted permits for opposition demonstrations only if held at designated venues far from city centers. The amended law allowed organizers to notify authorities of a mass event planned at a designated location no later than 10 days before the date of the event. Authorities should inform organizers of denial no later than five days before the event. By law denials can be issued for one of two reasons: the event conflicted with one organized by a different individual or group or the notification did not comply with regulations.

Authorities used intimidation and threats to discourage persons from participating in demonstrations, openly videotaped participants, and imposed heavy fines or jail sentences on participants in unauthorized demonstrations. In addition authorities required organizers to conclude contracts with police, fire department, health, and sanitary authorities for their services after a mass event. Authorities waived some of these requirements for the March 25 celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Belarusian People’s Republic (BPR). All media representatives had to be clearly identified and carry an official media ID or foreign media accreditation. They have to provide their personal ID and press documents to law enforcement upon request.

On March 27, President Lukashenka told Interior Minister Ihar Shunevich that the Ministry should be ready to “immediately suppress” any unauthorized events which “impede people’s lives” because “chaos stems from them [unauthorized protests].” Shunevich responded that “not a single event, which is not sanctioned by authorities, will take place, and even if it starts it will be immediately stopped in an effective manner and in compliance with the law.”

During the year local authorities countrywide rejected dozens of applications for permission to stage various demonstrations.

While Minsk city authorities cooperated with opposition groups to stage a rally and concert on the 100 anniversary of the Belarusian People's Republic in front of the Opera House on March 25, they denied two other applications to hold marches the same day. Organizers of the concert had sought to walk from a nearby park to the concert location before the concert. A second application was filed by opposition activist Mikalai Statkevich and his supporters to march from the central Yakub Kolas square via the main avenue to the concert location. When Statkevich decided to go ahead with his plan without permission, police arrested him as he was leaving his home. Police also arrested approximately 60 individuals gathered at Yakub Kolas square.

In addition, authorities in Mahilyou and Homyel denied local activists' permission to hold rallies in city centers on March 25. They alleged that the venues were not designated for mass events or had been already booked for other events.

Across the country in at least 11 different localities, approximately 57 individuals were briefly detained, apparently in order to prevent their participation in March 25 events in Minsk.

On July 3, celebrated as the Belarusian Independence Day, police dispersed an unauthorized protest and detained approximately 30 individuals, including Mikalai Statkevich, in front of a WWII monument to Soviet soldiers in central Minsk. Statkevich called upon his associates to hold a rally to mark the "liberation [of Minsk from the Nazis on July 3, 1944] and solidarity." Statkevich was arrested as he was leaving his house on his way to the site on July 3. Police detained approximately 30 activists at the site, including five observers from the human rights group Vyasna, transported them to a local precinct, and released the majority later in the day. Statkevich and at least three other activists remained in detention overnight and stood trial on July 4. A Minsk district court sentenced Statkevich to a fine of 980 rubles (\$490) for making calls to participate in an unauthorized protest on July 3.

From June through October, authorities fined, detained, or arrested more than 20 protesters at the site of the Stalinist-era execution site Kurapaty. The protesters opposed the building and operation of a restaurant in close vicinity to the site. While police repeatedly fined the majority of activists for purportedly violating traffic regulations and participating in unauthorized demonstrations, a number of protesters, including Belarusian Christian Democracy (BCD) party cochair Paval Sevyarynets, European Belarus campaign activist Maksim Vinyarski, and

filmmaker Alyaksei Tourovich were sentenced to up to 10 days of administrative detention.

Freedom of Association

All NGOs, political parties, and trade unions must receive Ministry of Justice approval to become registered. A government commission reviews and approves all registration applications; it based its decisions largely on political and ideological compatibility with official views and practices.

Actual registration procedures required applicants to provide the number and names of founders, along with a physical address in a nonresidential building for an office, an extraordinary burden in view of the tight financial straits of most NGOs and individual property owners' fears of renting space to independent groups. Individuals listed as members were vulnerable to reprisal. The government's refusal to rent office space to unregistered organizations and the expense of renting private space reportedly forced most organizations to use residential addresses, which authorities could then use as a reason to deny registration or to deregister them. The law criminalizes activities conducted on behalf of unregistered groups and subjects group members to penalties ranging from large fines to two years' imprisonment (also see section 7.a.).

The law on public associations prohibits NGOs from keeping funds for local activities at foreign financial institutions. The law also prohibits NGOs from facilitating provision of any support or benefits from foreign states to civil servants based on their political or religious views or ethnicity, a provision widely believed to be aimed at the Polish minority.

Only registered NGOs may legally accept foreign grants and technical aid and only for a limited set of approved activities. NGOs must receive approval from the Department for Humanitarian Affairs of the Presidential Administration and the Ministry of the Economy for technical aid before they may accept such funds or register the grants.

The government continued to deny registration to some NGOs and political parties on a variety of pretexts, including "technical" problems with applications. Authorities frequently harassed and intimidated founding members of organizations in an effort to force them to abandon their membership and thus deprive their groups of the number of petitioners necessary for registration. Many groups had been denied registration on multiple occasions.

On March 21, Minsk city authorities registered an educational NGO called “Out Loud.” This was the group’s ninth registration application under its previous name, “Make Out,” which the government requested it change before granting registration. The NGO focused on advancing the human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTI) persons and countering discrimination and violence against them.

On April 6, the BCD reported that the Ministry of Justice denied its seventh registration application. The ministry said the BCD had failed to include phone numbers of some of its members and had incorrectly listed the birth dates of two party founders in its application documents. The party submitted the application on January 22, and the ministry decided to suspend the registration process and seek additional documents on February 23. The Supreme Court upheld the ministry’s denial on May 25.

c. Freedom of Religion

See the Department of State’s *International Religious Freedom Report* at www.state.gov/religiousfreedomreport/.

d. Freedom of Movement

The law provides for freedom of internal movement, foreign travel, emigration, and repatriation, but the government at times restricted the right of citizens, former political prisoners in particular, to foreign travel. The government cooperated with the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and other humanitarian organizations in providing protection and assistance to refugees, returning refugees, asylum seekers, stateless persons, and other persons of concern.

In-country Movement: Passports serve as a form of identity and authorities required them for permanent housing, work, and hotel registration. Police continued to harass selectively individuals who lived at a location other than their legal place of residence as indicated by mandatory stamps in their passports.

The law also requires persons who travel to areas within 15 miles of the border (aside from authorized crossing points) to obtain an entrance pass.

Foreign Travel: The government’s database of persons banned from traveling abroad contained the names of individuals who possessed state secrets, faced

criminal prosecution or civil suits, or had outstanding financial obligations. Authorities informed some persons by letter that their names were in the database; others learned only at border crossings. The Ministry of Internal Affairs and security agencies, border and customs services, and financial investigation departments have a right to place persons on “preventive” surveillance lists.

The Ministry of Internal Affairs is also required to track citizens working abroad, and employment agencies must report individuals who do not return from abroad as scheduled.

Exile: The law does not allow forced exile, but sources asserted that security forces continued to threaten some opposition members with bodily harm or prosecution if they did not leave the country, and many were in self-imposed exile.

Many university students who were expelled or believed they were under the threat of expulsion for their political activities opted for self-imposed exile and continued their studies abroad.

Protection of Refugees

Access to Asylum: The law provides for granting asylum or refugee status, and complementary and temporary protection to foreign citizens and stateless persons, with some exceptions. The government has established a procedure for determining refugee status and a system for providing protection to refugees. The law provides for protection against refoulement granted to foreigners who are denied refugee status or temporary protection but cannot be returned to their countries of origin.

All foreigners except Russians have the right to apply for asylum. According to the terms of the Union Treaty with Russia, Russians may legally settle and obtain residence permits in the country based on their Russian citizenship. Overall, as of October 1, immigration authorities accepted 463 applications for asylum compared with 596 in 2016, including from 359 Ukrainians, 10 Syrians, eight Afghans, and 12 Pakistanis.

In addition to refugee status, the country’s asylum law provides for complementary protection in the form of temporary residence. In the period January-September, 364 foreigners were granted complementary protection (333 Ukrainians, 14 Syrians, six Yemenis, seven Afghans, one Georgian, and three Egyptians).

Freedom of Movement: Asylum seekers have freedom of movement within the country but must reside in the region where they filed their applications for refugee status and in a place known to authorities while their applications are being considered, including during appeals. Authorities reportedly often encouraged asylum seekers to settle in rural areas; however, the majority settled in cities and towns. Change of residence was possible with a notification to authorities. Authorities issue registered asylum seekers certificates that serve as documents to confirm their status of asylum-seekers and identity and protect them from expulsion. In accordance with the law, they also must register with local authorities at their place of residence.

Durable Solutions: Adult asylum seekers have to pay for higher education as well as for nonemergency medical services while minors receive education and medical services free of charge. Free legal assistance, housing, and language training are not available to either asylum seekers or refugees.

Temporary Protection: Although the government may provide temporary protection (for up to one year) to individuals who may not qualify as refugees, it did not do so during the year.

Stateless Persons

As of July 1, the Ministry of the Interior and UNHCR listed 6,618 stateless persons in the country; all had permanent residence, according to authorities.

Permanently resident stateless persons held residence permits and were treated comparably to citizens in terms of access to employment, with the exception of a limited number of positions in the public sector and law enforcement that were available only to citizens. There were reports that stateless persons occasionally faced discrimination in employment, since authorities often encouraged them to settle in rural areas where the range of employment opportunities was limited. According to UNHCR stateless persons could freely change their region of residence.

There is a path towards citizenship for this stateless population. The main requirement is at least seven years' permanent residence. Authorities have a procedure for expedited naturalization but mostly for individuals born or permanently residing in the country prior to the collapse of the Soviet Union, ethnic Belarusians, their spouses, and descendants. If a child is born into a family

of stateless persons permanently residing in the country, the child is entitled to Belarusian citizenship.

Section 3. Freedom to Participate in the Political Process

The law provides citizens the ability to choose their government in free and fair periodic elections held by secret ballot and based on universal and equal suffrage, but the government consistently denied citizens this ability by not conducting elections according to international standards.

Since his election in 1994 to a four-year term as the country's first president, Lukashenka has steadily consolidated power in the executive branch to dominate all branches of government, effectively ending any separation of powers among the branches. Flawed referendums in 1996 and 2004 amended the constitution to broaden his powers, extend his term in office, and remove presidential term limits. Subsequent elections, including the presidential elections held in 2015 and parliamentary elections held in 2016, continued to deny citizens the right to express their will in an honest and transparent process including fair access to media and to resources.

Elections and Political Participation

Recent Elections: According to independent local observation groups, the February 18 local elections were marred by numerous violations, including inflated early and election day turnout, multiple voting, nontransparent home voting, and nontransparent vote tabulation across the country. On February 19, the Central Election Commission (CEC) reported official turnout of 77.05 percent.

Independent observers noted that a number of opposition candidates were denied registration for far-fetched reasons and that the registration process was not open to observers. In a number of cases, commissions removed independent observers from polling stations for allegedly interfering with their work and banned them from videotaping or taking photos. Human rights monitors, independent observers, and experts concluded that elections did not comply with international standards and that authorities dismissed the majority of complaints filed by opposition candidates, their representatives, or independent observers.

Government authorities do not invite OSCE/ODIHR observers to local elections.

The September 2016 parliamentary elections failed to meet international standards. For the first time in 12 years, however, alternative voices were seated in parliament. The elections were marred by a number of long-standing systemic shortcomings, according to the OSCE/ODIHR, OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe international election observation mission intermediate report. While the observer missions and the international community welcomed visible efforts by authorities to make some procedural improvements, a number of key long-standing recommendations by the OSCE/ODIHR and Council of Europe Venice Commission remained unaddressed.

The 2016 OSCE report found that the legal framework restricts political rights and fundamental freedoms and was interpreted in an overly restrictive manner. While there was an overall increase in the number of candidates, including from the opposition, media coverage did not enable voters to make an informed choice, and the campaign lacked visibility. As in past years, only a negligible number of election commission members were appointed from opposition nominees, which undermined confidence in the commission's independence. The early voting, counting, and tabulation procedures continued to be marred by a significant number of procedural irregularities and a lack of transparency.

Local human rights groups Vyasna and the BHC stated at a postelection press conference that based on their observation the election fell short of international standards and did not fully abide by the country's legislation. They especially noted their concern regarding early voting procedures, the lack of transparency in the vote-count process, and the domination of election commissions by progovernment organizations.

Political Parties and Political Participation: Authorities routinely harassed and impeded the activities of opposition political parties and activists. Some opposition parties lacked legal status because authorities refused to register them, and the government routinely interfered with the right to organize, run for election, seek votes, and publicize views. The government allowed approximately half a dozen largely inactive but officially registered pro-Lukashenka political parties to operate freely.

During the year authorities fined and arrested opposition political parties' leaders for violating the Law on Mass Events and participating in numerous unauthorized demonstrations. The law allows authorities to suspend parties for six months after one warning and close them after two. Members of parties that authorities refused to register, such as the Belarusian Christian Democracy Party, continued to be

subjected to harassment and arbitrary checks. The law also prohibits political parties from receiving support from abroad and requires all political groups and coalitions to register with the Ministry of Justice.

Authorities continued to limit activities of the unrecognized Union of Poles of Belarus and harass its members.

Participation of Women and Minorities: No laws limit participation of women or minorities in the political process but patriarchal social attitudes disfavored women's efforts to achieve positions of power.

Section 4. Corruption and Lack of Transparency in Government

The law provides criminal penalties for official corruption, and the government regularly prosecuted officials alleged to be corrupt; however, reports indicated that some officials continued to engage in corrupt practices with impunity. The World Bank's *Worldwide Governance Indicators* reflected that corruption was a serious problem in the country.

In 2016 the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) released a summary of the interim compliance report that stated the government partially implemented only one of the 20 recommendations made by the Council of Europe's anticorruption monitoring body in June 2015. GRECO noted the "lack of an evidence-based comprehensive strategy and a plan of action for the fight against corruption, and of a mechanism that does not only involve the law enforcement agencies to monitor its implementation independently, comprehensively and objectively." In its annual report released in May, GRECO stated that the government's implementation of the group's recommendations was "unsatisfactory."

Individuals dismissed for lower-level corruption face a five-year ban on public-service employment, while those found to have committed more serious abuses are banned indefinitely from government employment. The law also allows seizure of property worth more than 25 percent of a public servant's yearly income for those found guilty of corrupt practices. The law provides for public monitoring of the government's anticorruption efforts.

Corruption: According to official sources, most corruption cases involved soliciting and accepting bribes, fraud, and abuse of power, although anecdotal

evidence indicated such corruption usually did not occur as part of day-to-day interaction between citizens and minor state officials.

The absence of independent judicial and law enforcement systems, the lack of separation of powers, and a harried independent press largely barred from interaction with a nontransparent state bureaucracy made it virtually impossible to gauge the scale of corruption or combat it effectively.

The Prosecutor General's Office is responsible for organizing and coordinating activities to combat corruption, including monitoring law enforcement operations, analyzing the efficacy of implemented measures, supervising engaged parties, and drafting further legislation.

In June the Prosecutor General's Office reported that from January to May authorities investigated 1,107 corruption cases compared with 584 cases in the same period in 2017. The most corrupt sectors were state administration and procurement, the industrial sector, the construction industry, health care, and education.

There were numerous corruption prosecutions during the year, but prosecutions remained selective, nontransparent, and in some cases appeared politically motivated, according to independent observers and human rights advocates. For example, the head of the KGB, Valery Vakulchyk, stated on October 5 that approximately one hundred head doctors from the regions and Minsk, officials of the healthcare ministry, including a deputy minister, representatives of local pharmaceutical productions, and owners of pharmacy businesses were investigated for numerous accounts of corruption related to procurement of medicines and equipment.

Financial Disclosure: Anticorruption laws require income and asset disclosure by appointed and elected officials, their spouses, and members of households who have reached legal age and continue to live with them in the same household. According to the law, specialized anticorruption departments within the Prosecutor General's Office, the KGB, and the Internal Affairs Ministry monitor and verify anticorruption practices, and the prosecutor general and all other prosecutors are mandated to oversee the enforcement of anticorruption law. These declarations were not available to the public. An exception applies to candidates running in presidential, parliamentary, and municipal elections. There are administrative sanctions and disciplinary penalties for noncompliance.

Section 5. Governmental Attitude Regarding International and Nongovernmental Investigation of Alleged Abuses of Human Rights

There were a number of active domestic human rights NGOs, although authorities were often hostile to their efforts, restricted their activities, selectively cooperated with them, and were not responsive to their views.

Two prominent human rights NGOs--the BHC and the Center for Legal Transformations--operated as registered entities. The government refused to register a number of others, placing them at risk under the criminal code that criminalizes organizing or participating in any activity by an unregistered organization. The law also prohibits persons from acting on behalf of unregistered NGOs. Nonetheless, some unregistered NGOs, including Vyasna and Legal Assistance to the Population, continued to operate.

Authorities harassed both registered and unregistered human rights organizations. They subjected them to frequent inspections and threats of deregistration, reportedly monitored their correspondence and telephone conversations, and harassed family members of group leaders and activists. The government ignored reports issued by human rights NGOs and only met with registered groups. State-run media rarely reported on human rights NGOs and their activities.

During the year the BHC's bank accounts remained blocked due to long-standing tax arrears related to foreign funding in the early 2000s, but the government allowed the committee to operate without other interference.

Authorities were reluctant to engage on human rights problems with international human rights NGOs or other human rights officials, and international NGO representatives often had difficulty gaining admission to the country. Authorities routinely ignored local and international groups' recommendations on improving human rights in the country and requests to stop harassing the human rights community.

Authorities may close an NGO after issuing only one warning that it violated the law. The most common pretexts prompting a warning or closure were failure to obtain a legal address and technical discrepancies in application documents. The law allows authorities to close an NGO for accepting what it considered illegal forms of foreign assistance and permits the Ministry of Justice to monitor any NGO activity and to review all NGO documents. NGOs also must submit detailed

reports annually to the ministry regarding their activities, office locations, officers, and total number of members.

The United Nations or Other International Bodies: On September 28, the UN Human Rights Council appointed Anais Marin as the new Special Rapporteur on Belarus. On October 1, Belarusian MFA Spokesperson Anatoli Hlaz stated that the government continued to speak against “the politicized” mandate of the rapporteur and did not recognize it. The previous rapporteur, Miklos Haraszti, whose mandate expired on October 31, published his final report at the 73rd session of the UNGA’s Third Committee on October 24, noting that the human rights record in Belarus had not improved in his six-year tenure. In a response, a Belarusian diplomat, Counsellor Ina Vasileuskaya, called the report and Haraszti’s speech “a farce.”

Government Human Rights Bodies: The government took minor steps to implement the Human Rights Action Plan adopted in 2016 to outline, in the government’s words, “main activities for us to implement our international obligations” on human rights. In addition to holding various conferences and seminars jointly with UN organizations, the government ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2016. While independent human rights groups, including the human rights center Vyasna and the BHC, welcomed the plan’s adoption, they also noted that the documents lack specific target goals or results assessment mechanisms. Civil society groups noted that the government failed to include any of the concrete suggestions they recommended during drafting that they believed would have made the plan more substantial.

A standing commission on human rights in the lower chamber of parliament was ineffective.

Section 6. Discrimination, Societal Abuses, and Trafficking in Persons

Women

Rape and Domestic Violence: The law criminalizes rape in general but does not include separate provisions on marital rape. Rape was a problem. According to the Ministry of Internal Affairs, there were 184 registered cases of rape or attempted rape in 2017.

Domestic violence was a significant problem, and the government took measures to prevent it during the year. The government issued protective orders mandating

the separation of victims and abusers and provided temporary accommodations for the duration of the orders. It also operated crisis rooms that provided limited shelter and psychological and medical assistance to victims.

The law on crime prevention establishes a separate definition of domestic violence and provides for implementation of protective orders, which are from three to 30 days in duration. The law requires authorities to provide victims and abusers with temporary accommodation until the protective orders expire. In addition, the code on administrative offenses prescribes a large fine or detention for up to 15 days for battery, intended infliction of pain, and psychological or physical suffering committed against a close family member.

On November 26, a senior representative of the Interior Minister stated every third person killed in the country was killed by a family member and that in January-October the ministry identified 115 women as victims of murder and severe bodily harm in crimes related to domestic violence, 41 of whom died. From January-August authorities also issued approximately 5,500 protective orders, including 5,000 ordering perpetrators to move out of residences shared with their victims.

On April 25, authorities arrested a resident of the city of Valozhyn on a charge of beating his spouse to death. The family, with two minor children, lived in a dormitory, and their neighbors told police the victim had complained of abuse and domestic violence. According to witnesses and press reports, the victim sustained at least 30 severe injuries. The case was pending at year's end.

Sexual Harassment: Sexual harassment reportedly was widespread, but no specific laws, other than those against physical assault, address the problem.

Coercion in Population Control: Women with disabilities, as well as pregnant women whose children were diagnosed with potential disabilities in utero, reported that some doctors insisted they terminate their pregnancies.

Discrimination: The law provides for equal treatment of women with regard to property ownership and inheritance, family law, equal pay for equal work (although in practice women were often paid less), and in the judicial system, and the law was generally respected.

Children

Birth Registration: Citizenship is derived either by birth within the country or from one's parents. A child of a citizen is a citizen regardless of place of birth, even if one parent is not a citizen. Births were generally registered immediately.

Child Abuse: Authorities intervened to prevent child abuse stemming from domestic violence and identified families in vulnerable conditions, providing foster care to children who could not remain with their immediate families while preventive work was underway. Although the government increased prosecution of child abusers, its efforts to address the causes of child abuse were inadequate. The government instituted a 2017-21 comprehensive national plan to improve childcare and the protection of children's rights, including for victims of child abuse, domestic violence, and commercial sexual exploitation, and acknowledged a lack of funding and inefficiency in executing certain protective measures.

With assistance from NGOs that promote children's rights, authorities extensively employed procedures for on-the-record, one-time interviewing of child abuse victims in the framework of investigations or criminal cases at specialized facilities under the direct supervision of psychologists. Courts used recorded testimony to avoid repeatedly summoning child abuse victims for hearings. More experienced judges with expertise in developmental psychology, psychiatry, and education generally heard cases that affected the rights and legitimate interests of minors. The government failed to resume operations of a national hotline for assisting children despite various NGOs' requests to support the hotline.

A UNICEF report, released in March, registered children's and parents' low awareness of existing types of violence against children; limited capacity of professionals to identify, register, report, and address incidents of violence, and weak collaboration on violence prevention and response among professionals. In addition, the report found an inadequate monitoring system that operated only with data on investigated crimes against children and cases of child separation because of identified violence in the home.

As of January the Ministry of Education ran 138 social-educational centers nationwide for minor victims of any type of violence or minors finding themselves in vulnerable and dangerous conditions. General health-care institutions provided a wide range of medical aid to child abuse victims free of charge.

According to the UNICEF study, two-thirds of professionals reported they had never had training on violence against children. One-third of professionals said

that specialists working with children often ignored or concealed facts of violence in their institutions.

Rape or sexual assault of a person known to be a minor is punishable by up to 15 years' imprisonment. Sexual acts between a person older than 18 and a person known to be younger than 16 carry penalties of up to five years imprisonment.

Early and Forced Marriage: The legal minimum age of marriage for both boys and girls is 18, although girls as young as 14 may marry with parental consent. There were reports of early marriage in which girls as young as 14 and boys as young as 16 married with parental consent.

Sexual Exploitation of Children: The minimum age for consensual sex is 16. Prostitution of children was a problem, and the government took some steps to address it. From January through October, the Internal Affairs Ministry investigated 63 cases of the production and distribution of child pornography and identified 25 minors as victims. The law provides penalties of up to 13 years in prison for production or distribution of pornographic materials depicting a minor. The law generally was enforced. The law, however, failed to criminalize all forms of child sex trafficking by requiring a demonstration of force, fraud, or coercion to constitute a child sex trafficking offense.

Institutionalized Children: There was no system for monitoring child abuse in orphanages or other specialized institutions. Authorities did not publicly report on any child abuse incidents in institutions. There were allegations of abuse in foster families. The government opened or continued investigations into some of these cases.

The UNICEF study reported that more than two in five children at residential care institutions were exposed to either physical or psychological violence. Approximately one in four children participating in the survey reported exposure to physical violence at institutions. The children living in institutions appeared significantly more vulnerable compared to children living in families: they had two to three times higher exposure to violence than children from secondary schools. Children from special closed-type educational institutions and penitentiary institutions reported greater exposure to violence both at home and in the institutions.

International Child Abductions: The country is a party to the 1980 Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction. See the

Department of State's *Annual Report on International Parental Child Abduction* at <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/International-Parental-Child-Abduction/for-providers/legal-reports-and-data.html>.

Anti-Semitism

The Jewish community estimated that between 30,000 and 40,000 Jews lived in the country.

Anti-Semitic incidents continued. Jewish community and civil society activists expressed concern regarding pan-Slavic nationalism professed by some extremist groups. Neo-Nazis, such as the Russian National Unity group and supporters of similar groups were widely believed to be behind anti-Semitic incidents across the country. Anti-Semitic and xenophobic newspapers, literature, digital video discs, and videotapes, frequently imported from Russia, were widely available. The government did not promote antibias and tolerance education.

Media continued to report that many Holocaust memorials built in Soviet times and more recently do not acknowledge Jewish victims. The Jewish community continued to work with local authorities to erect new monuments that specifically commemorate Jewish victims.

During the year authorities convicted a number of offenders who reportedly associated themselves with neo-Nazis or skinhead movements for inciting ethnic and religious hatred against Jews, among others. On February 27, a court in the Vitsyebsk region sentenced a resident in Navapolatsk to three years in prison for posting racist videos on social media. In a similar case, authorities convicted an individual from the Baranavichy district of posting videos with anti-Semitic content and sentenced him to a year and a month in jail on April 18.

Trafficking in Persons

See the Department of State's *Trafficking in Persons Report* at www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/.

Persons with Disabilities

The law does not specifically prohibit discrimination against persons with physical, sensory, intellectual, or mental disabilities, and discrimination was common.

The law mandates that transport, residences, and businesses be accessible to persons with disabilities, but few public areas were wheelchair accessible or accessible for hearing and vision-impaired persons. The National Association of Disabled Wheelchair Users estimated that more than 90 percent of persons with physical disabilities were unable to leave their places of residence without assistance and stated their residences were not suitable to accommodate persons with physical disabilities. While authorities claimed that 30 percent of the country's total infrastructure was accessible, disability rights organizations considered this figure inflated, although the situation slightly improved during the year.

The country's lack of independent living opportunities left many persons with disabilities no choice but to live in state-run institutions. Approximately 80 such institutions across the country housed more than 19,000 persons. Disability rights organizations reported that the quality of care in these facilities was low, and instances of fundamental human rights violations, harassment, mistreatment, and other abuse were reported. Authorities frequently placed persons with physical and mental disabilities in the same facilities and did not provide either group with specialized care.

Public transportation was free to persons with disabilities, but the majority of subway stations in Minsk and the bus system were not wheelchair accessible. In September 2017 experts of the ACT NGO released a monitoring report indicating that 3.3 percent of all educational institutions across the country were accessible to persons with disabilities, including with vision and hearing disabilities, and most of these facilities were recently constructed.

Disability rights organizations reported difficulty organizing advocacy activities due to impediments to freedom of assembly, censorship, and the government's unwillingness to register assistance projects (see section 2.b.).

Persons with disabilities, especially those with vision and hearing disabilities, often encountered problems with access to courts and obtaining court interpreters.

Women with disabilities often faced discrimination, and there were reports of authorities attempting to take children away from families in which parents had disabilities, claiming that they would not appropriately care for their children.

Women with disabilities, as well as pregnant women whose children were diagnosed with potential disabilities in utero, reported that some doctors insisted they terminate their pregnancies.

National/Racial/Ethnic Minorities

Governmental and societal discrimination against Roma persisted. According to leaders of the Romani communities, security and law enforcement agencies arbitrarily detained, investigated, and harassed Roma, including by forced fingerprinting, mistreatment in detention, and ethnic insults.

Authorities continued to harass the independent and unregistered Union of Poles of Belarus, while supporting a progovernment organization of a similar name. On November 19, independent media sources reported that authorities in Minsk interrupted a concert, organized by the unregistered union to mark the 100th anniversary of Poland's regained independence. It was their fourth attempt to hold the event after three denied requests to rent premises.

Official and societal discrimination continued against the country's 7,000 (according to the 2009 census) to 60,000 (according to Romani community estimates) Roma. The Romani community continued to experience marginalization, various types of discrimination, high unemployment, low levels of education, and lack of access to social services. Roma generally held citizenship, but many lacked official identity documents and refused to obtain them.

There were also expressions of hostility toward proponents of the national culture that the government often identified with actors of the democratic opposition, repeatedly labeled by the president as "the fifth column." Because the government viewed many proponents of the Belarusian language as political opponents, authorities continued to harass academic and cultural groups that sought to promote Belarusian and routinely rejected proposals to widen use of the language.

Acts of Violence, Discrimination, and Other Abuses Based on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity

Consensual same-sex conduct between adults is not illegal, but discrimination against LGBTI persons was widespread, and harassment occurred. The law does not provide antidiscrimination protections to LGBTI individuals on the basis of their sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or sex characteristics. Societal discrimination against LGBTI activists persisted with the tacit support of the regime. Police continued to mistreat LGBTI persons and refused to investigate crimes against them.

On June 29 and July 21, police disrupted parties organized by an LGBTI group at a nightclub in Minsk and wrote down everyone's names as well as their places of employment or education. Officers reportedly claimed they received notices of possible crimes, including drug trafficking and abuse of minors, at the club.

The government allows transgender persons to update their name and gender marker on national identification documents, but these documents retain old identification numbers that include a digit indicating the individual's sex assigned at birth. Transgender persons reportedly were refused jobs when potential employers noted the "discrepancy" between the applicant's identification number and their gender marker. Banks also refused to open accounts for transgender persons on the same grounds.

According to local media, on July 31 authorities refused a foreign LGBTI rights activist entry to Belarus at the Minsk National Airport. A representative of the border service told the media the decision was made in accordance with a law that says a foreigner can be denied entry if his or her presence in the country ran counter to national security, public order, the protection of morality, public health, or the rights and liberties of the citizens of Belarus and other persons. The LGBTI organization Out Loud stated the activist planned to deliver a lecture in Minsk on discrimination and street violence against migrants, nonwhite, and transgender persons.

HIV and AIDS Social Stigma

Societal discrimination against persons with HIV/AIDS remained a problem, and the illness carried a heavy social stigma. The Joint UN Program on HIV/AIDS noted there were numerous reports of HIV-infected individuals who faced discrimination, especially at workplaces and during job interviews. There were also frequent reports of family discrimination against HIV/AIDS-positive relatives, including preventing HIV/AIDS-positive parents from seeing their children or requiring HIV/AIDS-positive family members to use separate dishware.

The government continued to broadcast and post public service advertisements raising awareness concerning HIV/AIDS and calling for greater tolerance toward persons infected with the virus.

Section 7. Worker Rights

a. Freedom of Association and the Right to Collective Bargaining

Although the law provides for the rights of workers, except state security and military personnel, to form and join independent unions and to strike, it places a number of serious restrictions on the exercise of these rights. The law provides for the right to organize and bargain collectively but does not protect against antiunion discrimination. Workers who say they are fired for union activity have no explicit right to reinstatement or to challenge their dismissal in court, according to independent union activists.

The law provides for civil penalties in the form of fines for violations of the freedom of assembly or collective bargaining, which, according to local worker rights advocates, were not sufficient to deter violations. The government also did not enforce these penalties.

The government severely restricted independent unions. The government-controlled Federation of Trade Unions of Belarus is the largest union federation, claiming more than four million members. It largely resembled its Soviet predecessors and served as a control mechanism and distributor of benefits. The Belarusian Congress of Democratic Trade Unions (BCDTU), with four constituent unions and approximately 10,600 members of independent trade unions, was the largest independent union umbrella organization, but tight government control over registration requirements and public demonstrations made it difficult for the congress to organize, expand, and strike.

The government did not respect freedom of association and collective bargaining. Prohibitive registration requirements that any new independent union have a large membership and cooperation from the employer continued to present significant obstacles to union formation. Trade unions may be deleted from the register by a decision of the registrar, without any court procedure. The registrar may remove a trade union from the register if, following the issuance of a written warning to the trade union stating that the organization violates legislation or its own statutes, the violations are not eliminated within a month. Authorities continued to resist attempts by workers to leave the official union and join the independent one.

The legal requirements to conduct a strike are high. For example, strikes may only be held three or more months after dispute resolution between the union and employer has failed. The duration of the strike must be specified in advance. Additionally, a minimum number of workers must continue to work during the strike. Nevertheless, these requirements were largely irrelevant, since the unions that represented almost all workers were under government control. Government

authorities and managers of state-owned enterprises routinely interfered with union activities and hindered workers' efforts to bargain collectively, in some instances arbitrarily suspending collective bargaining agreements. Management and local authorities blocked worker attempts to organize strikes on many occasions by declaring them illegal. Union members who participated in unauthorized public demonstrations were subjected to arrest and detention. Due to a persistent atmosphere of repression and the fear of imprisonment, few public demonstrations took place during the year.

The Law on Mass Events also seriously limited demonstrations, rallies, and other public action, constraining the right of unions to organize and strike. No foreign assistance may be offered to trade unions for holding seminars, meetings, strikes, pickets, etc., or for "propaganda activities" aimed at their own members, without authorities' permission. Authorities across the country continuously denied applications for permission from independent trade unions to hold demonstrations to highlight labor-related issues.

Government efforts to suppress independent unions included frequent refusals to extend employment contracts for members of independent unions and refusals to register independent unions. According to BCDTU leader Aliaksandr Yarashuk, no independent unions have been established since a 1999 decree requiring trade unions to register with the government. Authorities routinely fired workers who were deemed "natural leaders" or who involved themselves in NGOs or opposition political activities.

On August 24, a Minsk district court convicted independent Radio and Electronics Trade Union Chairman Genadz Fedynich and Chief Accountant Ihar Komlik for allegedly evading taxes in 2011 and sentenced the two to four years of house arrest. The court also banned the trade unionists from holding any administrative positions for five years. Protesters outside the courthouse were detained while protesting the trial. On November 9, the Minsk city court dismissed their appeal. At the end of the year the verdict was under appeal at a higher court.

The government requires state employees, including employees of state-owned enterprises, who constituted approximately 70 percent of the workforce, to sign short-term work contracts. Although such contracts may have terms of up to five years, most expired after one year, which gave the government the ability to fire employees by declining to renew their contracts. Many members of independent unions, political parties, and civil society groups lost their jobs because of this practice. A government edict provides the possibility for employers to sign open-

ended work contracts with an employee only after five years of good conduct and performance by the employee.

Opposition political party members and democratic activists sometimes had difficulty finding work due to government pressure on employers.

In 2014 the president issued Decree No. 5 On Strengthening the Requirements for Managers and Employees of Organizations, which the authorities stated was aimed at rooting out “mismanagement,” strengthening discipline, and preventing the hiring of dishonest managers in new positions. Among other subjects under the new decree, managers may reduce payment of employee bonuses (which often comprised a large portion of salaries) and workers may be fired more easily. An independent trade union lawyer told the press that workers have fewer rights under the new law.

b. Prohibition of Forced or Compulsory Labor

The law prohibits all forms of forced or compulsory labor, but the government did not effectively enforce its provisions.

Parents who have had their parental rights stripped and are unemployed, or are working but fail to compensate state childcare facilities for the maintenance of their children, are subject to forced employment by court order. Individuals who refuse forced employment may be held criminally liable and face community service or corrective labor for a period of up to two years, imprisonment for up to three years, or other freedom restrictions, all involving compulsory labor and garnishment of 70 percent of their wages to compensate expenses incurred by the government.

In 2010 the government enforced procedures for placing individuals suffering from chronic alcohol, drug or other substance abuse in so-called medical labor centers when they have been found guilty of committing criminal violations while under the influence of alcohol, narcotics and psychotropic, toxic or other intoxicating substances. Such offenders may be held in these centers by court orders for 12 to 18 months. They are mandated to work and if they refuse, they may be placed in solitary confinement for up to 10 days. In July 2017 the deputy head of the Supreme Court, Valer Kalinkovich, justified operations of the medical labor centers, saying there was no alternative for alcohol addicts who also “violated rights of other people.”

In January the government rescinded a 2015 presidential decree, On Preventing Social Parasitism, which aimed to force individuals to find employment and established a supplemental tax on persons who worked less than six months during the year of up to 360 rubles (\$180) annually, depending on how much they paid in taxes when working. The decree would have applied to all permanent residents, with senior pensioners, legal minors, persons with disabilities, and certain other groups exempted.

Minsk authorities required officially registered unemployed individuals to perform paid community service two days a month from May to September and one day a month from October to December and January to April. In addition they were banned from receiving an unemployment benefit of up to 46 rubles (\$24) a month, depending on their length of unemployment, if they performed less than 22 working days of community service during a year. Individuals with disabilities, single parents and parents of three and more children, as well as parents of children with disabilities and under age 18 were exempt.

Regulations against forced labor were seldom enforced, and resources and inspections dedicated to preventing forced and compulsory labor were minimal and inadequate to deter violations. Penalties for violations included forfeiture of assets and sentences of five to 15 years' imprisonment. The government rarely identified victims of trafficking, and prosecution of those responsible for forced labor remained minimal. Government efforts to prevent and eliminate forced labor in the country did not improve.

The government continued the Soviet practice of "subbotniks," (Saturday work) that requires employees of government, state enterprises, and many private businesses to work on some Saturdays and donate their earnings to finance government social and other projects. Employers and authorities intimidated and fined some workers who refused to participate. In some localities authorities forced students and state companies' employees to participate in harvesting in September-October.

Prison labor practices amounted to forced labor. Former inmates stated that their monthly wages were as low as three to four rubles (\$1.5 to \$2). Senior officials with the General Prosecutor's Office and the Interior Ministry stated in November 2015 that at least 97 percent of all work-capable inmates worked in prison as required by law, excluding retirees and persons with disabilities, and that labor in prison was important and useful for rehabilitation and reintegration of inmates.

Also see the Department of State's *Trafficking in Persons Report* at www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/.

c. Prohibition of Child Labor and Minimum Age for Employment

The law prohibits the worst forms of child labor. The minimum age for employment is 16, but children as young as 14 may conclude a labor contract with the written consent of one parent or a legal guardian. The Prosecutor General's Office is responsible for enforcement of the law. Persons under age 18 are allowed to work in nonhazardous jobs but are not allowed to work overtime, on weekends, or on government holidays. Work may not be harmful to children's health or hinder their education.

The government generally enforced these laws and penalties ranging from fines and reprimands to 12 years' imprisonment; these provisions were sufficient to deter most violations. Child labor occurred in the agricultural sector.

d. Discrimination with Respect to Employment and Occupation

The law prohibits discrimination based on race, gender, language, or social status. These laws do not apply specifically to employment or occupation. The government did not effectively enforce these laws or secure any effective penalties to deter violations. Discrimination in employment and occupation occurred with respect to ethnicity, gender, disability, language, sexual orientation and gender identity and expression, and HIV-positive status (see section 6). In addition some members of the Romani community complained that employers often discriminated against them and either refused to employ them or did not provide fulltime jobs. The government did not take any action during the year to prevent or eliminate employment discrimination. Employment discrimination happened across most economic sectors and in both private and public workplaces.

The law requiring equal pay for equal work was not regularly enforced, and the minister of labor and social welfare stated in 2016 that on average women were paid 24 percent less than men.

Very few women were in the upper ranks of management or government, and most women were concentrated in the lower-paid public sector. Although the law grants women the right to three years of maternity leave with assurance of a job upon return, employers often circumvented employment protections by using short-term contracts, then refusing to renew a woman's contract when she became pregnant.

A government prohibition against workdays longer than seven hours for persons with disabilities reportedly made companies reluctant to hire them. Local NGOs reported that up to 85 percent of persons with disabilities were unemployed. Authorities provided minimal welfare benefits for persons with disabilities, and calculations of pensions did not consider disability status. Members of the country's Paralympic teams received half the salaries and prize money of athletes without disabilities.

e. Acceptable Conditions of Work

As of October 1, the national minimum monthly wage was in excess of the poverty line.

The law establishes a standard workweek of 40 hours and provides for at least one 24-hour rest period per week. The law provides for mandatory overtime and nine days of holiday pay and restricts overtime to 10 hours a week, with a maximum of 180 hours of overtime each year.

The law establishes minimum conditions for workplace safety and worker health, but employers often ignored these standards. Workers at many heavy machinery plants did not wear minimal safety gear. The state labor inspectorate lacked authority to enforce employer compliance and often ignored violations. The number of inspectors was insufficient to deter violations.

The Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare was responsible for enforcement of these laws. Information regarding resources, inspections, remediation, and penalties was not available. The government reported that approximately 400,000 persons worked in the informal economy. The law did not cover informal workers.

The Labor Ministry reported 70 persons killed at workplaces from January through June.

The law does not provide workers the right to remove themselves from situations that endanger health or safety without jeopardy to their employment.