

ADDRESS
by the Belarusian Legislative Representatives and Members of
the Council of the Republic to the World Community
in Connection with the Situation around Belarus

Minsk, June 2021

We, the legislative representatives of all levels and members of the Council of the Republic of the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus, as the empowered representatives of the Belarusian people, appeal to the world community to view the situation around our country in an objective and unbiased manner, in which, under the guise of a “struggle for democratic values”, we essentially encounter aggressive and comprehensive pressure exerted on a sovereign state and its citizens, and witness gross violation of the basic principles of international law as they relate to the non-interference in the internal affairs of states.

These actions pose a real threat to international peace and security insofar as they flout the generally recognized provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, that is, of the Organization, which our country had joined as one of the founding members.

Belarus’ independence, human development, economic growth and further consolidation of its statehood constitute a clear foundation for our citizens’ continued well-being as well as a prerequisite for geopolitical stability in the vast region that connects Europe, Russia and Asia.

Instead of providing support and assistance and committing themselves to mutually beneficial cooperation, some states have been vigorously involved in efforts to destabilize the situation in the Republic of Belarus, as they launched a full-scale information aggression against us that sought to lure our citizens into destructive activities with the view to masterminding a coup d'etat and tarnishing Belarus’ image abroad.

They have imposed on us unprecedented and ungrounded sanctions. Their initiatives to deprive the Republic of Belarus of the right to host international sports competitions and to take part in creative and professional contests, as well as their bans on air travel and discrimination against companies and organizations and, thus, ultimately against our ordinary citizens, look absurd.

The Belarusians will withstand these trials, because we have much to lose. In the XX century we have rebuilt our country twice, first, we did so standing on the ruins of the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945 and, then, we assembled it from the fragments of the Soviet Union that disintegrated in 1991. It was not just the state's firm authority and resilient law enforcement agencies that prevented Belarus from being turned into just another hot spot on the world's political map. It was each and every Belarusian who felt his and her fate to be connected to the country's founding and who, thus, eagerly assumed responsibility for its future.

Today, political and economic pressure on our country continues unabated. The objective pursued by the proponents is "to contribute to the strengthening of democratic values and freedoms". The actual outcome, however, is very different, as it is rather to undermine our country's economic capacities, to slow its development, to slash its social programs, to bring down our people's well-being and, eventually, to forge a zone of economic, geopolitical and social instability in the very heart of Europe, which, by the way, has been hit already by a series of crises like migration, economics and the COVID-19 pandemic.

We reach out to our foreign partners with an appeal to uphold the principles and norms of international law in their relations with Belarus, because having once trampled upon them, they will find it hard to make them look important again. We stand ready for dialogue, not for coercion, and we responsibly declare that any infringement on our right to build the path of Belarus' development in our own independent way is nothing but futile and shortsighted.

We call upon the world community to oppose the unjustified, counterproductive and discriminatory policies applied against the Republic of Belarus, to show instead solidarity with our country in upholding the right to sovereignty and peaceful life, to return to responsible and constructive cooperation that brings benefit to all countries and nations, for the sake of peace, security and prosperity.