

КАНФЕРЭНЦЫЯ  
НОВАЯ  
БЕЛАРУСЬ

# Declaration on Accountability and Restoring Justice

[ New Belarus Conference, August 3-4, 2024 ]

*We, the democratic forces of Belarus, consider the restoration of justice for victims and the inevitable accountability for the perpetrators of crimes a major element on the path to a democratic transformation and national reconciliation.*

We state that Aliaksandr Lukashenka and his entourage have committed a series of actions that can be qualified under international law and national legislation as crimes against humanity, the crime of aggression against Ukraine, war crimes against the civilian population of Ukraine, crimes against peace and security of mankind, crimes against life and health, and crimes against the state.

In addition to widespread and systematic torture, rape, enforced disappearances, imprisonment, and killings, Aliaksandr Lukashenka has been persecuting people on political grounds, resulting in the largest forced migration of the civilian population in Europe in the 21st century. Approximately 300,000 people have become victims of forced exile.

We emphasize that, among other things, since 2020, state power in Belarus has been held unconstitutionally. Anyone participating in the organization of electoral and other state procedures to maintain and preserve Aliaksandr Lukashenka's power is an accomplice to a crime. However, those who voluntarily report the crime and assist in its exposure will be exempt from responsibility.

Anyone who has been repressed or otherwise suffered from the actions of the authorities of the Republic of Belarus, starting from the day Aliaksandr Lukashenka assumed the presidency of the Republic of Belarus, should be restored in their rights and legitimate interests in accordance with the special Law on the Rehabilitation of Victims of Political Repression.

We call on the international community to engage available international accountability mechanisms. In particular, we call for referring the situation of forced migration of the civilian population from Belarus to the Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, utilizing universal jurisdiction procedures at the national level, and filing cases against Belarus in the International Court of Justice for violations of international treaties over which the court potentially has jurisdiction.

We support international efforts to hold Aliaksandr Lukashenka and his entourage accountable for the act of aggression against Ukraine and war crimes against the civilian population of Ukraine.

We guarantee that the efforts to restore justice and hold the perpetrators accountable will not aim at revenge or political persecution. Justice will be carried out according to international standards and with the participation of independent experts and observers based on the principles of democracy, independence, and openness, with the right to defense and appeal, including in international

institutions. Without proper rehabilitation of the victims and condemnation of the crimes of Aliaksandr Lukashenka and his entourage, it is impossible to transition to a sustainable democracy in Belarus without the risk of reversion to dictatorship.

*Adopted at the New Belarus Conference  
Vilnius, August 3-4, 2024*