КАНФЕРЭНЦЫЯ НОВАЯ БЕЛАРУСЬ

PLATFORM 2025

[New Belarus Conference 03/08-04/08 2024]

We, Belarusians, are a European nation with the right to freedom and justice. We displayed our dignity in 2020, and it remains with us. We deserve and strive for a better future in Belarus.

As members of the democratic community, we stand united on the following matters:

- Aliaksandr Lukashenka holds power criminally, relying on repression and the support of the Kremlin. *Neither he nor the bodies under his control have the legitimacy to announce and conduct elections.*
- *The 2025 electoral campaign is an imitation of an election.* Due to widespread repression, Belarusians will not be able to see democratic candidates on the ballots, participate in rallies, or engage in campaigning. This is *even less resemblant of a free and democratic election than ever before in Belarus.*
- *We support* the activities of the institutions of Belarus' democratic forces Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya, the United Transitional Cabinet, and the Coordination Council, as well as the activities of parties, organizations, and initiatives that continue the struggle for democratic changes in Belarus.
- *We demand:* an end to all forms of repression, the release of all political prisoners, the implementation of the right of all citizens of Belarus to fully participate in elections regardless of their place of residence, the guarantee of freedom of assembly and equal access to the media, as well as the conduct of elections following OSCE international standards and under the supervision of observers.
- *We take action* by organizing joint civic and political campaigns, aiming to prevent the Belarusian and international communities from recognizing the results of the imitated election.

As members of the democratic community of Belarus, we share the following **GOALS OF PLATFORM 2025** and commit to working together to achieve them:

- *Preventing the legitimization* of the Lukashenka regime in the eyes of both the Belarusian and international communities.
- *Standing united for Belarus.* Our common enemies are the undemocratic regimes of Lukashenka and Putin. We will unite for collective action instead of fighting against each other.
- *Advocating for an open Europe* and the entire democratic world for Belarusians and working to clearly distinguish us from the regime. No to another Iron Curtain!
- *Promoting an agenda of change* that will lead the country out of isolation, war, and crisis toward a dignified future.

- *Developing a diverse informational landscape* based on democratic values which is essential for countering the regime's propaganda and disinformation.
- *Encouraging the elite split for a democratic transition.* We are open to dialogue with government employees who support an independent and democratic Belarus.

To achieve these goals, we set forth the following **OBJECTIVES OF PLATFORM 2025**:

- *Uniting all efforts to free political prisoners* and stop repression in Belarus using all necessary tools, including sanctions and diplomatic pressure on the regime, work on the humanitarian list, and humanitarian negotiations.
- Working toward the delegitimization of the regime through diplomatic efforts. Consolidating efforts with other countries and international organizations, as well as the parliamentary community through the Alliance of Parliamentary Groups "For a Democratic Belarus."
- *Seeking accountability* for Lukashenka and his associates for crimes against the Belarusian people and international crimes.
- *Giving substance to the European perspective for Belarus* to make the European alternative tangible and its specific benefits clear for all Belarusians.
- *Defending and promoting the interests of Belarusians* wherever they may be. Advocating for visa issuance, opening of passenger border crossings, access to education, and easier legalization of stay.
- *Strengthening connections* among Belarusians with diverse viewpoints, both inside and outside the country, through joint actions and enhancing the capacity of Belarusian organizations.
- *Expanding the audience,* countering propaganda, and disseminating truthful information about events in Belarus.
- *Engaging youth* in political processes and discussions on the future development paths for Belarus.
- *Preparing competent professionals,* leaders, and public servants who will work for the benefit of their people.
- *Preparing a package of reform projects* and laws for the future free Belarus, including amnesty for those affected by politically motivated repression and a concept of transitional justice, and discussing these with the public.
- *Demonstrating the advantages* of a functioning democracy and showing how failing to adhere to democratic election standards leads to a decline in people's quality of life.
- *Documenting all violations* during the imitated election and informing the Belarusian and international community.

This Platform 2025 is open for all Belarusian democratic forces that share its provisions to join, including political bodies, civil society organizations and initiatives, diasporas, communities, etc.

Based on Platform 2025, we will coordinate joint actions in 2025, develop responses to current issues at joint meetings, and provide joint public reports on activities within the Platform.

Participants of the Platform 2025