New Belarus Conference 2026 Resolution
by the Democratic Forces of Belarus

ON COMPREHENSIVE PREPARATION FOR THE DEMOCRATIC TRANSITION AND PUBLIC DISCUSSION OF REFORM PROPOSALS

Warsaw, Poland, 08–09.08.2026

We, the democratic forces of Belarus,

- **guided** by Article 3 of the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus, which establishes that the people are the sole source of state power and the bearer of sovereignty;
- **recognizing** that, between 2020 and 2026, preparations for a democratic transition have become systematic, encompassing the development of transition strategies and scenarios, draft constitutions and legislation, sectoral concepts and public policies, mechanisms for cooperation among political, civic, and expert communities, as well as the development of human capital for future public administration;
- **taking into account** that a significant share of the prepared strategies, concepts, draft laws, and other proposals remain drafts and working versions, and therefore require public discussion, professional review, and subsequent democratic approval;
- **recognizing** that the limited time available for decision-making during a period of political transition creates risks of legal and administrative uncertainty, disruption of state institutions, and interruptions in people's access to essential public services;

adopt this resolution to:

1. **affirm** that comprehensive preparation for a democratic transition includes developing a transition strategy, preparing reforms and the necessary legal framework, ensuring institutional readiness, and building the human capacity needed for public administration and local self-government. This is one of the highest priorities for Belarusian democratic institutions, political forces, civil society, and the expert community;
2. **emphasize** that all documents prepared for the transition are draft documents. They cannot replace the free choice of citizens, open political competition, or the decisions of democratically elected institutions;
3. **identify** the following as the guiding principles for preparing reforms: Belarus's independence and sovereignty, human dignity, democracy, the rule of law, government accountability, and respect for Belarusian identity. Specific institutional, economic, and social models should be determined through open public discussion and democratic decision-making;
4. **acknowledge the need** to systematize the documents that constitute the "positive alternative" and support preparations for a democratic transition, assess their level of

readiness, and establish a public registry. The registry should include strategic documents, draft constitutions and legislation, reform concepts and public policy proposals, plans for institutional transformation, and other draft initiatives. These documents should undergo public consultation and, where appropriate, political coordination. Any identified gaps should be filled with the additional proposals necessary to ensure comprehensive preparation for a democratic transition. Access to information should be restricted only where required for security reasons.

WE ESTABLISH THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES FOR PREPARING AND IMPLEMENTING REFORMS:

- reforms must be carried out with unconditional respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms;
- key decisions regarding Belarus's system of government and future development must be made with the representative participation of Belarusians and approved through democratic procedures;
- draft reforms must undergo open public consultation, with opportunities for Belarusians both inside the country and abroad to participate safely;
- during the transition period, legal certainty, the functioning of state institutions, and people's access to essential public services must be ensured;
- preparations for the transition must include creating the organizational and human capacity necessary for the practical implementation of reforms and the uninterrupted functioning of public administration and local self-government;
- accountability for violations must be individual in nature, based on due process and fair judicial proceedings, provide for the restoration of the rights of those harmed, and exclude collective punishment and extrajudicial persecution;
- decisions must be evidence-based and informed by professional expertise, include an assessment of their consequences, protect vulnerable groups, and ensure public accountability of the responsible institutions.

WE CALL ON THE COORDINATION COUNCIL AND ITS FACTIONS, WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THEIR MANDATE, TO ADOPT A SEPARATE DECISION TO:

- organize public consultations and inter-institutional political coordination on the draft documents that constitute the "positive alternative" and the vision for a New Belarus;
- within three months, in cooperation with the Office of Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya and the United Transitional Cabinet, establish a public registry of documents and approve a transparent procedure for the submission, expert review, publication, public consultation, consideration of amendments, political coordination, and revision of draft documents;
- facilitate the development of a coordinated strategy for building human capacity for public administration and local self-government, including identifying required competencies, establishing a reserve of qualified personnel, and developing systems for recruitment, training, and practical preparation;
- facilitate coordination of the transition strategy, reform proposals, and human capacity development among Belarusian democratic institutions, political parties, civil society, and the expert community.

WE CALL ON POLITICAL PARTIES, CIVIL SOCIETY, EXPERT ORGANIZATIONS, AND INDEPENDENT MEDIA TO:

- participate in developing and critically evaluating transition strategies, reform proposals, and public policies; openly present alternative proposals; and contribute to preparing professionals for their practical implementation;
- ensure the participation of people affected by repression, professional communities, public- and private-sector employees, and local communities in discussions of decisions that directly affect their rights and living conditions;
- provide the public with reliable and accessible information about the objectives, options, benefits, risks, and potential costs of reforms, avoiding both fearmongering and unfounded promises.

WE CALL ON THE EUROPEAN UNION AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS TO:

- provide long-term, predictable support to independent Belarusian experts, civil society, media, and educational initiatives working to develop and promote the positive alternative, as well as to programs that strengthen human capacity and democratic institutions involved in preparing for the transition period;
- provide technical, expert, and educational assistance for developing the transition strategy, preparing and evaluating reforms, strengthening institutional and human capacity, and designing rapid-response assistance mechanisms for Belarus in advance of the start of a democratic transition.

Strategic, legal, institutional, and human-capacity preparation for a democratic transition must take place in advance. At the same time, draft proposals and suggested models cannot substitute for the will of the Belarusian people. Fundamental decisions regarding Belarus's future system of government, the substance of reforms, and the country's path of development must be made through open public consultation, free elections, and democratically elected institutions.

Resolution by the Democratic Forces of Belarus
for the New Belarus Conference 2026
(Office of Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya,
United Transitional Cabinet,
Coordination Council,
Platform of Political Parties)