

ON SUPPORTING BELARUSIANS DEFENDING UKRAINE, BELARUSIAN VETERANS, AND THEIR FAMILIES

Warsaw, Poland, 08–09.08.2026

From the first days of Russia's full-scale invasion, hundreds of Belarusian citizens have stood with Ukraine. They have served in the Ukrainian Defense Forces, provided humanitarian and volunteer assistance, and faced repression for supporting Ukraine. Belarusian service members have now been defending Ukraine for a fifth year. Dozens have been killed, hundreds have been wounded or permanently disabled, and some remain in captivity. At least 403 people have been convicted in Belarus for various forms of support for Ukraine, and politically motivated persecution continues.

The Lukashenka regime remains complicit in Russia's aggression, while the territory of Belarus continues to serve as a source of military threat to Ukraine and the wider region. Reaffirming our commitment to a peaceful, lawful and democratic transition in Belarus, and supporting Ukraine's right to self-defense under Article 51 of the UN Charter, the democratic forces of Belarus recognize Belarusians' service in the Ukrainian Defense Forces as a legitimate expression of support for that right.

This resolution primarily focuses on Belarusian citizens who are lawfully serving or have served in the Ukrainian Defense Forces, as well as the family members of those who have been killed, gone missing, taken prisoner, wounded, or acquired a disability as a result of their service. The terms "Belarusian service members" and "veterans" are used throughout this resolution as general designations and do not replace the legal statuses established under Ukrainian law.

We recognize that the legal status, social protection, medical care, rehabilitation, and professional reintegration of Belarusian service members and veterans still require comprehensive, systemic solutions. This resolution sets out the fundamental principles for protecting their rights, recognizing their service, and preserving their professional experience, while defining the position of the democratic forces of Belarus regarding Belarusians who face repression for supporting Ukraine.

I. HUMANITARIAN DIMENSION

1. Legal Status and Mobility

In some cases, Belarusian service members and veterans face obstacles in obtaining or renewing Belarusian identity documents, creating risks of legal uncertainty and complicating the regularization of their legal status. In cooperation with Ukraine and European partners, we will advocate for further improvements to legal mechanisms, including for those without a valid passport, the establishment of clear procedures for obtaining travel documents for medical treatment, education and other legitimate travel, as well as transparent mechanisms for humanitarian protection and family reunification in EU countries.

Lawful service in the Ukrainian Defense Forces must not be used by third countries as grounds for extradition, deportation, or any other form of forced return to Belarus where there is a risk of political persecution, torture or other violations of human rights.

2. Social Guarantees, Healthcare, and Reintegration

Belarusian citizens who are lawfully serving or have served in the Ukrainian Defense Forces should have non-discriminatory access to the benefits, payments, and compensation provided for under the law and the terms of their service. We call for the removal of unjustified legal and administrative barriers that prevent service members, veterans, and their family members from exercising these rights.

We will promote the inclusion of Belarusian veterans in Ukrainian and European programs for medical and psychological rehabilitation, prosthetic care, professional retraining, employment, and legal assistance.

3. Belarusians Repressed for Supporting Ukraine

We draw particular attention to Belarusians who have been subjected to politically motivated persecution for supporting Ukraine, engaging in anti-war activities, sharing information about Russian military activity, making donations, or attempting to join the Ukrainian Defense Forces. We demand the immediate release of all those imprisoned on such grounds, an end to politically motivated persecution, the review of their convictions, and the restoration of their violated rights.

Belarusian citizens held in captivity in connection with their service in the Ukrainian Defense Forces should be included in relevant negotiation, humanitarian, and prisoner exchange mechanisms, and their families should receive accessible information about their fate and the support they need.

II. RECOGNITION OF SERVICE AND THE USE OF VETERANS' EXPERIENCE

4. Recognition and Preservation of Experience

The participation of Belarusians in the defense of Ukraine forms part of the modern history of Belarus and its resistance to Russian aggression. The experience gained by Belarusian service

members and veterans during their service should be preserved, documented, and applied in educational, expert, and professional contexts.

Over the course of the war, Belarusian volunteers have gained practical experience in modern warfare, unit command, tactical medicine, unmanned systems, communications, and other advanced technologies. We call on Ukraine and European partners to include Belarusian veterans in expert, analytical, and training programs. The experience of Belarusian service members and veterans can contribute to Belarus's future national security system, based on the rule of law and democratic civilian oversight. Its use should be guided by professional standards, transparent selection procedures, and appropriate vetting.

5. Legal Recognition of Service and Professional Opportunities

Belarusian citizens who are lawfully serving or have served in the Ukrainian Defense Forces should not face the loss of legal status, social guarantees, or the risk of persecution in their countries of residence as a consequence of their service.

Mechanisms should be established to recognize documented qualifications and professional experience acquired during military service, as well as to ensure access to further education, professional retraining, and employment in accordance with the legislation of the relevant state.

6. Support and Security

We support assistance to the Ukrainian Defense Forces, including the units in which Belarusians serve, through official state channels and lawful volunteer initiatives, in accordance with the legislation of partner countries.

Priority should be given to forms of support that directly reduce risks to the lives and health of service members, including personal protective equipment, tactical medicine, communications, and technological solutions, as well as the development of legal, advisory and rehabilitation infrastructure for Belarusian service members and veterans in Ukraine and EU countries.

III. COMMITMENTS OF THE DEMOCRATIC FORCES OF BELARUS

The democratic forces of Belarus commit to maintaining regular dialogue with the volunteer and veteran community and to taking its views into account when developing decisions that directly affect Belarusian service members, veterans, and their families.

We will systematically advance issues related to their legal status, social guarantees, healthcare, mobility, and reintegration in dialogue with Ukraine, EU institutions, the governments of partner countries, and international organizations. We will also advocate for continued international attention to Belarusians held in captivity or subjected to repression for supporting Ukraine.

We will support the documentation of crimes and persecution committed against Belarusian volunteers, veterans, and their families, and facilitate the submission of relevant information to international justice mechanisms.

We will also work to ensure the representation of Belarusian service members and veterans in expert and international forums where regional security, the future of Belarus, and the development of its democratic security sector are discussed.

Our common foundation remains respect for human rights, the sovereignty and independence of Belarus, the inadmissibility of Belarus's participation in aggression against Ukraine, and the inevitability of accountability for repression and crimes.

*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)*