Governing Body

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Institutional Section **INS**

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Follow-up to the resolution concerning the measures recommended by the Governing Body under article 33 of the ILO Constitution on the subject of Belarus

▶ Introduction

1. At its 356th Session (March–April 2026), the Governing Body noted with growing concern the information provided in document GB.356/INS/12(Rev.2) and that the Government of Belarus had once again provided no new information on the measures taken to implement the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry and subsequent recommendations of the ILO supervisory bodies. The Governing Body called on the Government of Belarus to review its position and to fully collaborate with the Special Envoy to Belarus. The Governing Body also noted with utmost concern the failure of the Government of Belarus to return to Messrs Yarashuk and Fiadynich their confiscated passports and resume payment of their pensions and urged the Government to do so without further delay. The Governing Body once again requested the Government of Belarus with the utmost urgency to accept: (i) an international humanitarian mission to ensure that independent doctors could visit all imprisoned trade unionists to assess their health and offer medical assistance, as necessary; and (ii) an ILO tripartite mission to assess the situation and visit trade unionists that were in prison or detention. The Governing Body urged the Government of Belarus to submit to the Director-General all information on concrete steps taken in that regard following the 356th Session of the Governing Body by 21 September 2026 for transmission to the Governing Body at its 358th Session (November 2026). The Governing Body also drew the attention of the Credentials Committee at the 114th Session of the International Labour Conference (2026) to

the information set out in document GB.356/INS/12(Rev.2). The Governing Body requested the Special Envoy to report back to its 358th Session and further provide all relevant information at the third special sitting of the Committee on the Application of Standards (CAS) on the application by Belarus of the Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87), and the Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98). The Governing Body invited the Organization's constituents – governments, employers and workers – to continue to take steps to ensure an effective follow-up to the Conference resolution concerning the measures recommended by the Governing Body under article 33 of the ILO Constitution on the subject of Belarus, including by holding national high-level tripartite meetings to assess and intensify efforts, and to report back thereon to the Director-General for transmission to the Governing Body. The Governing Body requested the Director-General to prepare an updated report for its 358th Session.

▶ Latest developments

International Labour Organization

2. At the 114th Session (2026) of the International Labour Conference, the CAS held its third special sitting on the application by Belarus of Convention Nos 87 and 98. As per the Governing Body's request, the Special Envoy to Belarus, Mr Lelio Bentes Corrêa, provided to the CAS all relevant information. In its conclusions, the CAS once again noted with deep concern the persistent disregard of the guidance, conclusions and recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry, the supervisory bodies and the Governing Body by the Government of Belarus and its continued refusal to accept and implement them. The CAS took note of the High-Level Roundtable organized on 28 May 2024 as part of the implementation of the Conference resolution, as well as the evidence provided by the UN Special Rapporteurs at the event regarding the violation of trade union rights and the persistent general climate of non-respect for the basic civil liberties necessary to the exercise of freedom of association. The CAS noted that the Government repeated its previous comments and did not inform it of the steps taken to comply with the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry. The Government had not been able to satisfy the CAS that its actions were justified within the scope of Conventions Nos 87 and 98. The CAS expressed its deep concern and regret at the use of criminal sanctions against trade unionists engaged in legitimate trade union activities and the judicial harassment of trade union members, including arrests, prosecution and imprisonment. It deeply deplored the repression against independent trade unions and the imprisonment and forced deportation of trade unionists. It recalled that this case had been discussed repeatedly in the CAS before the appointment of the Commission of Inquiry and deeply deplored the lack of progress towards the observance of Conventions Nos 87 and 98 by the Government. The CAS noted the action plan to implement the article 33 measures and the need to ensure effective coordination of the UN agencies and human rights bodies mentioned in the Conference resolution. It also noted actions taken by the ILO constituents and other international organizations in response to the Conference resolution to review their relations with the Government and take appropriate measures to ensure that the Government could not take advantage of such relations to perpetuate or extend violations of workers' rights in respect of freedom of association and collective bargaining referred to by the Commission of Inquiry. The CAS called on ILO constituents and other international organizations to continue to do so. The CAS deeply deplored the climate of state violence, intimidation and fear in Belarus, which is not conducive to the free exercise of civil liberties, highlighted by the continuing deterioration

of freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining and the erosion of the rule of law exemplified by the complete lack of independence of the judiciary. Regarding the continuing deterioration of freedom of association, the CAS deplored the continued interference of the Government in trade union activities. The CAS further expressed serious doubts about the independence of the Federation of Trade Unions of Belarus (FPB) and expected that, without further delay, the Government would work with the ILO to address those concerns and ensure that all trade unions, including independent trade unions such as the Belarusian Congress of Democratic Trade Unions (BKDP), could operate without any interference of the Government. The CAS was bound once again to repeat its call on the Government to take all possible measures with the greatest urgency to implement the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry and all subsequent observations made by the supervisory bodies of the ILO regarding compliance with Conventions Nos 87 and 98. The CAS urged the Government in the strongest terms to immediately release imprisoned trade unionists, drop any charges, quash any convictions brought against them related to their legitimate trade union activities, return the confiscated passports and resume payment of the pensions of released trade unionists forced into exile. The CAS also repeated its request to the Government to accept with the utmost urgency: an international humanitarian mission to ensure that independent doctors could visit all imprisoned trade unionists to assess their health and offer medical assistance, as necessary; and an ILO tripartite mission to assess the situation and visit trade unionists that were at the time in prison or detention. In line with the Conference resolution, the CAS welcomed the setting up of a working group of the ILO and other UN institutions with a view to ensuring coordinated and joint action towards the implementation of the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry and the supervisory bodies and urged the Government to engage constructively with it. In this regard, the CAS also welcomed the continuous monitoring of the situation by the Governing Body. The CAS urged governments to respect the principle of non-refoulement to ensure that trade unionists forced into exile were not returned to Belarus where they might be subject to persecution, arbitrary arrest and torture, and to assist Belarusian citizens residing abroad who might not have valid travel documents due to the absence of consular services, including facilitating the issuance of tourist visas to Belarusian citizens persecuted for their trade union activities and their relatives, as appropriate. Finally, the Committee decided to include the discussions and conclusions of the special sitting in a separate part of its report.

3. In its 2026 report, the Credentials Committee of the International Labour Conference regretted that, once again, the Government limited its reply to reiterating information that it had provided in previous years, without specifying any concrete measures undertaken to ensure that organizations consulted on the nomination of the Workers' delegate and advisers were genuine organizations of workers, free and independent from the Government. The Credentials Committee noted that, once again, the credentials of the Workers' delegation were the subject of an objection lodged by the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC). The Credentials Committee considered that the nomination of the Workers' delegation of Belarus continued to raise fundamental questions of freedom of association. In the absence of any progress in the situation pertaining to the nomination of the Workers' delegation of Belarus, the Credentials Committee considered it necessary to renew the monitoring measures and unanimously recommended to the International Labour Conference that it request the Government of Belarus, by virtue of articles 32(7) and 34 of the Conference Standing Orders, to submit to the next session of the Conference, at the same time that it submitted the credentials for its delegation, a detailed report, substantiated with relevant documentation: (a) on the procedure followed for the nomination of the Workers' delegate and advisers, in consultation with the most representative workers' organizations, specifying the organizations

consulted and the criteria used; and (b) on the concrete measures undertaken, in line with the recommendations of ILO supervisory bodies, to ensure that organizations consulted on the nomination of the Workers' delegate and advisers were genuine workers' organizations, free and independent from the Government.

United Nations Human Rights Council (UN HRC)

4. At its 61st session, held from 23 February to 2 April 2026, the UN HRC had before it a report of the Group of Independent Experts on the situation of human rights in Belarus (GIEB), which consolidated its findings on the human rights violations and crimes against humanity perpetrated by the Belarusian authorities since 1 May 2020. The GIEB continued to observe the misuse of the national security and extremism-related legislation to silence any dissent and target, among others, members of civil society organizations and trade unionists. The report also described newly verified patterns of violations, such as the forced exile of released political prisoners, coupled with the arbitrary confiscation of their identity documents, as well as transnational repression comprising initiation of criminal proceedings, trials in absentia, inclusion on lists of "extremists" and "terrorists", impediments to mobility caused by Presidential Decree No. 278, [1] and the harassment of family members of dissenters.

5. At the same session, on 30 March 2026, the UN HRC adopted a resolution on the situation of human rights in Belarus. The UN HRC welcomed the 2025 report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus, as well as the above-mentioned report of the GIEB, and strongly condemned the widespread and systematic violations of international human rights law, including violations of the rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association, and to equal protection of the law. The UN HRC strongly urged the Belarusian authorities to fully comply with all their international human rights law obligations. The UN HRC also urged the Belarusian authorities to: immediately and unconditionally release and effectively rehabilitate all those persons arbitrarily or unlawfully detained, arrested, charged or sentenced on politically motivated grounds or for exercising their human rights, ensure the resolution of judicial proceedings upon their release, and end all forms of harassment or pressure that might result in their forced departure, deportation or deprivation of consular services; cease the use of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, prosecution, harassment, intimidation, repression and forced exile of individuals solely for exercising their human rights or for performing their duties, and ensure equal protection of and by the law; ensure timely and adequate medical assistance and humane conditions of detention for all persons deprived of their liberty and guarantee their access to independent legal assistance of their own choosing as well as to legal protection throughout all proceedings; take all measures necessary to ensure the full independence and impartiality of the judiciary, free from executive control and undue political interference, and protection for and the independence of the legal profession, and uphold due process and fair trial guarantees under international human rights law for all persons in order to restore and uphold the rule of law; carry out a comprehensive review of national legislation to ensure that it is consistent with the international human rights obligations of Belarus and that it did not allow for arbitrary limitations or derogations, in contravention of international human rights law; stop the misuse of "counter-terrorism" and "counter-extremism" policies, including by immediately abolishing the lists of extremist content and of persons and organizations

[1] Pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 278 "On the Procedure for Issuing Documents and Performing Actions," signed on 4 September 2023, Belarusian citizens residing abroad can no longer renew or replace their expired or lost passports at diplomatic missions or consular offices; they must return physically to Belarus to do so.

allegedly engaged in extremist activity, and ensure that all aspects of State national security practice, including when aimed at preventing and countering terrorism and violent extremism, comply with international human rights law and do not serve as a basis for prosecuting civil society representatives and individuals engaged in non-violent expression and advocacy of dissident opinion; revoke the decisions on the forced dissolution of civil society entities and trade unions, enter into a genuine, constructive, inclusive and transparent national dialogue with civil society, and create and maintain a safe enabling environment in which civil society could operate free from arbitrary surveillance, hindrance and insecurity; stop and prevent violations and abuses of economic, social and cultural rights, including by ceasing arbitrary dismissal from employment and upholding the free functioning of trade unions; refrain from acts of transnational repression intended to harm, silence and intimidate individuals outside the territory of Belarus, such as Presidential Decree No. 278 ordering the consulates of Belarus to stop renewing or extending passports and limiting other consular services essential for such persons to fully exercise their rights, and cease criminal persecution, including trials in absentia and arbitrary seizure of properties of those living abroad, and crackdowns against their relatives in Belarus.

6. During the 62nd session of the UN HRC, held from 15 June to 8 July 2026, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus presented a report [2] and held an interactive dialogue on the situation of human rights in Belarus. The Special Rapporteur urged the Belarusian authorities to cease forced expulsions, restore access to identity documents, and end harassment of exiled Belarusians and their relatives.

7. The UN Secretary-General submitted to the 63rd session of the UN HCR, held from 7 September to 7 October 2026, his annual Report on Cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights. The report provided information on developments in the situation of Mr Maksim Pazniakou and Mr Aliaksandr Yarashuk, who had both been included in the previous reports on allegations of having been subjected to persecution and harassment, among other things, for their cooperation with the ILO.

8. On 14 September 2026, the GIEB submitted to the 63rd session of the UN HRC a conference room paper, wherein the GIEB described recurring patterns of human rights violations at each stage of the criminal justice process. Among the cases of individuals subjected to violations for their real or perceived opposition to the Government in the context of the criminal justice process, the GIEB referred to the case of a trade union activist who had been sentenced to two years of imprisonment under article 342 of the Criminal Code ("organization and preparation of actions that grossly violate public order, or active participation therein") and had subsequently been added to the official list of "extremists". On 18 September 2026, the UN HRC held an interactive dialogue with the GIEB, during which the experts reiterated the misuse by the Belarusian authorities of the extremism-related legislation and expressed concern about the invalidation of passports of those convicted on political grounds and their expulsion from Belarus following their releases.

Special Rapporteurs

9. In a joint communication of 14 May 2026 and a subsequent public statement of 2 June 2026, a group of the UN human rights experts [3] expressed serious concern regarding the health and

[2] A/HRC/62/52.

[3] Mr Nils Muižnieks, Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus; Mr Matthew Gillett (Chair-Rapporteur), Ms Ganna Yudkivska (Vice-Chair), Mr Ethan Hee-Seok Shin (Vice-Chair on Follow-Up), Ms Miriam Estrada-Castillo and

conditions of detention of Mr Vatslau Areshka (the Belarusian Union of Radio and Electronics Workers (REP) newspaper editor). In a joint communication of 3 June 2026, a group of the UN human rights experts [4] expressed concern about the alleged arbitrary invalidation of the passports of eight former political prisoners, including Mr Maksim Senik (the Secretary-Treasurer of the Belarusian Independent Trade Union (BNP) at the "Grodno Azot" company), who had been forcibly expelled from Belarus to Lithuania and Ukraine immediately following their release.

10. On 14 September 2026, the UN Secretary-General transmitted to the UN General Assembly a report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus, which examined women's rights and gender equality in the country. The report discussed, among others, restrictions on independent trade unions. [5] In this respect, the Special Rapporteur pointed out that women remained under-represented within the FPB, which, considering the FPB's lack of institutional independence and de facto compulsory membership, restricted women's ability to advance labour rights and gender equality. The Special Rapporteur expressed concern at the disproportionate impact on women, who are overrepresented in lower-paid sectors, of the dissolution of all independent trade unions, including the BKDP. The report noted that, as at May 2026, 15 women trade unionists remained imprisoned, including Ms Volha Brytsikava and Ms Hanna Karneyenka, while the other 15 had been released but not rehabilitated. Moreover, by June 2026, at least 10 women trade unionists had been placed on the "extremist" list and at least two on the "terrorist" list. The report concluded that the liquidation of independent women's organizations and trade unions had further undermined access to independent representation, legal assistance and specialized support for victims of human rights violations and recommended that the Government of Belarus, among other things, immediately release all women arbitrarily detained for peacefully exercising their human rights, including women trade unionists, quash their convictions and provide effective redress measures. The report also recommended to the international community and international organizations to continue supporting independent Belarusian civil society, including women-led and human rights organizations and activists, as well as independent trade unions in exile, through sustainable funding, protection measures, capacity-building and participation in international human rights processes.

11. In a joint statement of 23 September 2026, a group of the UN Special Procedures mandate holders, the UN Treaty Body committees and the Treaty Body members in their individual capacity [6] expressed deep concern regarding transnational repression and its serious

Mr Mumba Malila, Working Group on Arbitrary Detention; Ms Gina Romero, Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Mr Zvezdan Pirtošek, Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons; Mr Ben Saul, Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism; Ms Alice Jill Edwards, Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment; Ms Claudia Flores (Chair), Ms Ivana Krstić (Vice-Chair), Ms Dorothy Estrada Tanck, Ms Haina Lu and Ms Laura Nyirinkindi, Working Group on discrimination against women and girls.

[4] Mr Nils Muižnieks, Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus; Ms Andrea Bolaños Vargas, Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders; Dr Ana Brian Nougrères, Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy; Mr Ben Saul, Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism.

[5] See paragraphs 38–40 of the report (A/81/372).

[6] Special Procedures mandate holders: Mr Ben Saul, Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism; Ms Andrea Bolaños Vargas, Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders; Ms Gina Romero, Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Ms Grażyna Baranowska (Chair-Rapporteur), Ms Ana Lorena Delgadillo Pérez (Vice-Chair), Ms Aua Baldé, Gabriella Citroni, Mr Mohammed Al-Obaidi, Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances; Mr Matthew Gillett (Chair-

implications for human rights, democracy, State sovereignty, security, safety, civic space and the rule of law. The joint statement indicated that transnational repression might target individuals, groups and communities directly or indirectly, and disproportionately affected, among others, civil society organizations, social movements, trade unionists, and individuals and groups cooperating or seeking to cooperate with the United Nations and other international and regional human rights bodies.

Information provided by the Government of Belarus [7]

12. In a communication dated 22 September 2026, the Government indicated that, in light of the decision adopted by the Governing Body at its 356th Session regarding the follow-up to the implementation of the Conference resolution, it was once again forced to draw attention to the fact that exhaustive information and counter-arguments regarding the unfounded and

Rapporteur), Ms Ganna Yudkivska (Vice-Chair for Communications), Mr Ethan Hee-Seok Shin (Vice-Chair for Follow-Up), Ms Miriam Estrada Castillo and Mr Mumba Malila, Working Group on Arbitrary Detention; Mr Leopoldo Maldonado Gutiérrez, Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression; Dr Pau Pérez-Sales, Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment; Mr Albert K. Barume, Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples; Mr Morris Tidball-Binz, Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions; Mr Gehad Madi, Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants; Ms Elena Carolina Díaz Galán, Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights; Ms Zaina Jallad, Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights; Ms Cecilia M. Bailliet, Independent Expert on human rights and international solidarity; Ms Mai Sato, Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran; Mr Nils Muižnieks, Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus; Ms Mariana Katzarova, Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Russian Federation; Ms Elisa Morgera, Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of climate change; Ms Farida Shaheed, Special Rapporteur on the right to education; Ms Muluka-Anne Miti-Drummond, Independent Expert for the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism; Ms Heba Hagrass, Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities; Ms Elizabeth Salmón, Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea; Mr Surya Deva, Special Rapporteur on the right to development; Ms Francesca Albanese, Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967; Ms Shalmali Guttal (Chair-Rapporteur), Mr Davit Hakobyan (Vice-Chair), Ms Geneviève Savigny (Vice-Chair), Mr Carlos Duarte and Ms Uche Ewelukwa Ofodile, Working Group on the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas; Dr Ana Brian Nougrères, Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy; Ms Claudia Flores (Chair), Ms Ivana Krstić (Vice-Chair), Ms Dorothy Estrada-Tanck, Ms Haina Lu, and Ms Laura Nyirinkindi, Working Group on discrimination against women and girls; Ms Katarina Schwarz, Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery and trafficking in persons; Ms Mariângela Batista Galvão Simão, Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health; Ms Astrid Puentes Riaño, Special Rapporteur on the human right to a healthy environment; Ms Paula Gaviria, Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons; Ms Nazila Ghanea, Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief; Mr Graeme Reid, Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity; Ms Margaret Satterthwaite, Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers; Dr Bethanie Margaret Carney Almroth, Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes; Mr Robert McCorquodale (Chairperson), Ms Fernanda Hopenhaym (Vice-Chairperson), Ms Lyra Jakulevičienė, Mr Damilola Olawuyi and Ms Pichamon Yeophantong, Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises; Mr Richard Bennett, Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan; Ms Sofía Monsalve Suárez, Special Rapporteur on the right to food; Ms Michelle Small (Chair-Rapporteur), Mr Ravindran Daniel, Ms Jovana Jezdimirovic Ranito, Ms Joana de Deus Pereira, Mr Andrés Macías Tolosa, Working Group on the use of mercenaries. Treaty Body committees: Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD); Committee on Enforced Disappearances (CED); Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (CMW); Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). Treaty Body members in their individual capacity: Mr Changrok Soh, Ms Hélène Tigroudja, Mr Koji Teraya, Ms Yvonne Donders, Mr Lawrence Helfer, Mr Konstantin Korkelia, Ms Dalia Leinarte, Mr Bacre Ndiaye, Mr Hernan Quesada and Mr Ivan Simonovic, Human Rights Committee (CCPR); Mr Ludovic Hennebel, Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR); Ms Sophie Kiladze, Mr Philip Jaffee, Ms Thuwayba Al Barwani and Ms Aissatou Sidikou-Moulaye, Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC); Ms Nahla Haidar and Ms Erika Schläppi, Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW); Ms María Luisa Romero, Ms Marie Brasholt, Ms Elina Šteinerte and Mr Martin Zinkler, Subcommittee on the Prevention of Torture (SPT).

[7] See the full communication in Appendix I.

politically motivated accusations of non-compliance with the ILO Conventions on freedom of association, non-implementation of the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry and ILO bodies, as well as persecution of trade union activists for a peaceful exercise of their legitimate activities had already been repeatedly presented. The Government reiterated that the anti-Belarusian campaign launched within the ILO, the adoption of the Conference resolution, as well as the subsequent decisions of the Governing Body and the ILO supervisory bodies were baseless and illegal. According to the Government, the ILO bodies continued to develop their understanding of the situation based on unsubstantiated statements and information provided by politically engaged individuals and structures acting in the interests of unfriendly forces with a view to discrediting Belarus and escalating pressure thereon. Considering that the Governing Body's decision once again did not take into account the real situation in the country, the Government was forced to reiterate its previous submission. In particular, the Government once again pointed out that the citizens who had been prosecuted and were serving, or had served, their sentences and who appeared on the lists submitted by the Government's opponents had committed specific criminal offences that had no connection with genuine trade union work; in most cases, those were crimes of an extremist and terrorist nature. The Government stressed that some of the convicted citizens had been members of the foreign-funded extremist formation "Rabochy Rukh" whose activities were aimed at destabilizing the situation in the country and causing damage to its economy. The Government reiterated that the systemic attempts by the country's opponents to present those persons as victims of an anti-union campaign or political repression had been driven by their aspiration to use ILO mechanisms to exert undue pressure on Belarus. All allegations that Belarusian trade unions and citizens were persecuted for engaging in trade union activities and a lawful and peaceful exercise of civil rights and freedoms were mere tools of information warfare used by opponents to discredit Belarus, strengthen the sanctions against it, weaken its economy and social sphere, and destabilize the Belarusian society in order to change the country's foreign policy priorities. The Government reiterated that the calls for the immediate annulment of court decisions, the release of citizens allegedly convicted for carrying out legitimate trade union activities, the dropping of all charges against them, and the restoration of their rights with the provision of compensation were unfounded and bordered on interference in the internal affairs of Belarus as a sovereign State. The Government stated that it was objectively unable to comply with such recommendations of the ILO supervisory bodies since there were no individuals who had been persecuted and convicted for a lawful and peaceful exercise of trade union or other civil rights and freedoms.

13. The Government also reaffirmed the legitimacy, independence, and representativeness of the Federation of Trade Unions of Belarus (FPB). The inclusion of representatives of the FPB as the most representative workers' organization in the country in the tripartite delegations of Belarus to the International Labour Conference fully complied with the ILO Constitution. The Government stressed that the unfounded statements by its opponents regarding the alleged control over the FPB by the authorities, calls to restrict the FPB's involvement in the work of the International Labour Conference, as well as the practice of blocking the participation of the FPB representatives in the meetings of the Workers' group contradicted the ILO principles and amounted to blatant attacks on the legitimate right of Belarusian workers to freedom of association. The Government also reiterated its assertions that: (i) a destructive anti-Belarusian cell was operating under the guise of the Belarusian Congress of Democratic Trade Unions (BKDP); (ii) there were no legal grounds for the Office, ILO constituents and bodies, Workers' and Employers' groups, and international organizations and structures to interact with BKDP representatives; and (iii) the Government itself had no obligation to provide its comments on the information received from illegitimate structures not associated with the country.

According to the Government, the statements by the opponents of Belarus regarding the absence of "genuine" and "independent" trade unions in the country demonstrated their complete lack of understanding of the situation.

14. The Government further reiterated that: (i) the national law and practice did not contradict its obligations under Conventions Nos 87 and 98; (ii) the prohibition of putting forward political demands during strikes was a legitimate international practice; and (iii) the legislation on foreign gratuitous aid did not prohibit trade unions from receiving such aid for useful and socially significant purposes, whereas the prohibition on receiving and using foreign gratuitous aid for political and propaganda activities universally applied to all organizations and was grounded in national security considerations. The Government reasserted that weakening control over funds coming from abroad, relieving trade unions and individuals of responsibility for gross violations of the law during mass events, and legalizing political strikes would create conditions for increasing the destructive impact on the country. The Government also reiterated that the subject of claims against Belarus went far beyond the mandate of the ILO and that the only way out of the persisting deadlock situation would and should be abandoning unlawful pressure on Belarus, revoking the Conference resolution and all subsequent discriminatory decisions, accepting the realities and sovereign interests of the country, recognizing the FPB as a legitimate workers' association, and resuming full cooperation with the Belarusian authorities.

15. The Government also once again asserted that there was no political or practical expediency in cooperating with the ILO Special Envoy to Belarus or accepting the proposed missions to the country, and that it continued to oppose attempts to coordinate actions with UN institutions to put pressure on Belarus.

16. With regard to the Governing Body's request to return to Messrs Yarashuk and Fiadynich their confiscated passports and resume payment of their pensions, the Government indicated that it had already provided exhaustive comments on this matter. Considering that Messrs Yarashuk and Fiadynich had been convicted of crimes of an extremist nature unrelated to trade union activities or the exercise of freedom of association rights and had later been pardoned by a decision of the Head of State based on humanitarian considerations, the Government considered that there were no objective grounds for addressing their situation within the framework of monitoring compliance by Belarus with Conventions Nos 87 and 98.

17. In light of the foregoing, the Government once again expressed its deep regret at the complete disregard by the ILO for the information it had been providing, as well as at the biased and one-sided approach to assessing the situation in the country. The Government once again insisted that the information and arguments it provided be given due consideration in order to restore constructive dialogue and cooperation, and reiterated that it did not consider itself bound by the obligations to implement unfounded and politically motivated decisions and recommendations aimed at promoting the geopolitical interests of a certain group of States, to the detriment of the interests of Belarusian workers and employers. While reiterating its previous assertions with regard to the use of ILO mechanisms to legitimize sanctions violating the rights of Belarusian citizens, as well as its demand for the immediate curtailment of anti-Belarusian initiatives lobbied by Western countries and structures under their control and the cancellation of unjustified and unlawful decisions in relation to Belarus, the Government reaffirmed its commitment to fundamental principles and rights at work and expressed its readiness for constructive interaction with the Office and the ILO bodies, on condition that the realities and sovereign interests of Belarus were taken into account.

Information provided by the Belarusian Congress of Democratic Trade Unions (BKDP) and the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)

18. In communications dated 21 September and 23 September 2026, respectively, the BKDP and the ITUC reiterated that Belarus continued to systematically fail to take measures to implement the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry and the subsequent ILO recommendations. The BKDP stressed that the continued and systemic nature of mass violations of human and labour rights in Belarus had been corroborated by the findings of international human rights monitoring bodies. Since March 2026, repressions against leaders and activists of the labour movement, independent trade unions and the "Rabochy Ruch" movement had continued. The ITUC pointed out that the Government's assertion that the BKDP was no longer operating in Belarus could not obscure the fact that the conditions that had forced its leaders and members into exile had themselves been created by the Belarusian authorities. The ITUC also stressed that the continued use of criminal sanctions against trade unionists for expressing political, social or economic views contrary to the official stance of the Government was incompatible with the fundamental guarantees enshrined in Convention No. 87. The ITUC expressed its concern about the continued erosion of the rule of law and judicial independence in Belarus, which prevented trade unionists from obtaining effective remedies against violations of their rights.

19. The BKDP noted that, in 2026, the Belarusian authorities continued to release political prisoners in the context of negotiations and exchanges with the United States of America and other governments. In March 2026, 250 political prisoners were released following negotiations with the US authorities, a development that was accompanied by a significant US sanctions relief. On 28 April 2026, a prisoner exchange involving Belarus and Poland resulted in the release of five individuals from detention in Belarus and the Russian Federation in exchange for five Belarusian, Russian and other nationals. Most recently, on 16 September 2026, 25 prisoners were released following negotiations with the US authorities, a development that was once again accompanied by the lifting of US sanctions against two Belarusian State-owned companies. The BKDP pointed out that none of the independent trade union leaders and activists had been released, despite the repeated and specific calls by the ILO supervisory bodies for their release.

20. The BKDP further stressed that even those trade unionists who had been released were not exonerated and were subject to extensive post-sentence restrictions, including restrictions on freedom of movement and peaceful assembly, exclusion from certain professions and activities, preventive police supervision, and restrictions affecting access to financial services, which could continue for up to ten years following release. Individuals included on the "terrorist" list were additionally subject to restrictions on financial transactions. The BKDP informed that, as of 21 September 2026, more than 70 trade union and labour leaders and activists were subject to criminal persecution, including 19 trade unionists who were imprisoned. The BKDP provided an updated list of 19 trade union and labour leaders and activists who were imprisoned or whose freedom of movement was otherwise restricted, a list of 43 trade union and labour leaders and activists who had been released but not exonerated, and lists of 51 and 10 trade union and labour leaders and activists recognized as "extremists"

and "terrorists", respectively. [8] The BKDP indicated that it did not include all persecuted trade unionists in the lists because of the security risks for them and their families.

21. The BKDP provided information on the following specific cases of persecution:

- Mr Maksim Pazniakou (Vice-Chairperson of the BKDP) remained on the "wanted" list for his alleged cooperation with an extremist group and his interaction with the United Nations and the ILO.
- The persecution of Mr Leonid Soudalenko (activist of the Belarusian Trade Union of Radio-Electronic Industry Workers (REP) and BKDP lawyer) continued in 2026: while the authorities had previously confirmed that a new criminal case concerning the alleged "facilitation of extremist activities" under article 361[4] of the Criminal Code had been opened against him, additional proceedings were initiated on 20 and 24 February and on 9 April 2025. In 2026, Mr Soudalenko filed a request for information about those proceedings with the Investigative Committee. As of 31 August 2026, no response had been provided, leaving him unaware about the scope of the proceedings, the allegations against him, and his current procedural status. Mr Soudalenko's access to domestic legal remedies continued to be restricted: his constitutional complaint was returned without consideration since copies of the relevant first instance and appellate court decisions had not been attached thereto. However, Mr Soudalenko's attempts to obtain those documents had not been successful as they could only be provided in person upon presentation of a passport (considering that Mr Soudalenko risked immediate arrest upon returning to Belarus, this condition could not be fulfilled). Moreover, in 2026, the use of "extremism" legislation against Mr Soudalenko was extended to his social media accounts: on 27 May 2026, the Court of the Maladzyechna District declared his TikTok account as "extremist material". When Mr Soudalenko requested a copy of the court decision to understand and challenge the measure, the Court refused to transmit it. Mr Soudalenko nevertheless attempted to appeal the decision, but on 24 June 2026, the same Court dismissed his appeal. Furthermore, on 5 August 2026, Mr Soudalenko's Instagram account was also recognized as "extremist material" by the Court of the Baranavichy District and the City of Baranavichy.
- The state of health of Mr Vatslau Areshka (the REP union newspaper editor) remains critical: his retinal condition began to deteriorate due to the lack of adequate specialized ophthalmological treatment and was further complicated by the development of cataracts and glaucoma. As a result, Mr Areshka suffers from near-total vision loss and needs assistance with mobility and daily activities. Such assistance was generally discouraged or prohibited by the prison administration, further limiting Mr Areshka's ability to communicate with the outside world and access information. According to relatives and credible sources, Mr Areshka is forced to move around by touch, which has resulted in frequent injuries and falls. At the same time, the prison administration refuses to allow Mr Areshka to undergo a medical examination to qualify for disability, nor is it possible to assess whether any portion of his vision could still be preserved or restored through appropriate medical intervention. His visual impairment has also resulted in disciplinary sanctions while in detention, as he was unable to read written instructions or signs, or correctly provide required documentation. In addition to his ophthalmological problems, Mr Areshka suffers from hypertension, while the permission to receive antihypertensive medication has not always been granted, creating additional cardiovascular risks and increasing the likelihood of serious complications, which is particularly concerning given that Mr Areshka is over

[8] See the lists in Appendices II and III.

71 years old. Furthermore, due to the harsh prison conditions and repeated falls, Mr Areshka developed an intervertebral disc herniation, for which it is impossible to receive the necessary surgical treatment or rehabilitation. Mr Areshka's relatives therefore have reasonable concerns that his health and life are in immediate danger. The BKDP indicated that the case of Mr Areshka had been brought before the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (WGAD), which subsequently communicated the individual complaint concerning his detention to the Government, but to no avail. The ITUC echoed the BKDP's concerns regarding Mr Areshka's state of health, as well as the general situation regarding conditions of detention, including the serious deterioration of the health of imprisoned trade unionists, and demanded immediate action regarding Mr Areshka's case.

- In spring 2026, a serious deterioration in the health condition of Mr Aliaksandr Kapshul (Rabochy Rukh, the Belarusian Independent Trade Union (BNP)) while in detention, for which he had not received adequate medical care, was reported to the BKDP.
- The passport of Mr Maksim Senik, who was released on 13 December 2025 and forcibly deported to Ukraine, was declared invalid on unknown grounds. Mr Senik had not received any letters or other notifications regarding the invalidation of his passport from governmental agencies. The BKDP explained that section 8 of the Regulation on identity documents, approved by Presidential Ordinance No. 294 of 3 June 2008, provides for an exhaustive list of grounds for the invalidation of a passport, none of which lawfully applied to Mr Senik's case. The BKDP recalled that, pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 278 of 4 September 2023, it was not possible to obtain a new Belarusian passport abroad. Therefore, Mr Senik was unable to obtain a valid Belarusian passport without returning to Belarus, where, as a former political prisoner and independent trade union activist, he would have faced a serious risk of renewed persecution.

22. The BKDP also asserted that the State-owned and State-affiliated media dominating the information space in Belarus continued to maintain an atmosphere of stigmatization of independent civil society, including independent trade unions, and fear among the population, accompanied by messages that participation in political and civic activities in the past might have lasting consequences, including for employment and professional life. According to the BKDP, against such background, workers might reasonably perceive association with independent trade unions and other independent human rights organizations as exposing them to State scrutiny and adverse consequences.

23. The ITUC expressed its grave concern regarding violations by Belarus of the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29), and the Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105). The ITUC recalled that Convention No. 105 prohibited the exaction of forced or compulsory labour as a means of political coercion or education or as a punishment for holding or expressing political views or views ideologically opposed to the established political, social or economic system. The ITUC therefore argued that the imposition of forced labour on trade unionists convicted in connection with their legitimate activities raised particularly serious concerns.

24. The ITUC expressed deep regret at the continued failure of the Government to cooperate meaningfully with the ILO and referred, in particular, to the Government's refusal to engage constructively with the ILO Special Envoy to Belarus and its characterization of the process as a "dead-end", despite simultaneously affirming its commitment to dialogue with the ILO. The ITUC welcomed the efforts of the Special Envoy, as well as the support provided to workers and trade unionists affected by repression and exile by ILO Member States, UN bodies and trade union organizations. The ITUC particularly welcomed the application by ILO Member States of the principle of non-refoulement with a view to safeguarding trade unionists at risk

of persecution, arbitrary detention or torture if returned to Belarus. The ITUC underscored that assistance regarding legalization was of crucial importance for the independent trade union members and activists in exile, considering that the lack of valid travel documents might seriously affect their ability to maintain lawful residence, travel, obtain necessary visas, and exercise other basic rights. The ITUC therefore called on all governments to maintain such protection and to facilitate access to appropriate travel documentation for Belarusian trade unionists and their families.

25. In light of the continued and systematic violations, the ITUC urged the Government of Belarus to take immediate and concrete measures to implement the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry as well as subsequent recommendations of the ILO supervisory bodies. In particular, the ITUC called on the Government to: (i) immediately release all trade unionists imprisoned or detained in connection with their legitimate trade union activities, withdraw the charges against them, and annul the respective convictions; (ii) cease all forms of harassment, intimidation, discrimination and judicial persecution of independent trade unionists; (iii) restore the legal status and functioning of independent trade unions and ensure that workers could freely establish, join, administer, and operate organizations of their own choosing, independently of the Belarusian authorities; (iv) repeal or amend legislation used to dismantle independent trade unions or criminalize their legitimate activities, including their ability to express views, organize activities, receive resources and maintain international affiliations; (v) ensure that the FPB and all other workers' organizations were able to exercise their functions independently of the Government; (vi) cease the use of forced labour as a punishment for the peaceful expression of political or other views and ensure full compliance with Convention No. 29; and (vii) cooperate fully and without further delay with the Special Envoy and accept an ILO tripartite mission to assess the situation and visit imprisoned or detained trade unionists as well as an international humanitarian mission, including independent medical experts, to assess the health and treatment of imprisoned trade unionists.

26. The BKDP also provided information on the following cases of interrogations and searches at enterprises during working days, in cooperation with enterprise management, as well as administrative arrests of workers:

- Political loyalty screening and dismissals continued at the Belarusian Nuclear Power Plant. In June 2026, Mr Uladzimir Vashchyla was dismissed following a joint security check by the plant's internal security service and law-enforcement authorities. He was first subjected to seven days of administrative arrest for his social media activity and was then dismissed for alleged absenteeism during the days he had spent in detention. The source also reported that Mr Vashchyla's refusal in 2020 to send subordinates to a pro-Lukashenko rally and his non-participation in compulsory subscriptions to State newspapers had been considered manifestations of "disloyal" behaviour. Moreover, workers at the plant were reportedly sent to the Committee for State Security (KGB) with unlocked smartphones for inspection, and polygraph screening was allegedly used in recruitment, contract renewal and promotion procedures.

- In July 2026, workers at the "Rechytsa" hardware plant were subjected to politically motivated pressure by the KGB for having put their signatures in support of Mr Viktar Babaryka's presidential nomination in 2020. Some workers were reportedly required to write statements of "repentance", acknowledging that they had been mistaken in their assessment of the political situation, and undertaking not to repeat such conduct.

- Workers at the Polotsk and Novopolotsk CHPPs, which had been listed as "strategic enterprises", were reportedly summoned for questioning by the head of security regarding their use of social media and the internet.

27. The BKDP further alleged the following instances of searches of the premises of labour activists and interrogations of their family members:

- The authorities conducted a search of the residence of the family members and visited the place of residence of Ms Alla Tsvirko (Free Trade Union of Metalworkers (SPM) activist and a member of the strike committee at the "Minsk Automobile Plant" (MAZ)).
- The son of an independent trade union activist was summoned twice by the KGB because of his studies at the European Humanities University, which had been recognized as an "extremist organization"; his apartment was searched and his equipment was confiscated.
- In spring 2026, an independent trade union activist was subjected to a fine of 10 base values for "a like" on an Instagram post recognized as "extremist" when crossing the border. She spent three days in a temporary detention facility awaiting trial.

28. The BKDP stated that the inclusion of trade union materials and electronic communications in the lists of "extremist materials" persisted. Such materials were banned in the territory of Belarus, and their distribution, production, storage, or transportation entailed administrative liability under article 19.11 of the Code of Administrative Offences.

29. The BKDP also alleged forced trade union membership and discrimination and indicated that membership in the FPB might, in practice, be treated as a condition for employment at the State-owned "Grodno Azot" company. According to the information at its disposal, a "Grodno Azot" worker who joined an independent trade union in 2020 and had not previously been subjected to prosecution in connection with his trade union membership was recently required to undergo a polygraph examination as a condition for the renewal of his employment contract. The BKDP stated that similar concerns had been reported at the State-owned MAZ, where decisions concerning the renewal of contracts were allegedly subject to control or approval by the KGB and were reportedly based on "blacklists" of workers who were members of independent trade unions, had participated in strikes, or were involved in independent non-governmental organizations, as well as of individuals identified as not having voted for Mr Aliaksandr Lukashenko at the presidential elections. The BKDP referred to the dismissals of workers perceived to be politically disloyal from the State-owned "Minsk Electrotechnical Plant" (METZ). The BKDP also indicated that workers at CJSC "Volna" had been pressured to join the newly established primary trade union organization affiliated with the FPB and had been warned that those who did not become members would not receive financial assistance normally provided in connection with annual leave.

30. The BKDP and the ITUC further alleged deficiencies in the legislative process and risks of further restrictions on freedom of association. The BKDP reported that Law No. 150-Z "On State Registration and Liquidation (Termination of Activities) of Business Entities", adopted on 1 June 2026, introduced, for the first time, a formal security screening mechanism as part of the registration of private institutions and associations (unions). Under articles 25 and 26 of Law No. 150-Z, the registering authority must request information from the State body responsible for preventing and identifying threats to national security (that is the KGB) concerning persons involved in establishing such organizations. Information that the activities of the owner of a private institution or a member of an association (union) pose a threat to national security constitutes a ground for refusing registration. According to the BKDP, the new mechanism conferred on the KGB a role in determining whether such organizations may acquire legal

personality. The ITUC further indicated that, on 18 November 2025, Presidential Decree No. 400 approved a plan for the preparation of draft legislative acts for 2026, which, among other things, envisaged the preparation of a draft Law "On Amending the Law of the Republic of Belarus "On Trade Unions"". The ITUC informed that the Council of Ministers, the National Centre of Legislation and Legal Information and the FPB had been designated as the bodies and organizations responsible for the preparation of the draft law. The ITUC further stated that no public consultations on the draft amendments to the Law "On Trade Unions" had been announced, although the Law "On Regulative Legal Acts" No. 130-Z of 17 July 2018 explicitly recommended holding such consultations. The ITUC called for such consultation with and oversight by the ILO, together with public consultations and consultations with independent trade unions on the draft.

31. The BKDP stated that the situation concerning workers' representation in social dialogue remained fundamentally unchanged: the FPB continued to represent workers in the national tripartite structures and processes, including the General Agreement for 2025–27, the National Council for Labour and Social Affairs (NCLSI), and the tripartite Council for the improvement of legislation in the social and labour sphere (tripartite Council), while independent workers' organizations were excluded from all of these mechanisms. The ITUC reiterated its concern at the subordination of the FPB to the Government and indicated that State-controlled trade union structures could not substitute for independent organizations that workers must be free to establish and administer. The BKDP indicated that, according to publicly available information, the NCLSI held at least two meetings in 2026, notably on 14 April and 9 July. At its meeting of 14 April 2026, the NCLSI considered the implementation of the General Agreement for 2025–27, and, on 9 July 2026, it reviewed the draft Law "On Amending Laws on Labour and Related Relations", providing for amendments to more than 160 articles of the Labour Code and 11 other acts. The BKDP alleged that the publication on the FPB website concerning the meeting of 9 July did not contain any information enabling workers to assess how their interests had been represented at the NCLSI, nor did it provide minutes or a detailed account of the discussions, identify the position of the FPB on the issues under consideration, indicate whether any disagreements had arisen among the constituents, or identify proposals or objections put forward by the FPB on behalf of workers. The BKDP therefore asserted that Belarusian workers had neither the possibility of choosing an independent organization to represent them in such consultations nor sufficient publicly available information to assess how the only organization representing them at the NCLSI performed that function. Moreover, none of the publicly available information concerning the meetings held in 2026 indicated that the NCLSI had addressed the outstanding recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry or the measures subsequently recommended by the Governing Body. The BKDP further informed that the FPB remained the only trade union organization lawfully able to delegate representatives to the tripartite Council. The BKDP stressed the persisting lack of transparency concerning the activities of the tripartite Council: the official webpage of the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection contained no information on the tripartite Council's meetings in 2024–26, nor were any minutes, decisions or records of the positions of the social partners publicly available. According to the BKDP, this absence of information is particularly significant given the tripartite Council's mandate to contribute to the development and improvement of social and labour legislation and in the context of the ongoing reform of labour legislation.

▶ Measures taken by ILO constituents

Measures taken by Member States

32. In a communication dated 16 September 2025, the European Union (EU) and its Member States *(Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden)* expressed their deep regret at the continued violations and the persistent failure of the Belarusian authorities to comply with their obligations under Conventions Nos 87 and 98. The EU stressed that, in the fourth year since the adoption of the Conference resolution, the Government of Belarus had continuously shown disregard for the guidance, conclusions and recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry, the ILO supervisory bodies and the Governing Body, and had refused to accept and implement them. The EU continued to strongly condemn the ongoing gross, systematic, and widespread human and labour rights violations in Belarus. The EU indicated that the criminal prosecution continued, with almost 900 individuals remaining in detention or imprisonment on politically motivated grounds, including at least 18 trade unionists, and that a significant number of them were being held in appalling and inhumane conditions posing a direct threat to their lives. The EU informed that at least 9 political prisoners in Belarus had died in detention since 2020. The EU further stressed that: (i) the dissolution of all independent trade unions, including the BKDP, and the continued inability of their members to legally operate persisted; (ii) restrictions on civil liberties, including on participation in peaceful assemblies and industrial action, continued to result in arrests, detention, and other sanctions; and (iii) the fraudulent elections of 2020 and 2025, coupled with repression and intimidation campaigns against all segments of civil society, including trade unionists, continued to significantly affect the relations between the EU and Belarus. The EU reiterated that, in line with the 2020 and 2024 Conclusions on Belarus of the Council of the European Union, it had ceased all bilateral cooperation with the Belarusian authorities and increased support for the Belarusian people and civil society in their quest for a free, democratic, sovereign, and independent Belarus as part of a peaceful and prosperous Europe. The EU recalled that, since August 2020, it had adopted several rounds of restrictive measures against Belarus, including individual restrictive measures targeting 312 individuals, including Mr Lukashenko, and 62 entities for their role in repressing civil society and/or laying off striking workers. The EU further recalled that its targeted economic sanctions against Belarus consisted of broad restrictions on trade, finance, transport, energy and other sectors, as well as an arms embargo. Considering the unprecedented level of human rights violations, and in the context of the elections of January 2025, the EU adopted additional sanctions against Belarus on 27 March 2025; further restrictive measures were adopted in October and December 2025. Regarding the principle of non-refoulement, the EU and its Member States reiterated that the Common European Asylum System was in full conformity with the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, was based on a full and inclusive application of the Convention, and guaranteed that no individual would be sent back to a place where they risked persecution. The EU and its Member States reaffirmed their strong support for the implementation of the Conference resolution and committed to taking appropriate measures until tangible and verifiable progress had been made towards securing compliance by the Belarusian authorities with the Commission of Inquiry's recommendations.

33. In a communication dated 10 September 2026, the Government of *Australia* strongly condemned the ongoing serious human and labour rights violations in Belarus, including the

continued persecution, detention and repression of independent trade unionists. Australia remained deeply concerned about the Belarusian Government's persistent failure to implement the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry and subsequent recommendations of ILO supervisory bodies, as well as its refusal to accept and engage meaningfully with those processes. Australia noted that, ever since the adoption of the Conference resolution, it had consistently called on the Belarusian authorities to engage fully and constructively with the ILO to implement all outstanding recommendations and to uphold the fundamental rights of workers and trade unionists. Australia had also continued to actively support ILO efforts to address the situation in Belarus, including at the CAS during the International Labour Conference and at the Governing Body's sessions. Australia recalled that, at the 114th Session of the International Labour Conference, it joined Canada, Japan, New Zealand, Switzerland and the United Kingdom in a statement reaffirming support for the Conference conclusions as well as calling on Belarus to engage with the ILO Special Envoy to Belarus, accept international humanitarian and ILO tripartite missions, and cease all forms of repression against workers and their representatives. While noting the release of certain trade union leaders, the statement expressed deep concern that such releases had not been accompanied by the exoneration of the former prisoners or by the recognition of human rights violations committed against them. The statement further reiterated the participating Governments' unwavering support for the ILO supervisory system and urged Belarus to respect the ILO's expertise and integrity. Australia also welcomed the Governing Body's continued consideration of the situation in Belarus at its 355th and 356th Sessions. In this regard, Australia recalled that it had likewise joined statements with Japan, Canada, New Zealand and the United Kingdom to express deep concern regarding the violations of workers' and trade unionists' rights and the failure of Belarus to implement the Commission of Inquiry's recommendations. The statements also called on Belarus to release all imprisoned trade unionists and encouraged all ILO constituents to continue taking measures in line with the Conference resolution. Australia further expressed strong support for the international efforts to hold Belarus accountable for human rights violations, including the repression of workers and independent trade unions. Notably, Australia had imposed targeted sanctions, applied an additional 35 per cent tariff on Belarusian goods, and limited bilateral cooperation with the Belarusian authorities. Australia had also consistently raised the issue of human rights violations in Belarus, including the suppression of independent trade unions and civil society, within the UN system. At the 80th session of the UN General Assembly, Australia expressed deep concern about reported deaths in custody of political prisoners, supported investigations into those deaths, and called for the immediate release of those detained. At the 50th session of the Universal Periodic Review, Australia recommended the release of all political prisoners arbitrarily detained in Belarus for exercising their legitimate rights to freedom of opinion, belief, expression and association, and the repeal of anti-terrorist legislation. At the 62nd session of the UN HRC, during the interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus, Australia reiterated the above-mentioned concerns. In its communication, Australia further acknowledged its international obligations set out in the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol, as well as in the other international human rights instruments to which Australia is a party. Australia indicated that it provided access to protection visas to individuals entitled thereto and that Belarusian trade unionists and human rights defenders in Australia seeking refuge and found to engage Australia's non-refoulement obligations might be granted permanent protection, provided that they fulfilled the relevant visa criteria as well as the health, character and security requirements applicable to all Australian visas. Furthermore, Australia informed that its visa program provided for the possibility of waiving the requirement to hold a valid passport

whenever it might be unreasonable to require the applicant to have a passport in their possession, including in cases involving genuine accessibility issues, for example where a new passport could not be issued by the relevant foreign authority. Australia explained that waivers were granted on a case-by-case basis and assessed on individual merits, regardless of the applicant's nationality. Australia further indicated that, in line with the ILO Director-General's request, and while affirming the importance of employers' and workers' organizations in supporting the effective implementation of ILO standards and addressing issues raised within the ILO supervisory system, the Australian Department of Employment and Workplace Relations had shared ILO information on the Belarusian case with Australia's social partners – the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI) and the Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU). A copy of Australia's communication had also been forwarded to the ACCI and the ACTU, together with an invitation to share any relevant information on measures taken or envisaged by them in respect of Belarus.

34. In a communication dated 15 September 2026, the Government of *Austria* reiterated that, in addition to the federal ministries concerned, the relevant workers' and employers' organizations in Austria had been consulted by the Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection, and that the Conference resolution had been communicated to the Austrian Chamber of Commerce, the Federation of Austrian Industry, the Austrian Trade Union Federation, the Federal Chamber of Labour, the Presidential Conference of the Austrian Chambers of Agriculture, and the Austrian Chamber of Agricultural Workers. As a Member State of the EU, Austria further drew attention to the position of the EU and its Member States.

35. In a communication dated 28 August 2026, the Government of *Brazil* reaffirmed its commitment to the promotion and protection of fundamental rights at work, both domestically and internationally and without distinction as to nationality or migratory status, particularly the right to organize, in accordance with international labour standards and commitments undertaken within the ILO framework. The Brazilian legal framework explicitly incorporated the principle of non-refoulement; in this regard, under article 7 of Law No. 9.474 of 22 July 1997 ("Refugee Law"), any foreign national arriving in Brazilian territory may request recognition of refugee status from any migration authority at the border, and under no circumstances shall such person be deported to the border of a territory where his or her life or freedom is at risk on account of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion. Furthermore, article 37 of the Refugee Law stipulates that the expulsion of a refugee from the national territory may not result in his or her return to a country where his or her life, freedom, or physical integrity would be at risk, except in circumstances expressly provided for by law. Moreover, Law No. 13.445 of 24 May 2017 ("Migration Law") likewise enshrines the principle of non-refoulement: under article 62 thereof, repatriation, deportation, or expulsion shall not be carried out where such measures may place an individual's life, personal integrity, or freedom at risk as a result of persecution or serious and widespread human rights violations. Brazil stated that, accordingly, any Belarusian national entering Brazilian territory and requesting recognition of refugee status would have their application examined by the National Committee for Refugees (CONARE), in compliance with the principle of non-refoulement and applicable national laws and international treaties ratified by Brazil. The information concerning the human rights and freedom of association situation in Belarus provided by the ILO might contribute to the Country-of-Origin Information (COI) research used in the processing and assessment of refugee status applications submitted by Belarusian nationals, together with other national and international sources utilized by CONARE.

36. In a communication dated 21 October 2026, the Government of *Canada* reiterated its grave concern regarding the persistent and serious violations of freedom of association and collective bargaining rights committed by the Belarusian authorities against workers and trade union leaders, including threats, harassment, arbitrary arrests, detention and torture, as well as attacks on free and independent trade unions. Canada indicated that it had worked closely with ILO constituents, the Office and the supervisory bodies of the Organization to ensure the implementation by Belarus of the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry. Over the years, it had made numerous individual and joint interventions before the Governing Body and the CAS, urging the Belarusian authorities to cease the use of violence to suppress peaceful protests and strikes, end the detention, imprisonment and torture of workers, and take immediate measures to restore freedom of association and collective bargaining rights in law and in practice. Canada further emphasized that it had consistently called upon the Belarusian authorities to respect the integrity, independence and expertise of the ILO supervisory system, including the CAS's long-standing practice of adopting conclusions by consensus. Canada recalled that it had maintained only limited relations with Belarus even prior to the adoption of the Conference resolution and had further reduced those relations following the 2020 presidential elections, which it considered neither free nor fair, the forced diversion of Ryanair Flight 4978 in 2021, and Belarus's participation in the Russian Federation's invasion of Ukraine. As of September 2026, Canada had imposed sanctions on 231 individuals and 89 entities in response to serious and systematic human rights violations in Belarus and Belarus's support for actions undermining the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine. Canada also continued to apply a 35 per cent tariff on all imports from Belarus and maintained prohibitions on the export of items listed in the Restricted Goods and Technologies List, certain advanced technologies, certain luxury goods, and goods that could be used in the manufacture of weapons. Canada stated that it remained committed to maintaining economic measures against Belarus, including in coordination with partners holding similar positions, such as the United Kingdom and the European Union. Canada welcomed the work of the Special Envoy to Belarus, noting that the Envoy's efforts had provided valuable support to the Office and the Director-General in monitoring developments in the country and in keeping ILO constituents informed through sessions of the Governing Body and special sittings of the CAS. Canada further urged the Office to continue encouraging other international organizations to take appropriate action within their respective mandates and to call upon the Belarusian authorities to comply with their international obligations.

37. In a communication dated 18 August 2026, the Government of *Fiji* expressed its strong support for the protection and restoration of the fundamental rights of workers in Belarus and urged the ILO to continue its engagement with the Government of Belarus to ensure full compliance with its obligations under international labour law. Fiji called on the Government of Belarus to: (a) fully implement the provisions and principles contained in Conventions Nos 87 and 98; (b) restore and guarantee the fundamental rights of workers to freely establish, join, and participate in independent trade unions; (c) protect workers, trade union leaders, and employers' representatives from discrimination, intimidation, harassment or reprisals arising from legitimate trade union activities; and (d) re-establish effective and genuine tripartite social dialogue between the Government and employers' and workers' organizations in accordance with Convention No. 144. Fiji also urged the Government of Belarus to fully comply with all recommendations of the ILO supervisory bodies and the Governing Body, as well as to cooperate fully with the Office. Fiji further highlighted that strong, independent, and representative workers' and employers' organizations were essential for promoting decent work, economic stability, sustainable development and social cohesion, and that respect for freedom of association and collective bargaining was a fundamental prerequisite for

democratic governance, productive labour relations, and inclusive economic growth. Fiji encouraged the Office to continue providing technical assistance, monitoring progress, and engaging with the Government of Belarus and the social partners to facilitate meaningful reforms. Fiji stated that ensuring full compliance by the Government of Belarus with Conventions Nos 87 and 98 and implementation of all recommendations of the ILO supervisory bodies would reinforce respect for workers' rights, strengthen tripartism and contribute to lasting industrial peace and social justice.

38. In a communication dated 16 September 2026, the Government of *Guatemala* reiterated the importance of social dialogue as a means of promoting the protection of the legitimate interests of workers and employers, as well as of ensuring effective respect for freedom of association. Guatemala informed that it had reported to the constituents of the National Tripartite Commission on Labour Relations and Freedom of Association on the subject of Belarus in July 2026.

39. In a communication dated 11 September 2026, the Government of *Honduras* reaffirmed its commitment to Conventions Nos 87 and 98, fundamental principles and rights at work, and the ILO supervisory system. Honduras stated that it did not have substantive relations with Belarus and that the existing links were of a formal diplomatic nature and hence did not give rise to any commitments to technical, economic, labour or other cooperation that the Government of Belarus could invoke to perpetuate or legitimize violations of freedom of association and collective bargaining guarantees. Honduras informed that there were no instruments or cooperation programmes that the Government of Belarus could take advantage of to perpetuate or extend violations of workers' rights in respect of freedom of association, and that any future initiatives would be subject to a corresponding assessment. Honduras also reaffirmed that the principle of non-refoulement was part of its national legal system, notably in that: (i) article 101 of the Constitution recognized the right to asylum and provided that, should asylum be revoked or denied, under no circumstances shall a politically persecuted person or asylum seeker be expelled to the territory of the State that may seek to have them returned; and (ii) article 44 of the Migration and Aliens Act prohibited the return of an asylum seeker or refugee, whether at the land border, port, or airport, or once they had entered the national territory of Honduras. Honduras further recalled that it was a party to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol, as well as the Convention against Torture; accordingly, Belarusian trade unionists, while in Honduran territory and upon presenting themselves at a checkpoint and alleging a well-founded fear of persecution for engaging in legitimate trade union activities, would have their applications processed in accordance with the law, without being refouled to the country where they would be at risk of persecution, arbitrary detention or torture. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and the National Institute for Migration were responsible for providing assistance to Belarusian citizens who did not have valid travel documents due to being unable to access consular services, as well as for potentially issuing visas to persons persecuted for trade union activities and their families. Both institutions had been informed of the content of Honduras' communication to the Governing Body and the relevant conclusions of the CAS and, therefore, should specific cases arise, they would be dealt with in accordance with the legislation in force and Honduras' international obligations. Honduras further informed that the Economic and Social Council (CES – Consejo Económico y Social) is the highest-level national tripartite dialogue body, to which Honduras would submit information on the follow-up to the Conference resolution for consideration and inclusion in the CES's agenda, in order to enable the assessment of the measures relevant to each sector. Honduras indicated that it would forward a copy of its communication to the Governing Body to the most representative employers' and workers' organizations, namely the Honduran Council of Private

Enterprise (Consejo Hondureño de la Empresa Privada (COHEP)) and the national trade union confederations – the General Workers Central (Central General de Trabajadores (CGT)), the Unitary Confederation of Workers of Honduras (Confederación Unitaria de Trabajadores de Honduras (CUTH)) and the Confederation of Workers of Honduras (Confederación de Trabajadores de Honduras (CTH)), so that they could adopt the measures they deemed appropriate. Honduras reaffirmed its commitment to monitoring information emanating from the ILO supervisory bodies concerning Belarus.

40. In a communication dated 15 September 2026, the Government of the *Kingdom of the Netherlands* aligned itself with the position of the EU and its Member States on the implementation of the Conference resolution. The Kingdom of the Netherlands further indicated that it continued to maintain limited contacts with the Belarusian authorities, which were being carefully managed and used as opportunities to raise concerns about the ongoing human rights violations in Belarus, including violations of labour rights. The Kingdom of the Netherlands reaffirmed that it continuously reviewed such contacts to ensure that the Belarusian authorities could not take advantage of those relations to perpetuate or extend violations of workers' rights, particularly with regard to freedom of association. While maintaining limited engagement with the Government of Belarus, the Kingdom of the Netherlands remained steadfast in its support for the Belarusian people's call for freedom and democracy and prioritized addressing human rights violations in Belarus and supporting Belarusian civil society, independent media, independent trade unions, and Belarusian democratic forces. The Kingdom of the Netherlands further reaffirmed that it continued to publicly call on the Belarusian authorities, both bilaterally and within the EU framework, to immediately and unconditionally release all political prisoners, including trade unionists. The Kingdom of the Netherlands committed to continuing, together with the EU and other partners, to draw attention to human rights violations in Belarus, including the long-standing and serious violations of the rights to freedom of association and collective bargaining, the undermining of the rule of law, and the appalling detention conditions in prisons, including through the strategic and coordinated use of restrictive measures, thereby contributing to the implementation of the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry. The Kingdom of the Netherlands indicated that it had put the issue of freedom of association in Belarus on the agenda of tripartite meetings with its social partners. The Kingdom of the Netherlands finally indicated that its observations had been formulated in consultation with the most representative organizations of workers and employers.

41. In a communication dated 11 September 2026, the Government of *Norway* recalled that it had imposed sanctions against Belarus and aligned itself with the EU's restrictive measures. These sanctions were justified by the Belarusian regime's role and involvement in the Russian Federation's illegal war against Ukraine in violation of international law and corresponded to the measures previously adopted by the EU. Norway indicated that, on 7 October 2024, it had introduced comprehensive sanctions targeting several sectors of the Belarusian economy, including trade, services and transport, in line with the measures adopted by the EU on 29 June 2024. Norway had furthermore aligned itself with additional EU measures, including the listing of persons and entities connected to the Belarusian regime. Norway informed that the Norwegian ILO Committee was planning to hold an in-person meeting in the city of Oslo with trade union representatives from Belarus in autumn 2026 and undertook to provide follow-up information in that respect at the next reporting opportunity.

42. In a communication dated 15 September 2026, the Government of *Poland* aligned itself with the position of the EU and its Member States on the implementation of the Conference resolution. Poland remained deeply concerned about the continued violations of human rights

and fundamental freedoms in Belarus, including serious and persistent violations of workers' rights and trade union guarantees. Poland indicated that it consistently raised the issue of human rights in Belarus, including workers' rights, in its bilateral contacts and in multilateral forums, including within the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), the Council of Europe, and the European Parliament. Poland continuously called on the Belarusian authorities to ensure respect for workers' rights and to comply with Belarus' obligations under international law, including relevant ILO Conventions. Within the UN human rights forums, Poland regularly addressed the matter of violations of labour and trade union rights in Belarus. In particular, during the interactive dialogue with the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus at the 80th session of the Third Committee of the UN General Assembly, Poland referred to the Special Rapporteur's findings concerning violations in the areas of labour and employment; condemned politically motivated dismissals of individuals involved in the 2020 protests or critical of Belarus' support for the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine; expressed concern regarding the arbitrary detention of trade union leaders and members, as well as the increasing control by the Belarusian authorities over professional groups in both the public and private sectors; highlighted instances in which holders of the Pole's Card, a document confirming a person's ties to the Polish nation, had reportedly been compelled to renounce the document under threat of dismissal; and drew attention to reports indicating that background checks for public sector positions included scrutiny of possession of the Pole's Card and that family ties to Pole's Card holders could affect eligibility for certain public offices, including positions in the diplomatic service. At the UN HRC, Poland addressed the broader crackdown on civil society and restrictions on freedom of association during the interactive dialogues with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus at the Council's 56th and 59th sessions and further raised concerns regarding the persecution of lawyers and other professionals speaking out against human rights violations during the interactive dialogue with the GIEB at the Council's 60th session. Furthermore, Poland remained actively engaged in supporting international efforts aimed at raising awareness of the situation of independent trade unions in Belarus. For example, on 30 March 2026, Poland, together with France, Germany and the Kingdom of the Netherlands, organized a side event, "Repression, Resistance, and the Fight for Trade Union Rights in Belarus – the testimony of Mr Aliaksandr Yarashuk on the margins of the ILO Governing Body session", which provided participants with an opportunity to hear directly from Mr Yarashuk following his release from detention and forced deportation; the discussion highlighted the continuing repression of independent trade unions in Belarus and the lack of progress in implementing the recommendations of the ILO supervisory bodies. Poland reaffirmed its strong support for the effective implementation of the Conference resolution and committed to continuing to advocate for respect for freedom of association and collective bargaining rights, as well as the release of all persons detained for exercising their fundamental labour and human rights in Belarus.

43. In a communication dated 4 August 2026, the Government of the *Russian Federation* stressed once again that the Government of Belarus had complied with all recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry, with the exception of the blatantly politicized demands to release the so-called "trade union activists" as well as to repeal a number of legal provisions related to the holding of mass events and foreign financing of trade unions. Such demands were both illegitimate and inappropriate since they fell outside the mandate of the ILO and constituted interference with the internal affairs of the sovereign State of Belarus, as they were based on the poorly concealed political agenda of a small group of States and other foreign actors. Individuals whose release or "restoration of rights" was being demanded by the ILO supervisory mechanisms had not been prosecuted and convicted on the grounds of their trade

union activities but for the commission of serious general criminal violations under the legislation of Belarus. The fact of belonging to the ranks of political activists, whose activities were barely related or not related at all to the protection of workers' rights, did not constitute an exonerating circumstance for the commission of criminal acts. The Russian Federation continued to categorically deplore any anti-Belarusian measures envisaged in the Conference resolution and reiterated its most profound disappointment at the adoption of the resolution, as well as its serious concern about the resolution's negative impact on the mandate of the ILO.

Communications from national employers' and workers' organizations

44. In a communication dated 2 September 2026, the Federal Chamber of Labour of Austria – Bundesarbeitskammer – indicated that, despite certain isolated positive developments such as the releases of Messrs Yarashuk and Fiadynich, about 20 Belarusian trade unionists were still in prison. The Bundesarbeitskammer considered that it was only through increased political and economic pressure that the Government of Belarus could be persuaded to release the imprisoned trade unionists. The Bundesarbeitskammer argued that, in order to ensure compliance with the principle of non-refoulement, the Austrian authorities should abandon the practice of examining situations involving expired Belarusian passports on a case-by-case basis and, similarly to Germany and Spain, develop a generally applicable approach with a view to providing Belarusian nationals in exile with legal certainty.

45. In a communication dated 15 September 2026, the Dutch Trade Union Confederation (FNV) and the Christian Trade Union Confederation (CNV) indicated that their observations had been formulated in close consultation with the representatives of the BKDP organized in exile within the Salidarnast Association (Salidarnast). The FNV/CNV stressed that they aligned themselves with Salidarnast in considering that little had recently changed in Belarus. The FNV/CNV formulated the following two demands: (i) continuation of the mandate of the Special Envoy beyond 2026, including a visit to Belarus as soon as possible; and (ii) organization of a roundtable or a high-level meeting involving the United Nations, focusing on the implementation of the Conference resolution. The FNV/CNV further stated that there had not been sufficient coordination with the Special Envoy and urged the Dutch Government and the EU to explicitly support these demands. The FNV/CNV also aligned themselves with Salidarnast in expressing dissatisfaction with the outcome of the 2026 special sitting of the CAS, in particular, that the CAS conclusions did not include any reference to the mandate of the ILO Special Envoy to Belarus. The FNV/CNV emphasized that such non-inclusion had been largely due to the fact that the employers' group was no longer open to supporting the continuation of the mandate. Considering that the Special Envoy's mandate was due to expire at the end of 2026, the FNV/CNV expressed their hope that he could visit Belarus as soon as possible and advocate for the release of political prisoners in the country. The FNV/CNV further expressed concern that the international community was losing momentum and initiative on the issue of Belarus. The FNV/CNV voiced particular concern about the conditions of detention of sick and vulnerable prisoners. Moreover, the FNV/CNV indicated that the situation of activists who remained in the country continued to deteriorate. The FNV/CNV also pointed out to serious concerns about forced labour: according to Salidarnast, the police were forcing people to report for work, and individuals could be compelled to work or participate in military exercises, which was described as part of a systematic practice, and led Salidarnast to consider Belarus to also be in breach of Conventions Nos 29 and 105.

46. In a communication dated 9 September 2026, the German Trade Union Confederation (Deutscher Gewerkschaftsbund (DGB)) underlined that the German Government was fully

supportive of the Conference resolution and had provided residency status to many Belarusian trade unionists in exile, including Mr Yarashuk. The DGB informed that the Belarusian trade unionists in exile in Germany continued their trade union advocacy work through Salidarnast. In particular, the DGB recalled that, with the support of the DGB in Bremen, Salidarnast had held exchanges with the ILO Special Envoy to Belarus, during which the Belarusian trade unionists in exile shared their experiences and views on the current trade union situation in Belarus. The DGB continued to provide Salidarnast with office space in Bremen and had organized solidarity events in several German cities as well as a campaign demanding the release of the imprisoned trade unionists. The DGB indicated that Salidarnast had also held a two-day summer school event involving German trade unionists from the DGB, IG Bergbau, Chemie, Energie (IG BCE), and IG Metall, which enabled participants to exchange information on the latest developments in Belarus and to discuss strategies for putting further pressure on the Belarusian regime and supporting both their colleagues in Belarus and those seeking refuge abroad. Furthermore, together with Salidarnast, the DGB continued to engage with the German Government on holding a tripartite high-level round table discussion with a view to underlining the trade union demands and exchanging views with the Special Envoy in support of his mission. In this regard, the DGB reaffirmed that the German Government had shown openness to holding such a roundtable, for which the specific timeline had yet to be finalized.

47. In a communication dated 4 September 2026, NSZZ "Solidarność" stressed that it had consistently and exclusively supported the BKDP and its affiliated trade union organizations. NSZZ "Solidarność" indicated that, while fully sharing the conclusions of the ILO Credentials Committee regarding the lack of independence of the FPB structure, it strictly refrained from maintaining any contact whatsoever with the FPB, thereby refusing to legitimize organizations controlled by the authorities. In accordance with the principle of non-refoulement, it provided legal, administrative and humanitarian assistance to persecuted leaders, activists, and members of independent trade unions, particularly to former political prisoners who, following a purported "pardon" or the completion of their sentences, had been deprived of identity documents and means of subsistence and had been forcibly expelled from Belarus. NSZZ "Solidarność" assisted those individuals in obtaining international protection in Poland, regularizing their residence status, and integrating into Polish society. In addition, based on information received from Belarusian workers, NSZZ "Solidarność" cooperated with the relevant authorities in monitoring the effectiveness of EU sanctions and closing loopholes used by the Belarusian regime to circumvent them. NSZZ "Solidarność" also expressed concern regarding the growing cooperation between the Belarusian regime and the junta in Myanmar, which it monitored in order to ensure that such cooperation could not be used to further suppress labour rights. NSZZ "Solidarność" reaffirmed its readiness to continue constructive cooperation aimed at restoring genuine tripartite social dialogue and ensuring full respect for labour rights in Belarus.

48. In a communication dated 10 September 2026, the Italian Labour Union (Unione Italiana del Lavoro (UIL)) highlighted two high-level initiatives that it had organized in 2026, in addition to its joint and ongoing engagement on the issue of Belarus with the Italian General Confederation of Labour (Confederazione Generale Italiana del Lavoro (CGIL)) and the Italian Confederation of Workers' Unions (Confederazione Italiana Sindacati Lavoratori (CISL)). First, the UIL invited Mr Yarashuk and Mr Maksim Pazniakou to its 19th National Congress, where Mr Yarashuk actively participated in an international panel, "The Crisis in International Law and the Return of the Law of the Strongest", attended by more than 3,000 UIL delegates, workers, and guests. Second, on 5 March 2026, the UIL organized a panel, "Navigating History: European Politics Amidst Geopolitics, Interdependence and the Decline of Multilateralism", on the

occasion of its 76th anniversary, at which Mr Pazniakou discussed violations of trade union and human rights in Belarus.

▶ Follow-up to the action plan to implement the Conference resolution and the conclusions of the Committee on the Application of Standards

49. In 2026, the Special Envoy to Belarus, Mr Lelio Bentes Corrêa, continued to oversee the activities relevant to ensuring the prompt and effective implementation by the Government of Belarus of the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry. To that end, the Special Envoy has engaged with the following stakeholders:

- the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC);
- the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (WGAD);
- the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus;
- the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR);
- the EU Delegation to the UN and other international organizations in Geneva.

50. During the 114th Session of the International Labour Conference, the Special Envoy also provided additional information on his mandate to the group of Latin American and Caribbean Countries (GRULAC), the Africa group, and the EU CAS coordination group.

51. The Special Envoy will present an oral update on his activities to the Governing Body.

52. Building on the work carried out in 2025–26, the mandate of the Special Envoy will be extended through 2027. The Special Envoy will continue, in line with his mandate, to seek engagement with the Government of Belarus and all social partners, including those mentioned in the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry, with a view to: (a) visiting the detained trade unionists; (b) facilitating their release; and (c) exploring avenues for the recognition of the BKDP so that it can re-engage with the tripartite National Council on Labour and Social Issues (NCLSI) and the tripartite Council for the improvement of legislation in the social and labour sphere (tripartite Council).

53. The Office and the Special Envoy will continue to engage with the UN agencies and other relevant international entities with a view to ensuring coordinated and joint action towards the implementation by the Government of Belarus of the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry as well as the subsequent recommendations of the ILO supervisory bodies.

54. The Office will continue to engage with ILO constituents with a view to facilitating the implementation of the mandate of the Special Envoy and solicit information on the measures taken to ensure an effective follow-up to the Conference resolution for transmission to the Governing Body.

▶ Draft decision

55. **The draft decision will be made available to the members of the Governing Body after its consideration by the Officers.**

▶ Appendix I

Communication from the Government of Belarus dated 22 September 2026

Information provided by the Government of Belarus relating to the issues raised in the decision adopted by the Governing Body at its 356th Session concerning the follow-up to the resolution concerning the measures recommended by the Governing Body under article 33 of the ILO Constitution on the subject of Belarus

Taking into account the decision adopted by the Governing Body at its 356th Session concerning the follow-up to the resolution concerning the measures recommended by the Governing Body under article 33 of the ILO Constitution on the subject of Belarus, the Government of Belarus (the Government) is once again forced to draw attention to the fact that **exhaustive information and arguments to counter** the unsubstantiated and politically motivated accusations of non-observance of ILO Conventions on freedom of association, and the failure to implement the recommendations of the 2004 Commission of Inquiry and ILO organs, as well as the persecution of trade union activists for the peaceful performance of their lawful activities **has on several occasions already been** presented in the forum of the ILO during examination of the issues arising from the application of the Freedom of Association and the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87), and the Protection of the Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98), ratified by Belarus.

The Government considers it essential to confirm its position regarding the **absolutely unlawful nature of the anti-Belarus campaign launched within the ILO framework**, the unsubstantiated character of the resolution adopted at the 111th Session of the International Labour Conference in June 2023, on the basis of article 33 of the ILO Constitution, and also the decisions taken subsequently by the Governing Body and the Organization's supervisory authorities.

Unfortunately, **the ILO authorities continue to form their vision of the situation on the basis of unfounded statements and information from politically biased individuals and bodies** acting in the interests of unfriendly forces in order to discredit Belarus and escalate the pressure on the State. As a consequence, the conclusions and recommendations addressed to the Government are founded on unlawful accusations against the Belarusian authorities, which are not confirmed by the facts.

Considering that the decision adopted at the 356th Session of the Governing Body, on the basis of the results of the examination of the "issue of Belarus", does not once again take account of the actual situation in the country, **the Government is forced to repeat its comments regarding the actual state of affairs on the issues in question**.

The events of 2020 had nothing to do with the processes of social dialogue in the labour sphere or the lawful exercise of trade union or other civil rights and freedoms. The protests artificially motivated by destructive forces were not caused by economic or social reasons, were unlawful and were designed to seize power by unconstitutional means.

The citizens included in the lists presented by the Government's opponents, who have been held liable and are serving (have served) their punishment in places of detention, **committed specific criminal offences** and many of them have acknowledged their guilt. Their unlawful acts **had no connection with actual trade union work** to protect the rights of

workers and the peaceful exercise of guaranteed freedoms. They did not put forward demands of an economic or social nature in the course of the unlawful actions.

The Government has, on many occasions, clarified the reasons for holding the persons concerned liable under the law. In most cases, these are **crimes with extremist or terrorist intentions**. A number of citizens have been participants in the extremist group "Rabochy Rukh" (Workers' movement") financed from abroad, whose activities aimed to destabilize the situation in the country and cause economic harm (unlawfully halting the work of strategic enterprises, collecting and transferring externally confidential information on the activities of major industrial concerns, economic sabotage in order to destabilize labour collectives, preparing subversive and extremist activities, and exerting pressure on law-enforcement agencies).

The systemic attempts of Belarus's opponents to position these individuals as victims of an anti-trade union campaign or political repressions have been motivated by the desire to use ILO mechanisms to exert unlawful pressure on Belarus for geopolitical purposes.

Trade union status does not give citizens and organizations **free rein to violate laws and engage in destructive activities** against the interests of society and the State. Generally recognized international standards, including ILO Conventions Nos 87 and 98 do not contain provisions allowing legal transgressions. By holding individuals who have committed crimes liable, **the Belarus authorities have not violated any international obligations**.

In this regard, **no one is being persecuted** in Belarus **for trade union activities**. By contrast, the lawful work of trade unions is only encouraged.

All the essential conditions have been created in the country so that citizens can freely exercise their right to freedom of association and trade unions can be freely established and carry out their lawful activities without external interference and discrimination. Guarantees of trade union rights are enshrined in laws and are implemented in practice. The unlawful restriction of the rights of trade unions and the creation of obstacles in the exercise of their powers are not permitted.

Citizens of Belarus freely and actively exercise their right to form trade unions. The national workers' centre in the form of the Federation of Trade Unions of Belarus (FPB) represents the interests of about 4 million citizens and this figure speaks for itself.

In turn, trade unions, their leaders and activists carry out their activities freely, aimed at protecting the labour, social and economic rights and interests of workers, improving the standard of living and social protection of citizens, including in the course of interaction with the authorities and employers as part of the system of social partnership.

Any statements to the effect that the trade unions and citizens of Belarus are allegedly persecuted for carrying out trade union activities, and lawfully and peacefully exercising civil rights and freedoms are absurd and indefensible.

Such statements are instruments of the war on information pursued by the opponents of Belarus, politically biased individuals and bodies who unconscionably exploit the subject of human rights and international forums to discredit the country, strengthen sanctions, weaken its economy and social sphere, and destabilize the layers of society for the purpose of changing foreign policy priorities and the integration vector.

In view of the above facts, the calls made to the Belarusian authorities immediately to annul court rulings, free citizens allegedly punished for lawful trade union activities, remove from them all accusations, restore their rights and grant them compensation **have no**

objective foundations and **border on interference in the internal affairs of a sovereign State**.

In this regard, the Government of Belarus cannot, for objective reasons, carry out the corresponding demands made by the ILO supervisory authorities, as **there are** simply **no citizens in the country who have been punished for the lawful and peaceful exercise of trade union or other civil rights and freedoms**. The individuals held in detention, who are referred to as the "innocent victims of repression", have been held liable under the law as they have committed unlawful acts.

As regards the claims made against the Government concerning its ignoring the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry and the ILO authorities, and the failure to present any new information as to their implementation, we note that detailed information and exhaustive clarifications have already been provided on more than one occasion previously to the International Labour Office, including during examination of the "issue of Belarus".

National **laws and law-enforcement practice do not contravene the obligations to comply with ILO Conventions Nos 87 and 98** accepted by the country.

Trade unions have the full right to hold mass events to protect the interests of their members. The procedure for organizing and conducting the events does not run counter to the principles of freedom of association and fully complies with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. The rules contained in laws providing for punishment for violations of the procedure, which have serious negative consequences, are intended to prevent unlawful acts that are a danger to society, and a threat to the life and health of citizens. These rules do not represent a constraining factor for the exercise of the right to hold lawful and peaceful gatherings freely.

The amendment of legislation relating to mass events and of the Criminal Code, aimed against the organization, preparation and performance of acts encroaching on the independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of the State, the foundations of the constitutional order and public safety, was an essential step to bring the body of laws into line with the calls which Belarus has encountered since 2020, as a result of the planned attack on the State by unfriendly forces.

In order to support workers' interests and settle labour disputes that have arisen, trade unions are guaranteed the right to organize and hold strikes. The prohibition on promoting political demands during strikes is a justified international practice (enterprises must not become levers used to exert pressure to achieve political aims).

Trade unions have the right to cooperate with trade unions from other countries, and join international and other trade union associations and organizations of their own choosing.

The laws on foreign assistance provided free of charge do not forbid trade unions from receiving such assistance for generically useful and socially important purposes. The assistance registration procedure is simple and is carried out over short periods of time. The prohibition on receiving and using such assistance for political and mass disruptive protests extends to all organizations (not only trade unions), is governed by the interests of national security and cannot justifiably be linked to Articles 5 and 6 of Convention No. 87.

In the context of the pressure exerted on Belarus, the enforcement of the demands relayed through the ILO organs to weaken the monitoring of funds received from abroad, the removal of liability from trade unions and citizens for gross violation of laws in the conduct of

mass events and the legalization of political strikes will create the conditions to strengthen the destructive influence on the situation in the country. These demands do not correspond to national interests, do not serve the purpose of guaranteeing citizens' well-being, are designed to destroy the foundations of the State's stability and constitute interference in the country's internal affairs, contrary to the principles, aims and tasks of the ILO.

In view of the accusations made concerning the Government's ignoring the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry, we note that detailed information on their implementation, confirming the unlawful nature of the anti-Belarus campaign carried out within the ILO framework and the application to Belarus of article 33 of the ILO Constitution, has on more than one occasion been sent to the International Labour Office to be brought to the attention of the bodies authorized to examine this issue.

In cooperation with the social partners and the International Labour Office, the Government has undertaken serious work, as a result of which **10 of the 12 recommendations** (Nos 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11 and 12) **have been implemented. Recommendations 9 and 10 have been implemented insofar as they do not contravene national interests.** In implementing the recommendations, Belarus has for its part clearly followed the agreements reached with the International Labour Office and plans jointly devised. The ILO organs have on more than one occasion noted with interest the measures taken together with the progress made.

In view of the unceasing attempts "to harm" Belarus by discrediting the **FPB** and depriving it of its credentials to represent workers' interests within the ILO framework, we note **the absence of** any **objective grounds to cast doubt on the legitimacy, independence and representative character of the national workers' centre**.

The FPB is the only trade union federation whose activities extend throughout the territory of the country and is the largest public organization uniting an absolute majority of workers from all sectors of the economy in all regions of Belarus.

The FPB comprises 15 member organizations – national sectoral trade unions, the overall membership of which is, as already noted, about 4 million people.

The activities of the member organizations of the FPB are coordinated at the regional level by organizational bodies – six regional associations and the Minsk City Trade Union Association.

The organizational structure of the member organizations of the FPB includes: 83 regional (Minsk city) organizations of sectoral trade unions; five joint sectoral trade union organizations; 493 regional and city organizations; 75 joint trade union organizations; and 23,670 primary trade union organizations.

Thus, the **FPB is the most representative workers' association in the country**, from the point of view of the number of trade union members, whose interests it represents.

As regards the question raised by opponents regarding the "authenticity" of the FPB as a real workers' centre, the **independence of the Federation** from the state authorities, political parties, and other public associations and organizations **is clearly stated in its Charter**.

In this regard, the FPB draws up and approves its Charter independently, defines its structure, elects the governing and audit authorities, organizes its activities and conducts its own staffing policy. The Federation cooperates with other public associations in order to defend the labour, social and economic rights and legal interests of trade union members, through mutual respect for status and the preservation of independence.

The FPB's independence is confirmed by the main principles of its organization and activities, which include: voluntary admission to and withdrawal from the Federation; equal rights and obligations of all member organizations, and their organizational and financial autonomy; the collegiate and transparent nature of the work of the Federation's electoral bodies, and their regular reporting to the member organizations and Congress of the Federation; and the participation of all member organizations and formation of electoral governing and audit authorities of the Federation, through their election by the Congress, the Federation Council of representatives recommended by trade unions and Congress delegates, and of the Council itself.

The governing organs of the FPB are the Federation Congress (highest authority), the Federation Council (governing organ in the period between congresses), and the Presidium of the Federation Council (governing organ in the period between sittings of the Federation Council). The Federation Chairperson, their deputies, the Federation Council, its Presidium and the Federation Audit Commission are elected at the Federation Congress.

In accordance with the Charter, the property (monetary assets) of the FPB is made up of joining fees and members' contributions, receipts from entrepreneurial, study, publishing and other activities, voluntary donations and other receipts not forbidden by the law.

The activities of the FPB **are not controlled** or **financed** by the Government of Belarus.

The inclusion of representatives of the FPB, as the most representative workers' organization in the country, in Belarus tripartite delegations to sessions of the International Labour Conference is carried out in full compliance with the Constitution of the ILO.

The unsubstantiated statements by the Government's opponents concerning the alleged subordination of the FPB to the authorities, **the calls to restrict the Federation's lawful participation in the work of the International Labour Conference** and the **practice of blocking the participation of Federation representatives in meetings of the Workers' group**, contrary to the ILO's principles, are **unconcealed attacks on the lawful right of the workers of Belarus to freedom of association**, which should be condemned and be subject to the toughest possible assessments by the ILO's tripartite constituents.

Belarus is a Member of the ILO, conscientiously pays its member contributions and has the full right to its representative organizations of workers and employers participating without hindrance in the ILO's activities, freely presenting its position, in the spirit of open dialogue, on any issues relating to the situation in the country.

At the same time, the Government emphasizes the **unlawful and unjustified nature of the positioning of bodies which have no relation to Belarus, as representatives of the national trade union movement.**

We again draw the attention of the ILO's organs and tripartite constituents to the fact that **the Belarusian Congress of Democratic Trade Unions (BKDP)**, as well as **the organizations which previously formed a part of it, no longer exist.** A small group of former BKDP leaders and activists, which continues activities abroad to discredit Belarus, cannot objectively be considered to be a workers' association which has the right to represent the interests of the country's workers.

The group of individuals known as the BKDP **do not carry out activities in Belarus** (are based abroad), **do not have** any **relations with the country's trade union movement** and **do not represent the interests of Belarusian workers** (the trade unions which form part of the BKDP have de facto and de jure completed their work, do not have any members or primary

organizations in the country's enterprises and do not carry out any activities to defend the labour and social and economic rights and interests of workers); **the group is funded by means of the resources of organizations and bodies operating in the interests of foreign States**, which are conducting an unfriendly policy towards Belarus, in other words they **do not meet the criteria of representativeness and independence**.

In practical terms, a destructive cell is now operating under the banner of the BKDP, the activities of which are leading to the promotion of an anti-Belarus agenda, with the aid of the ILO's instruments and procedures. In this connection, **the information received from "BKDP representatives" should be viewed with a critical eye, since it in no way reflects the actual situation in Belarus**.

In view of the circumstances described, any **legal grounds for cooperation with the "BKDP representatives"** on the part of the International Labour Office, the ILO's organs and tripartite constituents, the Workers' and Employers' groups, and international organizations and bodies, **are absent**.

At the same time, **the Government of Belarus cannot have any obligations to present comments relating to the communications made by illegitimate bodies which bear no relation to the country**.

The statements made by the opponents of Belarus concerning the absence in the country (in view of the termination of the BKDP's activities) of "genuine" and "independent" trade unions and, as a result, of social dialogue, bear witness to a complete failure to understand the situation.

In Belarus, **a system of social partnership has been set up and is in operation**, within which the state authorities, trade unions and employers cooperate successfully when devising and implementing the State's social and economic policy by means of negotiations, consultations, and the rejection of confrontation and social conflicts. Such approaches allow the interests of the different strata and groups in society to be taken into account to the maximum extent possible in the social and labour sphere, and stable economic and social development of the State to be maintained.

Trade unions and employers actively participate in devising and updating laws, act as equal partners in dialogue with the authorities, as part of consultative bodies-councils dealing with labour and social issues, initiate and take part in collective bargaining on the conclusion, amendment and updating of agreements and collective agreements (at enterprise level). National trade unions and employers' associations are party to the General Agreement for 2025–27, signed with the Government, which regulates social and labour relations at the national level, and serves as a basis for tariff-related, local and collective agreements.

On the basis of the above facts, it may thus be observed that **there were and are no objective grounds for article 33 of the ILO Constitution to be applied to Belarus or the adoption at the 111th Session of the International Labour Conference** (June 2023) **of a resolution** calling for relations with the country to be reviewed.

The **"issue of Belarus"**, discussed several times a year within the forum of the ILO, **is built on a distortion of the facts, false accusations towards the Government and the desire of the country's opponents to use the ILO's instruments and mechanisms to put pressure on Belarus.** Indeed, the subject of claims presented against Belarus significantly exceeds the ILO's mandate, as observed on more than one occasion by the Organization's tripartite constituents, and is unacceptable.

This all points to a situation of stalemate, the way out of which may and must be a rejection of the unlawful pressure placed on Belarus, the annulment in operational terms of the 2023 resolution against Belarus and of all the subsequent discriminatory decisions, acceptance of the country's realities and sovereign interests, the lawful recognition of the FPB as the true workers' association, and a renewal of fully-fledged cooperation with the Government of Belarus.

If the essential measures are not now taken, ILO budgetary resources will continue to be wasted on pointless meetings relating to the "issue of Belarus", based on inaccurate information, reports, documents, conclusions and recommendations of ILO organs and the activities of the Special Envoy, who is simply obliged to repeat the politicized narratives of Belarus's opponents.

In the current situation, the Government of Belarus does not perceive that it is politically or practically expedient to cooperate with the missions which it is proposed to send to the country, or with the appointed ILO Special Envoy, and is against the attempts to coordinate actions to put pressure on the country together with other United Nations system institutions.

For its part, Belarus considers the mandate of the Special Envoy to be **a deliberately biased and unacceptable mechanism, the creation of which was decided in the context of further implementation of anti-Belarus initiatives**. Indeed, the artificially formed negative background which the country faces excludes a priori objective approaches to evaluating the situation and, correspondingly, constructive dialogue.

The Government's position in this area is confirmed by the contacts which have already taken place between the Special Envoy and representatives of the illegitimate BKDP, as well as by the priorities which they have designated for their future work.

The steps taken by the Special Envoy and the understanding which he has shown of the problems involved in the situation demonstrate the paradigm which has formed concerning the "issue of Belarus", where the Government's arguments and information are not taken into account, and the assessments of the situation are based on unfounded statements made by non-constructive and politically biased individuals and organizations which, in the guise of defending labour and trade union rights carry out a political order to discredit the country and escalate the pressure on the State of Belarus.

Taking into account paragraph (c) of the decision adopted by the Governing Body at its 356th Session, in which it called on the Government "*… to return to Messrs Yarashuk and Fiadynich their confiscated passports and resume payment of their pensions and urged the Government to do so without further delay*", we would like to note that **exhaustive comments on the issue in question were already presented by the Government for its information at the 356th Session of the Governing Body.**

Bearing in mind that Messrs **A.I. Yarashuk and G.F Fiadynich** were found guilty of **committing crimes of an extremist nature** and **were pardoned by the Head of State on humanitarian grounds**, in other words their being held liable under the law is in no way related to the exercise of their legal rights as regards trade union activities and freedom of association, **there are no objective grounds at all to examine their situation within the framework of monitoring compliance by Belarus of the provisions of the ratified Conventions Nos 87 and 98**.

To sum up what has been said above, **the Government greatly regrets to note the fact that the International Labour Office and the ILO organs are completely ignoring the**

factual information provided by Belarus, the rules contained in national laws and the illegitimate status of the group operating on behalf of the BKDP, and also the **extremely biased and one-sided approaches taken in evaluating the situation in the country.**

We stress the fact that the **arguments and reasoning put forward by Belarus are worthy of attention** in order to re-establish constructive dialogue and cooperation.

In this regard, the Government does not consider itself bound by the obligations to implement unfounded, politically motivated decisions and recommendations, the aim of which is to guarantee the geopolitical interests of a certain group of States, by exerting pressure on Belarus and causing harm to the interests of Belarusian workers and employers.

We are categorically opposed to interference in the internal affairs of sovereign States, the use of ILO mechanisms to legalize sanction measures which violate the rights of Belarusian citizens, and also the discriminatory recommendations made to international bodies and ILO Member States to review relations with Belarus.

We stress that the pressure placed on ILO Member States and on organizations which are not taking steps to implement unfounded decisions aimed against Belarus and its people is unacceptable.

We demand that the anti-Belarus initiatives, for which countries from the West and the bodies subordinate to them have lobbied, cease immediately. The unfounded and unlawful decisions relating to Belarus must be annulled.

We call on the ILO tripartite constituents and organs not to take steps to devise a resolution on Belarus that creates the dangerous precedent of unlawful pressure on the country, on the basis of false accusations.

We are in this regard convinced that any conclusions and recommendations reached by the ILO organs must be based on the actual state of affairs in the country, should not exceed the ILO's competence and spheres of regulation of its Conventions, and should not deprive the country of its sovereign right to choose political, economic, social and legal systems.

The Government confirms its attachment to fundamental labour principles and rights and expresses its willingness to engage in constructive cooperation with the International Labour Office and ILO organs, on the compulsory condition that the realities and sovereign interests of Belarus are taken into account.

The Government calls on the Governing Body to devote due attention to the comments presented above, which reflect the actual state of affairs as regards the issues raised by the ILO organs, in order to avoid the adoption of routine unfounded and politically motivated decisions in relation to Belarus.

▶ Appendix II

List of trade unionists imprisoned and released but non-exonerated

List of trade unionists imprisoned (imprisonment and restriction of freedom)

1. Vatslau Areshka (Belarusian Union of Radio and Electronics Workers (REP), union newspaper editor);
2. Andrei Khanevich (Belarusian Independent Trade Union (BNP), Chair at Open Joint Stock Company (OJSC) "Grodno Azot");
3. Uladzimir Zhurauka (Rabochy Rukh, BNP, OJSC "Grodno Azot");
4. Andrei Paheryla (Rabochy Rukh, BNP, OJSC "Grodno Azot");
5. Siarhei Shelest (Rabochy Rukh, BNP, OJSC "Grodno Azot");
6. Valiantsin Tseranevich (Rabochy Rukh, BNP, OJSC "Grodno Azot");
7. Aliaksandr Kapshul (Rabochy Rukh, BNP, OJSC "Naftan");
8. Aliaksandr Hashnikau (Rabochy Rukh, BNP, OJSC "Belarusian Steel Works" (BMZ));
9. Ihar Mints (Rabochy Rukh, OJSC "Naftan");
10. Hanna Ablab (Rabochy Rukh, Belarusian Railway);
11. Siarhei Dziuba (Rabochy Rukh, Belarusian Railway);
12. Siarhei Shametska (Rabochy Rukh, Closed Joint Stock Company (CJSC) "ATLANT");
13. Hanna Karneyenka (Free Trade Union of Metalworkers (SPM), OJSC "Minsk Electrotechnical Plant Named After Vi Kozlov" (METZ));
14. Volha Brytsikava (BNP, Chair, OJSC "Naftan");
15. Artsiom Parkhamovich (REP, activist, Republican Unitary Enterprise (RUP) "Beltelekom");
16. Aliaksandr Murauyou (REP);
17. Vital Halitski (SPM, OJSC METZ);
18. Artur Khlus (Free Belarusian Trade Union (SPB), student at "Grodno State Medical University", paramedic of the Grodno ambulance brigade);
19. Ruslan Badamshyn (SPB, member of the "Panaceya" union of healthcare workers, Republican Scientific and Practical Center of Neurology and Neurosurgery).

List of trade unionists released, but non-exonerated

1. Aliaksandr Yarashuk (Belarusian Congress of Democratic Trade Unions (BKDP), Chair);
2. Hennadz Fiadynich (REP, Vice-Chair);
3. Siarhei Antusevich (BKDP, Vice-Chair);
4. Maksim Senik (BNP Secretary-Treasurer at OJSC "Grodno Azot");
5. Aliaksandr Kandratsiuk (SPB, National Science Academy);
6. Aliaksandr Mialeshka (SPB, member of branch union council);

7. Vasil Berasneu (REP, acting Chair);
8. Iryna But-Husaim (BKDP, accountant);
9. Aliaksandr Mishuk (BNP Vice-Chair, Chair at OJSC “Belaruskali”);
10. Yanina Malash (SPM, Vice-Chair);
11. Zinaida Mikhniuk (REP, Vice-Chair);
12. Yauhen Hovar (BNP, OJSC BMZ);
13. Mikhail Hromau (SPM, union Secretary);
14. Leonid Soudalenko (REP, labour lawyer);
15. Miraslau Sabchuk (SPM, OJSC “Minsk Tractor Plant” (MTZ);
16. Aliaksandr Varabei (SPM, OJSC MTZ);
17. Uladzislau Martsinovich (SPB, Belarusian State Medical University, Minsk);
18. Siarhei Sliazhou (BNP, OJSC BMZ);
19. Volha Belaziorava (BNP, OJSC “Grodno Azot”);
20. Vitali Siadliar (BNP, OJSC “Krasnoselskstroymaterialy”);
21. Ihar Povarau (BNP, OJSC BMZ);
22. Tatsiana Yekelchyk (SPB, activist, student at Belarusian State University (BSU));
23. Yahor Kanetski (SPB, activist, student at BSU);
24. Kasia Budzko (SPB, activist, student at BSPU);
25. Viktoryia Hrankouskaya (SPB, activist, student at the Belarusian National Technical University (BNTU));
26. Anastasiya Bulybenka (SPB, activist, student at BNTU);
27. Andrei Shulhat (SPM, OJSC MTZ);
28. Yauhen Batura (SPM, OJSC MTZ);
29. Aliaksei Zabiran (BNP, OJSC “Grodno Azot”);
30. Volha Barushka (SPB activist, Minsk Scientific and Practical Center for Surgery, Transplantology and Haematology);
31. Aleh Kasila (BNP, OJSC “Krasnoselskstroimaterialy”);
32. Uladzimir Berdnikovich (BNP, UCC “Remmontazhstroy”);
33. Aliaksei Aliakseichyk (SPB, Republican Center for Children’s Oncology).
34. Vital Chychmarou (SPM, Chair at OJSC METZ);
35. Maksim Zaitsau (SPB, Healthcare institution “Brest regional narcological dispensary”);
36. Dzmitry Varanovich (SPM, OJSC “BELAZ” – Management Company of Holding “BELAZ-HOLDING”);
37. Palina Sharenda-Panasiuk (REP);
38. Halina Smirnova (REP, Babrujsk, regional union coordinator);

39. Artsiom Zharnak (SPM, Chair at OJSC “Minsk Automobile Plant” – the management company of the holding “BELAVTOMAZ” (MAZ));
40. Dzianis Puchak (SPM, OJSC MTZ);
41. Sviatlana Sakovich (SPM, OJSC MTZ);
42. Aliaksandr Balonkin (BNP, Naftan);
43. Zmitser Shalak (BNP, Naftan).

▶ Appendix III

List of trade unionists recognized as “extremists”

1. Aliaksandr Yarashuk (Belarusian Congress of Democratic Trade Unions (BKDP), Chair);
2. Siarhei Antusevich (BKDP, Vice-Chair);
3. Iryna But-Husaim (BKDP, accountant);
4. Hanna Ablab (Rabochy Rukh, Belarusian Railway);
5. Siarhei Dziuba (Rabochy Rukh, Belarusian Railway);
6. Aliaksandr Hashnikau (Rabochy Rukh, Belarusian Independent Trade Union (BNP), Open Joint Stock Company (OJSC) “Belarusian Steel Works” (BMZ));
7. Aliaksandr Kapshul (Rabochy Rukh, BNP, OJSC “Naftan”);
8. Ihar Mints (Rabochy Rukh, OJSC “Naftan”);
9. Andrei Paheryla (Rabochy Rukh, BNP, OJSC “Grodno Azot”);
10. Siarhei Shelest (Rabochy Rukh, BNP, OJSC “Grodno Azot”);
11. Valiantsin Tseranevich (Rabochy Rukh, BNP, OJSC “Grodno Azot”);
12. Uladzimir Zhurauka (Rabochy Rukh, BNP, OJSC “Grodno Azot”)
13. Siarhei Shametska (Rabochy Rukh, Closed Joint Stock Company (CJSC) “ATLANT”);
14. Aliaksandr Mialeshka (Free Belarusian Trade Union (SPB), member of branch union council);
15. Andrei Khanevich (BNP, Chair at OJSC “Grodno Azot”);
16. Aliaksei Aliakseichyk (SPB, Republican Center for Children’s Oncology).
17. Aliaksandr Kandratsiuk (SPB, National Science Academy);
18. Volha Barushka (SPB activist, Minsk Scientific and Practical Center for Surgery, Transplantology and Haematology);
19. Uladzislau Martsinovich (SPB, Belarusian State Medical University, Minsk);
20. Ihar Povarau (BNP, OJSC BMZ);
21. Aliaksandr Mishuk (BNP Vice-Chair, Chair at OJSC “Belaruskali”);
22. Siarhei Sliazhou (BNP, OJSC BMZ);
23. Hennadz Fiadynich (REP, Vice-Chair);
24. Vatslau Areshka (REP, union newspaper editor);
25. Artsiom Zharnak (Free Trade Union of Metalworkers (SPM), Chair at OJSC “Minsk Automobile Plant” – the management company of the holding “BELAVTOMAZ” (MAZ));
26. Maksim Senik (BNP Secretary-Treasurer at OJSC “Grodno Azot”);
27. Dzianis Puchak (SPM, OJSC “Minsk Tractor Plant” (MTZ));
28. Hanna Karneyenka (SPM, OJSC “Minsk Electrotechnical Plant Named After Vi Kozlov” (METZ));
29. Halina Smirnova (REP, Babrujsk, regional union coordinator);

30. Volha Brytsikava (BNP, Chair, OJSC “Naftan”);
31. Artsiom Parkhamovich (REP, activist, Republican Unitary Enterprise (RUP) “Beltelekom”);
32. Alena Nazarava (REP, OJSC MTZ);
33. Aliaksandr Murauyou (REP);
34. Artur Khlus (SPB, student at “Grodno State Medical University”, paramedic with the Grodno ambulance brigade);
35. Vasil Berasneu (REP, acting Chair);
36. Yanina Malash (SPM, Vice-Chair);
37. Yauhen Hovar (BNP, OJSC BMZ);
38. Mikhail Hromau (SPM, union Secretary);
39. Leonid Soudalenko (REP, labour lawyer);
40. Miraslau Sabchuk (SPM, OJSC MTZ);
41. Aliaksandr Varabei (SPM, OJSC MTZ);
42. Volha Belaziorava (BNP, OJSC “Grodno Azot”);
43. Vitali Siadliar (BNP, OJSC “Krasnoselskstroymaterialy”);
44. Andrei Shulhat (SPM, OJSC MTZ);
45. Yauhen Batura (SPM, OJSC MTZ);
46. Aliaksei Zabiran (BNP, OJSC “Grodno Azot”);
47. Aleh Kasila (BNP, OJSC “Krasnoselskstroimaterialy”);
48. Maksim Zaitsau (SPB, Healthcare institution “Brest regional narcological dispensary”);
49. Palina Sharenda-Panasiuk (REP);
50. Siarhei Zaruba (BNP, OJSC BMZ);
51. Dzmitry Varanovich (SPM, OJSC “BELAZ” – Management Company of Holding “BELAZ-HOLDING”).

List of trade unionists recognized as “terrorists”

1. Aliaksandr Kandratsiuk (SPB, National Science Academy);
2. Aliaksandr Mishuk (BNP Vice-Chair, Chair at OJSC “Belaruskali”);
3. Artsiom Zharnak (SPM, Chair at OJSC “Minsk Automobile Plant” – the management company of the holding “BELAVTOMAZ” (MAZ));
4. Hanna Karneyenka (SPM, OJSC METZ);
5. Volha Brytsikava (BNP, Chair, OJSC “Naftan”);
6. Aliaksandr Murauyou (REP);
7. Artur Khlus (SPB, student at “Grodno State Medical University”, paramedic with the Grodno ambulance brigade);
8. Andrei Shulhat (SPM, OJSC MTZ);
9. Aliaksei Zabiran (BNP, OJSC “Grodno Azot”);
10. Siarhei Dyleuski (REP, OJSC MTZ).