



EDS – European Democrat Students
Rue du Commerce 10
B-1000 Brussels

Statement

On December, 19 2010 there were presidential elections in Belarus. These elections were not recognized by the OSCE, European countries and the USA as the previous presidential elections'2006 due to irregularities registered by observers and contradiction with the international norms.

One of the reasons why such a strict decision on Belarus was made was the use of brute force and the arrests of peaceful demonstrators, who went to the streets to show their protest against election falsifications.

700 Belarusians were brutally beaten, detained and condemned. There were 19 prominent politicians including 5 presidential candidates among them.

Belarusian authorities are trying to blame the leaders of Belarusian opposition for organizing mass disorders.

According to that, the leaders of Belarusian opposition can be sentenced up to 15 years in prison.

At the present time Belarusian human right organizations are following the criminal cases which were brought before and after the protest actions against the results of the presidential elections.

At the moment 19 people are suspected of the mass disorders.

3 persons who are preventively detained are suspected of especially malicious hooliganism (Dashkevich, Lobov, Lazar).

Human rights center "Vesna" informs that people suspected of the article 293 part 1 and part 2 of the criminal case "Mass disorders" are:





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NeklyaeV Vladimir – presidential candidate

Sannikov Andrey – presidential candidate

Kostusev Grigoriy – presidential candidate

Mihalevich Aleksey – presidential candidate

Rymashevskiy Vitaliy – presidential candidate

Statkevich Nikolay – presidential candidate

Uss Dmitriy – presidential candidate

Severinec Pavel – presidential candidate V. Rymashevskiy's authorized representative, co-chairman of "Belarusan Christian Democracy" party

Polozhanko Anastasia – the deputy chairman of "Young Front"

Dmitriev Andrey – the head of V. NeklyaeV's preelectional headquarters, international secretary of United Civil Party

Otroschenkov Aleksandr – the press-secretary of A. Sannikov's preelectional headquarters

Bondarenko Dmitriy – the coordinator of the civil campaign "European Belarus"

Halip Irina – journalist, A. Sannikov's wife





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Radina Natalia – journalist, editor of the Charter97 web-site

Lebedko Anatoliy – the Chairman of United Civil Party

Feduta Aleksandr – political scientist, presidential candidate V. Neklyaeв’s authorized representative

Klaskovskiy Aleksandr – former militia agent

Kobets Vladimir – the head of V. Sannikav’s preelectional headquarters

Vozniak Sergey – presidential candidate V. Neklyaeв’s authorized representative

Article 293 “Mass disorders”

- 1. The organization of mass disorders, accompanied with personal violence, pogroms, arsons, property destruction, armed resistance against the representatives of the authority – can be punished with the sentence **from 5 to 15 years of imprisonment.***
- 2. The participation in mass disorders expressed in the direct acts mentioned in the 1st part – can be punished with the sentence **from 3 to 8 years of imprisonment.***

The international community possesses unchallengeable proofs (video, photo, evidence by dozens of journalists including the foreign ones) that the actions made by the abovementioned citizens do not correspond to the content of the accusation articles and are politically motivated.

It should also be mentioned that while detaining all the presidential candidates – Lukashenko’s opponents – were brutally beaten, some of them like Neklyaeв and Rymashevskiy were conveyed to prison directly from the resuscitation.





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At the present time oppositional leaders kept in KGB prison do not have a proper medical aid. According to the evidence of their attorneys their health is in a critical state.

We estimate such actions of the Belarusian authorities as the violence of rights of freedoms of Belarusian citizens, which are made in order to torture them.

On the assumption of the abovementioned facts,

In the name of European Democrat Students

We strongly criticize the actions of Belarusian security, defense and law enforcement agencies and call to release all the Belarusian citizens who were imprisoned both preventively and after the peaceful demonstration of December, 19 2010 immediately and stop the criminal and administrative persecution and deny all the politically motivated accusations.

Bence Bauer
Chairman
European Democrat Students

