

REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

Public Administration Country Profile

Division for Public Administration and Development Management (DPADM)
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BELARUS

[Click here](#) for detailed map



Source: [The World Factbook](#) - [Belarus](#)

Government type

Republic

Independence

25 August 1991 (from Soviet Union)

Constitution

30 March 1994; revised by national referendum of 24 November 1996 giving the presidency expanded powers and became effective 27 November 1996 ([click here](#))

Legal system

Based on civil law system

Administrative divisions

6 voblastsi and 1 municipality (Horad Minsk)

Source: [The World Factbook](#) - [Belarus](#)

The Republic of Belarus was created in the aftermath of the collapse of the Soviet Union. Its declaration of state sovereignty was adopted by the Parliament in 1990, followed by the passage of the Constitution in March 1994. According to the Constitution, Belarus is a sovereign democratic social state in which the rule of law prevails. The Constitution establishes the separation of powers and the institution of the presidency as both head of state and the head of executive power in the country.

Between 1995 and 1996, the republic experienced a period of political crisis, manifested in the confrontation between the president and Parliament. In November 1996, President Lukashenko initiated a national referendum in support of his policies, as a result of which a new version of the Constitution was adopted. While the president is no longer the head of executive power under the amended Constitution, he nonetheless retains all of his previous powers, as well as acquiring the right to issue decrees which have the force of law.

Belarus has rejected economic liberalization, instead pursuing a policy of market socialism, based on strong government intervention and the domination of public property in the industrial and agricultural sectors. Private ownership of land is permitted to a limited extent, for individuals only.

Source: [Local Government and Public Service Reform Initiative \(LGI\) - Local Government in Belarus \(2001\) \(edited\)](#)

1. General Information

1.1 People	Belarus	Russia ¹	Ukraine	1
Population				a
Total estimated population (,000), 2003	9,896	143,247	48,523	
Female estimated population (,000), 2003	5,258	76,300	25,994	
Male estimated population (,000), 2003	4,638	66,947	22,529	
Sex ratio (males per 100 females), 2003	88	88	87	
Average annual rate of change of pop. (%), 2000-2005	-0.45	-0.57	-0.78	
Youth and Elderly Population				b
Total population under age 15 (%), 2003	16	16	16	
Female population aged 60+ (%), 2003	23	22	25	
Male population aged 60+ (%), 2003	14	13	16	
Human Settlements				c
Urban population (%), 2001	70	73	68	
Rural population (%), 2001	30	27	32	
Urban average annual rate of change in pop. (%), '00-'05	-0.18	-0.64	-0.81	
Rural average annual rate of change in pop/ (%), '00-'05	-0.93	-0.64	-1.21	
Education				d
Total school life expectancy, 2000/2001	12.2	..	11.4 ⁱⁱ	1
Female school life expectancy, 2000/2001	12.6	..	11.6 ⁱⁱ	1
Male school life expectancy, 2000/2001	11.8	..	11.1 ⁱⁱ	1
Female estimated adult (15+) illiteracy rate (%), 1989	0.4	0.6	0.5	2
Male estimated adult (15+) illiteracy rate (%), 1989	0.2	0.3	0.3	2
Employment				e
Unemployment rate (15+) (%), 2001	2.3 ⁱⁱⁱ	13.4 ^{iv}	11.7 ^v	1
Female adult (+15) economic activity rate (%), 1999	53	52 ^{vi}	51	2
Male adult (+15) economic activity rate (%), 1999	66	67 ^{vi}	64	2

Notes: ⁱ Russian Federation; ⁱⁱ 1998/1999; ⁱⁱⁱ Based on registered unemployment from employment office records, Month of December; ^{iv} 1999, Month of October, Age 15-72 years; ^v 2000, Month of October, Age 15-70 years; ^{vi} Age 15-72 years; ^{vii} 2000

1.2 Economy	Belarus	Russia ¹	Ukraine	2
GDP				a
GDP total (millions US\$), 2002	14,304	346,520	41,380	
GDP per capita (US\$), 2002	1,440	2,405	849	
PPP GDP total (millions int. US\$), 2002	53,069	1,141,860	229,673	
PPP GDP per capita(int. US\$), 2002	5,344	7,926	4,714	
Sectors				b
Value added in agriculture (% of GDP), 2003	9.8	5.2	14.1	
Value added in industry (% of GDP), 2003	30.1	34.2	40.3	
Value added in services (% of GDP), 2003	60.1	60.7	45.6	
Miscellaneous				c
GDP implicit price deflator (annual % growth), 2003	28.7	14.2	6.9	
Private consumption (% of GDP), 2003	58.5	51.1	60.2	
Government consumption (% of GDP), 2003	21.4	16.9	15.8	

Notes: ¹ Russian Federation

¹ [United Nations Statistics Division](#):

^a [Statistics Division and Population Division of the UN Secretariat](#); ^b [Statistics Division and Population Division of the UN Secretariat](#); ^c [Population Division of the UN Secretariat](#); ^{d1} [UNESCO](#); ^{d2} [UNESCO](#); ^{e1} [ILO](#); ^{e2} [ILO/OECD](#)

² [World Bank - Data and Statistics](#):

^a [Quick Reference Tables](#); ^b [Data Profile Tables](#); ^c [Country at a Glance](#)

1.3 Public Spending	Belarus	Russia ⁱ	Ukraine	
Public expenditures				c
Education (% of GNP), 1985-1987	5	3.4	5.3	a
Education (% of GNP), 1995-1997	5.9	3.5 ⁱⁱ	5.6	a
Health (% of GDP), 1990	2.5	2.5	3	
Health (% of GDP), 1998	4.6	..	2.9 ^{iv}	
Military (% of GDP), 1990	..	12.3 ⁱⁱⁱ	..	b
Military (% of GDP), 2000	1.3	4	3.6	b
Total debt service (% of GDP), 1990	..	2	..	
Total debt service (% of GDP), 2000	0.8	4.6	11.5	

Notes: ⁱ Russian Federation; ⁱⁱ Data may not be strictly comparable with those for earlier years as a result of methodological changes; ⁱⁱⁱ Data refer to the Soviet Union; ^{iv} 1999

[Click here](#) for further information on "Subnational share of overall public spending and public administration employees"

1.4 Public Sector Employment and Wages						
<i>Data from the latest year available</i>		Belarus 1991-1995	Belarus 1996-2000	Europe & Central Asia average ^d 1996-2000	Central Asia & Caucasus average ^d 1996-2000	Middle income group average ^d 1996-2000
Employment						
Civilian Central Government ^e	(,000)	60.0	7.1			
	(% pop.)	0.58	0.07	0.61	0.90	0.59
Sub-national Government ⁵	(,000)	17.0	58.2			
	(% pop.)	0.17	0.57	0.61	0.90	0.59
Education employees	(,000)	108.4	165.6			
	(% pop.)	1.05	1.64	1.58	1.68	1.20
Health employees	(,000)	285.0	121.8			
	(% pop.)	2.76	1.20	1.15	1.23	0.70
Police	(,000)	..	..	
	(% pop.)	..	..	0.68	..	0.30
Armed forces	(,000)	..	..	
	(% pop.)	..	..	0.87	0.96	0.46
SOE Employees	(,000)	..	..	
	(% pop.)	..	1,406	20.1	37.8	3.6
Total Public Employment	(,000)	..	13.89			
	(% pop.)	..	..	..	..	6.1
Wages						
Total Central gov't wage bill	(% of GDP)	3.9	7.0	6.0	5.3	8.5
Total Central gov't wage bill	(% of exp)	4.1	8.0	13.1	11.8	21.6
Average gov't wage	(,000 LCU)	41	22,513			
Real ave. gov't wage ('97 price)	(,000 LCU)	247,333	3,308			
Average gov't wage to per capita GDP ratio		..	78.1	6.3	12.1	4.2

Source: [World Bank - Public Sector Employment and Wages](#)

^c UNDP - [Human Development Report 2002](#)

^a Data refer to total public expenditure on education, including current and capital expenditures.

^b As a result of a number of limitations in the data, comparisons of military expenditure data over time and across countries should be made with caution. For detailed notes on the data see SIPRI (2001).

^d Averages for regions and sub regions are only generated if data is available for at least 35% of the countries in that region or sub region.

^e Excluding education, health and police – if available (view [Country Sources](#) for further explanations).

2. Legal Structure

According to the Constitution, Belarus is a sovereign democratic social state in which the rule of law prevails. The Constitution establishes the separation of powers and the institution of the presidency as both head of state and the head of executive power in the country.

Between 1995 and 1996, the republic experienced a period of political crisis, manifested in the confrontation between the president and Parliament. In November 1996, President Lukashenko initiated a national referendum in support of his policies, as a result of which a new version of the Constitution was adopted, stipulating a bicameral Parliament, the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus.

2.1 Legislative Branch

Bicameral Parliament or Natsionalnoye Sobranie consists of the Chamber of Representatives or Palata Pretsaviteley and the Council of the Republic or Soviet Respubliki.^f

women in parliament: 10 out of 110 seats: (x%). 19 out of 64 seats (x%).^g

The bicameral National Assembly was created by referendum in 1996 from the existing unicameral 13th Supreme Soviet and is made up of a lower chamber (The Chamber of Representatives), and an upper chamber (The Council of the Republic).

Source: [European Bank for Reconstruction and Development \(EBRD\) - Strategy for Belarus](#)

The 110 members of The Chamber of Representatives are elected by universal adult suffrage to serve 4-year terms. Of the 64 members of the Council of the Republic, 56 members are elected indirectly by 7 pluri-nominal constituencies formed by 6 regions and by Minsk (8 seats per constituency) and 8 members are appointed by the President. All members serve 4-year terms

Source: [Sénats de Monde - The Council of Belarus](#) & [The World Factbook - Belarus](#)

The Parliament in Belarus plays a limited role in the budget approval process. This is due mainly to the fact that the budget is discussed at a high degree of aggregation. Since the budget is not comprehensive, Parliament does not get a complete picture of public expenditure. Moreover, the practice of revising the budget throughout the year (in response to fluctuating resource expectations and cash position) combined with the exercise of Presidential decree power, limits the influence and relevance of the formal budget approval process.

Source: [World Bank - BELARUS: Strengthening Public Resource Management \(2003\)](#)

[Click here](#) for an elaborate description of the legislative process

2.2 Executive Branch

cabinet: Council of Ministers

elections: President elected by popular vote for a five-year term

Fact box:

elections: Last held

October 2000 (next to be held 2004)

election results: Party affiliation data unavailable

^f Source of fact boxes if nothing else stated: [The World Factbook - Belarus](#)

^g [Inter-Parliamentary Union - Women in National Parliaments](#)

Since 1994, state power has been consolidated in the executive branch of Government. This process began with the Presidential election of July 1994 and was reinforced with the 1996 amendments to the Constitution, which de facto extended the current presidential term of office from 5 to 7 years and also granted the President the power to issue decrees with the force of law.

Source: [World Bank - Country Assistance Strategy \(2002\) \(edited\)](#)

As a result of constitutional amendments introduced in the 1996 national referendum, the President of Belarus enjoys sweeping powers including the right to appoint and dismiss most key political and judicial officials and the right to issue decrees with the force of law.

Executive authority rests with the Government (Council of Ministers) which is controlled by the President who appoints the Prime Minister, subject to confirmation by the parliament.

Source: [European Bank for Reconstruction and Development \(EBRD\) - Strategy for Belarus](#)

Fact box:

chief of state: President Aleksandr

LUKASHENKO (since 20 July 1994)

head of government:

Prime Minister Sergei

SIDORSKY (acting;

since 10 July 2003);

Deputy Prime Ministers

Andrei KOBAYAKOV

(since 13 March 2000),

Sergei SIDORSKY

(since 24 September

2001), Vladimir

DRAZHIN (since 24

September 2001),

Roman VNUCHKO

(since 10 July 2003)

While the president is no longer the head of executive power under the amended Constitution, he nonetheless retains all of his previous powers in fact, as well as acquiring the right to issue decrees which have the force of law.

Source: [Local Government and Public Service Reform Initiative \(LGI\) - Local Government in Belarus \(2001\)](#)

The President, again subject to confirmation from national or local representative bodies, also appoints the head of the Central Bank, the head of the Central Election Commission, the Prosecutor General, half the members of the Constitutional Court, and the heads of local councils and regional administrations in Belarus' six constituent oblasts.

Source: [European Bank for Reconstruction and Development \(EBRD\) - Strategy for Belarus](#)

The President also submits a draft annual budget to the legislature. Parliamentary Committees consider each element, and may press for extra funds to be allocated to particular activities. However, in such situations, Parliament has to identify sources for the additional funding. Where Parliament proposes changes, the authority still remains with the President to decide whether to accept or reject Parliament's advice. Once approved by Parliament and the President, the budget becomes law and imposes obligations on each respective

Source: [World Bank - BELARUS: Strengthening Public Resource Management \(2003\)](#)

2.3 Judiciary Branch

Supreme Court (judges are appointed by the president); Constitutional Court (half of the judges appointed by the president and half appointed by the Chamber of Representatives).

The Supreme Court carries out justice and supervision of activity of general courts of the Republic.

The economic courts carry out justice in the field of the economic relations with the purposes of protection of the rights and interests of the corporations and individuals.

The constitutional control is carried out by the Constitutional Court. The legal acts or their separate provisions considered unconstitutional, lose force in the pyramid of order determined by the law.

The supreme body of self-management of the judges of the country is the Congress of the Judges, which is convoked not less often than once every four years.

Source: [World Legal Information Institute - The Belarus Legal System \(2002\)](#)

The constitution provides for an independent judiciary; however the executive has the right to appoint judges at all levels, granted under the constitutional changes introduced by referendum in 1996.

The President appoints six out of twelve members of the Constitutional Court, the head of the Supreme Court and the Supreme Economic Court, and all district and military judges. Since 1997, the Constitutional Court has been without the right to examine presidential decrees or edicts.

Source: [European Bank for Reconstruction and Development \(EBRD\) - Strategy for Belarus \(edited\)](#)

2.4 Local Government

Public administration in Belarus is divided into four types of administrative-territorial unit, including the central government; regions and districts; large and medium cities; and villages, townships and small towns. Many local communities lack independent status, elected bodies or a local budget. Even where local elected bodies exist, their independence and real impact in resolving local issues are usually of a token nature, as is the involvement of local residents themselves.

The administrative apparatus dominates the political landscape and is created by the central government according to a strict hierarchy. The president directly appoints the heads of regional executive committees and approves the appointment of heads of district executive committees. Local executive bodies are not accountable to either the local representative branch or local citizens.

Following the passage of the Constitution approved by national referendum in 1996, two amended editions of the Law on Local Self-government were adopted, most recently on 10 January 2000. The current version of the law is entitled the Law on Local Government and Self-governance (hereafter referred to as the Law on Local Government). This version contains no significant changes compared to the previous versions and is fully in line with the government's policies towards the bureaucratization and centralization of local government. Changes primarily concerned the relations between local representative and executive bodies. Executive committees lost their former status as bodies of self-government, instead becoming a component in the system of the executive power and defined as the "local government." Local government bodies are required by law to act primarily in the interest of the state when resolving local issues. According to the Law on the Cabinet of Ministers, the government has the power to control these local government bodies.

The system of local government bodies consists of regional, district, city, town and village executive committees and city district administrations. The Law on Local Government stipulates centralized procedures for forming executive committees and appointing their chairmen, and assigns them the more powerful role in governing local territories.

The system of local self-government includes local councils and organizations of community self-government (councils and committees formed by neighborhoods, housing blocks, streets and villages, among others), local referenda, meetings and other forms of direct democracy.

Source: [Local Government and Public Service Reform Initiative \(LGI\) - Local Government in Belarus \(2001\)](#)

3. The State and Civil Society

3.1 Ombudsperson

Source: [Institution - Title](#)

3.2 NGOs

According to the latest figures, nearly 3,000 NGOs are registered with the Ministry of Justice and local authorities, and many more operate in the provinces unregistered.

Although NGOs face serious political and bureaucratic obstacles to registration and basic operation, they continue to function and grow. Trade unions remain active – the single opposition challenger to President Lukashenko was the head of the Belarussian Federation of Trade Unions, which claims five million members – but they are heavily centralized and under close political watch. Business associations are few and those that exist are tightly connected to political structures.

Source: [European Bank for Reconstruction and Development \(EBRD\) - Strategy for Belarus \(edited\)](#)

On 29 October 2003, Ambassador Eberhard Heyken, the Head of the OSCE Office in Minsk, expressed his serious concern over the continued governmental pressure on non-governmental organizations in Belarus.

During the past six months, the OSCE Office has witnessed a number of closures of NGOs, particularly regional resource centers. Recently it also observed that prominent human rights organizations had come under increased pressure.

Source: [OSCE - Interview with Ambassador Heyken \(10/2003\)](#)

Although legal arrangements exist, no efficient mechanism is in place for cooperation between the government and society. Some NGOs have managed to establish good relations with local authorities and are recognized as valuable partners.

Source: [World Bank - Country Assistance Strategy \(2002\) \(edited\)](#)

3.3 Civil Society

Freedom of citizens' association is guaranteed by the Constitution, however since 1995 the state has imposed a complex regulatory framework for civil society organizations (CSOs). Activity of non-registered organizations, including initiative groups is prohibited. This situation was further complicated with the introduction of NGO re-registration requirements in 1999 which drastically reduced the number of operating entities. President's Decree #8 "On Certain Regulatory Measures and Procedures on the Receipt and Use of Foreign Aid," which came into force in April 2001, introduced another serious obstacle to civil society organizations. It strictly regulates the receipt of foreign humanitarian assistance and the establishment of networks with international institutions and with counterparts in other countries. Finally, civil society organizations face difficulties in raising money for their activity, as there are no tax incentives for donations by organizations, donors or citizens.

Source: [World Bank - Country Assistance Strategy \(2002\) \(edited\)](#)

With few exceptions, political parties are weak and poorly organized and membership is minuscule. In the recent parliamentary election in October 2000, 81 out of 110 deputies elected to the House of Representatives were "independents"; the party with the best showing, the Communist Party of Belarus, won a total of 6 seats.

Source: [European Bank for Reconstruction and Development \(EBRD\) - Strategy for Belarus \(edited\)](#)

4. Civil Service

4.1 Legal basis

The 1993 Law on Civil Service of the Republic of Belarus that regulated the “basis of service in the state apparatus” was replaced in 2003 with a new Law on Civil Service (14 июня 2003 г. № 204-З).

Source: [Local Government and Public Reform Initiative \(LGI\) - Local Governments in the CEE and CIS \(1994\)](#) & [The Bulletin of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Belarus \(2003\)](#)

4.2 Recruitment

According to the new Law, all citizens of the Republic with the appropriate educational and work experience along with the knowledge of the native language are eligible to work in the civil service. Candidates have to meet the requirements of the Law and be no younger than 18 years old [Art. 24].

Replacement of a vacant post is done by either an open or closed competition. Citizens who meet the requirements are qualified to participate in the open competition. The closed competition is organized for the servants within the state cadre. A citizen is admitted to the civil service cadre on the basis of a labor contract after 3-6 months of probation [Art. 28-30].

Source: [Law on Civil Service \(14 июня 2003 г. № 204-З\)](#)

4.3 Performance Evaluation

In order to improve the performance of state employees, selection and collocation of the civil service cadre qualification exams will take place. An employee is obliged to take the first exam after three years. Consequently the exam is taken every three years and is managed by a commission assigned for the purpose [Art. 36].

Source: [Law on Civil Service \(14 июня 2003 г. № 204-З\)](#)

4.4 Classification and Promotion

Every state post is assigned a certain class grade. Class grades are assigned by the President of the Republic, Vice-President, and heads of local government along with the commission created for these purposes [Art. 11 and 12].

Assignment of a class grade takes is done according to the recent state post of a state servant, his qualification, number of years working, and class grade obtained earlier. The grades are classified in twelve classes with 1 being the highest. The 12th class is the lowest and can be achieved no earlier than 6 months in service. Classes 11 to 10 are obtained no earlier than one year in service; 9-7 no earlier than two years; and 6-4 no earlier than three years. A class grade can be assigned before the stipulated time in the case of special achievement in the state service [Art. 13]

Source: [Law on Civil Service \(14 июня 2003 г. № 204-З\)](#)

4.5 Remuneration

The monthly salary of a state servant consists of a basic rate and qualification increases for class grades, working years, honors and awards, and academic achievements. State employees incur a monthly salary increases in addition to the basic rate for the number of years in the state service:

Years in Service	Increase (%)
0.5 - 3	10
3 - 8	15
8 - 15	20
15 - 20	30
> 20	40

For an academic achievement, 5-10% of the monthly salary rate is paid in addition to the basic rate.

All conditions of remuneration, salary dimensions and premiums are determined by the President of Belarus, representatives of the Executive branch or the other proper administrative organs [Art. 48].

In case of dismissal due to the liquidation of a state organ or excessive amount of employees, a state servant with 5 years of work experience is entitled to receive three salary rates per month; with 5 to 10 years - four salary rates per month; with 10 to 15 years- five salary rates; above 15 years-six salary rates per month [Art. 51].

Source: [Law on Civil Service \(14 июня 2003 г. № 204-3\)](#)

While during the 1998-2000 period wages were not extraordinarily high as a share of GDP, in recent years the government's policy of increasing wages to reach specific dollar targets has raised their level to 9.4 percent of GDP in 2001 (Table 3.2) which makes the Belarus wage bill one of the highest in the CIS. In addition the effect of the wage increase has not been the same at different levels of government. At the Republican level, wages and charges grew from 11.4 percent of total Republican expenditures in 1999 to 17.4 percent in 2001. At the local level wages and charges grew from 30.2 percent of total local expenditures in 1999 to 37.8 percent of all expenditures in 2001. This increase in wages, a decision made at a higher level of government, is causing compression on all other categories of spending at the local government level.

In the social and cultural sphere^h, wages are determined by a wage grid with variations in coefficients depending on agency and seniority. The grid consists of 27 categories, with each category defined as a multiple of the "first-grade wage", ranging from 1 to 7.84. Changes in the first grade are determined by discretion and indexation, which automatically affect other grade wages. Since March 1, 2001, the structure of wages in the "power ministries and state administration" is determined separately. The Government's Program on the Socio Economic Development in Belarus for 2001- 2005 calls for an increase in wages from an average of \$100 per month in mid-2001 to \$250 per month by end 2005. Average monthly wage in 2002 was \$107.

Source: [World Bank - Belarus: Strengthening Public Resource Management \(2003\) \(edited\)](#)

4.6 Training

The Academy of Public Administration of the President of the Republic of Belarus was established in January of 1991 as an institution of higher and advanced education designed to train public administration personnel. The Academy is the primary in-

^h The social and cultural sphere includes budget sector and state administration workers, excluding the "power ministries" (defense, security, police, and associated organizations such as the border guards) and state administration.

service competence improvement centre of Belarus civil service. More than 40,000 specialists have since graduated from the Academy.

The Institute of Public Administration provides quality training in economics, law, and political science for future specialists in the system of the state legislative, executive and judicial bodies as well as other governmental institutions. The Institute trains more than 2000 full-time and extra mural students, specializing in Public Administration and Law, Public Administration and Economy.ⁱ

The Institute of Public Service provides advanced training for executives and specialists from various governmental establishments.^j

The Institute of Top Managerial Personnel was established in 1996 to train top level executives for Ministries, public institutions, local governments, local and regional deputies, regional, local and municipal executive committees, and municipal administration. Annually nearly 4000 top executives get further training.

Source: Academy of Public Adm. of the President of the Republic of Belarus - Institute of Top Managerial Personnel

4.7 Gender

Source: Institution - Title

ⁱ Academy of Public Administration of the President of the Republic of Belarus - Institute of Public Service

^j Academy of Public Administration of the President of the Republic of Belarus - About us

5. Ethics and Civil Service

5.1 Corruption

2003 CPI Score relates to perceptions of the degree of corruption as seen by business people and country analysts and ranges between 10 (highly clean) and 0 (highly corrupt).

Corruption Perceptions Index							
		2003 CPI Score	Surveys Used	Standard Deviation	High-Low Range	Number Inst.	90 percent confidence range
Rank	Country						
1	Highly clean	9.7	8	0.3	9.2 - 10.0	4	9.5 - 9.9
53	Belarus	4.2	5	1.8	2.0 - 5.8	5	2.8 - 5.3
133	Highly corrupt	1.3	8	0.7	0.3 - 2.2	6	0.9 - 1.7

Source: [Transparency International - Corruption Perceptions Index 2003](#)

Surveys Used: Refers to the number of surveys that were used to assess a country's performance. 17 surveys were used and at least 3 surveys were required for a country to be included in the CPI.

Standard Deviation: Indicates differences in the values of the sources. Values below 0.5 indicate agreement, values between 0.5 and c. 0.9 indicate some agreement, while values equal or larger than 1 indicate disagreement.

High-Low Range: Provides the highest and lowest values of the sources.

Number Institutions: Refers to the number of independent institutions that assessed a country's performance. Since some institutions provided more than one survey.

90 percent confidence range: Provides a range of possible values of the CPI score. With 5 percent probability the score is above this range and with another 5 percent it is below.

Low-level corruption is partly a result of the low wages paid to civil servants and the dense bureaucratic structure held over from the Soviet system. State employees account for almost 20 percent of the country's workforce, and their wages are frequently several months in arrears. Some workers in the countryside are paid in kind, particularly workers on collective farms who are paid partly in produce.

The actual degree of high-level corruption is difficult to discern. Several ministers and heads of enterprises have been dismissed from their posts and tried on corruption charges, often for bribery.

In early October 2002, President Lukashenka issued a decree authorizing a state anticorruption program for the years 2002 to 2006. The program envisages the regulation of public servants' activities in order to prevent corruption in government agencies; the introduction of administrative penalties for compromising government agencies and practicing lucrative protectionism; and the development of an efficient system of public control over government administration, among other measures.

Source: [Freedom House – Nations in Transit \(2003\)](#) (edited)

5.2 Ethics

Source: [Institution - Title](#)

6. e-Government

e-Government Readiness Index:

The index refers to the generic capacity or aptitude of the public sector to use ICT for encapsulating in public services and deploying to the public, high quality information (explicit knowledge) and effective communication tools that support human development.

The index is comprised of three sub-indices: Web Measure Index, Telecommunications Infrastructure Index and Human Capital Index.

Web Measure Index:

A scale based on progressively sophisticated web services present. Coverage and sophistication of state-provided e-service and e-product availability correspond to a numerical classification.

Telecommunications Infrastructure Index:

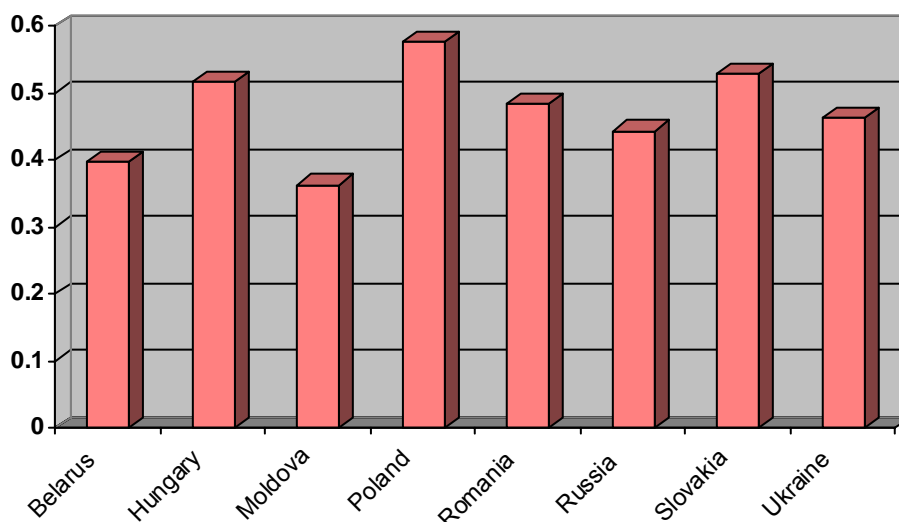
A composite, weighted average index of six primary indices, based on basic infrastructural indicators that define a country's ICT infrastructure capacity.

Primary indicators are: PC's, Internet users, online population and Mobile phones. Secondary indicators are TVs and telephone lines.

Human Capital Index:

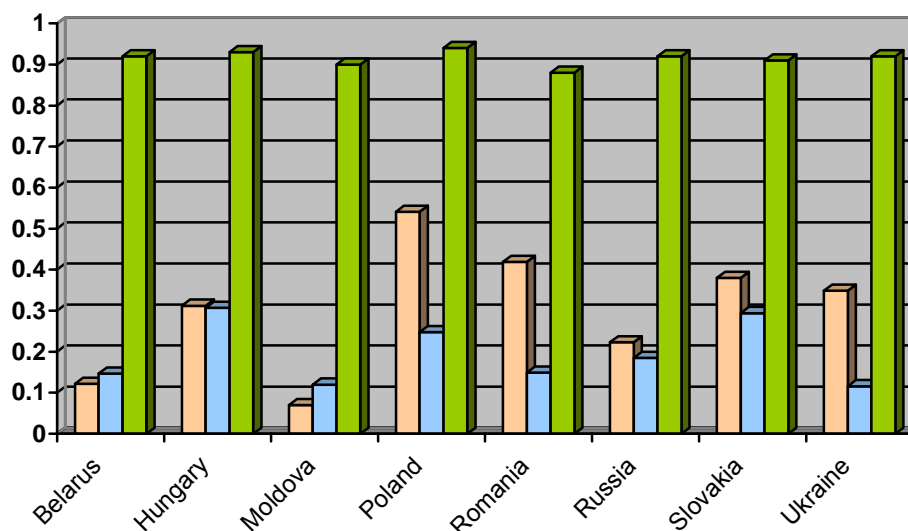
A composite of the adult literacy rate and the combined primary, secondary and tertiary gross enrolment ratio, with two thirds of the weight given to adult literacy and one third to the gross enrolment ratio.

e-Government Readiness Index



Source: United Nations – World Public Sector Report 2003

Web Measure Index Telecom. Infrastructure Index Human Capital Index



Source: United Nations – World Public Sector Report 2003

e-Participation Index:

Refers to the willingness, on the part of the government, to use ICT to provide high quality information (explicit knowledge) and effective communication tools for the specific purpose of empowering people for able participation in consultations and decision-making both in their capacity as consumers of public services and as citizens.

e-information:

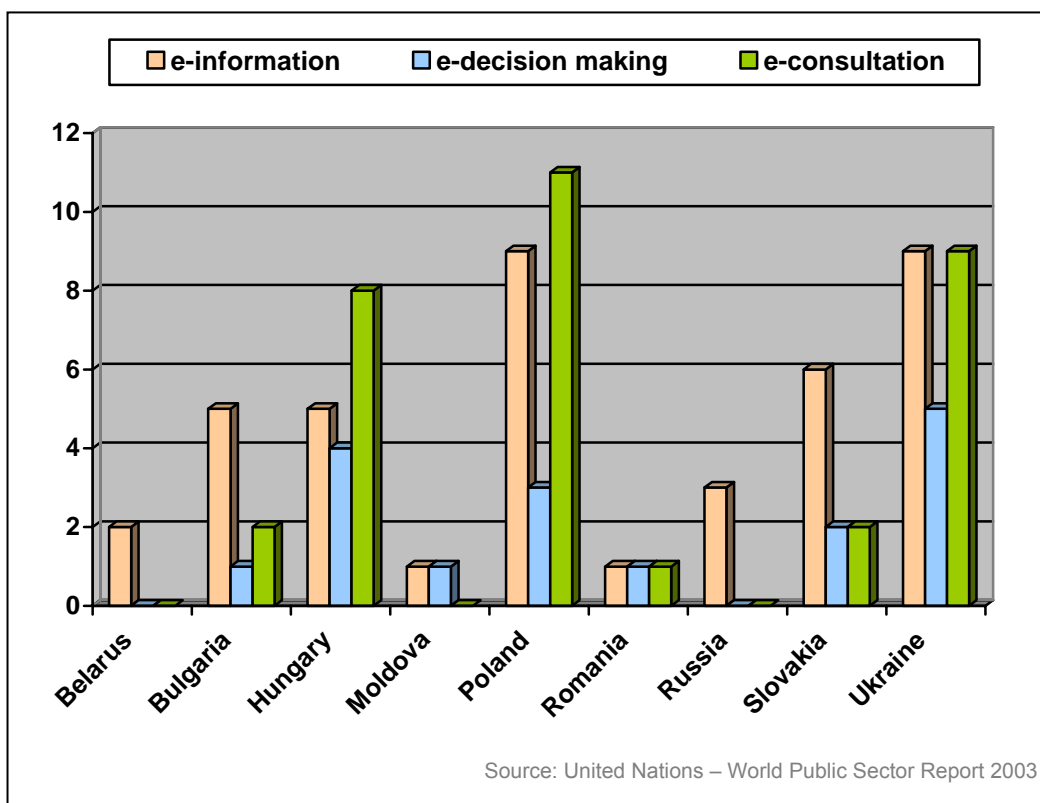
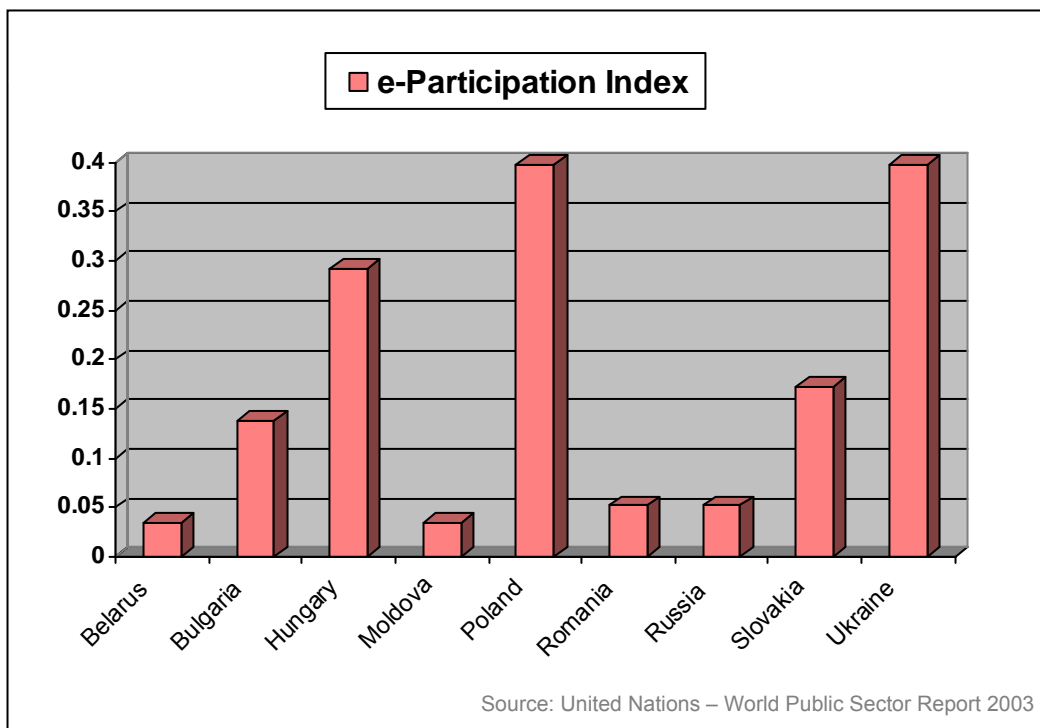
The government websites offer information on policies and programs, budgets, laws and regulations, and other briefs of key public interest. Tools for disseminating of information exist for timely access and use of public information, including web forums, e-mail lists, newsgroups and chat rooms.

e-decision making:

The government indicates that it will take citizens input into account in decision making and provides actual feedback on the outcome of specific issues.

e-consultation:

The government website explains e-consultation mechanisms and tools. It offers a choice of public policy topics online for discussion with real time and archived access to audios and videos of public meetings. The government encourages citizens to participate in discussions.



7. Links

7.1 National sites	
Authority	Topic
President	http://www.president.gov.by/
Government	http://www.government.by
Parliament	http://www.sovrep.gov.by/
Ministries	http://www.pravo.by/english/e_res_rb_2.asp
Regional Administrative Bodies	http://www.pravo.by/english/e_res_rb_5.asp
National Center of Legal Information	http://ncpi.gov.by/
National Legal Internet Portal	http://www.law.by/

7.2 Miscellaneous sites	
Institution	Topic
Council of Europe	http://www.coe.int
European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)	http://www.ebrd.com/country/country/belarus/index.htm
International Labour Organization (ILO)	http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex_browse.home
Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)	http://www.osce.org/belarus/
OSCE - Legislation	http://www.legislationline.org
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	http://www.un.minsk.by/undp/
United Nations in Ukraine	http://www.un.minsk.by
World Bank (WB)	http://www.worldbank.org.by/