

Social Science in Eastern Europe



NEWSLETTER

March 2007

Special Issue on Belarus



InformationsZentrum
Sozialwissenschaften

GESIS

Publisher	Social Science Information Centre, Member of the German Social Science Infrastructure Services, Bonn
Editors	Social Science Information Centre, Department Information Transfer Eastern Europe at the GESIS Service Agency Eastern Europe Becker, U.; Hausstein, B.; Schleinstein, N.; Sucker, D.; Wenninger, A.; Wilde, A.
Layout	Mallock, W.
Frequency	Minimum 4 issues per year; presently free of charge
Print	Printed in Germany
Distribution	Social Science Information Centre, Department Information Transfer Eastern Europe at the GESIS Service Agency Eastern Europe Schiffbauerdamm 19, 10117 Berlin, Germany Tel.: +49-30-233611-311, Fax: +49-30-233611-310 e-mail: iz@berlin.iz-soz.de
This publication is financed by the German Social Science Infrastructure Services (GESIS) which is jointly funded by the Federal and State governments	
ISSN 1615-5459	
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EDITORIAL	4	Belarusian Economic Journal	19
CONTRIBUTION		Psychological Journal	19
Prof. Dr. Larissa Titarenko		Psychology	19
Research Planning and Information		Portal	
Infrastructure in Belarus'		National Legal Internet Portal of the	
Social Sciences	4	Republic of Belarus	19
Universities		Databases	
Belarusian State Economic University -		Electronic Catalogue of the Library	
BSEU-.....	9	of the National Academy of Sciences	20
Belarusian State University		Electronic Catalogue of the	
Faculty of Philosophy and Social		Fundamental Library of the Belarusian	
Sciences.....	9	State University	20
Faculty of Law	9	Clearinghouse	
Faculty of Journalism	10	Belarus: Science/Research/	
Faculty of International Relations.....	10	Development.....	20
Center for International Studies.....	10	Scientific associations	
Centre for Sociological and Political		Belarus Political Science Association	
Research (CSPR).....	11	(BPSA)	20
Center for Study of Educational		Belarus Academy of Political Sciences...	21
Development	11	Belarusian Public Association	
National Academy of Sciences		"Sociological Society"	21
Institute of Sociology	12	Research fund	
Institute of Economics	12	Belarusian Republican Foundation for	
Institute of State and Law	13	Fundamental Research (BRFFR)	21
Institute of History.....	13	WESTERN EUROPE	
State scientific institutions		Recent publications	22
Minsk Scientific-Research Institute of		Online publications	22
Socio-Economic and Political Problems -		Research project	23
MSRISEPP-.....	13	Scientific associations	23
Ministry of Statistics and Analysis	14	CONFERENCES IN EASTERN	
Academy of Public Administration		EUROPE	23
at the President of the Republic		INTERNET	29
of Belarus	14		
Non-governmental research institutions			
Laboratory of Axiometrical Research			
"Novak"	15		
Belarusian Institute of Law	15		
International Institute for Policy			
Studies.....	16		
Institute for Privatization and			
Management (IPM).....	16		
Research Center	17		
Information Centre			
Belarus National Centre of Legal			
Information	17		
Journal descriptions			
Journal of International Law and			
International Relations.....	17		
Personality. Culture. Society	18		
Sociology	18		
Herald of the Belarusian State Univer-			
sity, series 3 (History, Philosophy,			
Psychology, Political Science,			
Sociology, Economics, and Law)	18		
Herald of the Belarusian State			
University of Economics	18		
Proceedings of the National			
Academy of Sciences of Belarus,			
Series Humanitarian Sciences	18		
Belarusian Justice	19		

EDITORIAL

Dear readers,

With the first issue of Newsletter in 2007 we continue the series of special regional issues. This time we place the main emphasis on Belarus social sciences.

Difficult research conditions in Belarus often deprive their researchers and academicians of the possibility to present their work abroad and compare their ideas with those of their western colleagues. The relative lack of access to information and communication technology has made it difficult for scholars in Belarus both to compete and to cooperate internationally. The purpose of this special issue is to produce an inventory and to give an up-to-date overview of social science research institutions and information infrastructure in Belarus.

Additionally, we strongly recommend you to visit the site of the Knowledge Base Social Sciences Eastern Europe (<http://www.cee-socialscience.net/archive/belarus/index.html>) where you can find three full-text state-of-the-art reports on the development of sociology and political science as well as of social science data archives in Belarus. The reports also include short links to mentioned people, institutions, journals and bibliographical references.

Our special thanks go to Prof. Dr. Larissa Titarenko for her immense support and close cooperation.

Editorial staff

CONTRIBUTION

Larissa Titarenko

Research Planning and Information Infrastructure in Belarus' Social Sciences

General conditions and problems

The current situation in the social sciences in Belarus is a consequence of many factors, mainly related to the post-Soviet transformation. Since 1991, as the country became an independent republic, both the organizational structure and the sources of finance dramatically changed. First of all, the Republic of Belarus re-directed the social sciences to the national priorities, especially regarding the new historical conditions and perspectives of the country. All research bodies in academic institutes and universities were subjugated to the national administrative structures, and the contacts with former Soviet colleagues were transformed into international contacts.

Besides, the new perspectives and opportunities for joint research projects with scholars from West and East opened up, depending on the quality of research in Belarus and the evaluation of Belarusian achievements in the international scientific community.

However, for purely political reasons, the scholars from Belarus have never had the same advantages and financial possibilities as their colleagues from the Baltic States, or the scholars from Central Europe, or even social scientists from the Ukraine and Russia. While the Belarusian scholars in the field of natural sciences came to be in demand in the West (and indeed many of them emigrated during the first post-Soviet decade), social scientists tried to establish contacts with foreign institutions and stay at home. The younger generation of social scientists re-directed themselves to applied research financed by political bodies, or business structures. The middle-aged generation of scholars (especially those who were fluent in foreign languages) tried to get involved in international research teams and projects. As for the elder generation of social scholars in Belarus, their primary goal was to survive at home.

Fortunately, almost nobody was dismissed for political reasons after 1991. So, the scholars were not forced to change their professional occupation (there were some changes as for the names of departments and academic institutions, but the majority of the staff stayed in their jobs). By the same token, the consequence of this peculiarity of the post-Soviet development provided a strong connection to the previous legacy in social sciences: until now many philosophers, historians, sociologists who called themselves Marxists follow this old methodology ignoring new tendencies in social sciences in general. This heritage is more visible in those universities where the majority of faculty members are of retirement age. They are not often innovative and creative in selection of their teaching materials. The Bologna reforms were officially accepted, however, the real changes relating to structures and curricula of education have not been implemented so far. It is a very complicated process with many ups and downs. For this reason it is difficult to prognose when (and whether) the system of education and research in the field of social sciences and humanities might reach a standard compatible with that in the European Union.

At the same time, some younger scholars often identify themselves with Western paradigms (postmodernist, structuralist, etc.), something that was impossible in the past. They try to

publish in internationally recognized (usually western) journals and share their findings with colleagues abroad as well as to participate in international conferences and apply for fellowships and grants.

Generally speaking, social sciences in Belarus demonstrate a pluralistic picture of theoretical ideas, research, and methodological orientations. The major dramatic changes produced several problems for social scientists, such as low salaries, lack of research funds, shortage of young scholars in the academic field, and mushrooming of projects focused on short-term narrow topics that do not demand a high level of finance. The majority of research and educational institutions are subordinated to the state (in particular, to the Ministry of Education or the State Committee on Science and Technology); therefore they are not totally free in selecting research topics and university degree subjects. Actually, integrated research cooperation with the colleagues from the EU countries is not strongly encouraged, and the focus on Russia is still prevailing.

There is also a growing gap between policymakers and social scientists. The policymakers often demand immediate results and insist on the practical and applied-level orientation of social research, even if the scholars themselves would prefer to carry out research in broader terms. Social sciences experience the same political limitations and financial shortages as Belarusian civil society institutions in general. They remain under the ideological control of the state, and if they do not follow the state rules, they are at threat of closure (for example, the European Humanitarian University was closed in 2004, and at least a part of the reasons was political and ideological).

It is clear, that changes are needed, even though the whole picture (in particular the one reflected in the official documents in Belarus) does not look extremely bad compared with some other post-Soviet countries. Nevertheless, the discrepancy between the high world standards in social science and education and the current state of social sciences in Belarus is visible: many programs and projects initiated and financed by the EU are inaccessible to scholars in Belarus, and the longer this situation would last, the deeper the gap between social sciences in Belarus and more successful countries in Eastern European region might get.

Research planning

The process of research planning for the social sciences in Belarus has been recently changed. The reasons for this change are connected with

the lack of the state financial resources for social sciences, on the one hand, and with the intention of the state to keep social sciences under direct control, on the other. Since 2005, the major state financial support has been provided only for the so called State Programs focused on the national priorities officially approved by the government. Several academic institutions have been selected to be the leading ("head") research bodies for different fields in the State Programs. This is the major document regarding the state-funded scientific development in Belarus.

The non-selected institutions have lost a good deal of finance and research independence, as they have to subordinate their activities to the other, more successful institutions. For example, most of topics for sociological research, conducted by the staff of the Institute of Sociology (National Academy of Sciences), and the state universities, were subordinated to the Institute of Economics of the National Academy of Sciences. It means that sociological research was subordinated to the experts in the field of economics. This "innovation" led to increasing number of control units and mediators between scholars and policymakers, so that the additional offices (i.e. the state bureaucrats) have been involved in the process of evaluation of scientific reports and analytical papers.

Since then, the research projects carried out by a particular research institution have to meet the requirements of State Programs. Such programs are usually designed for a five year period, as it was typical for the Soviet Union. If a research institute plans to carry out any additional research, only non-state financial resources can be used.

In general, the whole process of current research planning starts in a research institute (or university) as a unit. The research institute as a part of the Academy of Sciences has one or more research topics for the planning period. First, sectors (departments) prepare their plans. Then, the Scientific Councils of the institutes (faculties) check and approve research plans. When the plans for all selected projects are ready, Director of the institute (dean of the faculty, and then rector) approves and submit them to the Presidium of the Academy of Sciences (to the Ministry of Education). The Presidium discusses the planned topics of all institutes during its special meeting. Usually, the Presidium consults scientific experts in respect of project proposals before the meeting evaluation. Moreover, the practical experts in the relevant branches of the Government (Council of Ministers) and policymakers can be involved in the process of discussing the

research plans to get sure that everything looks real and reachable. If the latter is the case, the research plans will be finally approved as a part of the State Program for Scientific Research. When all the projects are approved, the Presidium publishes a volume with all five-year topics for the Academy of Sciences (the same – for the Ministry of Education). During the above-mentioned five-year period all institutes have to work according to this State Program and annually report their results to the Presidium. If any institute does not meet certain requirements (an institute breaks the deadline and/or does not achieve the goals for each year), the Presidium can dismiss director, or apply administrative sanctions to the staff, or even close this institute (or a part of it).

The next step is to transfer the approved financial resources from the top level (the state) back to the institute level. This is a long process. At last, when the money comes, the institute distributes it among several sectors according to the planning, and each sector carries out a part of the common research topic (one part for one year). Every department of the institute has its own goal. For example, the Institute of Sociology had a research topic “Social Processes under Transition,” in the previous five years, and three departments of the institute had their own sub-topics: on (1) economic, (2) political and (3) cultural processes of post-Communist transition in Belarus.

Every year the institute has to prepare a special research sub-program to meet the goals and requirements for this particular year, then follow this program, do research according to this plan, and prepare the annual report by the end of the year (it can be simply a compilation of basic research results for the year presented as descriptive statements). The Scientific Council has to discuss the Annual Report, approve it officially and then submit to the Presidium of the Academy of Sciences. All the projects have to be submitted in time (before the fixed deadline), meet the traditional scientific requirements (objectivity, importance, etc.). When the research project is approved by the government and becomes a part of the State Program, the institute has to elaborate a detailed project (from 25 to 50 pages), including research program and questionnaires (if necessary). There are only scientific supervisors on the level of the institute (usually, each Head of the Department controls the research, so that his/her staff directly report their results to the Head who is responsible for Department's contribution to the Annual Report of the institute).

In general, by the end of a five-year period, research units prepare the Full Report to cover the whole research and present all the results (theoretical and practical) there. The internal criteria for a positive evaluation are whether all research goals have been completed, all conclusions have been proved, all hypotheses tested, whether all research information has been included into the Final Report, etc. The external criteria include publications: articles (on the regional, national or international level) and especially a book that has to be published as a major contribution of the research.

The institutes may get some extra money (beyond the annual state budget for the state-approved topics); however, in this case it is necessary to perform additional surveys or other kind of research (for example, collect data during the pre-election period for a particular political party). Technical equipment is very limited: the institute has to report about its needs for equipment for a five-year period, and the State provides financial support for purchasing computers or books according to this request (usually it is not enough because of inflation during a five-year period).

There is no public financing in Belarus for official, government-sponsored (state supported) research. Only non-governmental scientific institutes (as a rule, small scientific firms with a limited number of employees) obtain money (grants) from the public (national and mostly international) organizations. However, they need a state licence for their activities. As for the institutes within the framework of the Academy of Sciences they can get some private contracts for research (from political parties or private persons or firms) but practically such clients prefer paying research money to non-governmental organizations (they trust such organizations more than the academic institutes).

However, there is the Belarusian National Foundation for Fundamental Research (NFFR), so that every scholar (or group of scholars) can apply for a grant once a year to this Foundation. The Foundation can provide money for research not listed in the State Program. In this case any other important research topic can be chosen, and there are no limits on the ratio between the staff salary, on the one side, and financing for research and extra needs, on the other. However, NFFR does not have a lot of money, so that each scholar (or group of scholars) can apply only for very reasonable financial support (provided that a topic is approved by experts and meets general scientific criteria).

Research work and the role of available or missing information/communication infrastructure

Officially, as soon as research topics are part of the State Program, there is no need for institutes or researchers to be included into the national network in their field. The researchers try to conduct their project in accordance with their goals and deadlines (these are the most important criteria). Actually, it is up to the researchers what kind of information sources they use. Heads of Departments and Directors of institutes usually insist on the general overview of the resources on a given project at the beginning of the research only. That is why it is possible to carry out a separate research project without any references to the other existing information resources in the field, especially on the international level. The final approval of the project does not depend on whether some external information on similar research has been used or not.

Usually the researchers try to cover the national sources of information: books, journals, newspapers, and statistics. These sources are available via academic libraries (each week there are exhibitions of new literature at the libraries, and researchers can easily get overview of the new literature: journals, books, dissertations). Due to limited financial conditions the scientific libraries can not buy books and journals from abroad, so, in the best case there are some sources from Russia or Ukraine in the libraries, but the majority of sources are books and journals published in Belarus. That is a great problem for researchers who would like to keep themselves up-to-date in their field. That is why many scholars in Belarus do not know about similar research projects in the neighbouring countries.

All the other information sources are available via the Internet only. However, there is another great problem: research institutes have limited access to the Internet (extremely slow speed, access to the limited free websites, limited time to use the Internet, etc.). The institutes provide their own websites, so that they can put the most general information on their projects there, but they do not put any databases or major results on the Internet in Belarus with some exceptions; it is still not a common practice and it may lead to additional costs for the institutes. Unwillingness to share information seems to be a habit inherited from the Soviet times.

The major obstacles for scholars in using professional sources of information are a lack of good Internet connection at working place and a lack of money to install such connection at home (in Belarus it is extremely expensive to use the Internet, therefore people try to use it at

their working places, if possible, and not at home; by the way, only a few scholars have computers connected to the Internet at home).

Scientific libraries have both traditional and electronic catalogues, but many researchers use the first ones, as it takes less time (due to limited number of computers at the library and institutes). Also, researchers are not motivated to visit foreign websites because of bad command of foreign languages and a lack of financial stimulus to do that and to learn languages. Only when researchers are preparing a grant project and have to make an international overview of already existing projects in their research field, they will do that. As a rule, an institute engages a young scholar to search for international information on-line, but it is not done systematically and can not be compared with regular information provided by international research or information centers.

Belarus is a small country, researchers usually know each other in person and therefore they are in general informed who is doing similar research, etc. For this reason, national (and even regional) conferences are extremely important for Belarusian social scientists to establish and maintain professional contacts. This is more important than a publication (an article will be published within several months while a scholar can share information on research results at the conference long before publishing articles). Small books printed especially for the conference as Collected Abstracts are important sources of professional information as well.

Unfortunately, free access to empirical data is not provided. Institutes do not allow external institutions or persons to use their data. Even within the same institute it is problematic to get access to data for those scholars who do not directly participate in a particular project. Thus, only the staff involved in a particular research project can use its empirical information. Head of a Department (who is also a responsible senior person for any research within a Department) can give permission to anyone else to use the Department's empirical data. In case a senior researcher has a part-time job at the university (i.e. has students), he/she can invite students to participate in the project and thus can share empirical information with them. Actually, almost 40% of researchers (National Academy of Sciences) have a part-time job, so, this is a real possibility. Otherwise, the empirical information will be kept "top secret" for any other researchers for ever.

The National Institute of Higher Education provides a useful service for the social scholars employed at the universities: a monthly bulletin

on international exchange that usually contains a list of coming international conferences with short explanation how to apply, available fellowships and grants, a list of summer schools and PhD programs for young scholars, etc. However, it does not cover all the fields of social research and the information is not quite up-to-date (sometimes it is too late to apply because the deadline is overdue). Nevertheless, this is the best free source of information for scholars working outside the Academy of Sciences.

International Cooperation

The international cooperation is crucial for social scientists engaged in professional research in present-day Belarus. Indeed, the well-known social scholars in Belarus maintain international contacts and try to keep themselves up-to-date as far as professional issues in their fields are concerned. They are members of international professional associations, which increase the chances for the success of application for grants as well as for financial support and participation in the conferences abroad. These scholars are fully aware of the importance of cooperation with colleagues from the western countries for obtaining financial support. However, the number of such scholars is not large: around 5-10% of all social scientists cooperate on a regular basis (this rate can differ as regards particular social science disciplines, but it is not high anyway).

There are scholarly prerequisites for participation in international projects, such as: good command of foreign languages, participation in international networks/conferences; relevant publications (in internationally recognized journals), professional experience, etc. Last but not least, it is necessary to have good relationship with Head of Department or Director of the institute who has the right to give a permission for participation (to allow trips abroad), even if external financing is provided.

The EU enlargement has contradictory impact on the international research for Belarusian scholars, because (1) it contributed to a deeper gap among some elitist scientists and the rest, (2) it made scholars' life more complicated as it is now necessary to apply for visa to almost all neighbouring countries (Poland, Hungary, Slovak Republic). Now it takes more time to establish scientific contacts with collaborators.

The major international projects involving scholars from Belarus included FP6, INTAS, and TEMPUS. The application procedure for non-EU scholars is very complex. Technical difficulties (on-line applications) make this procedure even more complicated.

The east-east cooperation in the field of social sciences is also very relevant. However, the common lack of funding creates additional obstacles even for this cooperation. Scholars from Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus are greatly interested in conducting joint research projects, but mechanisms to obtain money for joint projects are complicated, and resources are insufficient.

Professor Larissa Titarenko works at the Department of Sociology, Faculty of Philosophy and Social Sciences, Belarusian State University in Minsk (Belarus). She defended her PhD thesis in Philosophy in 1978 and doctoral thesis in Sociology in 1993 at the same university. Her main research interest focuses on social theory, value orientations, postcommunist transition, and globalization. She also publishes in the fields of sociology of youth, sociology of gender, and sociology of culture.

Larissa Titarenko actively participates in international comparative studies with West European and American scholars. Since 1990, she was a Fulbright scholar at Syracuse University, a fellow at NIAS (Netherlands), the Woodrow Wilson International Center, SCASSS (Sweden). She also taught sociology at the American University (Washington, DC), George Mason University (Fairfax, Virginia), SUNY-Cortland (NYC).

Larissa Titarenko is author and co-author of many publications, including textbooks and monographs. Her recent publications are: a textbook on Sociology of Gender (Minsk, 2003), Reader in Contemporary Social Theory (Minsk, 2007), monographs "World of Values in Modern Belarusian Society: gender aspect" (Minsk, 2004) and "National Identity and Sociocultural Values of the People in Modern Belarusian Society" (Minsk, 2006).

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Since 2003, Prof. Titarenko is a cooperation partner of the Social Science Information Centre, Dep. Information Transfer Eastern Europe (Berlin).

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Management: Shimov, Vladimir, Prof. (rector)

Year of foundation: 1933

Staff: 1200 faculty members

University departments:

- School of Management
- School of Accounting and Economics
- School of Finance and Banking
- School of International Economic Relations
- School of Commerce Economics and Management
- School of Marketing
- School of Law
- School of Language Studies

Main fields: The Belarus State Economic University is the leading educational institution in the economics related field in Belarus. It is also one of the largest economic research centers in the country.

Research: The main focus of scientific studies is as follows:

- theoretical preconditions of achieving macroeconomic stability in Belarus in the transitional period;
- industrial policy in the period of transition;
- strategy of developing the sphere of services;
- industrial potential of agricultural enterprises (the evaluation and the ways of its efficient usage) and EMM's formation in the agro-industrial complex;
- property reorganization and creating competitive economic environment;
- reforming labour remuneration in the real sector of economy as a factor of the macroeconomic stability;
- concept of state regional policy in conditions of transitional economy;
- bases of financial, monetary and foreign exchange regulation as a means towards economic stability on macro level;
- efficiency of foreign-economic activities as a factor of macroeconomic dynamics, etc.

Publications/ papers: "Vestnik BGEU" was founded in 1994. Since 1999, it has been issued 6 times per year (once in two month). "Belorusskiy ekonomicheskii journal" has been published since 1997.

Degree courses: The training of students is done on a multi-level basis. The degrees offered are those of bachelors, specialists and masters. The graduates can also continue their education in a post-graduate school called aspirantura (full-time or part-time), where they take a Ph.D. degree, and in a post-doctorate school called doctorantura to take a post-doctorate degree (doctor habile).

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Year of foundation: 1989

Chairs:

- Chair of Philosophy and Methodology of Science
- Chair of Philosophy of Culture
- Chair of Sociology
- Chair of Psychology
- Chair of Social Communication

Research: Philosophy and methodology of scientific knowledge; History of philosophic and sociological thought; Modern social technologies in transformed societies; Modern problems of modern psychological knowledge; Ecological values and priorities in development of modern societies; Communication strategy in social management; Methodological problems of applied social research; Problems of intercultural interaction on the development of modern psychology.

Publications/ papers: The Faculty publishes the journals Philosophy and Social Sciences and Sociology (in Russian) as well as a collection of papers in the fields of philosophy and social sciences "Power and Control" (since 2000 - annually) (both in Russian and Belarusian).

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Year of foundation: 1934

Chairs:

- Chair of Theory and History of State and Law
- Chair of Constitutional Law
- Chair of Civil Law
- Chair of Civil Procedure and Labour Law
- Chair of Criminal Law
- Chair of Criminal Procedure Law
- Chair of Criminology
- Chair of Environmental and Agrarian Law
- Chair of Political Science
- Chair of Financial Law and Operation Control

Research: The constitutional process and development of political system in Belarus; problems of regulating and protecting the rights of physical and legal subjects; political processes and political institutes in the modern Belarus; theoretical problems of legal regulation of economic activity in the conditions of market relations.

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Year of foundation: 1944

Chairs:

- Chair of Foreign Journalism and Literature
- Chair of Periodical Press
- Dept. of Sociology of Journalism
- Chair of Communication Technology
- Chair of Literary-Art Critics
- Chair of Television and Radio Broadcasting
- Chair of History of Journalism and Literature
- Chair of Stylistics and Literary Editing

Research topics:

Modern communication space and press; education and professional skills in broadcasting; linguistic and word aesthetics; journalism as a factor for the formation of public opinion; the evolution of international mass communication in the European integration.

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Year of foundation: 1995

Chairs:

- Chair of International Relations
- Chair of International Law
- Chair of International Economic Relations
- Chair of Diplomatic and Consular Services
- Chair of International Tourism Management
- Chair of Oriental Languages
- Chair of Customs
- Chair of International Private and European Law
- Chair of Theory & Methodology of Teaching Russian as Foreign Language
- Chair of Roman Languages
- Chair of German Languages
- Chair of English Language for Humanitarian Careers
- Chair of English Language for Economic Careers

Research topics:

Development of contemporary international relations; The Republic of Belarus and problems of European security; international legal impact on the reformation of the legal system in the Republic of Belarus; correlation of international and federal law in the Republic of Belarus within the process of a building a state under a rule of law; the internationalization of production and capital: theory, policy and practices.

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Management: Ulakhovich, Vladimir, Prof. (director)

Year of foundation: 2000

Main fields: The basic goals of the Center are as follows: coordinating scientific research and information analysis in the field of foreign policy and international economic relations; valuation of the contemporary international relations,

world economy and regional politics and preparing forecasts for the future; defining priorities and specific directions for the present foreign political and economic course of the Republic of Belarus and making recommendations for the Foreign Ministry of Belarus; publishing materials (articles, analytical reviews) on international relations for creating new university courses; providing advisory assistance for university lecturers and students; cooperating with home and foreign research institutes in the study of international relations and foreign economic policy; helping graduate and post-graduate students choose topics for their degree research; holding practical scientific conferences and workshops on foreign politics and economy.

Research: The Center works on the following topics: 1) "The Development Strategy of the Russian Federation until 2010" and its impact on the economic and political relations between Russia and Belarus; 2) Problems and prospects of introducing the Belarus - Russian single currency; 3) Problems and prospects of the relations between Belarus and the Non-Alignment Movement; 4) Proposals and initiatives of the Republic of Belarus on the development of a free trade area within the framework of the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Customs Union; 5) The impact of the EU expansion on the foreign political and economic interests of the Republic of Belarus; 6) Proposals on improving the investment climate in and stimulating the investment influx into Belarus.

**Belarusian State University
Centre for Sociological and Political
Research (CSPR)**

ul. K. Marksa 31, k. 101-103
220050 Minsk

Tel.: +37517 227 2521
Fax: +37517 229 2879
E-mail: Rotman@bsu.by
Internet: <http://www.cspr.bsu.by/>

Management: Rotman, David (director)

Year of foundation: 1996

Departments:

- Department of Socio-political Problems
- Department of Socio-economic and Socio-cultural Problems
- Department of Information Processing
- Network of Interviewers' Service
- Quality Control Service
- Research Provision Service.

Main fields: Conduction of research projects and surveys, publishing activity.

Research: Problems of youth; monitoring of social and political situation in the country; behaviour at polls; international and religious relations; problems of the market economy.

Surveys: CSPR conducts public opinion polls throughout the country using both quantitative and qualitative methods. The process of collecting sociological data is organised in regional and national samples. CSPR carries out empirical research financed partly by the state budget and partly by orders from private persons and firms.

Cooperation: CSPR co-operates with various sociological centres and agencies in Austria, Germany, the UK, France, the USA, Russia, Ukraine, Georgia, etc.

**Belarusian State University
Center for Study of Educational
Development**

Moskovskaya St. 15-724
220050 Minsk

Tel.: +375 17 2095965;

E-mail: edc@bsu.by

Management: Gusakovsky, Michail, Dr. (director)

Year of foundation: 1997

Main fields: personality development, transformation of the system of higher education in general and in Belarus; methodology of this transformation; practical training for young teachers and distribution of the best educational experience through seminar, conferences, workshops.

Publications: Annually collections of scientific papers in the fields of philosophy and practice of education.

**National Academy of
Sciences**

Institute of Sociology

1 Surganava Street, Build.2
220072 Minsk

Tel.: +37517 2841865
Fax: +37517 284 2603
E-mail:
Internet: <http://sociologyby.org/index.php?flash=yes>

Management: Evel'kin, Georgii; Prof. (director)

Year of foundation: 1990

Departments:

- Department of Sociology of Culture and Communication
- Department of Sociology of Politics, Economics and Law
- Center of Operational Research and Social Prognosis
- Center for Monitoring of Scientific Staff Migration
- Sector of Ethnic and Social Psychology
- Sector of Sociology of Economics and Sociology of Work

Research: social structure dynamics, socio-psychological and ethno-national processes and relations under conditions of transition to market relations, social analyses and forecasting by means of public opinion poll, interviewing, testing, monitoring, probability methods and social processes prognosis.

Teaching: Postgraduate courses in: sociology; economic sociology; social structures, social institutes; sociology of cultural life; psychology; social psychology; economics; economics of the population.

Recent publications: (in Russian)

- Babosov E.M. *Philosophy of Science and Culture*. Minsk: Belnauka, 2006
- Babosov E.M. *Sociology of personality, stratification, and management*. Minsk: Belnauka, 2006
- Babosov E.M. *Sociology*. Third edition. Minsk: Tetrasystems, 2006
- Babosov E.M. *Sociology of Management*. Fifth edition. Minsk: Tetrasystems, 2006
- Babosov E.M. *Social Echo of Chernobyl catastrophe*. Gomel, 2005
- Kobyak O. V. *Economic Man: Patterns of Thinking and Mechanisms of Behavior*. Minsk: Pravo I Ekonomika, 2006
- Khurs M.N. (ed.) *Energy of Belarus: Current Situation, Problems, and Perspectives*. Minsk: Fua-Inform, 2006
- Naumenko L.I., Volodazskaya T.V. *The Perception of Ethnic and Civic Belongings by the Contemporary Belarusian Population*. Minsk: Belnauka, 2006

- Smirnova R.A. *World of Invalid from the View of Sociologist*. Minsk: Belnauka, 2006
- Sokolova G.N. *Labour Market of the Republic of Belarus: Economic Challenges and Social Responses*. Minsk: Bel.nauka, 2006
- Yevelkin, G:M. *Professional Socialization of a Personality: Methodology, Methods and Logics of research*. Minsk: FUAinform, 2004
- Yevelkin, G., Artyukhin, M. & Korshunov, G. *Atlas of Science of the Republic of Belarus*. Minsk: Tekhnoprint, 2004

Institute of Economics

1 Surganava Street, Build. 2
220072 Minsk

Tel.: +37517 28401985
Fax: +37517 28400716
E-mail: directorship@economics.basnet.by
Internet:
<http://nasb.gov.by/eng/organizations/institutes/inogum.html#off214>

Management: Nikitenko, Pyotr, academician (director); nikitenko@economics.avilink.net

Year of foundation: 1931

Departments:

- Dept. of Economy of Science
- Dept. of Regional Economy
- Dept. of Market Infrastructure
- Dept. of Market Economy
- Dept. of Production Potential Efficiency
- Dept. of Legal Development of Production Relationships

Research: theoretical basis of economics; national economy; economy of environment; economic transformation; financial markets; economic policy; economic sectors and market structures.

Teaching: Postgraduate studies in: economics and management of a national economy; political economy; regional economy; economics of nature utilisation and protection of natural environment; world economy and international economic relations. Postdoctoral studies in: economics; planning, organization of management of a national economy. Services: The institute publishes numerous monographs, working papers and anthologies.

Institute of State and Law

1 Surganava Street, Build. 2
220072

Tel.: +37517 2841864; 2842537
Fax: +37517 284 2925
E-mail: philos@bas-net.by
Internet:
<http://nasb.gov.by/eng/organizations/institutes/inogum.html#off2473>

Management: Izotko, Vladimir; Prof. (director)

Year of foundation: 1999

Departments:

- Dept. of Labour, Civil and Economic Law
- Dept. of the Problems of Agricultural and Ecological Law
- Dept. of State Law and Management
- Dept. of Theory and History of State and Law

Research: Studies on contemporary problems of law theory, history of state and law in Belarus.

Teaching: Postgraduate studies in: theory and history of state and law; state law; civil law; ecological law; labour law; criminal law.

Institute of History

1 Akademichnaya Street
220072 Minsk

Fax: +375 17 284 02 19
E-mail: inst@history.minsk.by
Internet: <http://history.minsk.by/>

Management: Kovalenya, Aleksandr, Prof. (acting director)

Year of foundation: 1929

Departments: Divisions of archaeology and history of Polatsk Land; archaeology of the Iron Age; archaeology of the Stone and Bronze Ages; archaeology of medieval period; XIII — XVIII centuries history of Belarus; XIX — beginning of XX centuries history of Belarus; history of national and cultural development of Belarus; military history of Belarus; socioeconomic and political history of Belarus in Soviet period; national and international relations of Belarus; special historic sciences; research group on history of science.

Main fields: Studies on the historical way of Belarusian nation based on archaeological excavations materials, written sources and funds of domestic and foreign archives.

Teaching: Postgraduate studies in national history; archaeology.

State scientific institutions

Minsk Scientific-Research Institute of Socio-Economic and Political Problems -MSRIEPP-

Franziska Skarina Avenue 8
220050 Minsk

Tel.: +37517 220 3955; 227 4213
Fax: +37517 220 3955
E-mail: bobkov@open.by
Internet:
http://www.minsk.gov.by/cgi-bin/org_ps.pl?k_org=3636&lang=eng

Management: Bobkov, Vladimir; Prof. (director)

Main fields: Prognosis of and research on urban development; research on regional socio-economic, scientific and technical policy; consulting of politicians; urban marketing.

Research topics: The development of the conception and strategic plan for sustainable development of Minsk until 2020; The history of Minsk (historical, economic and socio-political aspects); The program of Minsk industrial development till 2010: modernization, financial improvement, human resources; Building complex of Minsk: current state, prospects of development, problems and solution possibilities; Social problems of students and young workers; The reasons for deviating behaviour of children and teenagers and measures of counteraction; Conditions, problems and prospects of social and economic development of the military settlements located in Pervomayski district of Minsk; The dynamic of mass consciousness of Minsk citizens (quarterly monitoring sociological research); The problems of share holding in the authorized capitals of the enterprises and the ways to increase profit sharing at the security market; The development of the monitoring system to control the solvency of the municipal enterprises and instruments to prevent bankruptcy of enterprises in Minsk; Monitoring of the attitude of the population to activities of the city police and state traffic inspectorate.

Publications: (in Russian)

- Bobkov V., Pavlov M., Rubanov A. *Tourism in Minsk: Conditions and Prospects*. Minsk: MSRIEPP, 2003. - 184 p.
- Bobkov V., Pavlov M., Rubanov A. *Problems of Urban Consolidation*. Minsk: MSRIEPP, 2003. - 120 p.
- Bobkov V., Luchenok A., Shulejko O. *The Budget of the Capital city*. Minsk: MSRIEPP, 2003. - 294 p.
- Bobkov V., Nikitenko P., Rubanov A. *The Structural Conception and Organization of*

- the Government in Minsk under Current Conditions*. Minsk: MSRIEPP, 2002. - 84 p.
- Bobkov V., Nikitenko P., Rubanov A. *The Forecast of Minsk Development until 2020*. Minsk: MSRIEPP, 2002. 5 volumes.
 - Bobkov V., Nikitenko P., Rubanov A. *The Conception and Program of the State Manpower Policy in Minsk*. Minsk: MSRIEPP, 2002. - 106 p.
 - Bobkov V., Luchenok A., Rubanov A. *The Improvement of the System of Public Health Financing in Minsk*. Minsk: MSRIEPP, 2002. - 300p.
 - Luchenok A., Bulko O., Markusenko M. *The Program of Development of Consumer Service in Minsk*. Minsk: MSRIEPP, 2002. - 112 p.
 - Bobkov V., Luchenok A., Rubanov A. *Problems of International Activity of Enterprises in Minsk*. - Minsk: MSRIEPP, 2001. - 88 p.
 - Bobkov V., Luchenok A., Rubanov A. *The Potential of Investments of Population and House-building in Minsk*. - Minsk: MSRIEPP, 2001. - 148 p.
 - Markusenko M., Bulko O., Shuleyko O. *The Economical Mechanism of Free Economic Zones Functioning*. - Minsk: MSRIEPP, 2001. - 140 p.
 - *The Conception and Complex Program "Minsk is the Healthy and Tidy City"*. - Minsk: MSRIEPP, 2001. - 164 p.
 - Bobkov V., Majhrovich A., Rubanov A. *The Culture Complex of Minsk and the Ways of Effectiveness Increase*. - Minsk: MSRIEPP, 2001. - 64 p.
 - Bobkov V., Bogdanov V., Luchenok A. *The Executive Authority and the Private Sector*. - Minsk, 2001. - 61 p.

Ministry of Statistics and Analysis

Partizansky avenue, 12
220070 Minsk

Tel.: +37517 249 5200; 2494278
Fax: +37517 249 2204
E-mail: minstat@mail.belpak.by
Internet: <http://www.belstat.gov.by/>

Management: Zinovskiy, Vladimir (minister)
Organization: The Ministry of Statistics and Analysis (Minstat) is in charge of official statistics in the Republic of Belarus. The Ministry of Statistics and Analysis is accountable to the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus and operates under the statutes approved by the Council of Ministers. The Minstat is headed by a Minister appointed under the Constitution by the President. The Minister is a member of the government and is

empowered to issue directives and instructions, which are obligatory for subordinate statistical bodies.

Main fields: Collecting, processing, collating and analysing statistical information on economic and social development in the Republic of Belarus and its administrative subdivisions and submitting statistical information to state bodies, as well as making it available to a wide range of other users. The Minstat provides state bodies with statistical information on the economic and social situation in the country; compiles national reports, provides aggregated state statistical data at the request of legal entities and private individuals; ensures the accessibility of aggregated statistical information for a wide range of users and provides the necessary explanations and commentaries on the use of the methodology for compiling statistical data.

Services: Statistics are disseminated via publications; these are listed and abstracted on the website along with ordering details. Produced on the website are the main socio-economic indicators of Belarus (in tabular form), and The Republic of Belarus in Figures, 1990-2006 covering population, labour, living standards, GDP, industry, agriculture, construction, transport, trade, and prices (in tabular and diagrammatic form). Also detailed is the Statistical Yearbook of the Republic of Belarus CD-ROM. A news page updated developments and additions to the website and there are links to other national statistical offices of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), and other non-CIS countries including the Baltic States. This resource is also available in Russian.

Academy of Public Administration at the President of the Republic of Belarus

ul. K. Marksa 22
220050 Minsk

Tel.: +375 17 220-25-08
E-mail: interbiz@pacademy.edu.by
Internet: <http://www.pacademy.edu.by/>

Management: Knyazev, Stanislav, Prof. (rector)
Year of foundation: 1991 (it has got the current status in 1995)

Historical development: The academy was founded as the major state institution of higher education which mission was to educate and re-educate the state (public) personnel for all levels of management. After the academy has got the status of presidential, its mission has become even higher: to provide current information for practical needs under the conditions of economic and political transformation. More attention was paid to the top-managers training and to increasing

research in the fields of management, control, manpower development. Currently, the Academy is the major research and educational center for state managers and public service at all levels.

Founder members: 1991 - Council of Ministers and Ministry of Education, since 1995 – Presidential administration

Staff: more than 100 doctor and 300 associate professors

Financing: full state support

Chairs:

- Chair of international relations,
- Chair of theory and practice of public administration;
- Chair of management of information resources,
- Chair of ideology and political sciences

Research Institutes:

- Institute of Public Service
- Institute of Public Administration
- Institute of Administrative Staff
- Scientific Research Institute of the Theory and Practice of Public Administration

Research Centres:

- Center of Educational Technologies
- Center of Information Technologies
- Center of International Cooperation and Educational Programs
- Publishing Center
- Center of Educational Work and Youth Initiatives

Main fields:

- Projecting and updating of training programmes for civil servants,
- Training of civil servants,
- Training of trainers,
- Participation in international programmes and projects related to the development of public administration skills,
- Methodical, consulting, organizational support for state and municipal institutions,
- Research on training of civil servants,
- Propagation of public administration culture,
- Establishment of information database,
- Preparation and publishing of methodical materials.

Recent publications: (in Russian)

- Knyazev S., Antonova N. Basis for state control. Minsk, 2006. - 240 pp.
- Matzel V., Poznyak V. Foreign policy of the Republic of Belarus. Minsk, 2006.-250 pp.
- Matusevich Ye., Il'in M., Krishtapovich L. Basis for ideology of the Belarusian state. Minsk, 2006.-240 pp.

Teaching: Undergraduate and graduate courses in management, public administration, political sciences.

Non-governmental research institutions

Laboratory of Axiometrical Research “Novak”

P.O.Box 157
220113 Minsk

Tel.: +37517 2806815

Fax: +37517 2194424

E-mail: info@novak.by

Internet: <http://www.novak.by/eng/about.html>

Management: Vardomatski, Andrei, Dr. (director)

Year of foundation: 1992

Main fields: "NOVAK" axiometrical research laboratory is a private independent service specialized in sociological research in the field of marketing, media and public opinion as well as in consulting services. In cooperation with foreign partners "NOVAK" conducts numerous international surveys on the territory of Belarus among which most important are "World Values Survey ", "Eurobarometer", surveys for the World Bank, information agencies of the leading countries of the world as well as marketing projects for the first-rate transnational companies, etc.

Surveys: Regular surveys: Media diary; TV channel audience research; Radio station audience research; Print media audience research.

Belarusian Institute of Law

ul. Korolya 3
220004 Minsk

Tel.: +37517 2110331; 2110158

Fax: +37517 2110158

E-mail: bip-edu@tut.by

Internet: <http://pravoved.at.tut.by/>

Management: Samal, Sergei, Dr. (rector)

Year of foundation: 1991

Organization: The Institute is a private institute of higher education.

Departments:

- Dept. of Law
- Dept. of Economics and Law
- Dept. of International Law
- Polish Higher Humanitarian School

Main fields: The Belarusian Institute of Law trains lawyers and economists on the basis of up-to-date technologies using distance learning in the course of tuition.

Teaching: The Department of Law provides training in the following specializations: national economy law; tax and banking law; legal aspects of international economic activity; customs law; legal aspects of business; legal information technologies. The Department of

Economics and Law trains specialists in bookkeeping, analysis and audit, economics and enterprise management. The Department of International Law provides training of specialists in international private law, international commercial law and international customs law. It also trains political scientists in political power and political systems, and politics and state governing. The Polish Higher Humanitarian School trains specialists in psychology as well as in legal aspects of psychology and foreign languages (English, German, and Polish).

International Institute for Policy Studies

P. O. Box: 44
220050 Minsk

Fax: +37512 6480306

E-mail: iips-main@tut.by

Internet: <http://iips-main.at.tut.by/>

Management: Paznyak, Vyachaslau, Dr. (director)
Year of foundation: 1995

Historical development: IIPS is an international non-governmental organization. It was registered by the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Belarus on February 16, 1995 and was re-registered on September 13, 1999.

Main fields:

- research on current international and domestic issues;
- creating analytical models and forecasting policy outcomes;
- evaluating state and alternative foreign and domestic policy programs;
- providing information and consulting for interested organizations and individuals;
- training of specialists;
- organization of conferences, seminars and "round tables";
- publishing.

Research projects: 1996-2003

- Belarus, EU/NATO enlargement and regional security
- Civil-military relations and military reform in Belarus
- Belarus and NATO
- Non-proliferation of the weapons of mass destruction and export controls
- Belarus and the ABM Treaty
- "IR - online. E-learning for world politics" within the framework of the project by the Institute for East European Studies of the Free University of Berlin
- "New curriculum for teaching international relations: a task for regional institutions in Central and Eastern Europe" - within the framework of the project by the Institute for

East European Studies of the Free University of Berlin

- Mass media in the political system of Belarus
- Central Asia nuclear-weapon-free zone in the context of regional security
- Belarus national security and export controls
- Belarus and the Nunn-Lugar Program
- Evolution of the Commonwealth of Independent States
- Military-technical cooperation in the Commonwealth of Independent States
- Integration and disintegration in the FSU: implications for regional and global security
- Belarus denuclearisation policy

Publications: The Belarusian journal on international politics "VECTOR" is published three times a year in Russian (available at: <http://iips-main.at.tut.by/eng/vector.html>).

Events: The Institute organises conferences, seminars and workshops.

Co-operations: Partnership for Peace Consortium of Defence Academies and Security Studies Institutes.

Institute for Privatization and Management (IPM)

Avenue "Pravdy", 11, International educational center
220088 Minsk

Tel.: +375 17 277 05 69

Fax: +37517 277 04 04

E-mail: ipm@ipm.by

Internet: <http://www.ipm.by/index.pl?topicid=ENGLISH>

Year of foundation: 1993

Historical development: The Institute for Privatisation and Management was established as a joint venture. The Central European University Fund (USA), Capital Market and Privatisation Development Fund (Poland) and the Ministry of Managing State Property and Privatisation (The Republic of Belarus) were the founders. The major task of the Institute at the time of its creation was the promotion of the economic reforms in Belarus.

Main fields: The mission of the Institute for Privatization and Management is to enhance the national competitiveness of the Republic of Belarus through educational support of the companies and general public. It develops new training programs (MBA) in management, marketing and finance for private sector and scientific research activities.

Research: Macroeconomic analysis; foreign trade; restructuring and post-restructuring strategies of companies; small business development in Belarus.

Publications/ papers: The Center publishes quarterly economic journal *Ecowest*; series of working and discussion papers; quarterly bulletin *Belarusian Economic outlook: Trends, Analysis, Forecasts*.

Institute for Privatization and Management (IPM)

Research Center of IPM

Zakharova str. 76
220088 Minsk

Tel.: +375 17 2100 105

Fax: +375 17 294 11 47

Email: research@research.by

Internet: <http://research.by/>

Year of foundation: 1999

Main fields: The Center was opened to provide informational support for private sector and to ensure the orientation of educational programs of IPM towards real problems of business in Belarus. The research center is organizing a dialog with the authorities on the market reforms and further economic development in Belarus. The instruments of dialog are monthly seminars with the Forum of economists and the publication of a quarterly economic journal "Ecowest".

Research: Macroeconomic analysis; foreign trade; restructuring and post-restructuring strategies of companies; small business development in Belarus.

Publications/ papers: The Center publishes a quarterly economic journal *Ecowest*; series of working and discussion papers; a quarterly bulletin *Belarusian Economic outlook: Trends, Analysis, Forecasts*.

Information Centre

Belarus National Centre of Legal Information

ul. Bersona 1a
220050 Minsk

Tel./Fax: +37517 2227064

E-mail: admin@ncpi.gov.by

Internet: <http://ncpi.gov.by/>

Management: Kashinsky, Yury (director)

Year of foundation: 1997

Main fields: The centre provides accumulation, storage, systematisation and dissemination of legal information in both paper and electronic formats. In the field of Internet technology, the Centre has the tasks of providing free online access to Belarus laws and other legal acts; online access to the National Register of Legal Acts of the Republic of Belarus and providing the world community with official texts of Belarus legislation in English. Currently, the last

two objectives are not yet completed. The databank of Belarus legislation, "ETALON", is a full-text system containing more than 20,000 legal acts issued by the President, Parliament, Government, National Bank, ministries, Constitutional Court, Supreme Court, Supreme Economic Court, and international treaties. The online version, available on the Internet, has the complete set of ordinances and decrees of the President of the Republic of Belarus and laws of the Republic of Belarus. The database allows full-text searching. Although the site is available in both Russian and English versions, all documents on the legal database are in Russian or Belarusian. The National Register of Legal Acts lists all the legal acts as they are published twice a week, and can be searched by date..

Data bases:

- Standard Database of Legal Information
- Database "Legislation of the Russian Federation"
- Database of Law Drafts of the Republic of Belarus
- Database "Judicial Practice"
- Database "International Treaties"
- Database "Decisions of Bodies of Local Government and Self-Government".

Journal descriptions

Journal of International Law and International Relations

Журнал международного права и международных отношений

Place of publication: Minsk

Publication dates: quarterly

Published by: International Public Association for Research and Educational Programmes "Development"

ul. Akademicheskaya 25

220072 Minsk

Tel./Fax: +37517 284 0013

Internet:

http://evolutio.info/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=142&Itemid=132

E-mail: selivanych@mail333.com

Editor-in-chief: Selivanov, Andrej

Subject area: International law, international relations, international economic relations

Headings: Articles: theory issues, international organisations, international and national law, international civil law, human rights, diplomacy and consulship, liability in international law, comparative legal science; Documents; Reviews.

The journal is published in Russian. Full texts are available on the homepage.

Personality. Culture. Society

Личность. Культура. Общество

Place of publication: Minsk

Publication dates: since 1999, quarterly

Published by: Institute of Human Being of the Russian Academy of Sciences, State University of Ivanovo, Institute of Sociology of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus

32a Leninskii Prospekt

117334 Moscow, Russian Federation

Tel.: + 8 095 938-56-56, +8 095 203-90-67

Fax: +8 095 203-91-69

Internet: <http://www.ac.by/publications/lko/index.html>,

<http://www.lko.ru/jur.htm>

E-mail: lko@mail.ru

Editor-in-chief: Dr. Yuri Reznik

Subject area: The journal publishes papers on the analysis of interdisciplinary problems of social theory and social practice.

Articles are published in Russian, summaries in English.

Sociology

Социология

Place of publication: Minsk

Publication dates: since 1997, quarterly

Edited by: Belarus State University

Nezavisimosti avenue 4

220050 Minsk

Tel.: +375 17 222 928 78

Fax: +375 17 222 606 65

Internet: <http://www.bsu.by/main.asp?id1=20&id2=342>

Editor-in-chief: A. Danilov

Subject area: Social science theoretical and applied research

Headings: Articles; Sociologists' Roundtable; Notes for Sociologists; Column for Research Assistants; Sociological Portrait; Information; Sociological Surveys.

The journal is published in Russian, with summaries in English.

Herald of the Belarusian State University, series 3 (History, Philosophy, Psychology, Political Science, Sociology, Economics, and Law)

Вестник Белорусского Государственного Университета, серия 3 (история, философия, психология, политология, социология, экономика, право).

Place of publication: Minsk

Publication dates: 1969, three times a year

Founded by: Belarusian State University

Bobruyskaya 7-412

220030 Minsk

Tel.: +375 17 222 928 78

Fax: +375 17 222 606 65

Email: vestnikbsu@bsu.by

Internet: <http://www.bsu.by>

Editor-in-chief: Dr. V. Kljunja

Subject area: theoretically oriented scientific papers

Headings: Articles on theoretical issues in above-mentioned fields; short resume on new publications, as well as new teaching methods for university teachers. Articles are published in Russian or Belarusian with English resumes.

Herald of the Belarusian State University of Economics

Вестник Белорусского Государственного Экономического Университета

Place of publication: Minsk

Publication dates: since 1994, bimonthly

Edited by: Belarusian State University of Economics

pr. Partizanskij 24

220070 Minsk

Tel./Fax: +375 17 209 78 84

E-mail: vestnik@bseu.by

Internet: <http://www.bseu.by/english/herald.htm>

Editor-in-chief: I. Novikova

Subject area: National and international development of economics, administration, communication and law, methodological research, education

Headings: Methodological problems of economics; Challenges of the 21st century and the development strategies; Enhancement of management; Analytical prognosis and proposals; Real sector of economy and consumption; Financial sector of the economy; Ecology, economy and law; Civilization and cross-cultural communication; Teacher's Notes; Consultations; Conference news.

The journal is published in Russian. Full texts are available on the homepage.

Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus, Series Humanitarian Sciences

Весці Нацыянальнай акадэміі навук Беларусі

Place of publication: Minsk

Publication dates: since 1956 (online since 1996), quarterly

Published by: Publishing House "Belaruskaya Navuka"

Edited by: National Academy of Sciences of Belarus

40 Nezavisimosti avenue
220072 Minsk
40 Fr.Skaryny Prasppekt
220141 Minsk
Tel.: +375 17 263-37-00, +375 17 284-19-19
Fax: +375 17 263-76-18
Internet:

<http://nasb.gov.by/rus/publications/vestih/index.html>

E-mail: humanity@presidium.bas-net.by,
belnauka@infonet.by

Editor-in-chief: academician Pyotr Nikitenko

Subject area: The journal publishes scientific papers in the field of philosophy, sociology, law, economy, history, art studies, ethnography, folklore, literature studies, and linguistics.

Headings: Articles, short announcements on and annotations of the deposited articles, book announcements, critical reviews; sections "Chronicle", "Scientists of Belarus" and "In Memoriam"

The journal is published in Belarusian, summaries are provided in Russian and English.

Belarusian Justice

Юстыцыя Беларусі

Place of publication: Minsk

Publication dates: since 1998, monthly

Published by: Ministry of Justice of Belarus
ul. Kollektornaya 10-400
220004 Minsk

Tel.: +375-17-289 38 95

E-mail: justbel@minjust.belpak.minsk.by

Internet: <http://justbel.info/>

Editor-in-chief: V.G. Golovanov (minister)

Subject area: Theoretical and practical aspects of justice in Belarus.

The journal is published in Russian.

Belarusian Economic Journal

Белорусский экономический журнал

Place of publication: Minsk

Published by: Belarusian State University of Economics, Ministry of Economics of Belarus, national Bank of Belarus, and research economic Institute of the Ministry of Economics of Belarus

Publication dates: since 1997, quarterly (in Russian and Belarusian with English resume)
pr. Partizanskij 24
220070 Minsk

Tel./Fax: +375 17 209 78 84

Editor-in-chief: Prof. V.Shimov.

Internet: <http://www.bem.bseu.by>

Headings: Theoretical and practical problems of economic development in Belarus and the global world, development of human potential in

Belarus, increase of economic level of knowledge in Belarus, as well as promoting support to young teachers of economics.

Psychological Journal

Психологический журнал

Place of publication: Minsk

Publication dates: since 2004 (between 2004-2006 it was called Belarusian Psychological Journal), quarterly

Published by: Minsk Institute of Management (private institution of higher education)

Ul.Lazo 12

220102 Minsk

Tel.: +375 17 242-97-97. +375 17 243-66-12

Internet:

<http://www.miu.by/rus/library/magazine.php?id=5y>

Editor-in-chief: Prof. V.M.Kozubovsky

Subject area: Theoretical and practical issues of psychology, special fields of social psychology. Articles are published in Russian, with English summaries.

Psychology

Психалогія

Place of publication: Minsk

Publication dates: since 1995, quarterly

Published by: the editorial staff of the state journal Adykacija I Vyhavanne (Education and Upbringing) financed by the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus (as a regular methodical supplement "Help for Teachers")

ul.Korolya 16

220004 Minsk

Tel.: +375 17 220-54-81, 375 17 220-54-10

Internet: <http://www.aiv.by/czasopisy/?czas=psiha>

Editor-in-chief: Prof. Jakov Kolominsky

Subject area: Practical support for using psychological knowledge in higher education institutions.

Portal

National Legal Internet Portal of the Republic of Belarus

Link: <http://pravo.by/>

Geographic coverage: Belarus

Subjects: Legal and administrative sciences

Description: Online portal to Belarus legal information provided by the state National Center of Legal Information of the Republic of Belarus (NCLI). The site provides an outline of the Belarus legal system and the legislative process. There is government information and

news covering Belarus legal developments. Access is also given to the Belarus legislation databank "ETALON" which contains over 12000 legal acts made freely available online in Russian. The Constitution and legislation concerning economic activities, taxation, currency, foreign investment, intellectual property and social and labour issues are available in English. Countries are listed with whom Belarus has agreements regarding the protection of investments and avoidance of double taxation and there is a review of the legislation governing foreign economic and business activity. The site can be viewed in Russian or English.

Language: Russian/English, all documents in Russian.

Access: Publicly available resource.

Databases

Electronic Catalogue of the Library of the National Academy of Sciences

Link: <http://libcat.bas-net.by/>

Geographic coverage: National and international scope

Subjects: All scientific disciplines

Description: Full texts of publications

Language: The search can be made in Russian and English.

Access: Free of charge

Electronic Catalogue of the Fundamental Library of the Belarusian State University

Link: <http://www.library.bsu.by>

Subjects: All scientific disciplines

Description: The electronic catalogue consists of 8 bibliographical data bases (in total more than 190 thousands items). It includes books (since 1994), periodicals (since 1989), articles from 460 journals (since 2000), e-journals (since 2000), as well as electronic versions of journals published by BSU. The Library also provides free access to some foreign electronic resources.

Language: The search can be made in Russian, the bibliographical description is offered in a language of publications.

Access: Free of charge for the BSU staff and students.

Clearinghouse

Belarus: Science/Research/Development

Link: <http://www.ac.by/country/science.html>

Geographic coverage: National scope

Subjects: All disciplines

Description: The Clearinghouse is maintained by the Academy of Sciences of Belarus. The link collection contains references to:

- research institutions,
- higher educational institutions,
- scientific societies,
- legal documents,
- conferences and seminars.

Language: English

Access: Free of charge

Scientific associations

Belarus Political Science Association (BPSA)

Nesavisimosti avenue 8
220050 Minsk

Tel./Fax: +375 17 2274213

Management: Bobkov, V., Prof. (president)

Year of foundation: 1993

Main fields: BPSA was founded for the purpose of combining the efforts of political science scientists to analyse and forecast political processes, to elaborate proposals for the political and socio-economic development of Belarus, and to contribute to the establishment of a civil society.

Conferences: Contemporary Political Process in Belarus and Prospects for its Development (1994), Civic and National Harmony – a Necessary Condition for Uniting Belarus Society (1995), the Political Process in Belarus and Prospects for its Development (1996), the Political and Socioeconomic Process in Belarus: Status, Prospects, and Problems (1997), the Rise of Civil Society in Belarus in the Context of Stable Development (1999), the Contemporary Political and Socioeconomic Process in Belarus, Russia, and Ukraine: Status, Problems, and Prospects (2000), the Stable Development of Contemporary Large Cities: Theory, Experience, and Problems (2002).

Belarus Academy of Political Sciences

Ul. K. Marksa 1
220050 Minsk

Tel.: +375 17 2276172
Fax: +375 17 2228318
E-mail: reshetSV@bsu.by

Management: Reshetnikov, Sergej, Prof. (president)

Year of foundation: 1998

Main fields: The Academy carries out monitoring and prognostication of political situation in the republic, provides expert consulting for political decisions, and political education for the public at large. BAPS activities aim at

- determining priorities in the development of political science in Belarus,
- coordination of political science studies,
- promotion of the training of highly qualified scholars,
- dissemination of research findings of the world's leading political scientists,
- promotion of political science knowledge,
- assistance in the formulation of draft legislation,
- forecasting effects of governmental decisions and assessment of alternative proposals,
- analysis of public opinion of various population groups in order to improve political cooperation and to ascertain a level of the population's political activity,
- setting up contacts among scholars and experts in professional and academic areas, including international humanitarian project and program development.

Belarusian Public Association "Sociological Society"

Nezavisimosti avenue, 4
220050 Minsk

Tel.: +375 17 2840747
E-mail: A.Danilov@tut.by

Management: Danilov, Alexandr, Prof. (chairman)

Year of foundation: 2000

Historical development: During the Soviet period, the association was a Belarusian branch of the Soviet Sociological Association. After the break-up of the USSR, for some years it acted as an independent sociological association uniting scholars. In 2000 the society was re-organized: on the basis of the previous society Sociological Society was registered as a loose union of Belarusian social scientists conducting research or teaching sociology.

Founder members: Officially, the founders are all members of Sociological Society.

Members: 150 members from all oblasts of Belarus

Supporting institution: Belarusian State University (BSU)

Financing: none

Organization: Chairman, three vice-chairs, Board
Activity: Organisation of republican conferences and publication of conference proceedings. Recent conferences: Present-day issues of Belarusian sociology (2005), Modern Society as a Field of Study of Social Sciences (2006).

Research fund

Belarusian Republican Foundation for Fundamental Research (BRFFR)

Nezavisimosti avenue 66
220072 Minsk

Tel.: 375 17 2840942
Fax: 375 17 2849742
Internet: <http://fond.bas-net.by>

Management: Orlovich, Valentin; academician (President)

Year of foundation: 1991

Aim: The goals of the foundation are to support scientific initiatives and international/national collaboration, to provide financing of scientific publications (books) and conferences. All projects are selected on the competitive basis after strict expertise. Currently, almost 450 projects have financial support of BRFFR: among them 144 scientific projects (the rest are joint projects with Russia and Ukraine, young scholars, conferences, etc.).

Founder members: The Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus

Supporting institution: National Academy of Sciences

Financing: full state support

Main fields: Financing of short-term projects of fundamental and applied studies according to priority; support of talented young scholars; financing of joint international projects; support of material and technical resources for scientific research; financial support of publishing; organisation of symposiums, conferences and other scientific events.

Publications/ papers: Herald of the Belarusian Republican Foundation for Fundamental Research (bimonthly)

Co-operations: Russian Humanitarian Foundation, Russian Foundation for Fundamental Research, State Foundation for Fundamental Research of Ukraine.

WESTERN EUROPE

Recent publications

- Balmaceda, Margarita M.; Clem, James I.; Tarlow, Lisbeth (eds.), 2003: *Independent Belarus: Domestic Determinants, Regional Dynamics, and Implications for the West*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, - 512 p.
- Korosteleva, Elena; Marsh, Rosalind J.; Lawson, Colin (eds.), 2003: *Contemporary Belarus: Between Democracy and Dictatorship*. London et al.: RoutledgeCurzon, - 256 p.
- Lewis, Ann (ed.), 2002: *The EU & Belarus: Between Moscow & Brussels*. London: Kogan Page, - 429 p.
- Manaev, Oleg, 2004: *Recent developments in Belarusian Politics, Society and Media*. Bochum: Projekt Verlag, - 51 p.
- Shevtsov, Yury, 2005: *United Nation. The Phenomenon of Belarus*. Moscow: Yevropa; - 239 p.
- White, Stephen; Leowenhardt, John; Korosteleva, Elena (eds.), 2005: *Postcommunist Belarus*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, - 208 p.

Online publications

Working Papers

- Ambrosio, Thomas: "The Political Success of Russia-Belarus Relations: Insulating Minsk from a 'Color' Revolution", in: *Demokratizatsiya* (forthcoming) http://www6.miami.edu/maia/ISAS05/papers/Russia-Belarus_Thomas_Ambrosio.pdf
- Bakanova, Marina; Estrin, Saul; Pelipas, Igor; Pukovich, Sergej: *Enterprise Restructuring in Belarus*, IZA DP no. 2148 <http://ftp.iza.org/dp2148.pdf>
- Brixiova, Zuzana; Volchok, Vera: *Labor market trends and institutions in Belarus*, William Davidson Institute 2005, WP No. 777 <http://www.wdi.umich.edu/files/Publications/WorkingPapers/wp777.pdf>
- Forbrig, Jörg; Marples, David R.; Demes, Pavol: *Prospects for Democracy in Belarus*, German Marshall Fund and Heinrich-Böll Stiftung 2006 <http://www.gmfus.org/doc/Belarus%20book%20final.pdf>
- Haiduk, Kiryl: *Assessing the Political and Economic Situation in Belarus: An Awkward Partner Beyond the Enlarged European Union?*, in: Kempe, Iris (ed.): *Prospects and Risks Beyond EU Enlargement. Eastern Europe: Challenges of a Pan-European Policy*. Opladen 2003, S. 107-132.

http://www.cap.lmu.de/download/2004/2004_Haiduk.pdf

- Ioffe, Grigory: *Understanding Belarus: Belarusian Identity*, in: *Europe-Asia Studies*, Vol. 55, No. 8, December 2003, 1241-1272 <http://gioffe.asp.radford.edu/Part%20Two%20Final.pdf>
- Lindner, Reiner: *Belarus in Self-Imposed Isolation*, SWP Comments 2005/C 44, September 2005, 4 pages http://www.swp-berlin.org/en/common/get_document.php?asset_id=2455
- Lynch, Dov (ed.): *Changing Belarus*, Institute for Security Studies, Chaillot Paper no. 85, November 2005 <http://www.iss-eu.org/chaillot/chai85.pdf>
- Ramasheuskaya, Ina: *Building self-sustainable humanitarian NGOs in Belarus: challenges of finding income at home*, William Davidson Institute 2005, Policy Brief no. 23 http://www.wdi.umich.edu/files/Ramasheuskaya_Ina_23w.pdf
- Silitski, Vitali: "Preempting Democracy: The Case of Belarus", in: *Journal of Democracy*, vol. 16, no. 4 (October 2005), 83-97 <http://www.journalofdemocracy.org/articles/gratis/Silitski-16-4.pdf>

Reports

- Amnesty International: *Belarus: suppressing the last voices of peaceful dissent*, 2005 [http://web.amnesty.org/library/pdf/EUR490042005ENGLISH/\\$File/EUR4900405.pdf](http://web.amnesty.org/library/pdf/EUR490042005ENGLISH/$File/EUR4900405.pdf)
- Bertelsmann Transformation Index, *Country Report Belarus 2006* <http://www.bertelsmann-transformation-index.de/fileadmin/pdf/en/2006/CISAndMongolia/Belarus.pdf>
- International Money Fund 2006: *Republic of Belarus. Selected Issues* <http://www.nbrb.by/engl/publications/imf/SelectedIssuesEng.pdf>
- Freedom House: *Nations in Transit 2006. Belarus* <http://www.freedomhouse.hu/nitransit/2006/belarus2006.pdf>
- United Nations: *Belarus: Addressing Imbalances in the Economy and Society. National Human Development Report 2004-2005* http://un.by/pdf/1321_eng.pdf
- World Bank: *Belarus Window of Opportunity to Enhance Competitiveness and Sustain Economic Growth*, 2005 http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTBELARUS/Resources/328178-1120132035392/1365350-120132328436/cem_by06_full.pdf

Research project

Cross-border Partnerships in selected NIS Countries and the Consequences of EU-Enlargement: Fostering Entrepreneurship in the Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova

Description: The project will investigate the extent, nature and forms of cross-border cooperation in border regions in Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova with EU new members and upcoming accession states, in order to assess its contribution to entrepreneurship, economic and social transformation. Requirements for successful co-operation, especially the role of trust and learning, will be assessed in relation to other factors influencing the success of these relationships. The project combines desk-top based literature reviews with empirical studies of cross-border partnerships, based on qualitative research methodologies, including observations, semi-structured in-depth case interviews, in order to capture the heterogeneity of cross-border partnerships, to enable an assessment of their contributions to entrepreneurship and regional development, together with relevant policy recommendations. Analysis will include the development of a typology of different types of actors in different types of region and different forms of co-operation. The project started in 2005 and will be carried out up to 2007. The funding for the project was provided by the International Association for the Promotion of Co-operation with Scientists from the New Independent States of the Former Soviet Union (INTAS). Following institutions participate in the project: Kingston University London, Small Business Research Centre, (United Kingdom); Centre for Scientific and Technological Potential and Science History Studies (STEPS), Ukrainian Academy of Sciences; National Institute of Economy and Information of the Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Moldova (NIEI); Belarusian Academy of Sciences.

Contact: Welter, Friederike, Prof. Dr (project leader)

University of Siegen

Chair of Business Economics

Hölderlinstr. 3

57068 Siegen

Germany

Tel.: +49-271-740 28 44

Fax: +49-271-740 22 79

E-mail: welter@uni-siegen.de

Internet:

http://www.prokmu.de/forschung/aktuelleprojekte_intas.php

Scientific associations

North American Association for Belarusian Studies (NAABS)

The North American Association for Belarusian Studies (NAABS) is a non-profit scholarly organization which seeks to promote research, study, and teaching in all aspects of Belarusian studies, including the fields of history, language and linguistics, literature and the arts, cultural studies, sociology, anthropology and ethnography, political science, economics, and international relations. To achieve these goals, and to foster the exchange of information among scholars engaged in various aspects of Belarusian studies, the Association will publish a biannual newsletter, sponsor or co-sponsor panels and roundtables at international, national and regional conferences in the U.S. and Canada, organize conferences and symposia.

<http://www.belarusianstudies.org/>

CONFERENCES IN EASTERN EUROPE

announcement

4th International Political Marketing Conference

Date: April 17-21, 2007

Conference site: Sinaia, Romania

Organiser: The Romanian Political Marketing Association and the Political Research Institute at the University of Bucharest

Topics: The organisers invite to debate how political marketing can outline effective leadership and comprehend the political changes determined by the interactions of leaders and various social and political groups. Specific topics are for example: The use of political marketing strategy patterns for effective political leadership; Comparative marketing of political organizations and political leaders.

Conference fee: Regular participant: 320 Euro. Student participant: 200 Euro.

Contact: Irina Bota (Communication Coordinator) Romanian Political Marketing Association 28 Colentina, bl 65. ap16.

sect. 2 Bucuresti, Romania

Tel.: +4072 305 43 65

Fax: +4021 321 33 12

E-mail: administrator2007@politicalmarketing.ro

Internet: <http://conference.rsunit.com/index.html>

announcement

6th International Conference Economic Integrations

Date: April 18-21, 2007

Conference site: Opatija, Croatia

Organiser: University of Rijeka - Faculty of Economics - Chair Jean Monnet; University of Ljubljana - Faculty of Economics - Chair Jean Monnet; CEDIMES Paris – Rijeka - Centre d'Etudes du Développement International ed des Mouvements Economiques et Sociaux; University of Antwerp - Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence

Topics: Theory and practice of economic integration; Global trade liberalization vs. regional economic integration; Competitiveness and challenges of the enlarged EU; Business and government perspectives of EU enlargements; Case studies on specifics of national economic policies related to economic integration; International business in changing global environment - theory and practices; Regulatory environment of the EU; Western Balkans; trade, cooperation and EU integration perspective.

Contact: Prof. Vinko Kandžija

University of Rijeka, Faculty of Economics
Rijeka

Ivana Filipovića 4

51000 Rijeka, Croatia

Tel.: +38551 355 130

Fax: +38551 212 268

E-mail: euconf@efri.hr or kandzija@efri.hr

Internet:

http://www.efri.hr/english/prikaz.asp?txt_id=2898

announcement

**International student scientific conference
“(Post)modernity and Sciences: Sociology
in looking for itself”**

Date: April 19 - 21, 2007

Conference site: Kharkiv, Ukraine

Organiser: V.N. Karazin Kharkiv National University, School of Sociology, Student Scientific Society of the School of Sociology

Topics: The organizational committee invites undergraduate and graduate students to take part in the following sections of the conference: Theoretical and methodological problems of the development of Sociology; Sociological imagination: myth or reality?; Dilemmas of the Sociology of culture; Communications and social space; Problems of risk, security, and social order in a changing world; Sociological reflection of the economic phenomena; Political space: a game without rules?; Personality in the system of the groups and institutions of society; Transformational processes on the post-Soviet

space; Spiritual spheres of society: socio-humanitarian approach; “Ethnic” and “national” in society of the 21st century; Gender problems in Sociology; Problems of education and youth; Modern conflicts: evolutionary tendencies.

E-mail: info@synergy.socio.com.ua

(with a copy to SNO-SF@yandex.ru)

Internet:

<http://www.synergy.socio.com.ua/conference.html>

announcement

**EU Enlargement and Labour Migration
within the EU. IMISCOE Seminar**

Date: April 23-24, 2007

Conference site: Warsaw, Poland

Organiser: IMISCOE (International Migration, Integration and Social Cohesion)

Topics: Proposals on the following themes are invited: Consequences of the EU-15 transitory regulations after the enlargement from 2004; Regional and sub-regional patterns of migration from EU-8 countries; Post-accession migration and emerging transnationalism; Labour market adjustments and development in the new member states; Consequences for migrants from non-EU area; Migration and development prospects for Bulgaria and Romania.

Contact: Cristina Pantiru; DPhil Migration Studies, Research Officer, Sussex Centre for Migration Research

E-mail: M.C.Pantiru@sussex.ac.uk

Internet: <http://www.migracje.uw.edu.pl/>

announcement

**Curriculum Development Workshop:
Teaching Public Sector Ethics**

Date: April 23-27, 2007

Conference site: Budapest, Hungary

Organiser: Central European University: Center for Policy Studies and Curriculum Resource Center

Topics: The workshop aims to provide a forum for discussion and peer-support on practical questions of teaching and developing courses on ethics for public service and public policy. Rather than moral philosophy per se, the main focus of the workshop will be on methods and approaches to teaching applied ethics for public policy. Applications are welcome from academics already active in this area as well as those currently developing courses, particularly in political science, public management and administration, and public policy.

Conference fee: free

Contact: Lilla Jacobs, Center for Policy Studies, Central European University

Tel.: +361 327 31 32

Fax: +361 235 61 70

E-mail: jakobsl@ceu.hu
Internet: <http://cps.ceu.hu/curriculum2007.php>

announcement

**The International Economic Conference
„Romania within the EU: Opportunities,
Requirements and Requirements and
Perspectives”**

Date: May 10-11, 2007
Conference site: Sibiu, Romania
Organiser: The "Lucia Blaga" University of Sibiu,
Romania - The Faculty of Economic Sciences
Conference fee: 60 EUR
Contact: Dr. Ramona Toma
„Lucian Blaga” University of Sibiu, Faculty of
Economic Sciences
Sibiu, Romania
Str. Dr. Ion Ratiu No. 5-7
Tel.: +40745 417 43
Fax: +40269 21 03 75
E-mail: torasib@yahoo.com
Internet: [http://economice.ulbsibiu.ro/ro/
activitate_stiintifica/conference/2007/index.php](http://economice.ulbsibiu.ro/ro/activitate_stiintifica/conference/2007/index.php)

announcement

**European Union at the Crossroads: the
Need for Constitutional and Economic
Changes**

Date: May 17-18, 2007
Conference site: Torun, Poland
Organiser: Nicolaus Copernicus University, Jean
Monnet Centre for European Studies,
Topics: The main objective of the conference is
to continue the debate on the Constitutional
Treaty. Taking into account that Germany will
take the presidency of the European Union, we
think that this is a good moment to consider the
future of the European Union with or without the
Constitutional Treaty. The Conference will not
be limited to the issues concerning this Treaty.
The changes which take place in the European
Union, both in relation to its enlargement as
well as to the development of the European
integration will be also considered. The main
themes: Constitutional changes - do we really
need them? Constitutional Treaty; Charter of
Fundamental Rights; Changes in the field of
European Union Policies.
Conference fee: 60 EURO
Contact: Nicolaus Copernicus University, Jean
Monnet Centre for European Studies
Reja 25
87-100 Toruń
E-mail: ncu-ces@econ.uni.torun.pl
Internet: <http://www.umk.pl/jednostki/cse/conf/>

announcement

**Seminar „Women and Politics“ – Class
Differences in Feminism**

Date: May 17–19, 2007
Conference site: Dubrovnik, Croatia
Organiser: Ženska infoteka in cooperation with
Heinrich Böll Foundation and Inter University
Center Dubrovnik
Topics: During the 11th seminar 'Women and
Politics' the organiser intends to explore the
ways in which the existence of the differences -
in employment and type of economic sector,
economic power, social status, type and degree
of education etc. - among feminists, influence
the access to knowledge and social power to
women as a group in its own right. The
organiser will address such topics as: Which
are the different feminist approaches relevant in
the Eastern Europe today? Which differences in
priorities and understanding of appropriate
measures that need to be undertaken divide the
feminist movement?
Contact:
Ženska infoteka
Varšavska 16
10 000 Zagreb
E-mail: zinfo@zimir.net
Internet: <http://www.zinfo.hr/engleski/index-eng.htm>

announcement

**International Conference on Globalization
and Politics of Development**

Date: May 17-19, 2007
Conference site: Bucharest, Romania
Organiser: National School of Political Sciences
and Public Administration, Bucharest, Romania
in co-operation with Babes Bolyai University,
Cluj, Romania and the European Institute of
Romania
Topics: The impact of globalization on policy
making and implementation; globalization and
European integration: consequences upon
national development policies; sustainable
development policies in the context of
globalization; European regional development
policy; development models of other economic
regions (the Pacific Rim, North America); the
situation of the new EU Member states from
Central and Eastern Europe; and more.
Conference fee: 100 Euro
Contact: Dr. Alina Bargaoanu
National School of Political Sciences and Public
Administration, Faculty of Communication and
Public Relations
6-8, Street Povernei
71124 Bucharest

E-mail: alina.bargaoanu@comunicare.ro or
abirgaoanu@yahoo.com or
alina_bargaoanu@yahoo.com
Internet:
<http://freestudiesabroad.blogspot.com/2007/01/cfp-international-conference-on.html>

announcement

The Good, the Bad and the Unexpected

Date: May 23-25, 2007
Conference site: Moscow, Russian Federation
Organiser: The COST 298 network 'Participation in the Broadband Society'
Topics: The main objective of the conference is to create new knowledge about users' creativity and facilitate their empowerment in a broadband information society. The organisers invite technology and product developers, designers, social scientists, policy makers, community representatives and others who are interested in the conference topics, to join our attempt to develop this discussion on a common, shared and transdisciplinary ground.
Conference fee: 250€
Contact: Vesna Dolnicar, University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Social Sciences
Tel.: +386-1-580 53 52
Fax: +386-1-580 51 01
E-mail: costconference@fub.it
Internet: <http://cost298.org/conference>

announcement

Global and Regional Governance – European Perspectives and Beyond

Date: May 24-26, 2007
Conference site: Wroclaw, Poland
Organiser: The Central and East European International Studies Association (CEEISA)
Topics: The main focus of the CEEISA Convention is therefore to contribute to the scholarly discussion on the regional governance from a comparative perspective, with a view to attempting to analyse the existing, and suggesting new linkages between regional and global co-operation on issues of common concern.
Conference language: English
Contact: Mats Braun, Adrianna Kosowska, Assistant to the Executive Director
E-mail: braun@iir.cz, kosowska@ism.uni.wroc.pl
Internet: <http://www.ceeisaconf.uni.wroc.pl/>

announcement

Enterprise in Transition

Date: May 24-26, 2007
Conference site: Split, Croatia
Organiser: The Faculty of Economics of the University of Split
Topics: Theme I: Towards the enhancement of social responsibility and business ethics: Modern Theory and Practice; Theme II: Challenges for Business sector development; Theme III: New Insights for economics and political economy.
Contact: Faculty of Economics, University of Split,
Matice hrvatske 31
21000 Split, Croatia
Fax: + 38521 430 701
E-mail: eitconf@efst.hr
Internet: <http://www.efst.hr/eitconf/index.php>

announcement

Promoting Key Competencies in Formal and Nonformal Education

Date: May 25-27, 2007
Conference site: Baia Mare, Romania
Organiser: Info Project, Petre Dulfu County Library, BIT-Grup and LIFERO.
Topics: The main aims of the Conference are to provide an Introduction to and debates on the new tendencies in European education. Main Focus: Key Competencies and Social integration.
Contact: Mariana Hudrea and Simona Zachia
Tel.: +4026 222 00 64
Fax: +4026 227 43 32
E-mail: mariana.hudrea@alphanet.ro
Internet: http://www.infoproject.baiamare.rdsnet.ro/Engl/Conference_en.htm

announcement

Change and Resistance (International Conference on Social Transformations and Education)

Date: June 15-17, 2007
Conference site: Gdansk, Poland
Organiser: University of Gdansk-Institute of Education; University of Wolverhampton; History and Governance Research Institute; Foundation for the Development of Gdansk University
Topics: The conference will create a forum for debates on current processes of learning, adaptation and resistance taking place in rapidly changing societies: Gdansk and other places: Local geographies of change; New

social structures, new social divisions; What and how we learn: meanings of social transformations; Post-communism as a global condition: The world with no alternatives?; Populism; The discourse of post-communism: Who speaks and why? The missing language? Marxism and social critique after the fall of Berlin Wall; Living in post-socialist states: Hope, disillusion, post-communist nostalgia; Representations: insider's and outsider's perspectives on social change.

Conference language: English

Contact: University of Gdansk, Institute of Education

Krzywoustego 19,
80-952 Gdansk, Poland

Tel.: +4858 557 20 47

Fax: +4858 557 21 12

E-mail: change@univ.gda.pl

Internet: <http://www.change.univ.gda.pl>

announcement

Second Conference of the European Survey Research Association

Date: June 25-29, 2007

Conference site: Prague, Czech Republic

Organiser: A large variety of topics will be discussed, among which are sampling, nonresponse, measurement of social science concepts, evaluation of survey quality, cross-cultural research, research designs, analysis of survey data, missing data, data collection, mode effects in surveys, etc.

Contact: Daniel Oberski

E-mail: esra@sqp.nl

Internet: <http://esra.sqp.nl/>

announcement

Life in Motion. Shifting Spaces, Transcending Times, Crossing Borders - 8th Postgraduate Conference

Date: June 28-30, 2007

Conference site: Brno, Czech Republic

Organiser: Faculty of Social Studies, Masaryk University (Brno, Czech Republic) in cooperation with the School of Slavonic and East European Studies, University College London

Topics: The conference presents a major opportunity for postgraduate students and young academics to discuss the events in Central and Eastern Europe also including but not limited to Russia, Eurasia, the Balkans, and the Baltic States. Submissions and participants from a wide range of disciplinary perspectives are invited.

Conference fee: Travel expenses of Eastern European participants may be contributed to -

depending on the success of fund-raising and on the base of individual need.

Contact: Marcel Tomasek, Postgraduate Conference, Sociology Department, Faculty of Social Studies

Masaryk University, Jostova 10, 602 00 Brno, Czech Republic

E-mail: tomasekm@fss.muni.cz

Internet: <http://soc.fss.muni.cz/eng/lim.php>

announcement

Summer University "Integrity Reform and Strategic Corruption Control"

Date: July 2-11, 2007

Conference site: Budapest, Hungary

Organiser: Central European University, Center for Policy Studies

Topics: Topics covered include cross-cutting issues such as definitions, measurements and research methodology, and also distinct areas such as access to information, fiscal transparency, and risk assessment and management.

Conference fee: 1000 EUR/10 days for those employed by government agencies and international organizations, 500 EUR/10 days for students, academics, researchers and those employed by the non-profit sector.

Contact: Lilla Jacobs, Center for Policy Studies, Central European University

Tel.: +361 327 31 32

Fax: +361 235 61 70

E-mail: jakobsi@ceu.hu

Internet:

http://cps.ceu.hu/sun_corruption_control_07.php

announcement

The 'New' 'Liberal' Europe: Speculations, Fears, Visions

Date: July 08-13, 2007

Conference site: Skopje, Macedonia

Organiser: Society of Applied European Thought (SEAT)

Topics: This conference seeks to engage in critical meditations reflecting on the speculations, fears and visions of the early 1990's as to the emerging character of Europe, and the impact of change within different parts of Europe and beyond. It seeks to prompt debate on contemporary change, developments and issues that might lead us to different speculations, fears and conclusions and new visions for Europe in the 21st Century. In doing so it marks the fifteenth anniversary of the first SAET conference by reflecting on features of its theme - "Liberalism and the New Europe."

Conference fee: 450£

Contact: Dr. Niall W.R. Scott, Lecturer in Ethics, Centre for Professional Ethics, University of Central Lancashire, Harrington Building, Preston, PR1 2HE, UK
Tel.: +441 772 89 2547
Fax: +441 772 89 2942
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Internet: <http://www.eastchance.com/>

announcement

Third International Conference on Russian America

Date: 8-12 August 2007
Conference site: Irkutsk, Russia
Organiser: Joint Siberian-Alaskan Research Group on Russian America (JSARGRA), Taltzi Museum
Topics: This conference, dedicated to the history, archaeology, and ethnography of Russian America, will focus on: The history of the Russian-American Company and of Russians in America; The archaeology of contacts between Europeans and indigenous populations of North Asia and North America; The ethnology of the indigenous peoples of Eastern Russia and Alaska; Missionary activities of the Russian Orthodox Church in Siberia and North America; The history and historical archaeology of Eastern Russia and North America.
Contact: Natalia Volkova
Tel.: +8-39510 4-20-34
E-mail: shelmuz@irkutsk.ru
Internet: <http://home.gci.net/~sncnuka/JSARGRA/JSARGRA-2007-Conference.html>

announcement

Women, Gender and the Cultural Production of Knowledge

Date: 8-12 August 2007
Conference site: Sofia, Bulgaria
Organiser: International Federation for Research in Women's History; University of Sofia; International Federation for Research in Women's History
Topics: The organizing committee of the 2007 IFRWH conference has chosen the theme "Women, Gender, and the Cultural Production of Knowledge" because they believe that culture (and its history) as an all encompassing symbolic system, plays the most significant role in social life and reproduction of human knowledge, both in the past and in our present.
Conference fee: delegates 260€, students and other guests 180€

Contact: Prof. K. Daskalova, St. Kliment Ohridski Univ. Faculty of Philosophy and Social Sciences
Tel.: (+359 2) 870 - 42 - 36
Fax: (+359 2) 870 - 42 - 36
E-mail: krassimira_daskalova@yahoo.com
Internet: <http://www.ifrwh-bulgaria2007.org/>

announcement

Urban Identity, Power and Space: The Case of Trans-European Corridor

Date: August 27-31, 2007
Conference site: Tirana, Albania
Organiser: Commission on Urban Anthropology, International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences
Topics: The conference will address the changes that are occurring throughout Europe in relation to the construction of the Corridors. In particular, it will focus on urban change, old and new identities and the methodological issues raised by carrying out research in this new geopolitical situation. The conference will be structured around three main sessions: Corridors of Power; History and Memories; Anthropology, Research and Local Spaces.
Conference fee: 20 Euros.
Contact: Dr. Giuliana B. Prato, (co-chair of the Commission on Urban Anthropology and Conference Convenor)
E-mail: g.b.prato@kent.ac.uk
Internet: http://www.necen.org/news_archive/news_item.2006-11-07.2851498054

announcement

Global Challenges for Competitiveness: Business and Government Perspective

Date: September 27-29, 2007
Conference site: Pula, Croatia
Organiser: University of Rijeka, Faculty of Economics and Tourism «Dr. Mijo Mirkovic» Pula
Topics: The aim of the forth conference is to deal with different fields of national and business competitiveness. Focus: Economic, social and political issues related to actual and future development challenges in the processes of integration and globalisation; Economic growth and development; Integration and globalisation; Company competitiveness; National competitiveness; Financial sector development; Public and monetary sector development; Entrepreneurship, management and marketing; Corporate governance; Trade and investments; Tourism sector development; E-business; E-learning; Sustainable growth.

Contact: Ms. Sandra Krtalić, Faculty of Economics and Tourism «Dr. Mijo Mirkovic» Pula
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Fax: +38552 216 416
E-mail: conference@efpu.hr
Internet: <http://www.efpu.hr/conference>

announcement

“What unites us, what divides us?”(13th Polish Congress of Sociology)

Date: September 13-15, 2007
Conference site: Zielona Góra, Poland
Organiser: Polish Sociological Association
Topics: Collective Goods and Political Culture; "The Better" and "the Worse" in Contemporary Society; Towards New Forms of Social Life; Borderlands and Migration in Contemporary Europe; Polling and Commenting: Social Roles of Sociologists; Individuals and Communities: Society in Action; Consumption and Lifestyles.

More detailed information can be obtained directly from the organiser Prof. Janusz Mucha ([jmucha@post.pl](mailto:jmuch@post.pl))
Institute of Sociology of University Zielona Gora
al. Wojska Polskiego 65
65762 Zielona Góra
Tel.: +4868 328 32 28
E-mail: zjazd-pts@is.uz.zgora.pl
Internet: <http://www.zjazd-pts.uz.zgora.pl/angielska.html>

announcement

Social Psychology of Language and Politics. Workshop

Date: September 13-15, 2007
Conference site: Warsaw, Poland
Organiser: The University of Warsaw, Łódź University and the University of Wrocław
Topics: The main theme is a language-based approach to the study of intergroup relations. The proposed topics are as follows: Linguistic Category Model and its possible uses in studies on the political issues; outgroup dehumanisation and its linguistic symptoms in political discourse; identifying the linguistic indicators of stereotyping and prejudice; collective guilt and forgiveness in political and everyday life; political narratives from the perspective of social psychology.
Contact: Adrian Wojcik, Institute of Sociology, Warsaw University
E-mail: awojcik@uw.edu.pl
Internet: http://www.ils.uw.edu.pl/pl2007/index.php?page=23&PHPSID=8sbnsasn8bqdanh1ag45391in2&id_lang=2

announcement

Communication and Peace. 2007 EURICOM Colloquium on Communication and Culture

Date: September 13-15, 2007
Conference site: Piran, Slovenia
Organiser: The European Institute for Communication and Culture (Euricom)
Topics: The colloquium invites participants to consider forms and functions of communication in the process of negotiating peace, to question the role of media in the (re)production of conflicts and their resolutions, and to reflect on the importance of dialogue in making sense of disharmony and producing closure.
Contact: Hanno Hardt, Slavko Splichal
E-mail: hanno.hardt@fdv.uni-lj.si, slavko.splichal@guest.arnes.si
Internet: <http://www.euricom.si/cfp06.html>

INTERNET

- **Constitutional Court of the Republic of Belarus**
Website of the Belarus Constitutional Court which is hosted by the National Center of Legal Information in Belarus. The site provides background information on the Court including its structure and composition, documents establishing the Court and a link to the Constitution of Belarus. Decisions are presented in full-text in HTML and are available from 1996 onwards. There are also news items detailing other activities of the Court. The site can be viewed in Russian and English. <http://ncpi.gov.by/ConstSud/eng/>
- **Law and Politics in Belarus**
The Law and Politics in Belarus Web page forms part of the Virtual Guide to Belarus a non-profit collaborative site compiled by Belarusian professionals working in different parts of the world. The site provides an outline of the Belarus legal system and a history of Belarusian law. Links are given English translations of the Constitution and other laws. There is a summary of Belarusian politics from 1986 to 2005 and links to the Websites of the President, Council of the Republic and the House of Representatives along with various human rights organisations and opposition groups in Belarus. Other sections of the guide include culture, travel and history. http://www.belarusguide.com/as/law_pol/law_pol.html
- **President of the Republic of Belarus**
This is the official English language website of the President of the republic of Belarus. It provides access to information about the function of the President and his/her recent

activities. It includes some biographical information and photographs of the current president, plus access to presidential press releases, ordinances, decrees, political interviews and speeches for the last few years. Links are provided to general factual information about the country of Belarus and its political system.

<http://president.gov.by/en/>

- **Guide to Legal Research in Belarus**

An article offering an outline of the legal system and notes on legal materials for the Republic of Belarus in Eastern Europe. The guide has been written by Tatyana Khodosevich, Chief Librarian of the Service Department of the National Library of Belarus and Nadia Shalygina, Director of the International Law Library. The guide was published in 2005 on the Globalex Website and made freely available by the Hauser Global Law School Program at the New York University School of Law. The author gives brief explanations of the history and structure of the Republic's Government, Presidency, legal and judicial systems, with reference to legal documentation, official publications and Internet resources. This is an updated version of the guide published in 2002 on LLRX.com (Law Library Resource Xchange) a free online Web journal for legal information professionals.

<http://www.nyulawglobal.org/globalex/Belarus.htm>

- **Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus**

This is the English language version of an official government website of the Republic of Belarus. It provides information about the structure, function and recent activities of the government. It includes the full-text of the constitution, recent press releases and government news covering all aspects of domestic and foreign policy. Also provided is a listing of committee members, information and biographies of the current prime minister of Belarus and a gateway/portal of links to the official websites of the main government departments, ministries and agencies.

<http://www.government.by/en/main.html>

- **Belarus: ODIHR Election Reports**

This site provides access to the full-text of a collection of reports published by the Office For Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) of the OSCE (Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe). They include election observation reports and assessments of the conduct and administration of parliamentary and presidential elections in Belarus from 2000 onwards. Users should note that the papers are in PDF format and therefore require

access to an Adobe Acrobat Reader for use <http://www.osce.org/odihr-elections/14353.html>

- **EU's relations with Belarus**

This is an official site maintained by the European Commission. It provides access to information on the relations of the European Union with Belarus. This includes information on economic, political and diplomatic relations and the foreign policy of the EU towards Belarus. Other topics include coverage of elections and presidential election observations Users may access full-text press releases, policy statements, speeches, agreements and EU reports published since 2000.

http://ec.europa.eu/comm/external_relations/belarus/intro/index.htm

- **Constitution of Belarus**

This site contains the full-text of the Belarus Constitution which was adopted in 1994. The document is made freely available in English by International Constitutional Law (ICL) at the University of Bern in Switzerland. The Constitution includes sections covering the principles of the constitutional system, the individual, society and the state, the electoral system, legislative, executive and judicial power, local government and state monitoring and supervision. The site provides other constitutional documents, background information to the Constitution and a brief history of Belarus.

http://www.oefre.unibe.ch/law/icl/bo_indx.html

- **Supreme Economic Court of the Republic of Belarus**

Website of the Belarus Supreme Economic Court. There are 8 economic courts in Belarus which have jurisdiction in the field of economic relations including contracts, bankruptcy and taxation. The Supreme Economic Court is responsible for the administration of the economic court system. There is background information on the site outlining the role and functions of the courts, information regarding the payment of state duties and a full-text copy of the Investment Code of the Republic of Belarus. Contact details are given for all the economic courts.

<http://www.court.by/en/>

- **The Forgotten Neighbour Belarus in the Context of the EU Enlargement to the East**

This is the fourth of the Stefan Batory Foundation Policy Paper series, which present the views of Polish non-governmental communities concerning those international issues that are important from the view of European integration'. The paper was published by the Stefan Batory Foundation and prepared in cooperation

with the East European Democratic Centre (IDEE). The authors argue that relations with Belarus will be one of the most important issues of EU external policy, and that the EU 'seems not to be aware of this fact yet'. The authors describe the present social and political situation in Belarus. They also put forward their suggestions for the EU to follow in order not to be surprised by the possible course of events' in Belarus. These recommendations are new EU eastern policy concerning Belarus, counteracting against isolation and support for independent media. The article is available in Polish, English and Belarusian languages as a PDF format file.

<http://www.batory.org.pl/ftp/program/forum/rap4pl.pdf>

Contact

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