#FactsOfRepression

Repressions in Belarus in 2020

The Belarusian regime has detained more than **33,000 people**, including **171 minors** and **57 foreign nationals**.

Human Rights Organization “Viasna” reported **over 600 injured people during arrests** and **over 1,000 torture victims**, while **0 investigations against security forces** were opened.

**Period:** 01.01.–31.12.2020

**Source:** Human Rights Center “Viasna”
In 2020, many more people have been convicted for political reasons than from 2011 to 2019 combined.

Note: Please note the discrepancy between the number of documented convictions (8,443) and the total number of estimated detentions in 2020 (over 33,000) is because no information is available on the bulk of cases.

Source: Human Rights Center "Viasna"
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Number of political prisoners in Belarus

In 2021, there have been **266 political prisoners** all together. Only 10 have been released so far.

**Note:** Total number of political prisoners per year.  
**Period:** 01.01.2011–15.02.2021  
**Source:** Human Rights Center “Viasna”
Detention period of political prisoners

The **256 currently imprisoned political prisoners** (221 men and 35 women) have already between them spent **37,500 days in prison** all together.

- **Imprisoned since up to 50 days**: 24 persons
- **51 to 100 days**: 54 persons
- **101 to 150 days**: 70 persons
- **151 to 200 days**: 78 persons
- **over 200 days**: 30 persons

*As of: 15.02.2021*,
*Source: Human Rights Center “Viasna”*
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**Charges against political prisoners**

76 of the current 256 political prisoners in Belarus have already been convicted and sentenced to a total of **235 years and 9 months** in prison.

The average prison sentence of these 76 sentenced political prisoners is **3 years and 1 month**.

- **37%** Organising, financing, preparing or participating in riots
- **31%** Organization of or participation in actions that grossly violate public order
- **5%** Fraud, tax evasion or bribery
- **15%** Other charges
- **12%** Resistance or violence towards representatives of the state

Note: Some of the prisoners face several charges.
As of: 15.02.2021
Source: Human Rights Center "Viasna"
In 2020, Belarusian journalists spent in total over 1200 days behind bars, and independent observers counted 540 violations of journalists’ civil rights.

Sources: Human Rights Center “Viasna”, Belarusian Association of Journalists (BAJ)
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Repressions of Belarusian students

- Students, ...
  - who were **arrested**: 424
  - who were **expelled from university**: 135
  - who got **disciplinary sanctions**: 93

*Period: 01.09.2020–09.02.2021*
*Source: Belarusian Students’ Association (BSA)*
Prisoner’s godparenthood

As part of Libereco’s solidarity campaign #WeStandBYyou to date 169 European parliamentarians have adopted political prisoners in Belarus.

As of: 15.02.2021
Source: Libereco