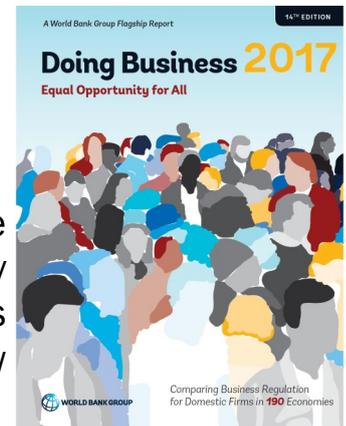


# BELARUS. INTERNATIONAL RANKINGS

## Belarus is ranked 37th in the World Bank Doing Business 2017 Report

Belarus is ranked **37th** out of 190 countries, covered by the **World Bank Doing Business 2017 Report**. The country managed to move up by 13 positions in the ranking (Belarus appeared to be 50th last year according to the new methodology).



### Position of Belarus on Ten Key Indicators of the Ranking

Key Indicators	Doing Business 2017	Doing Business 2016
Registering Property	5	7
Getting Electricity	24	74
Enforcing Contracts	27	28
Dealing with Construction Permits	28	25
Trading across Borders	30	30
Starting a Business	31	30
Protecting Minority Investors	42	62
Resolving Insolvency	69	95
Paying Taxes	99	95
Getting Credit	101	109

According to a recent World Bank report, Belarus is also one of the top-10 countries, highlighted this year for making the biggest improvements in their business regulations.

New Zealand is a leader of the ranking, followed by Singapore, Denmark, Hong Kong (China), the Republic of Korea, Norway, the UK, the USA, Sweden and Macedonia. Estonia (12th place) has the best performance among the post-Soviet countries. Latvia ranks 14th, Georgia – 16th, Lithuania – 21st, Kazakhstan – 35th, Armenia – 38th, Russia – 40th, Moldova – 44th, Azerbaijan – 65th, Kyrgyzstan – 75th, Ukraine – 80th, Uzbekistan – 87th, Tajikistan – 128th.

## EDB's Macro Overview

In October, 2016 the **Eurasian Development Bank** published in its report "**EDB's Macro Overview**" the latest data on the macroeconomic development of the CIS member states.

In January–September, 2016 positive trends in the economic development of Belarus were observed in the following spheres:

1. decline in inflation to the level of the inflation target of the National Bank of the Republic of Belarus for 2016;
2. preserving stability of the national currency market;
3. growth of international reserves amid the high payouts on domestic and external liabilities'
4. expenditure reductions in order to maintain the budget surplus at the end of 2016;
5. as of August 1, 2016, state domestic debt decreased by 3.8 % since the beginning of the year;
6. credit easing to reduce the risks of financial instability.

## Belarus ranks 48th in the ranking of the largest gold holding countries

Belarus is inside the top-100 largest gold holding countries of the world. According to the ranking, published by the **World Gold Council**, our country holds **3rd place** in the CIS region and **48th** worldwide.

The USA head the "Gold List", followed by Germany and the International Monetary Fund. Italy, France, China, Russia, Switzerland, Japan and the Netherlands are also in TOP-10.

Russia is a leader among the CIS states.



## Belarus takes 66th place in the ranking of social progress

Belarus takes **66th place** in the ranking of social progress, compiled by the **Social Progress Imperative** (a US-based nonprofit). The specialists of the organization have analyzed more than 50 indicators of social development: nutrition, water, shelter, health service, access to education, information and communications, personal safety, freedom and others.

Belarus has the best performance on the following indicators: nutrition and basic medical care (26th place), access to basic knowledge (27th place).



Finland, Canada and Denmark take the top three spots of this ranking. Our neighbors Poland, Lithuania and Latvia rank 30th, 34th and 36th respectively. Ukraine takes 63rd place, Russia is 75th.

## Belarus occupies 57th place in the World Justice Project Rule of Law Index 2016

Belarus is **57th** in the **Rule of Law Index**, drawn up by the independent, multidisciplinary organization **World Justice Project**.

Over the last year our country has moved up by two points in this ranking.

This year the experts of the organization analyzed legal system of 113 states.

Denmark is the highest-ranked country, followed by Norway and Finland.

## Ukrainians believe that Belarus is among the top-5 countries that should be an example for Ukraine to follow

Initiated by the **Institute of World Policy of Ukraine**, **TNS Ukraine** (a representative of the world's largest custom market research company TNS) held an opinion poll on the question "The foreign policy of what country today should be an example for Ukraine to follow?".

Ukrainians believe that Switzerland (12,2%) has the best example to follow. Poland (11,3%) takes 2nd place, Germany (11,2%) is 3rd in the ranking.

Belarus ranks **5th** (8,1%), only 0.1 % behind the USA (4th place).

## Belarus came 79th in the Good Country Index-2016.

Belarus holds **79th place** out of 163 countries, ranked in the **Good Country Index-2016**.

The ranking measures what each country on earth contributes to the common good of humanity and what it takes away. Countries were ranked on 35 indicators in 7 categories: science and technology, culture, international peace and security, world order, planet and climate, prosperity and equality, health and wellbeing.

Our country makes the most significant contribution to the sphere of global science and technology (**37th place**).

Belarus ranks **52nd** on “health and wellbeing”, **69th** on “planet and climate”, **75th** on “world order”, **125th** on “culture”.

According to the ranking, Sweden is the most useful country for global wellbeing. The top ten-ranked countries are Denmark, the Netherlands, the UK, Germany, Finland, Canada, France, Austria and New Zealand.

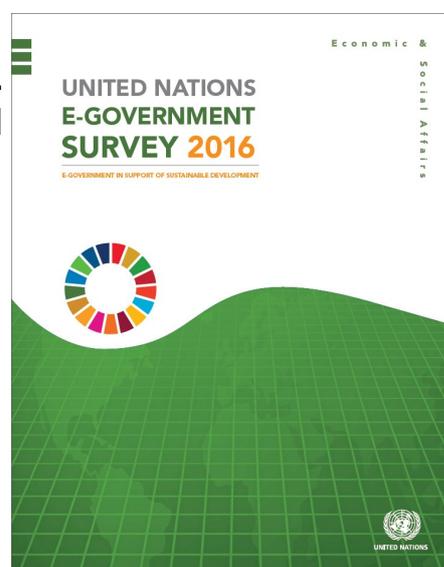
## Belarus holds 49th place in the UN E-Government Survey 2016

Belarus holds **49th place** out of 193 countries, represented in the **United Nations E-Government Survey 2016** on “E-Government in Support of Sustainable Development”. The E-Government Development Index of Belarus amounts to 0,6625 (global EGDI is 0,4922). The EGDI consists of several indicators.

Belarus has the best performance on the Human Capital Index (0,8716), Telecommunication Infrastructure Index amounted to 0,6304, Online Service Index is 0,4855. Belarus moved up to 76th place in E-Participation Index (the country was 92nd in 2014).

The UK is a country with the highest EGDI. Australia, the Republic of Korea, Singapore and Finland are also in TOP-5.

The ranking is presented by the UN every two years. In 2014 Belarus was 55th.



## State of Broadband Report 2016

The ITU/UNESCO Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development issued the latest edition of its **State of Broadband Report**.

According to the report, the number of fixed-broadband subscribers in Belarus amounts to 31.35 per 100 inhabitants. Belarus is **23rd** out of 187 countries, covered by the report in this category (a year ago there were 28.8 subscribers per 100 inhabitants, our country has moved up by 2 points). The country is ranked between the USA and Georgia. Belarus has the best performance among the neighboring countries. Lithuania holds 34th position, Latvia is 42nd, Poland is 54th, Russia is 55th, Ukraine is 77th. The top three-ranked countries are Monaco, Switzerland and Liechtenstein.

According to the report, the number of mobile broadband subscribers (3G and 4G) in Belarus totals to 61.83 per 100 inhabitants. On this indicator Belarus takes **59th** place out of 179 countries. Macau (China), Singapore and Kuwait are the best represented countries in this category. Russia ranks 40th, Poland – 44th, Ukraine – 148th.

The total number of the Internet users in Belarus is 62.23% of the population (**68th place**).

## Belarus takes 31st place in the ICT Development Index 2016

Belarus came **31st** in the **ICT Development Index 2016 (IDI)**, published by the **International Telecommunication Union** in its **Measuring the Information Society Report 2016**. Belarus' IDI is 7.26. Our country is ranked between Israel and Czechia.

South Korea (8.84) heads the list, followed by Iceland, Denmark and Switzerland. Russia takes 43rd place (6.95), Poland – 50th (6.65), Ukraine – 76th (5.33).

In the last years Belarus has improved its performance in the ranking: Belarus was 33rd in 2015, 38th in 2014, 50th in 2010 and 84th in 2008.

This year Belarus is the only country of the CIS region that has improved its results in the ranking .

According to the experts of the Union, Belarus has reasonably priced access to the broadband Internet.



## Belarus received certificates of the World Health Organization

The Ministry of Health of the Republic of Belarus received certificates of the **World Health Organization** on the documented elimination of measles and rubella in Belarus and on the end of local malaria transmission in the European region.

Certificates were presented during the 66th session of the WHO European Regional Commission. The elimination of disease is defined as the lack of endemic cases of measles and rubella for more than 12 months within the specific territory if a well functioning system of disease control is provided.

## Belarus is ranked 30th on gender equality

According to the annual report by the **World Economic Forum**, released in October, 2016, Belarus ranks **30th** among 144 countries on gender equality.

Iceland, Finland and Norway are among the leaders of the ranking.

Report's authors examine the situation with the equal treatment of women and men with the use of the so called **World Economic Forum Global Gender Gap Index**. The Index measures the status, rights and role of women and men in different spheres of social, economic and political life of the society. Belarus received 0,737 point, which means that Belarus has closed 73,6 per cent of its' gender gap. The result is higher than the worldwide average (68 %).

### Position of Belarus on Certain Indicators

ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION AND OPPORTUNITY	5th place
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT	29th place
HEALTH AND SURVIVAL	40th place
POLITICAL EMPOWERMENT	80th place

According to the World Economic Forum, the world situation is relatively positive in the sphere of educational attainment and health care. But the sphere of economy and politics calls for considerable efforts to achieve gender equality.

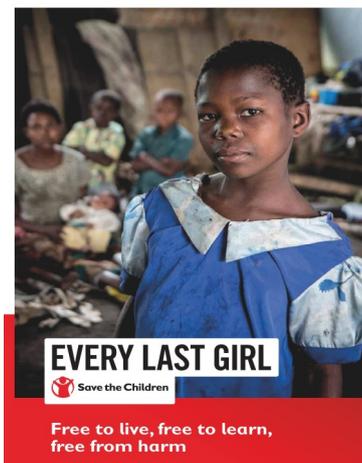
## Belarus ranks 24th in the Save the Children Report, regarding the Girls' Opportunity Index

The international children's rights organization **Save the Children** released its report **Every Last Girl**, which rates the countries according to the **Girls' Opportunity Index**. The Every last girl study looked at the girls' opportunity in 144 countries.

It focused on five indicators: child marriage, teen pregnancy, maternal deaths, women's representation in parliament and girls' graduation rates in school.

Belarus is a leader among the CIS countries (**24th place**). Kazakhstan holds 30th place, Uzbekistan 38th, Armenia 46th, Ukraine 51st, Moldova 52nd, Tajikistan 57th, Kyrgyzstan 59th, Azerbaijan 69th. Russia and Turkmenistan are not represented in the list.

The top-rated countries are Sweden, Finland, Norway, the Netherlands and Belgium.



## National Geographic Traveler names Belarus the best country for agritourism

Belarus won **National Geographic Traveler Awards 2016** in the nomination **"Agritourism"** with 24 per cent of votes. Italy with 22 per cent of votes and France with 20 per cent came 2nd and 3rd respectively.

Belarus is among the top-5 countries for rest and recreation. Israel ranks first, following by Czechia, Hungary and Russia.

Online-voting on the website of the National Geographic Russia lasted for almost two months. Anyone could vote for a country, he-/she considered to be the best one in the nomination. The best tourist destinations from the list of the most popular types of leisure in 2016 were chosen in 23 nominations.



## Minsk is among the top-20 most athletic cities of the world

In the ranking by the **Information Agency Sportcal** Minsk made it into the top-20 most athletic cities of the world. The **19th place** (4,643 points) this year is 32 lines higher than in previous ranking. Data on 610 cities of the world was considered in the ranking.

According to the National Olympic Committee, the results of the 45th session of the General Assembly of the European Olympic Committee, held on October 20-22, 2016, and choosing the capital of Belarus as the host of the European Games-2019 have contributed to Minsk success.

The capital of Belarus already has experience in holding major international competitions, including Kontinental Hockey League All Star Game in 2010, World Junior Figure-Skating Championship in 2012, Hockey World Championship in 2014, World Football Championship and Rhythmic Gymnastics European Championships in 2015.

For 5 years in a row, London was named the Most Athletic City in the world.

## Belarus is a popular tourist destination among Russians

According to RoomGuru.ru data, in Autumn, 2016 Minsk occupied 3rd place among the **most popular with Russians cities to travel**. Prague and Istanbul are the leaders of the ranking.

The ranking is based on data on search and booking of hotels and apartments during the period from September 1 to October 31, 2016.

Baku, Rome, Barcelona, Berlin, Warsaw, Tallinn and Paris are also in TOP-10.

The average duration of stay of Russian tourists in Belarus is three days.

Traditionally Minsk is among the most popular tourist destinations in the CIS. Russians amount to 70 % of tourists, travelling to Minsk.

The **ranking of the most popular among Russians ski resorts** in the CIS region and Georgia was composed according to RoomGuru.ru data.

The ranking is based on data on search and booking of hotels and apartments during Christmas holidays from December 30, 2016 to January 8, 2017.

## Belarus has been put in the group of low-risk travel destinations

**International SOS** and **Control Risks**, two of the world's leading medical and security specialists, launched the **Travel Risk Map for 2017**.

Belarus has been put in the group of **low-risk travel destinations** in the Travel Risk Map (along with Poland, Lithuania, Germany, England, the USA, Canada, etc).

Belarus and Russia are in different groups. According to the Travel Risk Map for 2017, Russia is among medium-risk travel destinations.

## BSU came 354th in the QS World University Rankings, released by the agency QS. So far this is the best result for a Belarusian university

**Belarusian State University** ranks the **top-500 World Universities** twice before with the place from **421 to 430**.

Among Russian universities, Moscow State University showed the best result (108th place). Warsaw University ranks 366th, Vilnius University with the place from 481 to 490 occupies the highest position among the Lithuanian universities that have been ranked. Kharkiv National University, the best one among the Ukrainian universities, is on the 382nd place. Latvian University is in the group of universities that ranked places from 651 to 700.

The USA and UK Universities lead the ranking. Since last year, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (the USA) remains the top university in the world, followed by Stanford University (the USA) and Harvard University (the USA). The University of Cambridge (the UK) ranks 4th.

This year more than 900 universities were examined.



Information Department

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus  
vul.Lienina, 19, Minsk, 220030, tel. (00375 17) 327 29 22  
fax (00375 17) 210 42 50, 327 45 21

E-mail: [info@mfa.gov.by](mailto:info@mfa.gov.by)

