

KEY FACTS AND FIGURES ON BELARUS / UNESCO COOPERATION

1. **Membership in UNESCO:** since 12 May 1954
2. **Membership on the Executive Board:** Not currently (last term 2009-2013).
3. **Membership on Intergovernmental Committees, Commissions, etc.:**
 - Intergovernmental Council of the International Programme for the Development of Communication (term expires in 2017)
 - Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (term expires in 2017)
4. **The Director-General's visits to the country: 1**
 - 17 to 20 April 2014: official visit; to participate in the celebrations of the 60th anniversary of Belarus' entry into UNESCO
5. **The former Director-General's visits to the country: 1**
 - 10-12 July 2002: official visit
6. **Permanent Delegation to UNESCO:**
 - H.E. Mr Pavel Latushka, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Delegate (since 25 February 2013)
 - Previous Permanent Delegates: H.E. Mr Aleksandr Pavlovsky (October 2008 – December 2012); H.E. Mr Viktor Shykh (February 2005 – March 2008)
7. **UNESCO Office:** none. Belarus was covered by the UNESCO Moscow Office.
8. **Commission of the Republic of Belarus for UNESCO:**
 - Date of establishment: 1956
 - President: Mr Vladimir Makei, Minister of Foreign Affairs (since August 2013)
 - Secretary-General: Mr Yury Ambrazevich, Director-General for Multilateral Diplomacy of Ministry of Foreign Affairs (since August 2013)
 - Assistant Secretary-General: Ms Inna Vasilevskaya, Senior Counselor, Director-General for Multilateral Diplomacy of Ministry of Foreign Affairs (since August 2013).
9. **Belarusian personalities having a relationship with UNESCO:** none
10. **UNESCO Chairs: 8**
 - UNESCO Chair in Radiation and Environmental Management at the International Sakharov Environmental University, Minsk (1994)
 - UNESCO Chair for Human Rights and Democracy at the Belarusian State University, Minsk (1994)
 - UNESCO Chair on Energy Conservation and Renewable Energies at the Belarusian State Polytechnical Academy, Minsk (1996)
 - UNESCO Chair in Culture of Peace and Democracy at the National Institute of Higher Education of the Republic of Belarus, Minsk (1997)
 - UNESCO Chair on Peace and Tolerance through Languages and Civic Education at the Minsk State Linguistic University (1999)
 - UNESCO Chair in Information Technologies and Law at the National Centre of Legal Information, Minsk (2003)
 - UNESCO Chair in Science Education with Emphasis on Natural Sciences at the Belarusian State University, Minsk (2011)
 - UNESCO Chair on Vocational Education in the Sphere of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) of Persons with Special Needs (2014), The Belarusian State University, Institute of Information Technologies, Minsk (1081)

11. **Associated Schools:** 22 (9 primary/secondary schools, 10 secondary, and 3 vocational and technical institutions). Belarus joined the ASP Network in 1967.
12. **Category 2 Institutes and Centres:** none
13. **UNESCO Clubs:** 1 Federation and 62 Clubs
14. **Biosphere Reserves:** 3
 - Berezinskiy (1978)
 - Belovezhskaya Puszcza (1993)
 - West Polesie Transboundary Biosphere Reserve (2003. Became a transboundary BR with Poland and Ukraine in 2012)
15. **World Heritage Sites:** 4 (3 Cultural; 1 Natural)

Cultural Heritage:

 - Architectural, Residential and Cultural Complex of the Radziwill Family at Nesvizh (2005)
 - Mir Castle Complex (2000)
 - Struve Geodetic Arc (2005, jointly with Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Norway, Sweden, the Russian Federation, and Ukraine)

Natural Heritage:

 - Belovezhskaya Pushcha / Białowieża Forest (1979)
16. **Tentative List:** 5 properties
 - Augustow Canal (2004)
 - Saviour Transfiguration Church and St. Sophia Cathedral in the town of Polatsk (2004)
 - SS. Boris and Gleb (Kalozha) Church in the city of Hrodna (2004)
 - Edifices for Worship of Fortress Type in Belarus, Poland and Lithuania (2004)
 - Worship wooden architecture (17th-18th centuries) in Polesye (2004)
17. **Intangible Heritage Lists:** 1 element on the Urgent Safeguarding List
 - Rite of the Kalyady Tsars (Christmas Tsars) (2009)
18. **Memory of the World Register:** 1 inscription
 - Radzwill's Archives and Niasvizh (Nieśwież) Library Collection (2009), submitted in cooperation with Finland, Lithuania, Poland, the Russian Federation, and Ukraine
19. **Creative Cities Network:** no inscriptions
20. **Legal instruments:** 17 ratified and 23 non-ratified
 - Convention on the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage: approval (3 February 2005)
 - Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions: approval (6 September 2006)
 - International Convention against Doping in Sport: accession (18 February 2009)
 - Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage: non-ratified
21. **Anniversaries with which UNESCO is associated in 2014-2015:** 2
 - 250th anniversary of the birth of Michal Kleofas Ogiński, composer, writer and diplomat (1765-1833) (jointly with Lithuania and Poland)
 - 200th anniversary of the birth of Iosif Goshkevich, scientist and diplomat (1814-1875) (with the support of Japan and the Russian Federation)

Anniversaries with which UNESCO Will be associated in 2016-2017: 2

- 150th anniversary of the birth of Lev (Leon) Bakst, artists, theatre designer, decorator (1886-1924) – with the support of the Russian Federation
- 500th anniversary of the beginning of the Belarussian Printing (1517)

22. Participation Programme:

- 2014-2015: 7 requests approved for the total amount of US\$ 68,550
- 2012-2013: 4 requests approved for the total amount of US\$ 55,000
- 2010-2011: 7 requests approved for the total amount of US\$ 102,000

23. Fellowships: 8 fellowships awarded since 2006 for a total amount of US\$ 70,587

24. Payment of assessed membership fees for 2014-2015: fully paid

- Assessment rate for 2015: 0.056%
- Contribution assessed for 2014-2015: US\$ 365,680

25. Voluntary contributions (expressed in US\$)

Year	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Total	-	3,656	2,742	2,742	2,742

26. Representation within the Secretariat: under-represented

- 1 professional staff in geographical posts (min. 2, max. 4):