

## KEY FACTS AND FIGURES ON BELARUS / UNESCO COOPERATION

1. **Membership in UNESCO** since 12 May 1954
2. **Membership on the Executive Board:** current term expires in 2021
3. **Membership on Intergovernmental Committees, Commissions:** none
4. **The Director-General's visits:** none [former Director-General's visit: one in 2014]
5. **Permanent Delegation:**
  - H.E. Mr, Igor Fissenko, Ambassador, Permanent Delegate (since 25 March 2019)
  - Mr Vitaly Kornev, Deputy Permanent Delegate
  - Previous Permanent Delegate: Mr Pavel Latushka (2013–2018)
6. **National Commission:**
  - Creation: 1956
  - President: Mr Vladimir Makei, Minister of Foreign Affairs (since August 2013)
  - Secretary-General: Ms Natalya Schasnovich
7. **Personalities linked to UNESCO's activities:** none
8. **UNESCO Chairs:** 7
  - 2014: Chair on Vocational Education in the Sphere of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) of Persons with Special Needs at the Institute of Information Technologies of the Belarusian State University, Minsk
  - 2011: Chair in Science Education with Emphasis on Natural Sciences at the Belarusian State University, Minsk
  - 2003: Chair in Information Technologies and Law at the National Centre of Legal Information, Minsk
  - 1999: Chair on Peace and Tolerance through Languages and Civic Education at the Minsk State Linguistic University
  - 1997: Chair in Culture of Peace and Democracy at the National Institute of Higher Education of the Republic of Belarus, Minsk
  - 1996: Chair on Energy Conservation and Renewable Energies at the Belarusian State Polytechnic Academy, Minsk
  - 1994: Chair in Radiation and Environmental Management at the International Sakharov Environmental University, Minsk
9. **Associated Schools:** 24 institutions
  - 11 primary/secondary schools, 10 secondary schools and 3 vocational and technical institutions
  - Joined the ASP Network in 1967
10. **Category 2 Institutes and Centres:** none
11. **UNESCO Clubs:** 1 National Association and 58 Clubs
12. **Biosphere Reserves:** 3
  - 2003: West Polesie Transboundary Biosphere Reserve, with Poland and Ukraine
  - 1993: Belovezhskaya Puszcza
  - 1978: Berezinskiy
13. **Global Geoparks:** none

**14. World Heritage Sites:** 4 (3 cultural; 1 natural)

*Cultural:*

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

*Natural:*

- 1979: Belovezhskaya Pushcha / Białowieża Forest, jointly with Poland

**15. Tentative List:** 5 properties

- 2004: 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 (17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> centuries) in Polesye

**16. Intangible Heritage Lists:** 2 elements

*Representative List*

- 2018: Celebration in honor of the Budslaŭ icon of Our Lady (Budslaŭ fest)

*Urgent Safeguarding List*

- 2009: Rite of the Kalyady Tsars (Christmas Tsars)

**17. Memory of the World Register:** 2 inscriptions

- 2017: The Act of the Union of Lublin document, jointly with Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Ukraine
- 2009: Radzwill's Archives and Niasvizh (Nieśwież) Library Collection, submitted in cooperation with Finland, Lithuania, Poland, Russian Federation and Ukraine

**18. Creative Cities:** none

**19. Legal instruments:** 17 ratified and 23 non-ratified

- International Convention against Doping in Sport: ratified on 18 February 2009
- Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions: ratified on 6 September 2006
- Convention on the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage: ratified on 3 February 2005
- Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage: non-ratified

**20. Anniversaries UNESCO is associated with in:**

*2018-2019: 2*

- 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Regina Salomea Rusiecka (1718-1763), with the support of Lithuania, Poland and Russian Federation
- 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Stanisław Moniuszko, composer, conductor and teacher (1819-1872), jointly with Lithuania and Poland, with the support of Latvia and Romania

*2020-2021: 3*

- 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Ferdynand Ruszczyc, painter, graphic artist, theater designer and educator (1870 - 1936) (joint proposal of Belarus and Poland, with the support of Lithuania and Russian Federation)
- 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Belarusian State University (1921) (with the support of Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Russian Federation)
- 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Fyodor Dostoevsky, writer (1821-1881) (joint proposal of Côte d'Ivoire, Belarus, Italy, Mexico and Russian Federation, with the support of Brazil, Bulgaria, Cuba and Switzerland)

- 21. NGOs in Official Partnership with UNESCO:** none
- 22. Participation Programme:**
- 2018-2019: 4 projects approved for the total of US\$ 69,200
  - 28 projects approved for the total of US\$ 299,700 between 2010 and 2017
- 23. Fellowships:** 8 awarded for a total of US\$ 70,000 since 2010
- 24. Payment of assessed membership fees for 2019:** not paid
- Assessment rate: 0.063%
  - Contribution assessed: US\$ 159,557
- 25. Voluntary contributions:** none since 2014
- 26. Geographical distribution:** under-represented, with one professional (min. 2, max. 4) in geographical post at Headquarters: