

## BELARUS KEY FACTS AND FIGURES

### I. COOPERATION WITH UNESCO

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)
  - Ms Elena Chpakova, 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 Puschcha
  - 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:** 4 elements

*Representative List*

- 2020: Tree beekeeping culture (jointly with Poland)
- 2018: Celebration in honor of the Budslaŭ icon of Our Lady (Budslaŭ fest)

*Urgent Safeguarding List*

- 2019: Spring rite of Juraŭski Karahod
- 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

Date of deposit	Ratified Conventions	Type of deposit
18/02/2009	International Convention against Doping in Sport. Paris, 19 October 2005	Accession
06/09/2006	Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions. Paris, 20 October 2005	Approval
03/02/2005	Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. Paris, 17 October 2003.	Approval
27/02/2003	International Convention for the Protection of Performers, Producers of Phonograms and Broadcasting Organizations. Rome, 26 October 1961.	Accession
17/01/2003	Convention for the Protection of Producers of Phonograms against Unauthorized Duplication of their Phonograms. Geneva, 29 October 1971.	Accession
19/02/2002	Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education in the European Region. Lisbon, 11 April 1997.	Accession
13/12/2000	Second Protocol to the Hague Convention of 1954 for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict. The Hague, 26 March 1999.	Ratification
10/09/1999	Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat. Ramsar, 2 February 1971. <a href="#">↗</a>	Notification of succession
29/03/1994	Universal Copyright Convention, with Appendix Declaration relating to Article XVII and Resolution concerning Article XI. Geneva, 6 September 1952.	Notification of succession

12/10/1988	Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage. Paris, 16 November 1972.	Ratification
28/04/1988	Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property. Paris, 14 November 1970.	Ratification
03/03/1982	Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees concerning Higher Education in the States belonging to the Europe Region. Paris, 21 December 1979.	Ratification
12/12/1962	Convention against Discrimination in Education. Paris, 14 December 1960.	Ratification
10/12/1962	Convention concerning the International Exchange of Publications. Paris, 3 December 1958.	Ratification
10/12/1962	Convention concerning the Exchange of Official Publications and Government Documents between States. Paris, 3 December 1958.	Ratification
07/05/1957	Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict with Regulations for the Execution of the Convention. The Hague, 14 May 1954.	Ratification
07/05/1957	Protocol to the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict. The Hague, 14 May 1954.	Ratification

*\*\*The States marked with two asterisks are parties to the 1971 Convention alone.*

## **20. Anniversaries UNESCO is associated with in 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. Geographical distribution: under-represented, with one professional (min. 2, max. 4) in geographical post at Headquarters:**