



Constitution of the Republic of Belarus

07/07/17

1. The Organs of State Authority

The General Secretary of the Belorussian Republic

- I. The General Secretary of the Belorussian Republic holds the greatest executive power of all members of the Belorussian Republic.
- II. The General Secretary of the Belorussian Republic is an unelected office, and is therefore immune to the result of elections for the Supreme Council.
- III. The General Secretary of the Belorussian Republic wields the power to veto decisions of the Executive Office of the Supreme Council of the Belorussian Republic.
- IV. The veto of decisions by the General Secretary can be overturned by collective decision by all members of the Executive Office of the Supreme Council.
- V. The General Secretary wields the power to dissolve the Supreme Council of the Belorussian Republic and call for elections.

The Supreme Council of the Belorussian Republic

- I. The primary elected body of the Belorussian Republic is the Supreme Council of the Republic.
- II. The legislative power of the Republic of Belarus is exercised exclusively by the Supreme Council .
- III. The Supreme Council of Belarus is elected by the citizens of the Republic according to electoral vote for parties with a maximum of 40 seats on the Supreme Council, with each seat relative to a percentile of the total vote.
- IV. The Supreme Council of Belarus is elected for a term of two months.
- V. A law is considered adopted if passed by the Supreme Council of Belarus by a simple majority vote and approval by the Executive Office.

The Executive Office of the Supreme Council of the Belorussian Republic

- I. The Executive Office of the Supreme Council of the Belorussian Republic is the highest elected body within the Republic.
- II. The Executives of the Supreme Council are able to collectively veto the actions of the General Secretary of the Belorussian Republic.
- III. The members of the Executive Office are elected by the members of the Supreme Council for that term.
- IV. Sessions are convened by the Executives of the Supreme Council at their discretion, or on the demand of the Supreme Council.

-
- V. The Executive Office (Executives) consists of the following Ministers: Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Defence, Minister of Justice, Minister of Interior Affairs, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister of Intelligence.
 - VI. The Executives of the Supreme Council collectively:
 - A. Convene the sessions of the Supreme Soviet;
 - B. Ratifies international treaties;
 - C. Interpret laws of Belarus in operation, issues decrees relevant to their Ministry;
 - D. Conduct referendums on its own initiative or on the demand of the Supreme Council ;
 - E. In the intervals between sessions of the Supreme Council , proclaims a state of war by majority agreement in the event of armed attack on Belarus, or whenever necessary to fulfil international treaty obligations concerning mutual defence against aggression;
 - F. Proclaims martial law by majority agreement in separate localities or throughout the Republic in the interests of the defence of Belarus or for the purpose of ensuring public order and state security.

Electoral System

- I. On the expiration of the term of office of the Supreme Council, or after the dissolution of the Supreme Council prior to the expiration of its term of office, the Executives of the Supreme Council of the Republic retain their powers until the formation of a new Executive of the Supreme Council by the newly-elected Supreme Council.
- II. On the expiration of the term of office of the Supreme Council, or in the event of its dissolution prior to the expiration of its term of office, the Executives of the Supreme Council order new elections to be held within a period not exceeding two weeks from the date of expiration of the term of office or dissolution of the Supreme Council.

2. The Courts and Procurator's Office

The Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus

- I. Belorussian justice is administered by the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus, established and managed by decision of the Executive Office of the Supreme Council.
- II. The Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus is the highest judicial organ. The Minister of Justice is charged with the supervision of the judicial activities of the Republic of Belarus.
- III. The judicial members of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus are immune from elections of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Belarus, and are appointed by the Minister of Justice of the Executive Office of the Supreme Council.
- IV. In all court sessions of the Republic of Belarus cases are heard in public, unless otherwise provided for by law, and the accused is guaranteed the right to be defended by Counsel.
- V. Judges are independent and subject only to the law.

Judicial Hearings

- I. Judicial cases are only raised by members of the the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus or the Executive Office of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Belarus.
- II. The accused is granted the right to legal counsel.
- III. The organization of cases of the Supreme Court concerning Citizens will consist of: one judge, a board of seven jury members, the defendant and counsel of the defendant, the opposition and counsel of the opposition.
- IV. The organization of cases of the Supreme Court against Military or Executive Office officials will consist of: three judges, the defendant and counsel of the defendant, the opposition and counsel of the opposition.
- V. A guilty verdict will result in appropriate sentencing by the Judge(s) of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus.
- VI. A not guilty verdict will result in the closing of the case and liberty of the accused.

3. The Fundamental Rights of Citizens

- I. Citizens of the U.S.S.R. have the right to work, that is, are guaranteed the right to employment and payment for their work in accordance with its quantity and quality.
- II. Women in the Republic of Belarus are accorded equal rights with men in all spheres of economic, state, cultural, social and political life.
- III. Equality of rights of citizens of the Republic of Belarus, irrespective of their nationality or race, in all spheres of economic, state, cultural, social and political life, is an inderfeasible law.
- IV. In order to ensure to citizens freedom of conscience, the church in the Republic of Belarus is separated from the state. Freedom of religious worship and freedom of antireligious propaganda is recognized for all citizens.
- V. In conformity with the interests of the people, and in order to strengthen the system, the citizens of the Republic of Belarus are guaranteed by law:
 - A. Freedom of speech;
 - B. Freedom of the press;
 - C. Freedom of assembly, including the holding of mass meetings;
 - D. Freedom of street processions and demonstrations;
- VI. In conformity with the interests of the people, and in order to develop the organizational initiative and political activity of the masses of the people, citizens of the Republic of Belarus are ensured the right to unite in political organizations; the most active and politically most conscious citizens have a duty to lead in the interests of the Belorussian people.
- VII. It is the duty of every citizen of the Republic of Belarus to abide by the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus, to observe the laws and honestly to perform public duties.

4. The Electoral System

- I. Members of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Belarus are chosen by the electors on the basis of universal, direct and equal suffrage by secret ballot.
- II. Elections of representatives are universal: all citizens of the Republic of Belarus who have reached the age of two weeks post-immigration, irrespective of race or nationality, religion, educational and residential qualifications, social origin, property status or past activities, have the right to vote in the election of representatives and to be elected.
- III. Elections of representatives are equal: each citizen has one vote; all citizens participate in elections on an equal footing.
- IV. Women have the right to elect and be elected on equal terms with men.
- V. Citizens serving in the Military of the Republic of Belarus have the right to elect and be elected on equal terms with all other citizens.
- VI. A maximum of forty representatives are to be nominated to the Supreme Council of the Republic of Belarus.
- VII. It is the duty of every representative to report to his electors on his work and on the work of the Republic of Belarus' Supreme Council of representatives.
- VIII. Each term of representatives of the Republic of Belarus will expire after two months, followed by an electoral period.

5. Procedure for Amending the Constitution and Law Proposal

- I. The Constitution of the Republic of Belarus may be amended only by decision of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Belarus adopted by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the votes cast in each of its Chambers.
- II. The following legislative formats can be proposed to the Supreme Council of the Republic of Belarus by all representatives of the Republic of Belarus:
 - A. Bills: Which introduces a new law into distinct or universal societies within the Republic of Belarus. Requires a simple majority.
 - B. Bill amendments: Which updates an existing bill by removing or editing particular details. Requires a simple majority.
 - C. Constitutional Amendments: Which updates particular details within the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus. Requires a two thirds majority.
 - D. Impeachment: Which replaces a member of the Executive Office of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Belarus with another, chosen by the leading party. Requires a two thirds majority.