**Template** **for submitting information to the Group of Independent Experts on the human rights situation in Belarus**

Individuals, groups and organizations wishing to submit information and documentation to the United Nations Group of Independent Experts on the human rights situation in Belarus (hereafter the GIE Belarus) **since 1 May 2020**, [[1]](#footnote-1) including the possible gender dimensions of such violations are kindly invited to fill in this template with any information they are able to provide and attach it to their submissions.

Not all items are mandatory, but particular attention should be given to filling in the section on consent.

Unless indicated otherwise in the template, GIE Belarus will consider all materials received to be usable in its report, but without attribution to the source.

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| **Name of submitting individual/entity** |  |
| **Contact of submitting individual/entity** | Email(s): Telephone/WhatsApp/Signal/Other: Web Address: Agree to be contacted by the GIE Belarus: Yes No  |
| **Relationship of submitting entity/individual to the alleged victim/s** | ☐ Self ☐ Parent / Legal guardian ☐ Lawyer / Defender☐ Other (please elaborate):  |
| **Violation/s alleged to have occurred** | * Unlawful killings/ Extrajudicial executions/ Arbitrary deprivation of life
* Enforced disappearances
* Arbitrary expulsion from the country,
* Violation of freedom of movement, and arbitrarily deprivation of the right to enter one’s own country
* Arbitrary detention, including of children
* Torture and cruel, inhumane or degrading treatment
* Attacks against and harassment, intimidation and detention of members or supporters of the political opposition
* Violation of the right to freedom of peaceful assembly
* Violations of the right to freedom of opinion and expression (including access to information online and offline)
* Violation of the right to freedom of association
* Attacks, intimidation or harassment of and violence against lawyers, members of civil society, including human rights defenders, activists, journalists and media workers
* Sexual or gender-based violence (against persons of all gender/age/sexual orientation)
* Violation of the right to fair trial and due process
* Other violations of children’s rights
* Violations of the right to work (e.g. unfair or politically motivated dismissals), to strike, and to form / join trade unions.
* Other violations of social and economic rights
* Violations of cultural rights (e.g. access to education in Belarusian language, freedom of expression in the cultural sphere etc.)
* Other human rights violations (please indicate)
* Information on broader issues not related to specific violations, including information on rule of law
 |
| **Date of incident/time period** | DD/MM/YYYY  |
| **Place of incident** | Village/township/city:State:Municipality: |
| **Name/s of alleged victim/s gender, age, citizenship, contact details, current location**[[2]](#footnote-2)  | Name:Age:Father’s name:Gender: ☐ Woman ☐ Man ☐ Prefer not to say ☐ Other: Citizenship: ☐ Belarus ☐ Other: Contact details:Current location: ☐ Belarus ☐ Other: |
| **Membership of a minority group, including gender minorities, indigenous peoples and ethnic groups (according to the principle of self-identification)** | Yes/No (please specify if yes) |
| **Identification of those allegedly responsible[[3]](#footnote-3)** | Name of alleged perpetrator if known:Entity with which perpetrator is affiliated, if any:Any identifying marks of the perpetrator which indicate their affiliation, such as the colour or pattern of their uniform and uniform’s insignia:The alleged perpetrator’s role in the violations described above:  |
| **Summary of the incident(s) / allegations (150 -word limit)** | Summarise the content of the main allegations |
| **Description of the incident(s)/allegations (2000-word limit)** | Detailed[[4]](#footnote-4)description of:* the incident(s) or alleged violation(s), including dates, specific locations (e.g. street, building) and number and types and name(s) of victim(s)
* the context in which they took place
* alleged perpetrators
* alleged motive, such as political opposition

Please also include information on the impact[[5]](#footnote-5) of these violations, as well as age and gender-sensitive considerations (e.g. how these violations affected women and men, girls and boys differently). |
| **Description of the State’s response (500-word limit)** | Indicate whether the incident was reported to the authorities: Yes NoIf yes, which authorities: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Detailed description of any investigations, judicial processes, decision/judgements and sentences, including reparations, in response to the incident. |
| **Consent of victims**[[6]](#footnote-6) | **Please indicate whether the OHCHR GIE Belarus may include the following information in the public report submitted to the Human Rights Council:**The information provided: Yes NoThe name/s of the source of the information: Yes No The name/s of the alleged victims (any consent given must be provided by the victim or by relatives or legal representatives on their behalf, or by a parent/legal guardian in case of a child): Yes No ; consent provided by: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_If necessary, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_**Please indicate whether you, the person submitting the information, agree to be contacted regarding the manner in which the GIE Belarus may use the information provided:**The information provided: Yes NoThe names and contacts of the source of the information: Yes No The names of the alleged victims (any consent given must be provided by the victim or by relatives or legal representatives on their behalf, or by a parent/legal guardian in case of a child): Yes No ; consent provided by: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_If necessary, please explain: |
| **Description of the broader issues not related to specific violations, including information on rule of law (2000-word limit)** | Description should be succinct, highlighting issues of relevance to the mandate of the GIE Belarus, and include concrete examples whenever possible.Please also include information on the impact of these violations, as well as age and gender-sensitive considerations (e.g. how these violations affected women and men, girls and boys differently) as relevant. |
| **Any other human rights NGOs to whom you reported the incident**  | Name, contact of the NGO or other civil society organization who interviewed the victim (s), source(s), witness (s) of the reported incident  |
| **Additional materials (documents, images, videos, etc) relevant to the incident(s)/allegation(s)** | Please indicate, if you are aware of, or in possession of, any additional materials from other sources (including the media and NGOs) in which the above incident(s)/allegations are cited, that are deemed relevant/useful. The GIE Belarus may follow-up at a later date in order to receive the material(s) indicated. Date of publication:Title:Source (author/organisation):Web link; Type of material: Documents ; Images ; Videos ; Other (please specify) |
| **Accountability and access to justice[[7]](#footnote-7)** | ☐ Incident(s) reported to authorities ☐ Forensic examination conducted ☐ Complaint(s) reviewed by judiciary ☐ Complaint(s) filed abroad |
| Detailed description: |
| **Reprisals and protection concerns** | Reprisals:[[8]](#footnote-8)  |
| Current protection concerns: |

1. Human rights violations and abuses occur when the State or groups in power do not promote, respect, protect and fulfil human rights in accordance with international obligations, often causing harm and suffering. These may include, in the context of Belarus, allegations of arbitrary deprivation of life; torture and ill-treatment; sexual and gender-based violence; enforced disappearance; arbitrary arrest and detention, including of children; due process and a fair trial; denial of the rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association; arbitrary expulsion; arbitrary deprivation of citizenship; and arbitrary deprivation of property. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Please insert a copy of this section if this submission is regarding more than one victim. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Please insert a copy of this section if more than one alleged perpetrator is identified. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Please provide a description of the incident and of any alleged violation(s), including dates, specific locations (e.g. names of streets, buildings) and number and types and name(s) of victim(s), circumstances, any identified alleged perpetrators and their alleged motives. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Please also include information on the impact of these violations (e.g. damage caused, harm suffered by the victim(s) and family). [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. GIE Belarus is guided by the “do-no-harm” principle, and when relevant, additionally contacts the victims, witnesses, regarding their informed consent prior to using or sharing information. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Please provide a detailed description of any investigations, judicial processes, decisions/judgements and sentences, including reparations, in relation to the incident(s). [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. Please indicate if any reprisals followed for complaining about possible human rights violations or cooperating with human rights mechanisms to investigate the alleged violations. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)