

BELARUSIAN ASSOCIATION OF THINK TANKS

A comprehensive directory of independent research and analytical centres in Belarus

Minsk – 1998

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Dear readers!

Since Belarus got independence in memorable 1991, the new social groups and structures, new state and non-state institutions which are the foundation of a democracy, free market economy and civil society – such as parliament, Constitutional court, different political parties, clubs of electors, free trade unions, private business, independent mass media, schools, Lyceums, Universities, various NGOs – have been forming very fast. Like in other post-communist countries, most of these new structures began to exist at the same time with previous traditional structures. However, because of some particular circumstances in Belarus, these new structures have not begun to gradually replace the old ones. Moreover, instead of normal «parallel coexistence» when they impact each other and by this way a transitional society transforms into a democratic one, their relationship become more and more tense: the old structures don't cooperate with new ones but just ignore or even oppress them. The state treat any non-state forms of life more and more hostile. No wonder that the new structures transform from parallel to alternative ones more and more often. Strengthening of this tendency in the prospect threatens not just to slow down a social development but to aggravate social conflicts and to split the society.

One of the reason of this situation, on my mind, is the inadequate public and public leaders' ideas about the real situation, the most important problems, the optimum solutions and the prospects of development. Speaking figuratively, our society needs not only «new actions» but first of all «new thoughts».

That's why a particular role among these new structures should belong to the non-state, independent research and analytical centers, that intend not only to study social processes but to develop new social technologies, and to promote values and principles of democracy, free market economy and civil society through methods of social sciences. Such centers, called «think tanks», became an inalienable element of science and democracy in the USA, Western Europe and many other countries long ago. During last years quite a lot of such centers arose in the post-communist countries as well. A comprehensive directory of «Think tanks in Central and Eastern Europe» was published in Budapest in 1997. It provides an exhaustive information about more than one hundred leading non-state, independent research and analytical centers in many of our partners in former Soviet block, and describes them as «independent organizations that conduct original research and educational programs to educate and influence policy- and opinion-makers in a broad array of economic, social, political and other issues». Unfortunately, Belarus is not represented in this Directory at all.

I consider that this unfairness should be eliminated. During time of independence such centers arose in our country as well. They have conducted dozens of interesting research, conferences and seminars, published many periodical and other issues, published hundreds of materials in mass media, got authority with Belarusian public as well as with the state and non-state structures at regional, national and international levels. Though until recent time these centers worked separately, and it limited or even weakened their influence. To increase coordination of their activity, to strengthen their authority, to consolidate their influence on the social processes, fifteen leading non-state research and analytical centers from capital and most of regions of Belarus established Belarusian Association of Think Tanks (BATT) at the constitutive meeting in Minsk on June 7, 1997. Now dozens of independent researchers and analysts in sociology, politology, psychology, economy, law and other social sciences united by motto «Professionalism & Civil Responsibility», could protect their interests and promote their ideas in the society much more effectively. Public presentation of BATT organized in Minsk on October 3, 1997, attracted attention of journalists, public leaders and diplomats. New USA Ambassador in Belarus Mr. Daniel V. Speckhard in his greeting mentioned a great role of think tanks in the development of a civil society, formation of public opinion and policy in the USA and stressed that one more important democratic mechanism arose in Belarus, which could favor reforms in Belarus and its entry to the international community.

Coordinating Board of BATT worked out a special plan of actions for 1998 which includes formation of telecommunication network between members of the association, formation of united data base, organization of quarterly briefings, where most important research results and analysis will be presented to the Belarusian public and diplomatic corps, publication of quarterly analytical bulletin «BATT News» etc. BATT is an open organization not only in terms of maximum accessibility of the results of its activity, but for joining other non-state research and analytical centers. I do hope that from now Belarusian think tanks could not only effectively cooperate with each other and other state and non-state structures, but equally communicate and cooperate with their colleagues abroad. This Directory should assist all people and institutions who are interested in such cooperation.

Prof. Dr. Oleg Manaev
Chairman of
Coordinating Board of BATT

DECLARATION OF BELARUSIAN ASSOCIATION OF THINK TANKS (BATT)

Weak structures and foundations of the civil society are among the main reasons for deepening of the political and economic crisis in Belarus. Long before the drastic changes in the USSR and other socialist camp countries began, activity to train people who would be able to formulate, propose and implement reforms was underway in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe in the 80s and 90s.

Such activity laid the foundation for political parties and movements' ability to later propose and implement programs that are based on the principles of democracy, market economy and respect for human rights. Invisible universities, such as KOS-KOR and Charter 77 prepared the success of democrats in Poland and Czechoslovakia.

Sadly Belarus lacked well developed social technologies of transition from totalitarian to democratic society and strengthening of the sovereignty of the country. It appeared that state and non-state structures and society as a whole was not ready for the independence, independent choice of its own historic way.

To create and strengthen the civil society, all citizens must have access to objective information about the situation in the country, about the attitude of the state and different groups of population towards main events and problems in the life of Belarus society. There is a need of professional analyses and recommendations, new ideas of specialists, based on the results of professional research in the fields of sociology, politology, psychology, law and other social sciences.

Such information must be accessible to all those, who care about their own fate and the fate of the country. In democratic countries such information and new ideas are created and produced by numerous state and non-state research centres, that are called «think tanks».

In Belarus, information which is produced by the state scientific and research centers is for most part biased and hardly available to general public, while ideas produced by these agencies are almost never new. The reason for this is simple: these centers completely depend on the state and serve its interests.

At the same time, during the period of independence a lot of independent public and private scientific and research centers (SRCs) were created in Belarus. These centers provide the possibility to the society to assess social problems and perspectives. Though incomparable in their resources to state SRCs, these independent public and private centers provide the society with objective and easily accessible information, unbiased and well-grounded analyses.

But «think tanks» in Belarus are in very difficult conditions today. Very often they meet distrust and even pressure from the part of the state. Different political forces try to use «think tanks» for their own

political benefit. Support of local businesses to «think tanks» is still very limited. Often the information such centers produce has higher demand abroad, than in Belarus.

We decided to unite our efforts and to create Belarus Association of Think Tanks in order to:

- develop networking of «think tanks»;
- rise the effectiveness of their cooperation with each other as well as with state and non-state structures;
- guarantee that society will have the possibility to receive objective and up-to-date information on main;
- social problems, tendencies and perspectives;
- conduct independent professional analyses of various social projects and programs, to strengthen the;
- role of non-government research centers in preparing the reforms in the country, building of the civil;
- society in Belarus.

Association will strive to reach its aims by means of social research and by providing wide access to the results of such research. Association will conduct analyses and consultations of the state and non-

state structures, by organizing conferences and seminars. BATT will publish information and analytical materials and will provide for the development of dialogue between various groups of Belarus society, between the society and the state.

BATT motto: «Professionalism and civil responsibility».

Minsk, June 7, 1997

Founding members:

1. Dr. Andrei Vardomatski, professor, director of «NOVAK» Private Research Enterprise
2. Dr. Iouri Zagoumenov, director of the Belarusian Support Center for Associations and Foundations «SCAF – Belarus»
3. Dr. Leonid Zaiko, president of the National Centre for Strategic Initiatives «East – West» (NCSI «East – West»)
4. Dr. Anatoly Kasyanenko, director of the Centre for Human Resources Development «Oracul», city of Gomel
5. Miroslav Kobasa, president of the Belarusian Republican Democratic Reforms Support L. Sapega Foundation (BRDRSF)
6. Dr. Vladimir Lyukevich, head of the Independent Sociological Group S.R.G., city of Brest
7. Dr. Oleg Manayev, professor, director of the Independent Institute of Socio-Economic and Political Studies (IISEPS)
8. Iouri Podolosky, head of the Information and Analytical Centre of the Mogilev Union of Entrepreneurs and Taxpayers, city of Mogilev
9. Dr. Vyacheslav Pozdnyak, director of the International Institute for Political Studies (IIPS)
10. Dr. Alexander Potupa, professor, director of the Centre for Future Studies
11. Valery Sivukha, president of Mogilev City Association «Humanitarian Initiative», city of Mogilev
12. Dr. Alexander Feduta, co-president of the Non-Governmental Centre for Analysis and Research «Belarusian Initiative»
13. Dr. Sergey Sheyin, head of Brest Independent Social and Psychological Centre, city of Brest

Belarusian Association of Think Tanks

Brief description & chronology

- **May 1997** – meetings with leaders of leading Belarusian non-governmental research and analytical centers and discussions idea about BATT creation, basic principles and forms of its activity, construction, charter, leadership etc.
- **June 7, 1997** – constituent meeting of leaders of fifteen leading think tanks, represented dozens of scholars of social sciences and public policy makers from Minsk and most regions of Belarus. The meeting approved BATT charter, and elected its Coordinating Board and Auditing Committee. All BATT members signed its *Declaration*. Information about BATT creation and its *Declaration* was widely published by national and regional media.
- **July 11, 1997** – Ministry of Justice of Republic of Belarus registered BATT as a national non-governmental and non-profit association. The main goal of BATT, as it mentioned in the official certificate N 0946, is «to promote formation of civil society based on principles of democracy, free market economy and sovereignty of Belarus».
- **October 3, 1997** – meeting of BATT members, approved «BATT plan of actions for 1998» and official presentation of BATT to the public was held in Minsk. The first collection of «*BATT analytical materials*» was presented to more than forty national public leaders, media policy makers, leading scholars and diplomats, attended the meeting. Information about this presentation was widely published by mass media.
- **January 1998** – the first grant (from Westminster Foundation) was got for realization of BATT plan of actions for 1998 (including quarterly briefings, analytical bulletin and two regional seminars).
- **February 7, 1998** – meeting of BATT members, approved a report about BATT activity in 1997, and the first quarterly briefing was held in Minsk. The second collection of «*BATT analytical materials*» and «*BATT Comprehensive Directory*» (in Russian and English) were presented to more than forty national public leaders, media policy makers, leading scholars and diplomats, attended this meeting. Information about this presentation was widely published by mass media.
- **March 1998** – Chairman of Coordinating Board of BATT Prof. Oleg Manaev got a fellowship from «Freedom Support Act Fellowship» run by USIA/IREX. It provided opportunity for six months project «Strengthening system of think tanks as a facilitator for civil society and democracy in Belarus» at the Institute for EastWest Studies in New York City.
- **April 24, 1998** – the second BATT quarterly briefing was held in Mogilev. The third collection of «*BATT analytical materials*» was presented to thirty-five regional public leaders, authorities, media policy makers and leading scholars, attended this meeting. Information about the briefing was published by national and regional mass media.
- **May 23, 1998** – the first BATT regional seminar «Think tanks and structures of civil society» was held in Gomel. The fourth collection of «*BATT analytical materials*» was presented to more than forty regional public leaders, authorities, media policy makers, leading scholars and students, attended this meeting. Information about the seminar was published by national and regional mass media.
- **June 23, 1998** – meeting of BATT members and the third quarterly briefing was held in Minsk. The first issue of *quarterly* «*BATT analytical bulletin*» was presented to more than forty national public leaders, media policy makers, leading scholars and diplomats, attended this meeting. Information about the briefing was published by national and regional mass media, and bulletin was distributed widely through the country.
- **October 16, 1998** – the fourth BATT quarterly briefing was held in Grodno. The second issue of *quarterly* «*BATT analytical bulletin*» was presented to thirty-five regional public leaders, authorities, media policy makers and leading scholars, attended this meeting. Information about the briefing was published by national and regional mass media, and bulletin was distributed widely through the country.

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Publications:

1. Presentation Materials of the Belarusian Think Tanks Association (BATT). Minsk. 1997.
2. Belarusian Association of Think Tanks. A comprehensive directory of independent research and analytical centers in Belarus. Minsk 1998.
3. Analytical Reports for Briefing of the Belarusian Association of Think Tanks (BATT). Minsk, February, 6, 1998.
4. Analytical Reports for Briefing of the Belarusian Association of Think Tanks (BATT). Mogilev, April, 24, 1998.
5. Analytical Reports for Seminar of the Belarusian Association of Think Tanks (BATT). Gomel, May, 23, 1998.
6. Analytical Bulletin No 1, June, 1998.
7. Analytical Bulletin No 2, September, 1998.

COORDINATING COUNCIL OF THE BELARUSIAN ASSOCIATION OF THINK TANKS (BATT)

Coordinating Council was elected at the founding meeting of BATT on June 7, 1997.

1. Dr. Andrei Vardomatski, professor, director of «NOVAK» Private Research Enterprise
2. Dr. Leonid Zaiko, president of the National Centre for Strategic Initiatives «East – West»
3. Dr. Iouri Zagoumenov, director of the Belarusian Support Center for Associations and Foundations «SCAF – Belarus»
4. Dr. Anatoly Kasyanenko, director of the Centre for Human Resources Development «Oracul»
5. Dr. Oleg Manayev, professor, director of the Independent Institute of Socio-Economic and Political Studies
6. Iouri Podolosky, head of the Information and Analytical Centre of the Mogilev Union of Entrepreneurs and Taxpayers
7. Dr. Vyacheslav Pozdnyak, director of the International Institute for Political Studies
8. Dr. Alexander Potupa, professor, director of the Centre for Future Studies
9. Dr. Sergey Sheyin, head of Brest Independent Social and Psychological Centre

BATT LEADERSHIP:

Oleg Manayev – Chairman of the Coordinating Council
Leonid Zaiko – Vice-Chairman of the Coordinating Council
Anatoly Kasyanenko – Vice-Chairman of the Coordinating Council
Vassily Selishchev – Executive Director of Belarusian Association of Think Tanks

**INDEPENDENT INSTITUTE OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL STUDIES
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Director of IISEPS: Professor, Dr. Oleg Manaev

Deputy Director: Dr. Alexander Sosnov

Head of IISEPS' Centre for Documentation: Dr. Yuri Drakohrust

Independent Institute of Socio-Economic & Political Studies (IISEPS), republic public association, was established in February 1992 by group of academics, journalists, politicians and businessmen (certification N 0658 issued by Ministry of Justice).

IISEPS' motto is «Democracy & Free Market» and main purpose is to promote formation of civil society and free market economy in Belarus through study socio-economic and political mechanisms of transition from totalitarianism to democracy and active promotion of values and principles of liberalism.

Main activities:

- *research in sociology, economics and political science;*
- *consulting;*
- *organization of conferences and seminars;*
- *publishing and dissemination of information-analytical materials;*
- *professional training.*

Methodology:

- *national surveys* (conducted one-two times a year, random sample = 1500 respondents, sample error = 0.03, IISEPS has its own network of interviewers of seventy persons in fifty sites of the country);
- *interviews with public opinion leaders and experts* (100 public opinion leaders are interviewed quarterly);
- *content-analysis of materials of mass media* (content-analysis of 1000 – 1500 publications of leading media is conducted annually) *and other structures* (for example, registration documents of all periodicals of the country);

- *analysis of program documents of leading structures of civil society* – political parties, public associations, governmental structures etc.;
- *analysis of legislation* (started in 1994 on the basis of Register of Ministry of Justice and conducted periodically);
- *analysis of socio-economic statistics* (conducted constantly).

Publications:

IISEPS participated in publications of various books (for example, *Media in Transition: from Totalitarianism to Democracy*, Ed. by Oleg Manaev and Yuri Priliuk, Kiev, ABRIS, 1993; *Emerging Market Economies Report*, Ed. by Klaus Schwab and Xavier Gillbert, Lausanne, IMD, 1993; *Belarus and Russia: the societies and the states*, Ed. by Dmitry Fourman, Moscow, Human Rights Foundation, 1998); has published over 130 analytical papers on various problems of socio-economic and political development of Belarus (varied from electoral behaviour to media effectiveness, and from evolution of workers movement to role of church in the democratic reforms); has published over 800 materials in various mass-media; since summer 1996 has been publishing quarterly analytical bulletin «IISEPS News» (in Russian and English) which is delivered among 100 most key policy makers including president, prime-minister, speaker of the parliament, Chairman of Constitutional court, leaders of most influential political parties, editors-in-chief of leading mass media as well as embassies and international representatives.

IISEPS' Centre for Documentation:

Centre for Documentation was established within IISEPS in 1994, and has collected and systematized over 40.000 materials and documents characterized leading state institutions and structures of civil society, as well as dossiers on 100 most powerful leaders of Belarus. In 1995 Archival Center got official certification N 1 from the Ministry of Archives as a first non-state archive in the country. Also in 1995 a special fund of IISEPS' materials available for everyone was created within National Archives of Belarus, in 1996 a similar fund was created within the library of Belarusian State University.

Main achievements:

Main indicators	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	Σ
Research projects	3	3	6	8	4	6	30
Analytical papers	2	15	17	28	36	20	121
Publications in mass media	25	27	104	251	153	189	749*
Conferences and seminars	2	1	3	6	8	5	25**

* Including 20% in broadcasting.

** Including 6 international and 18 regional.

Projects executed in 1996 – 1997:

- *Formation of public leaders in post-communist Belarus* (supported by Center for International Private Enterprise, Washington, D.C.). The most important factors and mechanisms of changes of elite in Belarusian society at national and regional level were studied. Assistance to the formation of leaders who could promote reforms based on the principles of democracy, free market economy and human rights, was realized through dissemination of information and analytical materials as well as organization of regional seminars and international conference.
- *Tax system in the Republic of Belarus* (supported by Central European University, Prague). Evolution of tax system in Belarus was studied with purpose to compare correlation between tax system and effectiveness of production in the countries with transitional economy.

- *Program of seminars on problems of reformation of economy in Belarus* (supported by Vitebsk branch of Belarusian Soros Foundation). Six seminars were organized in different cities of Vitebsk region. Twenty five leaders of various state and non-state structures, and leading experts intensively discussed problems of credit-monetary, tax and social policy, privatization, personnel management and agrarian and land reform. Analytical materials of these seminars were used for improvement of management of socio-economic processes in the region.
- *Formation of self-government in the Republic of Belarus* (supported by Central European University, Prague). Conditions and mechanisms of functioning of agencies of self-government in Belarus were studied for the comparative analysis of the development of self-government in the countries with transitional economy.

Projects planned for 1998:

- *Overcoming of anti-market stereotypes in post-communist Belarus* (supported by Eurasia Foundation and USIS, Washington, D.C.). Peculiarities of economic consciousness of Belarusian public, mechanisms of formation and reproduction of anti-market stereotypes are studied. Ways of their overcoming are working out, series of regional seminars for promotion of values and principles of free market economy are organized.
- *Development of information infrastructure of market economy in Belarus* (supported by Center for International Private Enterprise< Washington, D.C.). The most important factors and mechanisms of media development in Belarus are studied. Effectiveness of independent media influence on the formation of free market economy and democracy is improved through the system of training seminars and wide dissemination of information and analytical materials.
- *Role of youth in the formation of civil society in Belarus* (with support of the MacArthur Foundation). Rethinking the role of youth in social transformations is based on the study of attitudes and values motivated social activity of young people (political, economic, legal, information etc.). The result of the project will be used for working out the conception of strengthening youth participation in the formation of civil society in Belarus.

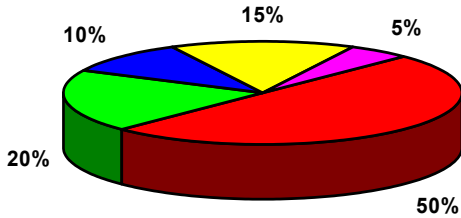
Conferences and seminars:

IISEPS has organized 30 international, national and regional conferences and seminars with hundreds of public leaders and experts participants (including politicians, businessmen, scholars, journalists, youth and trade union leaders) from Belarus, as well as their colleagues from the USA, Canada, Europe, Baltic states and NIS. IISEPS Network of public leaders and experts from all regions of the country has been formed.

- Belarusian-Polish symposium «Problems of transition from totalitarianism to democracy» was organized in Minsk in July 1992.
- International colloquium «The right to communicate in transitional society» was organized (with independent publishing house ABRIS) in Kiev in September 1993.
- International conference «Economic reforms in post-communist society: liberal choice» was organized in Minsk in March 1994.
- Quarterly regional seminars on principles of free market economy in the programs and activity of leading actors of politics and economics of Belarus were organized in 1995.
- Seminars on different aspects of formation of public leaders in post-communist Belarus were organized in all regions of the country in 1996 – 1997.
- International conference «Formation of public leaders in post-communist society» was organized in Minsk in June 1997.

- The program of quarterly regional seminars on problems of anti-market stereotypes and their overcoming was organized in 1997 – 1998.

Concentration of efforts:



- research – 50%
- conferences, seminars, training – 20%
- public outreach – 15%
- publications – 10%
- consulting – 5%

Staff:

IISEPS has nine full time and seven part time researchers and staff, half of them has Ph.D. in various social sciences. Specialization of leading scholars:

- Prof. Dr. Oleg Manaev, mass media and communications;
- Dr. Alexander Sosnov, socio-economic problems of labour and statistics;
- Dr. Yuri Drakokhrust, political science and mass media;
- Dr. Galina Drakokhrust, social structure and public opinion;
- Dr. Nadya Efimova, gender sociology and mass media;
- Dr. Leonid Zlotnikov, economic systems and macroeconomics;
- Dr. Michael Zalessky, economic sociology and statistics;
- Evgeny Kovalev, post graduate student, specialist in national polls;
- Oleg Veremeychik, programming and computer specialist;
- Elena Koudryavtseva, computer design.

Annually several students of the Department of Sociology at the Belarusian State University have internship in IISEPS. They use the results of the IISEPS research for their term papers, M.A. and Ph.D. thesis.

Staff languages:

Russian, Belarusian, English.

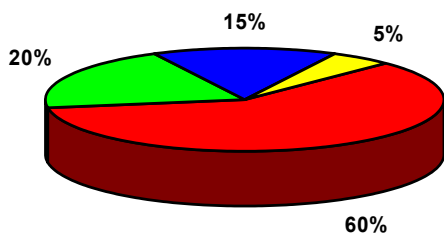
Partners:

IISEPS has experience of cooperation with such international and foreign structures as World Bank, UNESCO, Research Institute of Radio Liberty/Radio Free Europe, Soros Foundation (New York), The Eurasia Foundation, International Institute for Management Development (Lausanne), the MacArthur Foundation (Chicago), Center for Social and Economic Research (Warsaw), International Center for Economic Growth (San-Francisco), United States Information Service, Center for International Private Enterprise (Washington, D.C.), Interim Offices of UN, European Union, IMF and various political parties, public associations and business structures in Belarus.

Membership in professional associations:

IISEPS is a member of various national and international associations: Belarusian Association of Think Tanks, Assembly of Belarusian Democratic NGOs, Network for Research and Cooperation in Cultural Development, Economic Freedom Network.

Sources of income:



- grants from international foundations – 60%
- grants from international governmental organizations – 15%
- fees for services (non-governmental) – 20%
- charges for information and analytical materials – 5%

NATIONAL CENTRE FOR STRATEGIC INITIATIVES «EAST – WEST»

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President of the Centre: Dr. Leonid Zaiko

National Centre for Strategic Initiatives «East – West» is a non-partisan and non-profit organization which unites political figures, businessmen, representatives of academic circles and mass media. The Center is an independent organization. The Center was established in May, 1992, since then received wide recognition, acquired serious intellectual potential and wide representation. Among the partners of the Center are both governmental institutions and NGOs from the countries of Europe, America and Asia.

The main objectives of the Center:

- creating favourable economic, social and legal prerequisites for the formation in Belarus of a legal state with efficient market economy;
- integration of Belarus into the global and European political and economic community.

Main forms of activity:

- elaborating and promoting scientifically substantiated concepts, models and programs to deal with political, social and economic problems of Belarus;
- assisting business in Belarus by promoting its interests in governmental agencies and bodies and facilitating mutually beneficial relations with foreign businesses;
- establishing direct links with foreign governmental organizations and NGOs, voluntary organizations, academic centers, to work jointly on the analyses of social and political developments in the West and to explore opportunities for applying western tools and practices in Belarus; conduct joint conferences and seminars, roundtable meetings;
- fostering national highly-qualified personnel potential in various fields of science and management.

Recent conferences and seminars:

- round table «Constitution of the Republic of Belarus: Experience of Two Years» (March 1996, Minsk);
- international conference «Democratic processes in Belarus: main tendencies and contradictions» (June 1996, Minsk);
- international conference «Constitutional and Political Crisis in Belarus: lessons and consequences» (December, 1996);
- A. Maysenya memorial conference «Between East and West: Belarus Entering the New Century» (March 1997, Minsk);
- international seminar «Economic and Political Situation in Belarus on the Eve of NATO expanding to the East» (may 1997, Minsk);
- round table «Political Spring of 1997: dead-end or the crossroads?» (June 1997, Minsk).

Recent publications (analytical reports):

«Problems of Civil Society Formation in Belarus» – January 1996;
«Belarus'94: Political and Economic Update» – April 1995;
«First Presidential Elections in Belarus: Main Results» – September 1994;
«Development of Belarus in the Context of Ecological Security» – December 1994.

Journal:

Analytical journal «Belarus Monitor» was started by the Centre in 1995. Several issues of «Belarus Monitor» have been published already. The following are the recent issues of the journal:

- «Chernobyl: Human Dimension», April 1996;
- «Belarus'95: Economic and Political Results», December 1996;
- «Belarus' Economy: Problems of System Transformations», July – October 1996;
- «Belarus – Ukraine – Poland: Problems of Regional Security», December 1996 – January 1997;
- «Democratic Processes in Belarus: Main Tendencies and Contradictions», February 1997;
- «Results of the Constitutional Crisis in Belarus: Lessons and Consequences», December 1996.

In 1994 the Centre founded the Institute for Independent Research which conducts wide-scale research programs on macro- and microeconomics policies of Belarus, national security, foreign political activity and international relations, democratisation, state reform, environment, public opinion, social, political and economic forecasting.

«NOVAK» PRIVATE RESEARCH ENTERPRISE

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Director: Dr. of Sociology, professor Andrei Vardomatsky

Mission of Enterprise and main forms of activity:

«NOVAK» private research enterprise is a private independent service, which is specialized in market research and public opinion surveys. Presently «NOVAK» is largest in Belarus agency in quantity and amount of research executed, conducting two to three national polls every month.

«NOVAK» was founded in 1992 by Dr of Sociology Andrei Vardomatski. «NOVAK» name was made of two words: «нoвa» (new) and «aкcиoмeтpия» (axiometry). This name reflects «NOVAK»'s primary scientific focus on studying the values of human behaviour.

Types of research, conducted presently:

- monthly monitoring of public opinion about personalia ratings and most important problems of social life in Belarus;
- media-studies;
- quantitative representative studies of the market and consumer's behaviour;
- qualitative studies of mass media and market;
- studies of the elite.

«NOVAK» services can be used by customers from all fields of activities – from representatives of international business, to political parties, to mass media.

«NOVAK» is the only sociological center in Belarus that precisely forecasts results of all elections in the Republic of Belarus, starting from 1994. For instance, «NOVAK»'s forecast made just before the presidential elections of 1994 deviated by only 1.5% from actual results.

International cooperation and partners:

«NOVAK» is a part of the international public polls and sociological studies agencies network. «NOVAK» is an official associated member of Gallup International and represents Republic of Belarus in this international agency. This enables us to make use of the advanced foreign technologies in the field of sociology.

Jointly with our international partners we carried out a lot of international polls and surveys in Belarus, such as Value orientation studies – 90 and 96, annual project Eurobarometer, surveys for the World Bank, for the largest news agencies, as well as marketing projects for the largest multinational companies.

Cadres and staff:

«NOVA K» uses its own national network of interviewers that comprises about 250 persons.

Every member of our network received specialized training and has extensive experience in field research.

In every regional center and second large cities we have our representatives.

We have our branches in 12 cities of the country.

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR POLITICAL STUDIES (IIPS)

**P.O. Box 44, Minsk, 220050,
Republic of Belarus**

Phone/Fax: (017) 227-82-67

E-mail: root@iips.minsk.by

IIPS Director: Vyacheslav Pozdnyak

Projects implemented in 1997 – 1998:

Project: “Mass media in the political system of the Republic of Belarus”

Results: a study on "The History of the Mass Media in Belarus" by Sergei Novikov.

Project: “Problems of Nonproliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction”

Results: papers on:

“Belarus’ Nuclear Nonproliferation Policies” by Vyacheslav Pozdnyak;

“Belarus and Prospects for the Creation of a Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone in Central and Eastern Europe” by Vyacheslav Pozdnyak;

“National Security of New Independent States and Export Controls” by Vyacheslav Pozdnyak and Anatoli Rozanov.

Project: “Problems of CIS Development”

Results: information and analytical survey “The CIS: Facts, Figures, Personalities” by Andrei Zagorski, Irina Bugrova and Andrei Fedarau.

Project: “Integration and Disintegration in the FSU: Implications for Regional and Global Security”

Results: studies on:

“Parliamentary Elections and Foreign Policy orientations of Belarus” by Irina Bugrova and Svetlana Naumova;

“Integration as a Social Utopia of Post-Soviet Political Mind” by Svetlana Naumova;

"Security Threats to Belarus and Integration Scenarios in the CIS" by Vyacheslav Pozdnyak.

Project: “Military-Technical Cooperation in the CIS”

Results: a series of studies on Belarus' military production, conversion and arms trade.

Project: “Belarus and NATO”

Results: studies on:

“NATO: Strategy and Development Trends” by Andrei Fedarau;

“NATO: Problems of Transformation” by Anatoli Rozanov;

“Belarus, PFP and Bilateral Military Agreements within the CIS” by Vyacheslav Pozdnyak.

Projects being implemented in 1998:

Project: “Mass media in the political system of Belarus”

Aim of the Project: defining of the scope and role of the mass media in the information space, political process and political communications of Belarus.

Project: "Problems of CIS Development"

Aim of the Project: analysis of integration and disintegration trends in the CIS.

Project: "Problems of Nonproliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction"

Aim of the Project: analysis of implications of the existing regional security structures in Central Asia for the establishment of a nuclear weapon-free zone.

Project: "Belarus and NATO"

Aim of the Project: analysis of the development of relations between Belarus and NATO.

Project: "Curriculum for Teaching International Relations Theory" in partnership with the Free University of Berlin

Results: Curriculum for teaching international relations theory.

IIPS Director: Vyacheslav Pozdnyak

The IIPS is governed by a COUNCIL:

Mr. Sergei Didenko, Head of the Foreign Economic Relations Department, National Bank of Belarus;

Dr. Svetlana Naumova, Director of Research, IIPS;

Dr. Vyacheslav Pozdnyak, IIPS Director;

Dr. William C. Potter, Professor and Director of the Center for Nonproliferation Studies and Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies, Monterey Institute of International Studies;

Dr. Anatoli Rosanov, Professor of International Relations, Belarusian State University;

Ambassador Roland Timerbaev, President, PIR-Center for Political Studies in Russia, Moscow;

Dr. Victor Ukhvanov, Professor of the Department of International Law, Belarusian State University.

IIPS's main objectives:

- promotion of a progressive development of the Republic of Belarus, consolidation of its sovereignty, and its integration in Europe and the world at large;
- strengthening of international understanding, security and cooperation on the basis of an independent scholarly analysis of social, economic, political, ethno-cultural, technological, military and ecological developments in individual states, as well as of formative regional and global trends.

Types of IIPS's activities:

- research on the topical international and domestic issues;
- creating models and forecasting of political processes;
- scientific evaluation of state and alternative programs, models and concepts of foreign and home policy;
- providing information and consulting services for organizations; enterprises and individuals.

Forms of activities:

- formation of research teams;
- establishment of contacts and cooperation with other national and international organizations, exchange of delegations;
- training of specialists;
- organization of conferences, seminars and “round tables”;
- information and publishing.

Conferences organized:

International Conference on “Integration and Disintegration in the FSU: Implications for Regional and Global Security” Minsk, June 1997.

International Seminar on “Defense Conversion in Eastern Europe” – together with Belarus’ Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry for Industries and the North Atlantic Cooperation Council, Minsk, April 1996.

Books and reports published recently:

Study on “NATO: Strategy and Development Trends” by Andrei Fedarau. IIPS Information and Analytical Materials, Issue No. 1, 1997, Minsk;

A series of articles on Belarus' military production, conversion and arms trade published in the journal of “Export Obychnykh Vooruzhenii” (published by the PIR-Center for Political Studies in Russia,” Moscow);

“The CIS: Facts, Figures, Personalities” by Andrei Zagorski, Irina Bugrova and Andrei Fedarau. IIPS Information and Analytical Materials, Issue No. 2, 1997, Minsk;

“Parliamentary Elections and Foreign Policy orientations of Belarus” by Irina Bugrova and Svetlana Naumova (in English and Russian). "VECTOR." No. 1, 1996, Minsk;

“'Integration' as a Social Utopia of Post-Soviet Political Mind” by Svetlana Naumova (in English and Russian). "VECTOR." No. 1, 1997, Minsk;

"The Identity of Belarus: an Experience of the 'Understanding' Political Science" by Irina Bugrova (in English and Russian). "VECTOR." No. 3, 1997, Minsk;

“Belarus in Search of a Security Identity” by Vyacheslav Pozdnyak in: *Security Dilemmas in Russia and Eurasia*, ed. By Roy Allison and Christoph Bluth. Royal Institute of International Affairs. (Brookings Institution Press. Washington D.C., 1998);

“Nunn-Lugar Program Assessment: The Case of Belarus” by Vyacheslav Pozdnyak in: *Dismantling the Cold War: U.S. and NIS Perspectives on the Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction Program*, ed. By John M. Shields and William C. Potter. Center for Science and international Affairs. John F. Kennedy School of Government. Harvard University. (The MIT Press. Cambridge, Massachusetts-London, England. 1997).

Concentration of efforts (in per cent):

research	– 70%
publications	– 20%

conferences, seminars	– 5%
consulting	– 5%

Institute staff – 8

professional	– 6
other	– 2
full-time	– 4
affiliated	– 4

Working Languages:

Russian, Belarusian, English, German, French, Lithuanian, Serbian-Croatian.

Staff Specialization:

IIPS Director Dr. Vyachaslau E. Paznyak specializes in international security, arms control, non-proliferation and Belarus' foreign and security policy;

Director of Research Dr. Svetlana A. Naumova specializes in the theories of democracy and political systems, technologies of political campaigns and the mass media;

Senior researcher and Project coordinator Dr. Irina Bugrova specializes in the study of conflicts, political psychology, political culture, technologies of election campaigns, transition societies;

Senior researcher Prof. Dr. Anatoli Rozanov specializes in disarmament, arms control and military strategy. His areas of research include Belarusian security policy, new European security architecture and strategic studies;

Expert Dr. Andrei F. Fedarau's research is focused on international relations, political processes in Belarus and other CIS states as well as military and political security;

Expert Dr. Sergei Novikov specializes in social and political history, regional studies, political culture, European security;

Mr. Vyacheslav Lampe has specialized in computer information processing, electronic communications, databases and computer graphics.

Periodicals:

A Belarusian journal on international politics “VECTOR” is published three times a year in English and Russian.

Source of revenue: donations.

Membership in professional associations:

IIPS is a member of the Belarusian Association of Think Tanks, of the Association of the CIS Research Centers on International Relations and International Security and of the Assembly of Belarusian Non-governmental Organizations.

Foreign Chapter:

IIPS operates with a U.S. chapter:

Chapter Chair: Dr. WILLIAM C. POTTER, Professor and Director of the Center for Nonproliferation Studies and Center for Eurasian Studies at the Monterey Institute of International Studies;

Dr. JAMES CLAY MOLTZ is Assistant Director of the Center for Nonproliferation Studies at the Monterey Institute of International Studies;

Ms. EMILY EWELL is Project Manager for the CIS Nonproliferation Project (CISNP) at the Monterey Institute of International Studies.

«BELARUSIAN PERSPECTIVE» NON-GOVERNMENTAL CENTRE FOR ANALYSIS AND RESEARCH

23 Svoboda str., Minsk, 220030, Republic of Belarus,

Phone: (017) 227-04-54

Phone/Fax: (017) 227-13-16

Chairpersons:

Dr. V. Antsulevich

Dr. V. Golubev

Dr. A. Feduta

Executive director:

V. Ivashkevich

Mission of the Centre:

The Centre was created by the group of Belarusian intellectuals in September 1995. The center was registered by the Ministry of Justice of Belarus in October 1995. The Centre is a non-governmental, non-profit organisation, it is open for collaboration with organisations and individuals who support and work for the social, economic and political development of independent Belarus, support market reforms in economy, human rights and democratic values.

The main aims of the Centre:

The main aim is to unite intellectual potential of the citizens of the country to work jointly for the benefit of Belarus. The Centre conducts seminars, conferences, round tables, discussions. State and public leaders are invited to participate in all the meetings conducted by the Centre. The Centre develops drafts of national laws and other legal documents. The Centre develops projects aimed at dealing with the problems of Belarusian society.

Conferences:

In 1995 – 1996 the Centre conducted four international conferences:

- «Problems of attracting foreign investors to the economies of Eastern European countries»;
- «Problems of market reforms in agriculture in Eastern Europe»;
- «Leadership and its role in post-communist society»;
- «Problems of national and cultural identification in Belarus».

In autumn of 1996 the Centre conducted a number of regional conferences in Grodno, Brest, Vitebsk, Mogilev on the problems of democratic transformations on the local level.

Seminars:

In autumn of 1996 the Centre and Cribble Institute organised a series of seminars for the deputies of the Supreme Soviet Of the Republic of Belarus on the following topics:

- «Small businesses and their role in the economy of transition»;
- «Privatization and the development of small businesses»;

- «Credits and deposits: governmental policy in the field of incentives to build housing and transform agriculture»;
- «Problems of the civil society»;
- «Division of authority between branches of power - prerequisite for the democratic society existence»;
- «Tax Code of The Republic of Belarus – main principles».

In October 1996 the Centre organised and conducted «National Congress in Support of Democracy, Against Dictatorship».

«ORACUL» – THE CENTER FOR HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

32a – 231, Kirov str., Gomel, 246652, Republic of Belarus

Phone/Fax: (0232) 55-41-43

E-mail: anat@ora.gomel.by

Director: Dr. Anatoly Kasyanenko

The Center for Human Resources Development was established in 1997 as a non-governmental, non-profit organization as a carry-on body of the former Oracul Sociological Center which existed since 1989. Therefore, it employs the accumulated experience and the network it has established in order to involve professionals from Belorussian Universities, other academic and research centers in the former USSR and internationally.

The objective is to act as a regional umbrella institution to promote the social capital in the civil society. The objective implies development and evaluation of projects, fund raising, allocation of funds in the public sector, assistance in implementation of projects, supervision of funds use and financial management.

The Center's services are the following:

Research:

- problems of evolution of the civil society, social and market relations, democracy, civil rights and freedoms;
- regional conflicts, social stability;
- new trends in the society and social thinking;
- target-oriented sociological studies, including Chernobyl-related surveys;
- groups' social and legal awareness.

Training programs for:

- public administrators, leaders of public organizations, starting businessmen in industries, commerce, banking, farming and public services;
- organization of study visits, seminars and conferences, including guidance for foreign participation.

Counselling:

- public relations, identification of potentials of regional partnership in the social sphere, facilities for promotion of education.

Publications:

- information bulletins;
- reviews of publications relating to social problems;
- original articles;
- statistical reports;
- public surveys.

Networking:

- expansion of the structure to include local public bodies, partners, experts, databanks for motivation of social involvement.

The Center will make use of the results already achieved.

Publications:

- Information public relations bimonthly "Chernobyl Region" (Russian, German, English).
- Information bimonthly bulletin "Polessye Farmer"(1998).

Major projects accomplished and in progress:***1996 – 1998***

- The Progress of Democratization in the Post-Soviet Republics.
- Election campaigns and Political Fatalism (INTAS).
- Risk of Socially Abnormal Behavior among Adolescents (violence, suicide tendencies, alcoholism, drugs and AIDS) (Soros Foundation).
- Chernobyl, Environment and Social Conflicts: Monitoring Project.
- Chernobyl Disaster and Psychosociological Encouragement and Adaptation (Hamburg University).

1994 – 1995

- Civil Good Will Action "Face to Face", May – October, Ellerlau, Germany.
- Starting Conditions for Private Farming in Belarus (Soros Foundation, VOCA).
- Belarus: Understand Ourselves and Our Future. Prospects of Social Transformation (Cornel University, World Vision Belarus).

1993

- International Relations and Language Communications in the Gomel Region (the Republican Commission for International Relations).

1992 – 1996

- Monitoring of Social and Psychological Consequences of the Chernobyl Disaster. Project EC JSP-2.

1993 – 1994

- Public Health Status in the Gomel Region (Utrecht University, NL).

Major international presentations:

1997, July

Starting Conditions for Private Farming in Belarus, Iowa State University, Ames, VOCA, Washington, D.C.

Canvassing And Political Leadership, Minsk

1996, June

Chernobyl, War Doctrine And Fatalism. NATO, Advanced Research Workshop, Oslo, Norway

1996, January

Psychological Images of the Chernobyl Disaster, Hamburg University

1996, September

Evolution of Local Pluralism In The Former Soviet Union. Annual Meeting Of the Society of Rural Sociology, Ames, Iowa, USA

1995, August

Rural Influences On Leaders' And People's Attitudes Toward Fundamental Economic And Political Changes In Belarus: An Analysis Of Survey Data. Annual Meeting of the Society of Rural Sociology, Washington, DC

1994, September

Belarus: Prospects Of Transformation. Cornel University, Ithaca, NY

International Participation:

- ACIDI/VOCA Belarus;
- United States Information Service/Democracy Funds Small Grants Program;
- Cornell University, USA;
- Iowa State University, USA;
- Utrecht University, Holland;
- Surrey University, UK;
- Hamburg University, FRG;
- European Commission;
- INTAS;
- WORLD VISION, Belarus;
- Leiden University, Holland.

SUPPORT CENTER FOR ASSOCIATION AND FOUNDATIONS «SCAF – BELARUS»

Room 328, 16 Korolys str., Minsk, 220004 Republic of Belarus

Phone: (017) 210-57-51

E-mail: izag@scaf.minsk.by

Internet: <http://www.scaf.minsk.by>

Director: Prof. Dr. Iouri Zagoumenov

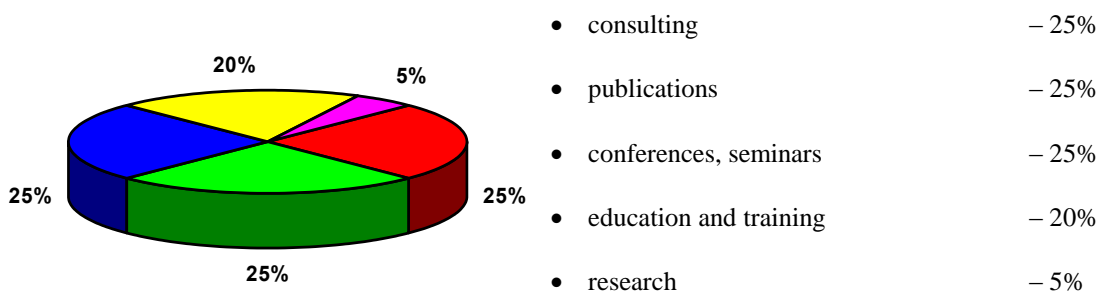
Mission and aims:

Support Centre for Associations and Foundations (SCAF), an independent, non-profit organization was established in 1995 to promote good practice and effective work in the field of Non- Government Organizations' functioning and management, charity, fund-raising and grants management. Our mission is to build philanthropy in the Republic of Belarus by promoting NGOs and community development and involvement. We use classroom and computer facilities at our site in the center of Minsk, capital of the Republic of Belarus, to provide consultancy and training for NGO staff.

Main forms of activities:

- dissemination of information about effectively functioning associations and foundations, funding practice, grant management, NGO governance, legal and fiscal matters;
- providing high-quality training and consultancy;
- providing access to information and disseminating information via journal, newsletter and telecommunication network;
- working with government and non-government organizations to increase public understanding of the foundation field;
- assisting local and western grant makers in identifying potential partners in Belarus.

Areas of SCAF activity:



What we do:

- represent the interests of NGOs, foundations and associations at national and international levels;
- consult on NGO management;
- consult on fund-raising, grant-writing and grant-management;
- provide orientation programs;

- provide training programs for NGO members;
- develop and publish reference materials;
- publish the journal GRANTMANSHIP;
- consult on legal and fiscal issues;
- provide access to on-line information and database services on INTERNET for NGO members;
- provide access to SCAF telecommunication NGO network;
- provide courses on computer application for NGO members;
- counsel on setting new associations and foundations;
- supply information on the conferences, seminars and workshops to NGOs;
- assist grant makers in coordinating projects carried out in Belarus;
- monitor the effectiveness of the projects carried out by Belarus NGOs.

Networking and training:

We are developing and maintaining a comprehensive database on foundations and corporate giving programs, on innovative projects being carried out in Belarus, and also on effective Belarus organizations seeking grants to accomplish innovative projects to meet the urgent needs in the country. We adhere to the concept of «training the trainers». Our graduates participate in the organization and conduct of the seminars for their colleagues in their local districts. We also organize conferences and workshops at various locations throughout Belarus.

We are dedicated to improving the efficiency and effectiveness of foundations and associations as well as NGOs in general and supporting their development. We offer following types of programs to satisfy the varying training needs of Belarus NGOs' staff.

Intensive short-term courses at our Minsk center focus on key NGO management skills such as staff and resource management, strategic planning and management, legal and fiscal issues in NGO management, public relations, fundraising, etc. These courses offer an opportunity for NGO members from across Belarus to meet, network and share experiences, to discuss current issues with leading practitioners and to practice skills away from the day-to-day pressures of work.

One day conferences, workshops and seminars, providing up-to-the-minute information and advice on topical issues affecting the sector. These events, held in Minsk and other major cities, enable NGO members to be well briefed with minimum time away from work.

SCAF research activity ranges from national projects on developing and maintaining a database on foundations and giving programs, to the NGO management matters.

We have developed Guidelines for NGO and Grant Management in Belarus – project that was completed in August 1997.

Consultancy:

Utilising our research findings and the specialized skills of our staff, we provide consulting to NGO staff.

We can advise on NGO management issues such as NGO reorganization, strategic planning, resource management, legal issues, fiscal issues in the work of NGO, monitoring and evaluation, staffing.

Information Technology:

Our information technology training unit is a service specially developed to assist associations and foundations in clarifying their information technology requirements, through consulting, training and a wide range of other IT support.

We have developed and maintain WWW server and Belarus NGO homepage in Russian and in English.

Publications:

We publish the journal GRANTMANSHIP which is the only publication in Belarus on the problems of NGOs. We also publish a bi-weekly newsletter.

Staff:

- Executive director: Prof. Dr. Iouri Zagoumenov.
- Deputy director (information and training): Lyudmila Shelkovich.
- Deputy Director (consultancy and publication): Vassily Selishchev.
- Research Program coordinator: Natali Yakovets.

Staff languages:

Russian, English, French.

BREST INDEPENDENT SOCIOLOGICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL CENTRE

2 – 338, Gorovtza str., Minsk, 220094, Republic of Belarus,

Phone: (017) 249-95-53

Director: Dr. Sergey Shein

BISPC was founded as an independent NGO by group of Belarusian psychologists and sociologists in 1991. Official registration – December 1994.

Mission of the Centre:

- support of the social and economic reforms in Belarus;
- objective research of social and psychological problems in the conditions of transitional economy; development of applied psychology in the sphere of business consulting, personal technologies and social work;
- development of the methods of organisational development and introduction of them into the social practice.

Main activities of the Centre:

- «Focus-groups» and public opinion survey's' analysis.
- Public relations and advertising actions, image-building in business and politics.
- Mediation and negotiation in solving conflicts.
- Marketing and management, examination and support of investment projects in small scale privatisation and re-structuring.
- Staff – technology: selection and psychological testing of personnel and leaders for NGO and business; training and consulting in professional communication.

Executed projects:

- June 1993 / February 1994: Cross-cultural investigation of intellectual abilities in Belarusian and German schools for Baden-Wuerttemberg Ministry of Science and German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD: Kennedy Allee, 50, Bonn-1, Germany).
- October 1993 / December 1994: Public opinion research on privatisation for International Finance Corporation (Chief of ex – Soviet Union Department at IFC – Anthony DORAN:1818 H Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20433, USA, tel.: 202/ 477 12 34).
- May / July 1994: Focus-groups data analysis about business motivation and public opinion in privatisation for Department of Social and Economical Reforms of Russian Government (Egor Gaydar Team Manager – Tatyana ALAVIDZE – tel.: 095/ 146 94 86).
- June / October 1994: Advertising program for «Volga Dnieper Airlines» and preparation of negotiations with «Japan Airlines» (Chief Manager of Avia Marketing Centre – professor Boris ARTAMONOV – tel.: 095/ 290 64 33, fax: 095/ 2916821).
- November 1995 / February 1996: Privatisation of Metal Factory at Baranovici, manager's training.
- June 1996 / up to now: Complex restructuring of 23 regional Departments of «Dainova» Corporation (OEM-partner of INTEL.OKI, PHILIPS a.o.).

- September 1996 to now: Organisation of «Brest Business Club», regular Public opinion researches for «Brest Courier» (newspaper), political forecasts.

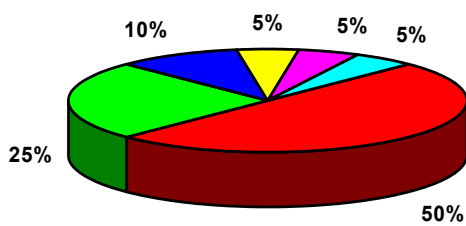
Projects planned to be carried out in 1998:

- research of businessmen's motivation in post-totalitarian society (principals, aims, values of business; major problems and difficulties; perspectives of business development; ideas of worth and worthless ways to wealth; relationship with state and public structures (authorities); analysis of public opinion of various social groups and their attitude to businessmen);
- training program «My Way in Business» assigned for schoolchildren and students;
- working out training program for NGO leaders and heads of small business enterprises; training of trainers for the program «Support NGO Leaders» in the regions of the Republic of Belarus.

Publication :

About 20 articles in the newspaper «Brestski Courier» and other materials.

Areas of activity:



- consulting – 50%
- conferences, seminars – 25%
- education and training – 5%
- publications – 5%
- research – 10%
- public outreach – 5%

Staff:

Number of staff members – 30:

- specialists – 18 persons;
- technical staff – 12 persons;
- full-time staff – 7 persons;
- part-time staff – 23 persons.

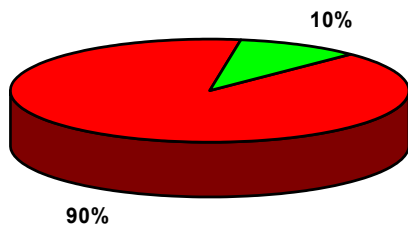
Staff members:

- S. Shein – director.
- A. Mushnitski – executive director.
- E. Davydov – polls service coordinator.
- A. Kulizhski – training projects coordinator.
- A. Gusakovski – analyses experts.
- A. Propisko – computer center manager.
- S. Kuzmich – bookkeeper.

Staff languages:

Russian. English, German, Polish.

Sources of revenue:



- grants from international foundations – 10%
- grants from corporative foundations – 90%

Main sources of funding:

International finance corporation, Soros Foundation, «Legal Initiative Foundation», Department of Scientific exchange of the German Academy of Sciences.

National and International organisation's membership and partners:

Belarusian Association of Think Tanks.

The Center has its branches in Minsk, Brest and Grodno.

CENTER FOR FUTURE STUDIES

Phone/Fax: (017) 270-33-29

E-mail: aspotupa@yahoo.com

Pager: 2110000 (ab. 80109)

Internet: <http://www.chat.ru/~potupa/andy.htm>

Director: Prof. Dr. Alexander Potupa

Mission of the Center:

The Center was launched and began its work in spring 1992 as affiliation of the largest in Belarus private publishing company «Eridan». From 1996 the Center started to work separately. The Center's research program is focused on forecast, sociology, politology.

Main types of activities:

- development on the basis of original methods system scenarios of the civilization development in XXI century;
- evaluation of the perspectives of global and regional security;
- evaluation of the perspectives of the reforms in Belarus and other countries of CIS;
- analyses and development of law drafts;
- modeling of political technologies;
- monitoring of social and political situation;
- rating popularity of political parties and leaders;
- urgent problems of the business development;
- marketing research in different areas.

Results of research and analytical work of the Center were used while making political and economic decisions by state agencies and by a number of international organisations. The results of the research were published in mass media of CIS, Eastern and Western Europe, USA, Far-East Region.

Recent sociological research carried out by the Center:

- «Social and political situation in Belarus: your opinion?»;
- «Forecast – 93»;
- «Super-Rating – 92»: evaluation of political parties and leaders by the elite expert groups;
- «Political Spectre of Belarus»;
- «Businessman Portrait» (1992 – 1994);
- «President – 94»;
- «Rating – 95»;
- «Forecast – 95»;
- «Referendum – 95»;
- survey of lawyers' opinion on the laws drafts';
- research of the insurance business.

The results of the Center's work was represented in more than 50 international and national conferences and seminars.

BELARUS DEMOCRATIC REFORMS SUPPORT L. SAPEGA FOUNDATION

416 – 13, V. Khoruzhaya str., Minsk, 220123, Republic of Belarus

Phone: (017) 234-37-91; (017) 276-97-11; (017) 234-84-70

Fax: (017) 234-37-91; (017) 276-97-11

E-mail: sapieha@user.unibel.by

Foundation's regional branches:

Grodno: phone/fax: (0152) 72-03-11

Gomel: phone/fax: (0232) 52-41-70

Brest: phone/fax: (0162) 66-569

Mogilev: phone/fax: (0222) 22-89-77

Vitebsk: phone/fax: (0212) 22-49-25

President of the Foundation: certified lawyer Miroslaw Kobasa

The Belarusian Republican Democratic Reforms Support L. Sapieha Foundation (hereinafter BRDRSF) is a non-governmental, non-political and non-profit public organisation which was registered by the Ministry of Justice of Belarus on August II, 1992. The BRDRSF's members are Deputies of Parliament and Local Councils, scientists, businessmen and journalists. The BRDRSF's objective is to support democratic reforms in the Republic of Belarus.

Structure of BRDRSF:

- Foundation Board;
- Local Authorities Information and Analytical Centre;
- Bureau for Non-Governmental Organisations;
- Publishing Centre;
- Five Regional Offices in the Regional Centres;

The BRDRSF's goals are:

- to promote the development of a state functioning in accordance with constitutional law;
- to support parliamentary activities;
- to support the reforms of local self-government;
- to support non-governmental organisations;
- to promote a civil society development;
- to develop culture and education;
- to support ecological programs;
- to support Belarusian regional mass media.

BRDRSF activities:

- conducts studying and analysing the process of reforms in Central and Eastern Europe, in Baltic countries and in the CIS;

- renders information, legal and organisational assistance to national and regional non-governmental organisations;
- disposes skilled experts in the field of constitutional and municipal law, local economy and finance, social and political sciences;
- exchanges information with the European counterparts and partners;
- actively collaborates with a number of international organisations which support the process of reforms in Central and East European countries;
- has a status of a specially invited organisation at the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities in Europe and a status of a specially invited organisation for participation in the work of the Congress.

Main forms of activities:

- conferences, symposia, workshops, lectures and exhibitions both in Belarus and in other countries;
- collaboration with international non- governmental organisations;
- publication of informative materials, books, booklets and periodicals.

Executed projects:

BRDRSF's members and experts worked out the «Concepts for Reforming Local Authorities in the Republic of Belarus», provided for reforming the legislation with regard to local authorities in order to reinforce the democratic principles of their activities. Within the «Concepts...» and according to the BRDRSF Charter, a set of draft municipal laws have been prepared and submitted to the Supreme Soviet of Belarus. In 1992 the Foundation was the first to distribute the European Charter of Local Self-Government in the Republic of Belarus. As a legislative initiative and in accordance with the existing at that moment legislation, the draft charter of the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus «The Basis of Local Self-Government» has been developed and submitted for further consideration of the Supreme Soviet of Belarus.

Conferences:

The BRDRSF has initiated a number of international conferences, i.e. «Tolerance and International Relations», «Local Authorities System in Poland: The Reformation Experience», «The Basis of Municipal Self-Government in FRG», «Self-Government in East Europe: Constitutional Principles», «Municipal Privatisation: East European Experience», «Central and East European Municipalities: Specific Features of Activities» as well as a number of regional scientific, practical and training workshops with an active participation of the representatives of local authorities, scientific research institutions and higher school, deputies of local authorities and Parliament.

SOCIOLOGICAL GROUP S.R.G.

P.O.Box 35, Brest, 224011, Republic of Belarus

Phone: (0162) 43-58-52

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E-mail: lucul@statelaw.brsu.brest.by

Head of the Group: Dr. Vladimir Lukevich

Sociological Group S.R.G. was established in early 1996 in the Department on Youth of the city Municipal council. Main task of the Group was to conduct mass polls on the territory of Brest, Brest region and of the Euroregion Bug.

Mission of the Group:

Promote dissemination of the objective and precise information, conditions for the creation of the open society, support of democratization processes in Belarus.

Main activities:

Group is mainly involved in conducting sociological studies for the customers. Group conducts mass surveys, analysis of the results of the surveys in mass-media. The Group actively collaborates with the printed media agencies in the region (e.g. the Group conducted research for the «Vecherni BUG» newspaper). Results of the surveys and polls are regularly published in the local newspapers. Some materials were published abroad in Poland.

Projects, executed in 1996 – 1997:

- «Legality» (1996);
- «Referendum» (1996);
- «Discipline» (1997).

Project planned for 1998:

«Puls» project is planned in collaboration with the «Brestski kurier».

Recent publications:

A. Lysyuk, Political leadership in the Republic of Belarus, Brest 1997.

V. Lukevich, Referendum of 1995 in Belarus as seen by the youth (Paper, presented at the conference), Minsk 1996.

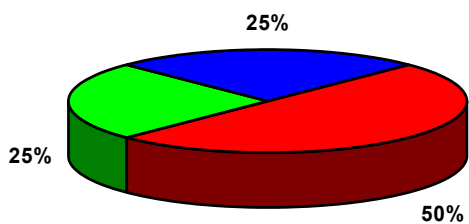
E. Skakun, Tendencies of the development of the political conscience of the students, Brest 1997.

Lukiewicz U. Swiadomosc narodowa i europejskosc w opinii mlodziezy miejskiej Bialorusi i Polski/ Wyniki badan ankietowych // Miasto i kultura w dziejach Bialorusi, Litwy, Polski i Ukrainy/ – Krakow, 1996.

Lukiewicz U. Dyskurs wokol bialoruskiej panstwowosci socjologicznym sondazu mlodziezy studenckiej w przygranicznym Brzesci // Podlasie w warunkach transformacji systemowej lat 90' – Siedlce, 1997.

Lukievic U. Sport in the informational system of culture // Papers of the 10th Scientific Congress of International Association for Sports Information, 1997.

Areas of activity:



- publications – 25%
- research – 25%
- public outreach – 50%

Staff:

Anatoly Byalko
Anatoly Lysyuk
Evgeny Skakun

Staff languages:

Belarusian, English, Russian, Polish.

MOGILEV CITY ASSOCIATION «HUMANITARIAN INITIATIVE»

**20 – 32, Prospekt Mira, Mogilev,
212030, Republic of Belarus**

Phone/Fax: (0222) 22-04-82

E-mail: civ@mgahi.belpak.mogilev.by

Chairman of the Board: Dr. Valeri Sivukha

Association «Humanitarian Initiative» was founded in late 1996 and has been legally registered by Mogilev Justice Department.

Main aims of the association:

- promoting institutions of the civil society;
- revival of the traditions of humanism and democracy;
- promoting humanistic and democratic ideals, respect to the individual.

Main forms of activities:

- dissemination, translation and publication of the literature on theory and practice of cultural, enlightening, democratic and humanitarian activity;
- seminars, conferences, lectures on the topics mentioned above;
- preparing publications and articles on humanitarian issues;
- promoting «peoples diplomacy»;
- participating in international cooperation.

Board:

Dr. V. Vyborny

Dr. V. Rozhkovski

Y. Podolski

V. Shantsev

**CENTER FOR INFORMATION AND ANALYSES OF THE MOGILEV UNION OF
ENTREPRENEURS AND TAXPAYERS**

**P.O.Box 22, Mogilev,
212030, Republic of Belarus**

Phone: (0222) 25-63-46

Head of the Center: Yuri Podolski

The Union of Entrepreneurs and Taxpayers was launched and registered in November 1996. There are 19 direct members in the Union and 127 associated.

Mission and aims of the Center:

Center for Information and Analyses was created in the beginning of 1997. The Center researches into the problem of the legal forms (laws, etc) that can foster businesses creation and attract investments.