

Those who spent days in detention and came back to Universities often have to show their regret about participation in the actions of protest in public.

Compulsory employment

Graduating students in Belarus whose studies were sponsored from the budget do not have the right to choose place of employment. They are obliged to work in backward regions mostly in the south of the country which is still heavily polluted by radiation. Many polluted regions were officially announced to be clean of radiation after Lukashenka came there several years ago and said that he does not see any radiation there. Compulsory employment is the mechanism that was created in the Soviet Union and was re-established in Belarus in 1997.

Solidarity with the Belarusian students

Yes it is a difficult cause and Lukashenka is quite well known for not giving a damn about what other people have to say – but the reality is that silence will also bring us nowhere – and if its not us, the students, who would raise our voices at this unacceptable disregard to student and human rights – then who will?! The students in Belarus are raising their voice – now its up to us to show support once again!

about us

fzs - The National Union of Students in Germany is the non-partisan umbrella organisation of student unions in Germany. Encompassing nearly 90 student unions fzs represents the social, educational, economical and cultural interests of more than 1 million students in Germany.

ESIB - the National Unions of Students in Europe is the umbrella organisation of 44 national unions of students from 34 countries and through these members represent over 10 million students. The aim of ESIB is to represent and promote the educational, social, economic and cultural interests of students at a European level towards all relevant bodies.

contact

**freier Zusammenschluss
von studentInnenschaften**

www.fzs.de

**ESIB -
The National Unions of Students in Europe**

www.esib.org



Students against the Last Dictatorship in Europe

Action of Solidarity on April 26th

Impressum: Photocase, ESIB.



Students' Life in Dictatorship

Travels Abroad

Student mobility so heavily discussed in Europe is not a case for Belarus. And this is not because the European Universities are closed for them but because the regime in the country is doing its best to close the boarders for students.

Nowadays to go studying abroad a student has to get approval of the Ministry of Education for that. Even though the state is trying to explain that with only the matter of safety of students (the rule was introduced by the Decree #3 of the President aimed to prevent Human trade in Belarus) in practice there were already cases when the law was used with pure political background.

In attempt to enforce isolation and information blockade the above mentioned decree was amended with clauses regulating also short term travels abroad. By that Belarusian students lost the chance to freely participate in events where they could meet foreign fellow students and see the life in the free and democratic society!

System of Higher Education

Belarusian higher education goes back to the soviet past. This is the only European country outside

the Bologna Process. And it does not even show interest to join European HE area for the same reason why the regime wants to isolate the youth, as young people with the experience of studying abroad and life in democratic societies is a real threat to the dictatorship.

Ideology: Brainwash

There is a fight for the youth in Belarus. At Universities as well as at schools and kindergartens young people are brainwashed through the ideological bringing-up system. Ideologists are promoting the regime's policies among the youth. Two years ago a compulsory subject called "Ideology of the Belarusian state" was introduced at all Universities. By the order of the Ministry they brought back the practice of "political information time" when in stead of studying Economics, Linguistics or Mathematis students have to listen to a specially appointed professor reading from a paper about the latest achievement of Belarusian government often assesments of foreign policies of the EU and the USA are given during those "ideology miutes". Together with grave state of independent Media in Belarus it makes Belarusian state propaganda affecting the young minds especially strong!

Youth organizations

Pioneer organization and youth organization

which claim to be KOMSOMOL descendents are heavily supported and promoted by the state at the same time when independent youth and student organizations are closed and their activist are called criminal radicals troops.

There are orders signed by the Minister of Education in which he gives the right to University administration to expel students who are known as activists of unregistered organizations. This is impossible to register a new independent organization and according to the Criminal Code amendment introduced in December 2005 people can be charged with up to two years in prison. All that makes activity of students activist not just difficult but unsafe!

Students arrested and expelled

A big number of students became victims of the the campaign held in Belarus before the Presidential election in March 19. Some of them were expelled several months before the elections to show other students to what civil activity may lead. No matter that on the day when the results of the elections were announced thousands of students came to the main square of Minsk to protest the falsified elections. As a result many of them were arrested and beaten. Now they are under the threat to be expelled. Rectors again try to use those cases to threaten other students.