



# **QUARTERLY DIGEST**

**LGBTQ+ ISSUES IN THE BELARUSIAN MASS MEDIA**

**GPress.info**

**January – March 2022**

## The International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia

(IDAHOT Day) is celebrated on May 17.

Apparently, the so-called Belarusian authorities consider in their own way the event, which is highly important for every society that would like to develop, being guided by universal human values.

What kind of results can Belarus boast of on the eve of IDAHOT Day this year?

Judging by the rhetoric of pro-government media and politicians, the word “against” should be replaced with the word “for” in the title of this international day. Since the self-proclaimed authorities are doing everything to incite homophobia, transphobia and biphobia in the country.

We’ve prepared a video review of persecution of LGBTQ+ community in Belarus on the part of the state propaganda and Lukashenka’s regime (see in Russian and English).

In addition to the usual hate speech in the media and political statements, the destruction of Belarusian civil society and the introduction of repressive legislation continued in the 1st quarter of 2022.

Since January 2022, the mere fact that you are a leader or activist of a liquidated or unregistered organization or civil society initiative can lead to imprisonment for up to 2 years under Article 193-1 of the Criminal Code of Belarus.

Discussions on the new Constitution of Belarus also contributed to the incitement of hatred in relation to LGBTQ. Among other, it was proposed to introduce a Constitutional ban on ‘LGBT propaganda’. Fortunately, it did not happen. Apparently, the authorities are afraid of the very mentioning of the LGBT acronym.

Despite the forced emigration of quite a few of Belarusian LGBTQ+ community representatives, we continue our active work, which is aimed at protecting the rights of all people.

We are convinced that the International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia (IDAHOT Day) will be celebrated as an official state holiday in New Belarus.





## State propaganda and hate: how Lukashenka's regime harasses the LGBT community

The Belarusian authorities have never been distinguished by tolerance towards the LGBT community. However, a real wave of persecution has been started against it in the state-owned traditional and social media since recently.

<https://www.dw.com/ru/gospropaganda-i-hejt-kak-rezhim-lukashenko-travit-lgbt/a-60587900>



## Corporations are (not) against lies. How social media respond to state propaganda

In 2022, Telegram was forced to make some channels delete the publications aimed at LGBT persecution and outing. However, it was done only in response to a claim from Apple.

<https://euroradio.fm/ru/korporacii-ne-protiv-lzhi-kak-socseti-reagiruyut-na-gosudarstvennyu-propagandu>



## MAKEOUT liquidated in Belarus

MAKEOUT is a Belarusian enlightening project about gender and sexuality. Previously, the organization faced harassment on the part of the law enforcement agencies in 2017. Its presentation was disrupted then.

<https://reform.news/296768-v-belarusi-likvidirujut-makeout-proekt-posvjashhenyj-genderu-i-netradicionnoj-seksualnosti>



## Activists propose to include the ban on 'LGBT propaganda' in the Constitution of Belarus

Natalya Kachanova is holding a reception of people to collect proposals for the draft of the updated Constitution.

Thus, activists propose to spell out the ideological issues more clearly, to envisage priority of domestic laws over international legislature, and even introduce a ban on "LGBT propaganda".

[https://blizko.by/notes/aktivisty-predlagayut-propisat-v-konstitutsii-belarusi-zapret-na-propagandu-lgbt\\_na](https://blizko.by/notes/aktivisty-predlagayut-propisat-v-konstitutsii-belarusi-zapret-na-propagandu-lgbt_na)



## Ban on LGBT, tasty meals, and free education. What do the employees of 'Dziarzhynski' Agricultural Complex crave for?

Elena Kurkhinen went to Fanipal this time. She visited the Agricultural Complex and talked with its employees about the upcoming referendum there.

<https://mlyn.by/01022022/zapret-lgbt-vkusnaya-eda-besplatnoe-obrazovanie-chego-hotyat-sotrudniki-agrokombinata-dzerzhinskij/>



## Not only women. Four facts of prostitution revealed in Baranavichy

In addition to women, there were also men revealed among the traffickers of their own bodies, namely the representatives of the LGBT community. All of them "hunted for clients" online.

<https://brestcity.com/blog/ne-tolko-zhenshhiny>



## **“Belarus and Russia are in the forefront of struggle for preserving our world”**

“The process of substitution of concepts has begun since long time ago in Ukraine. Thus, young people are told that LGBT people are the norm, and Bandera and Shukhevych are the heroes. Under these conditions, it is important to fight for the preservation of our world, and the union of Belarus and Russia is in the forefront of this struggle.” A writer and columnist for the “Politekspert” publication Uladzimir Yeranasyan dwelt upon the issue during “Markau. Nothing Personal” TV Program on the ANT channel.

<https://ont.by/news/vladimir-eranosyan-belarus-i-rossiya-nahodyatsya-v-avangarde-borby-za-sohranenie-nashego-mira>

## **10 signs that prove asexuality**

What is asexuality? The term is widely misunderstood.

The asexual person is not attracted to any of the sexes. Asexual people aren't afraid of commitment or sex. They just don't have a sex drive and aren't generally interested in sexual activity.

<https://grodno24.com/2022/01/desyat-priznakov-togo-chno-vy-aseksualny.html>



## **Yury Karayeu: "Historical memory of the Great Patriotic War is the cornerstone of the Slavs' consciousness"**

“The historical memory of the Great Patriotic War is the cornerstone of the Slavs’ consciousness. And this should be legitimized that our people are not ready and, God forbid, they will never be ready for this (LGBT, same-sex marriages) and, consequently, the disappearance of our nation, our Slavic community.”

<https://rgazeta.by/ru/authority/yurij-karaev-istoricheskaya-pamyat-o->



# Gay Press

## Our social networks

YouTube

TikTok

Telegram

Facebook

Instagram

ВКонтакте

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