

Legalize Belarus

Education and advocacy movement for a more humane
and effective drug policy in Belarus

THE PROBLEM

It is estimated that over 10 thousand Belarusians currently find themselves behind bars for non-violent drug-related offences. Article 328 of the national Criminal Code establishes that a mere **possession of any amount** of a controlled substance is punishable by **a minimum of 2 years in prison**. Others factors making the overall situation dire are as follows: products that are impossible to misuse and that are legal in many countries, such as hemp tea, fall into the same legal category as heroin; the majority of incarcerated “drug offenders” lost freedom just for **consuming** controlled drugs; criminal liability begins at the **age of 14**; the chance of acquittal in drug-related cases is virtually zero — **0.045% (1 out of 2191 cases)** in 2019; in penal colonies, inmates are **forced to labour for the state** basically for free.

Unsurprisingly, the state doesn't provide drug users with any effective harm reduction program. The fear of disproportionate punishment often demotivates those in life-threatening situations caused by drugs from seeking professional help. People who use drugs are highly stigmatized.

The existing drug policy in Belarus violates basic human rights and civil liberties, marginalizes a vulnerable population group, fuels intolerance within the society, obstructs people with addiction disorders from access to medical care, and counterintuitively foments crime, corruption and new designer drugs.

OUR VISION

Legalize Belarus pursues a change in public attitude towards people who use drugs.

We believe that society will greatly benefit from being better informed about the real psychopharmacological properties of controlled substances, their history, potential risks of consumption and known methods of harm reduction. People who acquired mental disorders due to drug use deserve to be treated with compassion and support.

We contend that the state should exclude possession of small amounts of controlled drugs from the criminal code, develop a meaningful and effective harm reduction policy, and make drugs that are capable of treating clinical conditions available to those in need.

We are trying to materialise our vision by means of **civic education, public advocacy** and **supporting the convicted**.

OUR STRATEGY



Deliver education about psychoactive substances and addictions

Advocate for human rights, civil liberties, and evidence-based approach to drug regulation



Advocate for decriminalization of small amount possession

Bring in international expertise

Work out formal policy recommendation for the government



Support drug users and people convicted under Article 328

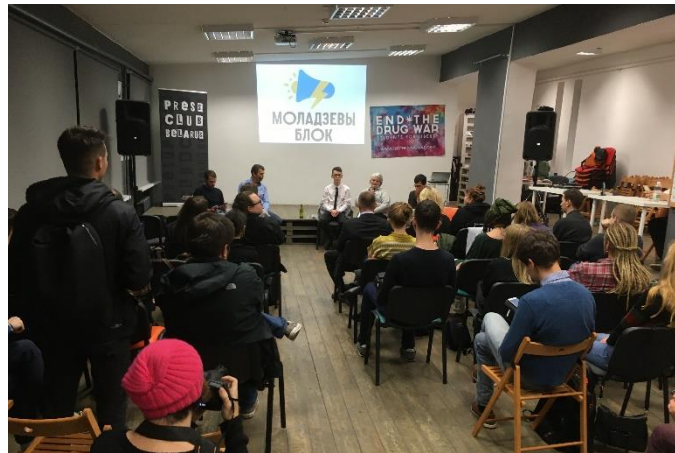
Organize a community of legal and psychological support for those in drug-related predicament and their relatives. Drug checking

WHO WE ARE



A group of young lawyers, journalists, programmers, students and activists based in Minsk.

CIVIC EDUCATION

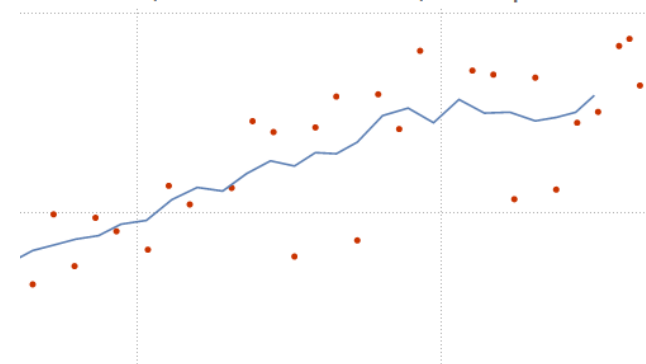


PANELS, LECTURES. WORKSHOPS

RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY



шишек в Минске на платформе Hydra, USD
льным позициям 1–5г с минимальной ценой за грамм



Проект

ЗАКОН РЕСПУБЛИКИ БЕЛАРУСЬ

О внесении изменений и дополнений в некоторые кодексы Республики Беларусь по вопросам незаконного оборота наркотических средств, психотропных веществ, их прекурсоров и аналогов

Принят Палатой представителей

Одобрен Советом Республики

Статья 1. Внести в Уголовный кодекс Республики Беларусь следующие изменения и дополнения:



POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS, PETITIONS

PROTESTS



STREET PERFORMANCES, DEMONSTRATIONS AND GATHERINGS

COMMUNITY SUPPORT



MEDIA EXPOSURE

TALKING **DRUGS**

BelarusDigest

MARIJUANA
.COM

KRYTYKA POLITYCZNA
& EUROPEAN ALTERNATIVES

F T
NETWORK

DRUG
reporter

 **Радыё
Свабода**

iROZH LAS

БЕЛСАТtv
BELSAT

КУКУ

Наша Ніва nn.by
ПЕРШАЯ БЕЛАРУСКАЯ ГАЗЕТА


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dog

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ПАРТИЗАН

TUT.BY
БЕЛОРУССКИЙ ПОРТАЛ

 **конопляна
ПРАВДА**

europa radio . FM

 **NAVINY.BY**
БЕЛОРУССКИЕ НОВОСТИ



onliner

беларуская
праўда

РАЦЫЯ

~~Reformation~~

САЛІДАРНАСЦЬ

БИНОКЛЬ


HRODNA LIFE

34 MAG.
NET

Новы
Час ONLINE


БЕЛАПАН

480+ MEDIA HITS SINCE 2017

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