

### **Editorial Language Policy and Transliteration Principles (Russian)**

In Russian texts only “Беларусь” is used (not “Белоруссия”). This pattern also applies to designation of a region, ethnographic territory etc. in historical perspective. Such practice fully complies with the tradition established in Belarus, which is, importantly, set in the Constitution: *“Мы, народ Республики Беларусь (Беларуси), исходя из ответственности за настоящее и будущее Беларуси, сознавая себя полноправным субъектом мирового сообщества и подтверждая свою приверженность общечеловеческим ценностям...”*

Therefore, adjectives and other words are derived from “Беларусь” form: “беларусский”, “беларус” (not “белорусский”, “белорус”).

### **Editorial Language Policy and Transliteration Principles (English)**

There is no fixed tradition of reproducing Belarusian names and place names in the English-language literature. This is due to a complex of historical and cultural reasons, but the growth of publications about Belarus and the further development of Belarusian Studies requires a more accurate standardisation. We adhere to the following rules:

#### Belarus and Belarusian

The English texts contain different spelling options – Byelorussian, Belorussian, Belarusian etc. We only use the official name and the corresponding derivatives: Belarus, Belarusian. This rule also applies to the institutions and objects that used the words “Belarus”, “Belarusian” in the past. Thus, we use Belarusian SSR, not Byelorussian SSR.

#### Place Names

We adhere to the standard of the corresponding instruction approved by the Government in 2007 (transliteration from Belarusian according to the rules of the national Latin alphabet, see below). The standard was also recommended for the use by the international community.

The proposed system is very close to the traditional Belarusian Latin alphabet developed in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, and is thus the most legitimate one from the legal, cultural and historical point of view.

Other place names are usually transliterated from the language of the country in which the designated places are currently located, taking into account, where possible, the national transliteration rules and the symbols of national alphabets.

## Names

Proper names follow the same rules as place names.

It should be noted that in the English-language literature, transliteration from the Russian language or passport writing (with no diacritical marks) are also used.

Given the large number of existing systems and their contradictory nature, in our opinion, the use of a single standard both for names and place names is the only correct way out. In most significant cases, double writing is provided.

The names of Belarusian authors in the contents and in the beginning of the articles are provided both according to national Latin and passport spelling. Belarusian Cyrillic writing is also available.

In the list of references, names of Belarusian authors are provided in national Latin writing. If a source was published in Russian, then transliteration from the Russian language is provided in brackets “[ ]” (only ASCII characters).

## Newspaper Names

The names of newspapers are given in accordance with the rules of the original language. Belarusian Latin alphabet is used for Belarusian names, while transliteration from the Russian language is used for Russian ones.

## Organisation and Party Names

The names of Belarusian organisations (organisations that are registered in Belarus or for which Belarus is the main country of activities) are provided from the Belarusian language.

Abbreviations for organisations are also derived from the Belarusian language: BNF (Bielaruski Narodny Front), but not BPF (Belarusian Popular Front).

The names of other organisations are provided in the language of the country of main activities.

## Other Cases

Specific concepts or words that have no English analogues (e. g. “Kryvija”) are provided with the help of Belarusian Latin alphabet.

Resolution of the State Committee for Property of the Republic of Belarus  
June 11, 2007 No.38

**8/16668**  
(18.06.2007)

**On Amendments to the Instruction for  
Transliteration of the Place Names of the  
Republic of Belarus with the Letters of the Latin  
Alphabet.**

*Appendix to the Instruction for  
Transliteration of the Place Names  
of the Republic of Belarus with the  
Letters of the Latin Alphabet.*

**Table for the Belarusian alphabet letters transliteration  
with the letters of the Latin alphabet**

Belarusian alphabet letter		Corresponding Latin alphabet letter		Examples of Belarusian place names transliteration
А	а	A	a	Аршанскі – Aršanski
Б	б	B	b	Бешанковічы – Biešankovičy
В	в	V	v	Віцебск – Viciebsk
Г	г	H	h	Гомель – Homieĺ, Гаўя – Haŭja
Д	д	D	d	Добруш – Dobruš
Е	е	Je	je* ie**	Ельск – Jeĺsk Бабаедава – Babajedava Венцавічы – Viencavičy
Ё	ё	Jo	jo* io**	Ёды – Jody, Вераб’ёвічы – Vierabjovičy Мёры – Miory
Ж	ж	Ž	ž	Жодзішкі – Žodziški
З	з	Z	z	Зэльва – Zeĺva
І	і	I	i	Іванавы – Ivanava, Іўе – Iŭje
Й	й	J	j	Лагойск – Lahojsk
К	к	K	k	Круглае – Kruhlaje
Л	л	L	l	Лошыца – Lošyca Любань – Liubań
М	м	M	m	Магілёў – Mahilioŭ
Н	н	N	n	Нясвіж – Niasviž
О	о	O	o	Орша – Orša
П	п	P	p	Паставы – Pastavy

Belarusian alphabet letter		Corresponding Latin alphabet letter		Examples of Belarusian place names transliteration
С	с	S	s	Светлагорск – Svetlahorsk
Т	т	T	t	Талачын – Talačyn
У	у	U	u	Узда – Uzda
Ў	ў	Ŭ	ŭ	Шаркаўшчына – Šarkaŭščyna
Ф	ф	F	f	Фаніпаль – Fanipał
Х	х	Ch	ch	Хоцімск – Chocimsk
Ц	ц	C	c	Цёмны Лес – Ciomny Lies
Ч	ч	Č	č	Чавусы – Čavusy
Ш	ш	Š	š	Шуміліна – Šumilina
Ы	ы	Y	y	Чыгірынка – Čyhirynka
Ь	ь			Чэрвень – Červień, Друць – Druć
Э	э	E	e	Чачэрск – Čačersk
Ю	ю	Ju	ju* iu**	Юхнаўка – Juchnaŭka Гаюціна – Hajucina Цюрлі – Ciurli, Любонічы – Liuboničy
Я	я	Ja	ja* ia**	Ямнае – Jamnaje, Баяры – Bajary Валяр’яны – Valiarjany Вязынка – Viazynka

\* At the beginning of the word, after vowels, apostrophe, separating soft sign and ŭ

\*\* After consonants