За права на выбор
Парады ас суджаных
Площчча-2010
ЗА ПРАВА НА ВЫБАР
FOR RIGHT TO ELECT

Portraits of Convicts
Square-2010

Vilnius
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2011
СА ПРАВА НА ВЫБАР

Партрэты асуджаных
Плошча-2010

Вільнюс
Выдавецтва «GUDAS»
2011
Year 2010 and the election of Aliaksandr Lukashenka for the fourth consecutive presidential term resulted in an incredible number of political prisoners in the country — about 60 people. Why is this number imprecise? Because most of them were released, some even managed to avoid the criminal “mock trials”, while some others were still kept in custody. The trials lasted for the whole of 2011 and concerned not only the Square. Among those punished there is Andrei Pachobut, independent journalist and activist of opposition Union of Poles in Belarus, representatives of anarchist youth movement and human rights activist Ales Bialiatski. Entrepreneur Mikalai Autukhovich is still kept in jail, too.

A large-scale attack on the country’s civil society and a massive cleanup began exactly on 19 December — with a violent dispersal of the peaceful protest rally. People were not only intimidated, beaten, imprisoned or fined. Six out of ten candidates for President of Belarus, their electioneering agents, heads of their electoral headquarters, activists and adherents of democratic development of the country were imprisoned on charges of organizing and participating in a mass riot. The black wheel of vengeance started spinning.

The book features photographs of the participants of Square-2010 who were subject to criminal prosecution after 19 December. This is a tragic chapter in the history of our country shown in faces. There is a concrete fate, challenge and... victory behind every shot. But, alas, this is not one victory for all.

Photos by photo correspondents Uladz Hrydzin, Yuliya Darashkevich, Siarhei Balai, Vadzim Zamirouski, Kseniya Avimava, Ales Piletski, Siarhei Hudzilin, Leonid Varlamov, Alexander Korsakov and from the web resource photo.bymedia.net were used in the album.

The book is designed for a wide range of readers.
The Square 2010

The Square 2010. It is under this name that the dramatic events that happened on Independence Square in Minsk last December have already entered history. But they have not yet become past, as the pain is not yet over, the memories are still alive and refusing to quiet down. These events remain a live, pulsing part of the present, influencing our society, fates of people and the destiny of our country.

The snowy, frozen square witnessed a collision of all those fundamental, controversial, packed with irreconcilable contradictions processes that shaped the social, economic and political evolution of Belarus since the beginning of the 1990s. Having originated from perestroika, the stream of Belarus’ newest history ebbed and flowed through the collapse of the Soviet empire, the emergence of the country’s independence and efforts to dismantle the totalitarian political system and replace it with democracy.

The latter was not to be. We gained independence. But the democracy was stopped by reactionary forces of the once dethroned bureaucracy, who managed to restore, on the ruins of the old totalitarian system, its local version — the so called “vertical.” Notably, this new restored version resembled not so much the mild, Brezhnev era, model as it absorbed the elements of the more brutal, Stalinist construction.

Guided by the instinct of self preservation, the governing bureaucracy quickly understood the dangers that the rapidly destabilizing situation of the late 2010 posed to them. They sensed the rising degree of dissatisfaction, and the falling degree of fear.

Only two month of just slight loosening of the authoritarian chains that the regime allowed in the run up to the elections, was all it took for the spirit of freedom to break through the spirit of fear to the side of the popular mindset. The few and short speeches of independent candidates that were allowed on the state owned TV and radio were enough to blow wholes in the screen of non-stop propagandist lies.

We see the evidence of this in Lukashenka’s own statements. Before elections: “We must hold on just two more weeks.” “There will not be a Square.” And immediately thereafter, following the brutal crack down: “You, just like me, could sense that we had allowed such a democracy here that there was no way to continue.”

To the regime, the need to avoid mass protests and a repeat of the Square-2006, by any means, was self evident. That explains the apparently inexplicable scale and brutality of the suppression of the meeting and the tactics of provoking the participants to start a storm of the government headquarters. A telling episode in this context is the moment when the special police received the order to retreat to the entrance to the building. Just a dozen of ordinary policemen would be more than enough to preempt even a slightest move towards the headquarters by any demonstrator.
«падпалу рэйхстага», аб чым і запытаўся ў А. Лукашэнка на прасавай канферэнцыі адзін з незалежных журналістаў.

Аб суправя́ння пагрозы свайму існаванню сведчыць і гатоўнасць рэйкому выкарыстаць войскі супраць мітынгу на плошчы, якая была ачыпляна патронами з байцаў па ўсю пераметры. Аб гэтай гатоўнасці заяўіў на прасавай канферэнцыі і сам А. Лукашэнка. Ці былі ў руках байцаў аўтаматы, заразаньня баявым патронам, ведаць толькі яны.

Баўвярня шыхты амапаўцаў супраць абсалютна мірная Плошча. Ні ў адной з каманд кандыдатаў у prezідэнты не было ні баяўных атрактаў, ні намераў штурмаўаць Дом урада. Для абавяжкаў гэтай відавочнасці рэйкому спатрэбілася інцэнзіраўка «знаходак» рэчавых доказаў падрыхтоўкі апаліциі штурму Дома ўрада — ледарубаў, лапат, бутэлек з галучай сумесцю.

19 снежня 2010 года «вертыкаль» правяла спецаперацыю, загадзя і даталёва спланаваную. Кіраваў аперацыяй непасрэдна кіраўнік вертыкалі А. Лукашэнка, аб чым ён сам паведаміў падчас прэсавай канферэнцыі, што адыцяўся на другі дзень пасля Плошчы.

Вобраз Плошчы-2010 у трактоўцы афіцыйных структур — спроба перавароту. Вобраз Плошчы-2010 ва успрыняцці большасці беларусаў грамадскасці, гэтак жа, як у сістэме аб'ектыўных каардынат, — спроба мірнага выхаду з таталітарнага тупіка, у якім Беларусь затрымалася на лішніх 20 гадоў. На Плошчы-2010 сышліся ў адзіным парыве мірнага выхаду з таталітарнага тупіка, у якім Беларусь затрымалася на лішніх 20 гадоў.

Плошча-2010 у колькасці да 40 тысяч чалавек — гэтая стыльная і спартая сцэна — аб'ектыўны крытэр. Спартая рэкамендацыйная дэманстрацыя — інсцэнтар. За падрыхтоўкай належыць апаратура. Кіраваў аперацыяй непасрэдна кіраўнік вертыкалі, касуе, якім бы яны.
Плошча выяўіла, што асабылыя баланс, які гарантуе любому таталітарнаму ці аўтарытарнаму рэжыму ўстойлівасць, пагрозлівы пахіснуўся. Тэндэнцыя абвалаў сталася А. Лукашэнка па выніках ацэнкі дзяўчыны апісання, праведзенага НІСЭПД у верасні 2011-га: жаданне прагаласаваць за яго на новы прэзідэнцкі тэрын выказала толькі 20,5 працэнтаў распандэнтаў.

У грамадскай свядомасці Плошча-2010 развяла лукашэнкаўскі варыянт заўсёднага таталітарнага міфу, што правадзіць, айца народа, любіць і шануе ўсё грамадства, увеўся народ, вяселіць на гэту галіну. На самай справе такім рэйкім патрабваўся, каб частка грамадства сапраўды ўдзельнічаў у ўсцеркаўліваў, частка сапраўды любіла і пакланялася, а частка проста валялася і маўчала. Ну і, зразумела, патрэбна машына рэпрэсій у звязку з прапагандысцымі, якая выяўілася ў турэмных камерах КДБ (так званай ахранкі — матэрыялы праслухаўвання, планаў аперацыі, аператыўных распрацовак, даносаў, допытаў, аналітычных запісак і г.д.).

Адксюль інстынктыўныя разарыд а скалаўгіяў рэпрэсій — аднаўлення ў турэчкай грамадскай свядомасці з пацьёрэнем масавага і ўзмацненнем жорсткасці. Разгон Плошчы з наступнай хваляй рэпрэсій, не стаўся, адключаючы і не стаўся, як адначасова спраба рэйкія вярнута ў ідэлюўобутую меншасць, што прэпагандыстка спрабаўала, а рэпрэсіяў ў параўнальным макім фармате ўстойлівасці не далі.

У магадскай свядомасці Плошча-2010 выяўіла, што слой адданых вельмі вузкі, што асабылыя пакет — замалы, а ресурс вычарпону, што маўкліва большасць пераўтварылася ў маўклівую меншасць, што прэпагандыстка спрабаўала, а рэпрэсіяў ў параўнальным макім фармате ўстойлівасці не далі.

Грамадскія свядомасці Плошча-2010 з’яўлялася араканскім старажытнаўгарыцкім трэцьым свяродом, у якім адлюстроўваўся ўся грамадская свядомасць. Плошча-2010 выяўіла, што няўлівы, не толькі ў ягоні, але і на сабе саміх не ўзвялі паклёп.

The Square showed that neither repressions nor propaganda managed to neutralize the civic organizations and independent media; that neither the pro-government youth union, nor economic subsidies, nor generous promises were enough to make the needed proportion of the nation to support the regime; that a realistic percentage of the ballots for “the sole politician,” as Lukashenka likes calling himself, failed to reach even the 2006 levels. The Square affirmed that the social balance, which secures stability for any totalitarian or authoritarian regime, has tilted away from it. The downward trend in the Lukashenka ratings was confirmed by polling by the Independent Institute of the Social and Economic Studies, a private think tank: according to a September 2011 poll, only 20.5% of respondents had any desire to vote for Lukashenka for another presidential term.

The Square busted the perennial totalitarian myth that until then plagued the Belarusian public mentality — that of the father of the nation who is loved and adored universally by all people, the entire nation. In reality, while such regimes do need a certain portion of society actually to actually support them, it is even more important that everyone else was just afraid and kept silent. And, naturally, always needed is a machine of repression that works in tandem with the machine of propaganda, both working non-stop. Any pause is a death knell.

Thanks to the Square-2010, it became obvious that the group that genuinely supports the regime had become narrow; that the social compact was shallow, the resource exhausted, and that the silent majority turned into a silent minority; that the propaganda has hollowed out, and the repressions, in their original more mild form, did not bring the desired result.

And hence the instinctive turn to escalation of repression, restoration of its unstoppable rhythm, widening of scope and increase in brutality. The crack down itself, and the subsequent wave of repressions, which continue to these days, is nothing but the regime’s attempt to tilt the balance back in its favor. First, the balance of fear, and then, through propaganda, a semblance of trust, in fact not so much trust as faith, even if blind and desperate, in the regime’s powers.

Arrests and demonstrative trials with intentionally harsh sentences of over 50 participants are absolutely logical for this kind of regime in this kind of situation.

Square 2010 is a people, not a population. It is its most conscientious and active part. Today, we do not have statistically verified data to paint a social portrait of the people from the Square — this kind of research in such a situation is simply impossible. More precision will emerge only when secrets of special police archives are forced open — records of wiretaps, operational plans, tactical rehearsals, interrogations, internal memos and other sad fabric of a police of state are brought to light.

But already, it is clear that Square 2010 is personalities, not statistics. The victims chosen by the regime for sacrifice and the role of culprits have acted entirely not as their jailors expected. In the dungeons of KGB, on trials, and in labor camps thereafter, the majority of the political prisoners proved themselves real historical personalities — courageous, unwavering, proud. Under pressure and torture, they did not break, did not incriminate others and even themselves. And refused to sign petitions of pardon.
These are the faces of the Square. Such handsome and pleasant, calm and excited, inspired and pensive, reserved and smiling.

Just yesterday the majority of the prisoners (besides the candidates and their closest associates) were known to no one. After the trials they are known to the entire country, attracting not antipathy but admiration and respect — and such a powerful wave of solidarity that was never seen in Belarus before.

By which criteria KGB selected “terrorists” among the thousands of participants, we do not know. The majority of the detained had nothing to do with organized opposition. They came out to the Square, and, suddenly faced with a tragic test of self worth, honorably passed it. It seems that no matter whom the regime would have selected for this role, the result would have been the same.

This is an indicator of the morality of the participants, not undermined even by those few petitions to pardon and signatures of cooperation that KGB was able to force out of some. The society took these incidents as a sign of the regime’s self incrimination, a return to the methods of the Stalin’s 1930s — and was shaken by this discovery.

As one example of morality of one side and amorality of the other, the public read the attack by a special unit on the evening of December 19th, even before the elections were over, on the team of Uladzimir Nyaklyaeu, his beating, subsequent arrest and kidnapping from the hospital. Further arrests of Sannikau, Statkevich, Mikhailovich, Rymasheuski were perceived as an ambush by Lukashenka of his opponents. One more candidate, Dzmitry Us, was put behind bars already after the trial was over.

All these arrests, trials and sentences testify to another terrifying feature of all totalitarian regimes — taking and trading of hostages. As part of its game playing Russia and the West, and under intense international pressure, the regime quickly released some of the prisoners, hoping to gain some economic preferences from the West in exchange. However, engaging Western politicians into this immoral trade proved impossible. The European Union firmly insists on liberating all political prisoners as a pre-condition for any negotiations. Once he realized that, Lukashenka stopped releasing the detained.

Up to this day, fifteen persons remain behind bars, including two candidates — Mikola Statkevich and Andrei Sannikau. Very disturbing is the state of health of the Young Front leader, Zmitser Dashkevich, who is enduring torture and inhumane treatment. In similar state is the leader of European Belarus Zmitser Bandarenka, who survived a difficult spine surgery, has to walk on crutches and is risking coming out of prison completely disabled. His third year behind bars is Mikalay Autokhovich, whom the government accused of plotting a terrorist act.

From this, one can conclude that the Lukashenka regime won this round of struggle, in the sense that it managed to contain a rising wave of discontent and return the level of fear and apathy in the society to a pre-Square level. But at what price? And for how long? Is it not a Pyrrhic victory?
Цаной узмацнення перманентных кропкавых рэпрэсій па ўсёй краіне, цягнуць да насмалювання, пераследу грамадскіх організацый, найперш прававабаронных, узбуджэння ўсё новых судовых спраў. Адна з іх, агульна значная, — справа старшыні прававабароннай організацыі «Вясна» Алеся Бяляцкага — ёсць непасрэдны працяг Плошчы-2010.

Так, разгрыў утрэймаўся. Так, Мядзведзеў і Пушын выдалі А. Лукашэнку карт-бланшу на працяг яго ўладарання ў Беларусі, якія ў асабе ўніўчанага часу змясцілі ўніўчаную частку эканамічных прэферэнцый у абмен на падпісанне ўсёго пакета дакументаў па АДКБ, а потым і на стварэнне Еўразійскага саюза. А па сутнасці, у абмен на не проста на палітычную лаяльнасць, а на поўную васальную залежнасць. З дзвюным, па траецэнтру выкарыстаннi адным з расійскіх паўпартаровых, правадзіцьць «лібералізацыю — дзе можна, а рэпрэсіі — дзе трэба». Але, падаецца, карт-бланш гаты ня не на бестэрміновае ўладаранне. Васала лягчэй замяніць, калі стане няўгодным.

Вынікі думскіх выбараў у РФ, якія азначенны падзеннем рэйтынгу ўраду, іскрый й гадовіх іх на прасторуў, адначасова ў падтрымерці сцэнару для супрацоўніцтва ў прыватнасці "каючай дэмакратыі" — звязку і сваіх першых панорам, у самарэфармаванне беларускага рэжыму.

Бруталны разгром Плошчы-2010 у Мінску з наступнай эскалацийай рэпрэсій па ўсёй Беларусі, ад калі ёсць цягнуць разгрыў разгрыў А. Лукашэнкі маёнству маскоўскі гульці, гэта ў памяць з новым, тым як бы йога прысведчыць, ад гэта не ночныя, а няўгодныя.


The election results of 1994, and the so called referendum of 1996, mark the restoration of the reactionary forces. The “Freedom Marches” of the late 1990’s encapsulate the massive resistance towards those forces. Then there was a decline, only to be followed by another surge at on the Square in 2006. The Square 2010 is another eruption of protest.

And now – a decline again? On the face of it, yes. But the daily life demonstrates, and the social polls register a spreading of the protest mood in the country, which, under the cold winds of the global economic crisis, domestic inflation and a fall in the standard of living, could get out of control and switch from passive to active. Belarus’ political barometer is pointing towards spring. The energy of the Square 2010 has not disappeared.

Alyaksei Karol, Ph. D, historian.
Кароткая храналогія падзеяў: масавыя беспарадкі ці масавая зачыстка?

18 снежня ў Мінску былі прэвентыўна затрыманыя маладафронтаўцы Зміцер Дашкевіч, Эдуард Лобаў і Дзяніс Лазар па падазрэнні ў здзяйсненні хуліганскіх дзеянняў у адпаведнасці з ч. 3, арт. 339 КК РБ. Па версіі следства, з хуліганскіх меркаванняў яны беспадстаўна і наўмысна, кулакамі і металічнымі абцугамі збілі двух грамадзянаў. 28 снежня Дзяніс Лазар быў адпушчаны на свабоду і ўсе падазрэнні з яго знятыя, справа ў дачыненні да яго спынена, а З.Дашкевічу і Э.Лобаву было прад'яўлена абвінавачанне ў здзяйсненні злачынства, утрыманне пад вартай працягнута на 2 месяцы.

19 снежня 2010 года быў асноўным днём галасавання на выбарах Прэзідэнта Расpubлікі Беларусь. Улічваючы няроўныя ўмовы правядзення выбарчай кампаніі і непразрысты  характар выбарчага працэсу, альтэрнатыўныя кандыдаты на пасаду кіраўніка краіны заклікалі выбаршчыкаў пасля закрыцця выбарчых участкаў у 20-00 сабрацца на Каstrychnіцкай плошчы сталіцы, каб разам чакаць вынікаў падліку галасоў.

Між тым, за тыдзень да гэтай даты праз дзяржаўныя СМІ кіраўніцтва сілавых структураў стала папярэджваць насельніцтва аб запланаваных апазіцыяй правакацыях, тэрарыстычных акцыях, ужыванні зброі пры правядзенні масавага мерапрыемства і г.д. Выступаючы 15 снежня на нарадзе па пытаннях прэзідэнцкай кампаніі і забеспячэнні грамадскай бяспекі ў гэты перыяд, А. Лукашэнка, на адным боку паведаміў, што “прэзідэнцкія выбары не павінны быць азмрочаны хоць нейкімі сутычкамі і сутыкненнямі”, а з іншага боку, заявіў: “Не дай бог, толькі пераступіць хтосці той Рубікон, да якога наогул нельга бляка падыходзіць … Рэакцыя правоахоўных органаў, асабліва вайсковікаў, павінна быць адэфектнай і жорсткай.”

Увечары 19 снежня па дарозе на Каstrychnіцкую плошчу ў раёне Нямігі адбыўся ўзброены напад невядомых людзей у масках на групу кандыдатаў ў прэзідэнты Уладзіміра Някляйёу. Былы выкарыстаны света-шумавыя гранаты, канфіскавана гукаўзмацняльная апаратура. Пры гэтым сам кандыдат быў збіты да непрытомнасці, пасля чаго дастаўлены ў шпіталь хуткай дапамогі з дыягназам чэрапна-мазговая траўма сярэдняй ступені цяжкасці.

У 20.00 не менш за 30 тысяч удзельнікаў мірной акцыі пратэсту сабраліся на Каstrychnіцкай плошчы ў Мінску, адкуль ападаў калона…

A brief chronology of events: mass riot or mass cleanup?

The “Young Front” activists Zmitser Dashkevich, Dzianis Lazar and Eduard Lobau were preventively detained on 18 December in Minsk within the framework of a criminal case under part 3, Article 339 of the Criminal Code, on suspicion of committing an act of hooliganism. According to investigators, they groundlessly and intentionally beat two citizens with fists and metal tongs for malicious motives. On 28 December Dzianis Lazar was released and the case against him was dropped. Z. Dashkevich and E. Lobau were given charges. The term of their detention was extended for two months.

19 December 2010 was the main day of voting at the presidential election in Belarus. Taking into account the unequal conditions of the election campaign and the opaque nature of the electoral process, alternative candidates for president called on the voters to gather in Kastrychnitskaya Square at 8 p.m., after the closing of polling stations, in order to wait for the results of the vote count together.

Meanwhile, a week before this date the heads of the Belarusian law-enforcement agencies started appearing in mass media, warning the public about provocations, terrorist actions and the use of weapons during mass actions, allegedly planned by the opposition. On 15 December, speaking at a council on issues of the presidential campaign and public security during this period, A. Lukashenka, on the one hand said that “the presidential election should not be marred by any clashes,” and on the other hand, said: “If, God forbid, anyone just crosses the Rubicon which cannot be even approached — the reaction of law enforcement agencies, as well as military officers, must be adequate and tough.”

In the evening of 19 December, a group of people in black masks committed an armed assault on the group of presidential candidate Uladzimir Niakiyayeu on the way to Kastrychnitskaya Square. They used light and stun grenades and seized sound amplifying equipment from Niakiyayeu’s group. The candidate was beaten to unconsciousness and then taken to a hospital emergency room with a traumatic brain injury of moderate severity.

At 8 p.m. at least 30,000 participants gathered for the peaceful protest on Kastrychnitskaya Square in Minsk, from where they spontaneously (it is still unclear who led them) moved towards Nezalezhnasts Square and the House of Government. Presidential candidates held a rally. Unknown persons, whose actions were condemned by the present candidates, tried
смягчена (бо хто яе туды скіраваў, так і засталося нявысветленым)

roused ё бок плошчы Незалежнасці да Дома Урада. Кандыдаты
ў презідэнты правялі мітаг. Невядомымі аксэевамі, дзейнаі якіх быў
асуджаны прысутнімы кандыдатамі, быў увчыена спроба выпаламаць
дзверы ў будынку Дому Урада. Некаторыя з тых, хто знаходзіцца побач,
паддаліся на правакацыю. Было разбіта шкло, што дазволіла сілавікам
у шлемах са шчытамі і дубінкамі выкарыстаць прасерную сілу
і жорсткасць дзяля разгону мірных дэманстрацый. Удзеўнікаў аксэй
збівалі, калі нехта падаў — білі нават нагамі, запіхвалі ў аўтаўка. Потым
многі звязвіўся за медыцынскай дапамогай і трапілі ў шпіталі. У ліку
затрыманых касалася кандыдатыў Андрэй Сянікаў, Рыгор
Кастусёў, Віталь Рымашэўскі, Мікола Статкевіч, іх давераныя асобы,
палітыкі, журналісты, вядомыя грамадскія дзеячы.

Унацы офіс Праваабарончага цэнтра “Вясна”, які сумесна з Беларускім
Хельсінскім Камітэта правялі кампанію па маніторынгу выбараў
ў прэзідэнты Дзмітрый Ус і Алесь Міхалевіч, са шпіталю выкрадзены
ўся ноч сілавікі праводзілі спецаперацыю: ва ўласнай кватэры быў
журналістам “Хартыі’97”, затрыманая рэдактарка сайта Наталля Радзіна з іншымі
ўся кампутарная тэхніка, іншыя носьбіты інфармацыі, відэакамера
адпусцілі. Тым не менш, з офіса ПЦ “Вясна” была канфіскаваная
“Праваабаронцы за свабодныя выбары”, падвергся нападу з боку
Хельсінскім Камітэта правялі кампанію па маніторынгу выбараў
Уначы офіс Праваабарончага цэнтра “Вясна”, які сумесна з Беларускім
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Кастусёў, Віталь Рымашэўскі, Мікола Статкевіч, іх давераныя асобы,
гадзіны раніцы завялі ў камеру. Аднак пасля інтэрв’ю БТ адпусцілі”, —
не пазнаў. Аформілі пратакол аб затрыманні на трое сутак. Каля шестай
(кіраўніка штаба Някляеў), а таксама некалькіх маладых людзей, якіх
людзей сышоў з плошчы. Мы селі ў аўтамабіль і спрабавалі выехаць…

“Пасля ўдару па галаве дубінкай амапаўца я з дапамогай выпадковых
затрымання і начы, праведзенай пад вартай.

To use excessive force and brutality for dispersing peaceful protesters. The
law enforcement officers, equipped with helmets, shields and batons,
to break the door of the House of Government. Some demonstrators
succumbed to the provocation too. A glass was broken, which allowed
law enforcement officers, equipped with helmets, shields and batons,
to use excessive force and brutality for dispersing peaceful protesters.
The demonstrators were beaten, those who fell were kicked with feet and then
pushed into paddy wagons. Many people applied for medical aid afterwards,
and were hospitalized. Among those detained there were presidential
candidates Rygor Kastusiou, Vital Rymasheuski, Andrei Sannikau and Mikalai
Statkevich, their electioneering agents, politicians, journalists and prominent
public figures.

At night, the office of the Human Rights Center “Viasna”, which conducted
an election observation campaign in cooperation with the Belarusian
Helsinki Committee, was attacked by police. Ten people were detained
and taken to the police station, but later released. However, all computer
equipment, information carriers, a video camera and a photo camera
were confiscated from the office. The same night, a search was conducted
at the office of “Charter’97”, the editor of its website, Natallia Radzina, was
detained, as well as some other journalists.

The special operation of law-enforcement agencies continued all night: the
leader of the United Civil Party Anatol Liabedzka was detained in his own
apartment, as well presidential candidates Dmitry Uss and Ales Mikhailovich.
Uladzimir Niakliayeu was kidnapped from the hospital, and nothing was
known about him until 27 December. Candidate Yaraslau Ramanchuk
spent several hours at the presidential administration. In the morning
he summoned an urgent press-conference, at which he read out a message
condemning the “mass riot”, in front of cameras of the state TV channels.
Ramanchuk looked strained and nervous during his speech. After this the
Belarusian TV showed a report in which candidate Kastusiu stated that
it was bad that somebody had broken the doors and smashed the windows.
Later Kastusiu denied saying it to the Belarusian TV, and said that it was
a cut-up of quotations. He also described the details of his detention and the
night in custody.

“At a riot policeman hit me on the head with a baton, I managed to
leave the square with the aid of some people. We got into a car and tried
to drive away... After several moves I was taken to the notorious “American
prison” — the internal KGB prison where I occasionally saw Andrei
Dzmitryeiu (the head of Niakliayeu’s headquarters) and several youngsters
who I didn’t recognize. A report for three-day detention was drawn up. At
6 a.m. I was put into a cell, but was released after giving an interview to the
Belarusian TV,” said Ryhor Kastusiu. The text of a statement by Dzmitry Uss
was shown on the Belarusian TV as well, but the candidate didn’t appear on the
screen.

The Minister of Internal Affair Anatol Kuliashou, in his turn, stated on the air
of the First national TV channel that the organizers of opposition protests
would be held criminally liable under Article 293 of the Criminal Code, “mass
riot”, which envisages up to 15 years in prison.

At that time it became known that hundreds of people were detained, some
of them were still kept in paddy wagons without food and water, and that
there were girls and women among the beaten. “They refuse to put us in the
A large number of human rights activists and volunteers gathered information and kept duty in courts in order to inform friends and relatives of the detainees, as it was impossible to receive any official data. All trials were closed and lasted for several minutes. Defendants had no counsels and were usually sentenced to arrest. Fines were given in exceptional cases — to mothers of under-aged children and disabled persons. Moreover, among the detainees there were occasional passers-by who hadn’t taken part in the protests, but it didn’t make any difference for the court conveyor.

On 21 December the authorities voiced the number of detainees — 639, but it was inaccurate. In fact, it exceeded 700 people, including those who were released without trial, taken to hospitals, and placed into the KGB jail as defendants in the criminal case. The delinquents’ isolation center in Akrestsin Street couldn’t accommodate such a number of arrested, that’s why, according to the police, 239 people were transferred to Zhodzina prison #8 and more than 50 female prisoners were placed in the detention center of the Minsk district.

The Belarusian Association of Journalists published lists of detainees (including those who were released) and lists of affected journalists and members of the organization. According to its information, 15 journalists were detained and 21 more received injuries but weren’t detained, including representatives of foreign media.

Dozens of European organizations condemned the actions of the Belarusian authorities. On 20 December member organizations of the Human Rights House Network addressed the President of Belarus with an open letter calling to release hundreds of protesters, journalists and politicians who were detained for the peaceful expression of their opinion. Similar addresses were issued by “Amnesty International”, the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH), Freedom House, the chairman of the European Parliament, Jerzy Buzek, and the governments of the United States and the European Union.

The Committee of international control over the human rights situation in Belarus started working in the Belarusian capital. It was established on decision of the coalition of non-governmental organizations of the OSCE countries on 27 December. The committee includes about 30 international organizations: the International Civil Initiative for the OSCE (ICI OSCE), the Moscow Helsinki Group — MHG (Russia), the International Network Freedom, Law and Rights in Europe “(FLARE), the International Youth Human Rights Movement, etc. The Committee also established a long-term international observation mission for work in Belarus, which includes members of human rights organizations from all over the space of the OSCE, international organizations, as well as independent experts. No Belarusian organizations were included in order to provide the political neutrality of the mission.
Criminals and victims

A criminal case under article “mass riot” (part 1 — organization, part 2 — active participation) was instigated by the preliminary investigation board of the Main Police Bureau of the Minsk City Executive Committee, the day after the protest rally, on 20 December. As of 21 December, human rights activists had information about 16 people who were kept in custody as suspects. This number increased on a daily basis — by late December there were 29 persons, 27 of whom were kept in the KGB prison. According to human rights defenders, among the accused there were five presidential candidates: Aliaksei Mikhailevich, Uladzimir Niakliayeu, Vital Rymasheuski, Andrei Sannikau and Mikalai Statkevich. Two more, Ryhor Kastusiou and Dzmitry Uss, were released after signing written undertakings not to leave, being suspects in the case. Among the remaining defendants there were electioneering agents, heads of electoral headquarters, civil and political activists: Aliaksandr Arastovich, Aliaksandr Atroshchankau, Zmitser Bandarenka, Andrei Dzmitryeiu, Andrei Fedarkevich, Aliaksandr Fiaduta, Iryna Khalip, Aliaksandr Klasouski, Uladzimir Kobets, Aleh Korban, Anatol Liubedzka, Mikita Likhavid, Uladzimir Loban, Siarhei Martsaleu, Dzmitry Novik, Anastasiya Palazhanka, Anatol Paulau, Natalia Radzina, Pavel Sviarynets, Siarhei Vaziak, as well as the citizens of Russia and Artyom Breus and Ivan Garapun.

Human rights defenders had to hunt for information about the criminal case in the literal sense, because official information about it started appearing only after the New Year. In particular, on 10 January the article “Main Police Bureau: Detained Provocateurs Were Given Charges” was published at the website of the Main Police Bureau of the Minsk State Executive Committee. According to it, more than 120 active participants of the mass riot on Nezalezhnasts Square in Minsk on 19 December 2010 were identified, 31 of them were given charges. However, only the surnames of five people, whose involvement was “confirmed by numerous video shots of the events”, were mentioned. The first of them was Aliaksandr Klasouski, born in 1978, resident of Minsk; then — Mikita Likhavid, born in 1990, resident of Minsk; Aliaksandr Atroshchankau, born in 1981, resident of Minsk; Aleh Fedarkevich, born in 1961, resident of Minsk; and Uladzimir Khamienka, born in 1986, resident of Slutsk.

At the same time, the HRC “Viasna” composed the most complete list of defendants in the criminal process, consisting of 31 persons, supplemented with names of 16 suspects. Besides, starting from 18 December, Zmitser Dashkevich and Eduard Lobau, were kept in custody on charges of “hooliganism” (Article 339, part 3 of the Criminal Code). Their arrest was also directly related to the planned post-election protests. Thus, according to information of human rights defenders, the total number of persons who came under criminal prosecution in connection with the Square was 49. However, the number of suspects and accused must be greater. Some of them left Belarus immediately after 19 December. Most probably, the appropriate documents are stored in the KGB archives and will become publicly accessible someday.

The counsels of defendants in the “mass riot” case weren’t allowed to meet with their clients for a long time, allegedly due to the lack of free rooms. Pressurization of lawyers started in January, after they composed appropriate appeals and gave publicity to this information. At first the
Ministry of Justice initiated an inspection of the Minsk city bar association. As a result, on 14 February the ruling on withdrawal of licenses of four lawyers, Aleh Aheyeu, Tatsiana Aheyeva, Tamara Haraveya and Uladzimir Toustski, was issued. The Belarusian Helsinki Committee applied to the UN with a communication concerning the pressure on lawyers, and was issued with a warning by the Justice Ministry. On 3 March counsel Pavel Sapelka, who defended Zmitser Dashkevich, Pavel Seviarynets and Andrei Sannikau, was excluded from the Minsk City Bar Association by decision of its Presidium. According to the Law on the Bar, legal practice can be conducted only in the bar association. Thus, P.Sapelka was deprived of the right to profession. In July, Hanna Bakhtsina, counsel of Iryna Khalip, and Dar’ya Lipkina, counsel of M. Likhavid, didn’t pass an extraordinary attestation.

On 31 December presidential candidate Vital Rymasheuski was released from the KGB on a written undertaking not to leave. He wrote an explanatory note for Aliaksandr Lukashenka. On 3 January Rymasheuski canceled a press conference scheduled for the following day, as a result of the KGB pressurization.

On 3 January Andrei Dzmitryieu, the head of the electoral headquarters of presidential candidate Uladzimir Niakiayeu, was released from the KGB jail under a written undertaking not to leave.

On 7 January Aleh Korban and Anatol Paulau, activists of the United Civil Party and the electoral headquarters of Ya.Ramanchuk, were also released after giving such undertakings. The criminal charges against them were dropped on 23 August due to the absence of corpus delicti in their actions.

In the night of 26-27 January the same happened to Uladzimir Kobets, the head of the electoral headquarters of presidential candidate A.Sannikau. Kobets left Belarus in the second half of of summer. In September he publicly admitted that he had been forced to sign a cooperation agreement with the Belarusian secret services in order to be released from the KGB jail. Among other things, he argues that no one could be released from jail without such consent. U.Kobets told about Gestapo-style conditions in the KGB prison. The criminal charges against him were dropped on 23 August due to the absence of corpus delicti in his actions.

On 28 January journalist Natallia Radzina, editor of the web-site of “Charter’97”, was released at the same conditions. She was obliged to live at the residential address since 30 January, but secretly left the country on 31 March and applied for political asylum in Lithuania on 4 August. The criminal charges against her were dropped on 23 August due to the absence of corpus delicti in her actions.

On 29 January the KGB Information and Public Relations Center issued a press-release with the following information: “On the basis of the investigative measures which were conducted earlier, establishment of the role of each accused and their behavior, the investigation, on consent of the prosecutorial bodies, decided to change the restraint to U.Kobets, A.Korban, U.Niakiayeu, A.Paulau and S.Vazniak.” Moreover, the restraint was changed for these and other reasons to I.Khalip and N.Radzina. The restraint to Iryna Khalip and Uladzimir Niakiayeu was changed to house arrest. They were prohibited to have any contacts with the press.
The first trial of a participant of the peaceful protest action against the rigged 2010 presidential election started held on 17 February 2011 in the Frunzenski District Court of Minsk. The court found Vasil Parfiankou guilty of a crime under Part 2 of Art. 293 of the Criminal Code, “mass riot” and punished him with 4 years of imprisonment. The court also fully granted the civil claim for compensating the total material damage of state property caused by the protesters, in the amount of 14.144 million rubles.

On 15 February Aliaksandr Arastovitch, electioneering agent of presidential candidate Mikalai Statkevich, was released under a written undertaking not to leave.

On 17 February Nasta Palazhanka, deputy chairperson of the “Young Front”, was released under a written undertaking as well.

On 19 February presidential candidate Aliaksei Mikhailevich was released from the KGB prison under a written undertaking not to leave. On 28 February he held a press-conference, at which he stated that he had to sign an agreement to cooperate with the KGB in order to be released from prison and get the opportunity to tell everybody about what was going on in the very center of Minsk. “I consider my public appearance as refusal to cooperate with the KGB”, were the last words of Mikhailevich’s address to journalists. Mikhailevich called the KGB jail a concentration camp where tortures are conducted and circulated the text of his statement with details of what KGB officers and people in masks had done to him in the KGB prison. He also applied to the procuracy and the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture.

On 22 February the criminal proceedings concerning the participation of the Russian citizens Artyom Breus and Ivan Gaponov in the alleged “mass riot” started at the Maskouski District Court of Minsk. At the end of the first day of the court hearing the prosecutor filed a motion for seven-day break in the process for giving new charges to the defendants, which would considerably differ from the previous ones.

On 1 March two cases of the Square participants were considered at the Maskouski District Court of Minsk: the case of two citizens of the Russian Federation, Artyom Breus and Ivan Gaponov, and the case of Dzmitry Mjadzvedz.

All of them were given new charges under Article 293, part 2 of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Belarus, which had no considerable differences from the previous one. The trial lasted till 10 March. According to the verdict, Artyom Breus and Ivan Gaponov were found guilty of committing a crime under Article 293, part 2 of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Belarus, and were punished with fines of 10.5 million rubles due to the use of Article 70, which allows giving a sentence milder than provided by the accusation article. The defendants were released from custody in the court room. The restraint to them was changed to a written recognition not to leave. The proceedings on the civil lawsuit concerning the material damages inflicted during the protest action were stopped due to the compensation of the whole sum of the damage. Article 70 was also used towards Dzmitry Mjadzvedz: he was sentenced to three years of personal restraint without direction to an open penitentiary institution.
On 1-2 March the Frunzenski District Court of Minsk tried Aliaksandr Atroschankau, Aliaksandr Malchanau and Dzmitry Novik. All of them were found guilty under Article 293, part 2, “mass riot”. Malchanau was also found guilty under Article 370 of the Criminal Code, “defilement of state symbols”. A.Atroschankau was sentenced to 4 years of imprisonment, A.Malchanau — to 3 years and Dz.Novik — to 3.5 years.

On 14 March presidential candidate Aliaksei Mikhalevich, released under a written non-leave undertaking, secretly left Belarus. The politician asked for political asylum in the Czech Republic.

On 18 March presidential candidates Mikalai Statkevich and Dzmitry Uss were charged with organizing the “mass riot” (Artile 293, part 1). M.Statkevich was left in the KGB jail and Dz.Uss had to give a written undertaking not to leave.

On 22-24 March the Maskouski District Court considered the criminal case against the leader of the “Young Front”, Zmitser Dashkevich, and the head of its Minsk branch, Eduard Lobau. They were found guilty of a particularly malicious hooliganism (Article 339, part 3) and sentenced to 2 and 4 years of imprisonment respectively.

On 22-24 March the case of Mikita Likhavid, separated from the general “mass riot” case (Article 293, part 2), was heard at the Partyzanski District Court of Minsk. 29 riot policemen who stood on the Square on 19 December 2010, watching the demonstrators smashing the windows of the House of the Government, were found victims. On 29 March the inquest was finished and M.Likhavid was sentenced to 3.5 years of imprisonment.

On 25 March the preliminary investigation board of the Main Police Bureau of the Minsk City Executive Committee presented charges under Article 293, part 1, “organization of a mass riot” to presidential candidate Andrei Sannikau.

On 25 March the Minsk City Court upheld the guilty verdict to Vasil Parfiankou.

On 30 March the preliminary investigation board of the Main Police Bureau of the Minsk City Executive Committee changed charges to Andrei Dzmitriyeu, Aliaksandr Fiaduta, Uladzimir Niakliayeu, Anastasiya Palazhanka, Vital Rymasheuski and Siarhei Vazniak from Article 293 to Article 342, part 1, “organization and preparation of actions that grossly breach public order or active participation in them”. On 4 April the same was done to four more defendants: the coordinator of the “European Belarus” Zmitser Bandarenka, Andrei Sannikau’s wife, journalist Iryna Khalip, the head of M.Statkevich’s electoral headquarters Siarhei Martsaleu and the co-head of the Belarusian Christian Democracy Pavel Seviarynets.

According to the information of the Ministry of Internal Affairs dated 5 April, the preliminary investigation into the criminal case came to an end. According to the conclusion of the investigators, they “received ample evidence of an attempt to change the political system of the Republic of Belarus by prior agreement with representatives of foreign governments, whose ultimate goal was, in fact, making a coup d’etat.” It was also reported
5 красавіка ў Мінскім гарадскім судзе адбыўся часцічны разгляд скаргі на прысуд першай інстанцыі. Адбыліся скаргі на прысуд першай інстанцыі.

8 красавіка вызвалены адзін з лідароў кампаніі «Гавары праўду!», давераная асоба кандыдата У. Някляева палітолог Аляксандр Фядута.

27 красавіка ў Кастрычніцкім райсудзе Мінска распачаліся слуханні па крымінальнай справе, узбуджанай пад множным артыкулем 293, ст. 2 КК РБ, якая абвінавачваецца у «масавых беспарадках». За кратамі палітык правёў старшыня Аб'яднанай грамадзянскай партыі. 

Дзмітрыю Новіку скаргі на прысуд першай інстанцыі 5 красавіка ў Мінскім гарадскім судзе адбыўся касацыйны разгляд скаргі на прысуд першай інстанцыі.

5 красавіка ў Фрунзенскім райсудзе пачаўся разгляд крымінальных спраў на апошнія дзеянні з яго ўдзелам абвінавачваюць у «масавых беспарадках». За кратамі палітык правёў старшыня Аб'яднанай грамадзянскай партыі. 6 красавіка пад падпіску аб нявыездзе з СІЗА КДБ быў вызвалены. Рашэнне без зменаў, а касацыйны скаргі — без задавальнення.

Андрэя Рымашэўскага скаргі на прысуд першай інстанцыі 5 красавіка ў Фрунзенскім райсудзе адбыўся касацыйны разгляд скаргі на прысуд першай інстанцыі.

Аляксандр Малчанав, Аляксандр Атрошчанкову пад падпіску аб нявыездзе з СІЗА КДБ быў вызвалены. Рашэнне без зменаў, а касацыйны скаргі — без задавальнення.
11 мая ў судах Мінска адначасова праходзілі адразу пяць судовых працягуў над 27 удзельнікамі акцыі пратэсту супраць фальсіфікацыі выбару прэзідэнта 19 снежня 2010 года.

11-18 мая ў Ленінскім раёне адбываўся судовае працягу ўсёх абвінавачаных. Алег Федаркевіч (з'яўляўся падпісавым агенцем), Уладзімір Лобан, Дзмітры Даронін і Ірына Сакрэта было дадзена 3 год, Аляксандр Корбан, Андрэй Пазняк, Яўгена Сакрэта, ula, Анатоль Паўлаў, Аляксандр Арастовіч і Рыгор Костусеў, які з'яўляўся падпісавым агенцем, былі абвінавачаны па ч. 2 арт. 293 КК РБ. Райсуд у Завадскім раёне праходзілі судовыя слуханні па крымінальнай справе, узбуджанай па ч. 1 арт. 342 КК РБ у дачыненні 11-14 мая ў Завадскім раёне праходзілі судовыя слуханні па крымінальнай справе, узбуджанай па ч. 1 арт. 342 КК РБ у дачыненні 11-14 мая ў Завадскім раёне праходзілі судовыя слуханні па крымінальнай справе, узбуджанай па ч. 1 арт. 342 КК РБ у дачыненні 11-14 мая ў Завадскім раёне праходзілі судовыя слуханні па крымінальнай справе, узбуджанай па ч. 1 арт. 342 КК РБ у дачыненні 11-14 мая ў Завадскім раёне праходзілі судовыя слуханні па крымінальнай справе, узбуджанай па ч. 1 арт. 342 КК РБ у дачыненні 11-14 мая ў Завадскім раёне праходзілі судовыя слуханні па крымінальнай справе, узбуджанай па ч. 1 арт. 342 КК РБ у дачыненні 11-14 мая ў Завадскім раёне праходзілі судовыя слуханні па крымінальнай справе, узбуджанай па ч. 1 арт. 342 КК РБ у дачыненні 11-14 мая ў Завадскім раёне праходзілі судовыя слуханні па крымінальнай справе, узбуджанай па ч. 1 арт. 342 КК РБ у дачыненні 11-14 мая ў Завадскім раёне праходзілі судовыя слуханні па крымінальнай справе, узбуджанай па ч. 1 арт. 342 КК РБ у дачыненні 11-14 мая ў Завадскім раёне праходзілі судовыя слуханні па крымінальнай справе, узбуджанай па ч. 1 арт. 342 КК РБ у дачыненні 11-14 мая ў Завадскім раёне праходзілі судовыя слуханні па крымінальнай справе, узбуджанай па ч. 1 арт. 342 КК РБ у дачыненні 11-14 мая ў Завадскім раёне праходзілі судовыя слуханні па крымінальнай справе, узбуджанай па ч. 1 арт. 342 КК РБ у дачыненні 11-14 мая ў Завадскім раёне праходзілі судовыя слуханні па крымінальнай справе, узбуджанай па ч. 1 арт. 342 КК РБ у дачыненні 11-14 мая ў Завадскім раёне праходзілі судовыя слуханні па крымінальнай справе, узбуджанай па ч. 1 арт. 342 КК РБ у дачыненні 11-14 мая ў Завадскім раёне праходзілі судовыя слуханні па крымінальнай справе, узбуджанай па ч. 1 арт. 342 КК РБ у дачыненні 11-14 мая ў Завадскім раёне праходзілі судовыя слуханні па крымінальнай справе, узбуджанай па ч. 1 арт. 342 КК РБ у дачыненні 11-14 мая ў Завадскім раёне праходзілі судовыя слуханні па крымінальнай справе, узбуджанай па ч. 1 арт. 342 КК РБ у дачыненні 11-14 мая ў Завадскім раёне праходзілі судовыя слуханні па крымінальнай справе, узбуджанай па ч. 1 арт. 342 КК РБ у дачыненні 11-14 мая ў Завадскім раёне праходзілі судовыя слуханні па крымінальнай справе, узбуджанай па ч. 1 арт. 342 КК РБ у дачыненні 11-14 мая ў Завадскім раёне праходзілі судовыя слуханні па крымінальнай справе, узбуджанай па ч. 1 арт. 342 КК РБ у дачыненні 11-14 мая ў Завадскім раёне праходзілі судовыя слуханні па крымінальнай справе, узбуджанай па ч. 1 арт. 342 КК РБ у дачыненні 11-14 мая ў Завадскім раёне праходзілі судовыя слуханні па крымінальнай справе, узбуджанай па ч. 1 арт. 342 КК РБ у дачыненні 11-14 мая ў Завадскім раёне праходзілі судовыя слуханні па крымінальнай справе, узбуджанай па ч. 1 арт. 342 КК РБ у дачыненні 11-14 мая ў Завадскім раёне праходзілі судовыя слуханні па крымінальнай справе, узбуджанай па ч. 1 арт. 342 КК РБ у дачыненні 11-14 мая ў Завадскім раёне праходзілі судовыя слуханні па крымінальнай справе, узбуджанай па ч. 1 арт. 342 КК РБ у дачыненні 11-14 мая ў Завадскім раёне праходзілі судовыя слуханні па крымінальнай справе, узбуджанай па ч. 1 арт. 342 КК РБ у дачыненні 11-14 мая ў Завадскім раёне праходзілі судовыя слуханні па крымінальнай справе, узбуджанай па ч. 1 арт. 342 КК РБ у дачыненні 11-14 мая ў Завадскім раёне праходзілі судовыя слуханні па крыш
sincerely repented. The surnames of the “pardoned” weren’t mentioned. On 13 August Dzmitry Drozd, Artsiom Hrybko, Siarhei Kazakou, Uladzimir Khamichenka, Aliaksandr Kviatkevich, Vital Matsukevich, Vasil Parfiankou, Yauhen Sakret and Uladzimir Yanomenak were released from jail.

On 29 August the trial of the last defendant of the “mass riot” case, Sviataslau Baranovich, started at the Maskouski District Court. The judge just changed the restraint to Baranovich to a written undertaking not to leave and postponed the trial till 28 September. On 12 October S.Baranovich was sentenced to 3 years of personal restraint without direction to an open penitentiary institution. Article 70 of the Criminal Code was used towards him.

On 1 September four more prisoners were pardoned: Zmitser Daronin, Ales Hnedchyk, Ales Kirkevich and Andrei Pratasenia. According to Lukashenka’s press-service, the appropriate decree was signed “after consideration of the pardon petitions, filed by these citizens”. However, their surnames weren’t mentioned.

On 14 September, “being guided by principles of humanity”, president of Belarus signed the decree for pardoning 11 more persons, imprisoned for “participation in the mass riot on 19 December 2010 in Minsk”: Aliaksandr Astroschankau, Dzmitry Bulanau, Aleh Fedarkevich, Aliaksandr Klaskouski, Mikita Likhavid, Uladzimir Loban, Aliaksandr Malchanau, Fiodar Mirzayanau, Dzmitry Novik, Illia Vasilevich and Pavel Vinahradau. Most of them stated they hadn’t filed any pardon petitions with Lukashenka.

On 1 October, referring to the same principles of humanity, A.Lukashenka signed the decree for pardoning another convict, presidential Dzmitry Uss, who hadn’t filed any pardon petitions either.

Thus, at the time of the book’s printing, only 4 out of 42 people, imprisoned for participation in the post-election protest action of 19 December, remained behind bars — presidential candidates Andrei Saninika and Mikalai Statkevich, coordinator of the “European Belarus” Zmitser Bandarenka and co-chairman of the Belarusian Christian Democracy Pavel Seviarynets. Though the “Young Front” leaders Zmitser Dashkevich and Eduard Lobau were arrested on the eve of the protest action and imprisoned on charges of “hooliganism”, human rights defenders also consider them as “prisoners of the Square”.

11 defendants in the “mass riot” case received penalties which weren’t connected to imprisonment. Two citizens of the Russian Federation were sentenced to pay fines. 25 people were pardoned by Aliaksandr Lukashenka.
Vasil Parfiankou

Born on 30 August 1983 in Minsk. Studies at School #163, then worked as a car mechanic in Minsk bus depot #7. Single.

Vasil is famous for his activities for the protection of the Kurapaty memorial in 2002, when the authorities were trying to pull down the crosses during repairs on the city belt highway. Independent media reported an arson of the activists’ campsite by unknown persons, when Vasil rescued a girl and a boy. During another attack on the activists, Vasil was injured and his arm was broken.

He was a member of the Belarusian Party of Freedom, participated in joint events with the “Young Front” and “Zubr”. Repeatedly detained and convicted for his civil activity.

During the 2010 presidential election, Vasil collaborated with the “Tell the Truth!” campaign, working as an activist of Uladzimir Niakliayeu’s campaign team.

He was detained on 4 January and kept in Minsk pre-trial prison in Valadarski Street as a figurant of the criminal case instigated under part 1 of Article 293 of the Criminal Code, “mass riot”.

On 17 February 2011 Volha Komar, Judge of the Frunzenski District Court of Minsk, sentenced him to 4 days of imprisonment in a high-security penal colony. She also granted the civil claim against the activist, according to which he was to pay 14,144,000 rubles as a compensation for the material damage.

Vasil was pardoned by presidential decree on 11 August 2011.
Born on 22 March 1981 in Minsk. Former student of the Foreign Relations Faculty of the Belarusian State University, expelled for political activities with Aliaksandr Kazulin as rector. Continued his studies at the European Humanities University on the speciality “International Law”.

In 2001-2006 he was member of “Zubr”, taking part in its events, repeatedly detained by the police and unknown persons. In 2000, during the Freedom Day rally (when dozens journalists were arrested by the riot police), he was seized by unknown persons in masks, put into a police car, then into a police bus which drove somewhere for 40 minutes, during which the activist was threatened to be escorted for execution. Aliaksandr was eventually thrown out of the car 15 kilometers outside the city.

In the 2010 election he was press-secretary of Andrei Sannikau’s headquarters. Detained on 20 January at his apartment. Put into the KGB pre-trial prison and charged under Article 293.

On 2 March 2011 Tatsiana Cherkas, Judge of the Frunzenski District Court of Minsk, sentenced him to 4 years in a high-security colony.

Was pardoned by presidential decree on 11 August 2011.
Aliaksandr Malchanau

Born on 22 June 1988 in Barysau. Finished School #22. Former member of the “Zubr” youth opposition movement. His mother was reportedly dismissed from work for her son’s political activity. Aliaksandr had to become a house painter, then entered Minsk International Humanities and Economics Institute. His mother is retired now.

Aliaksandr was detained on 6 January in Barysau. He was charged with participation in a mass riot, (part 2 of Article 293 of the Criminal Code). Was kept in custody in the pre-trial prison of the KGB in Minsk.

On 2 March 2011 Tatsiana Cherkas, Judge of the Frunzenski District Court of Minsk, sentenced him to 3 years in high-security colony.

Pardoned by presidential decree on 14 September 2011.
Дзмітрый Новік

Народзіўся 16 верасня 1981 г. у Баранавічах. Скончыў там школу № 13, па словах маці быў адным з лепшых вучняў, выдатна ведаў англійскую мову. Аднак наступіць у Лінгвістычны ўніверсітэт не атрымалася, вучыўся ў Мінскай Акадэміі фізічнай культуры. Служыў у войску, пасля якога год правёў са сваімі сябрамі на заробках у Амерыцы: працаваў на Ціхаатлантычных лайнерах, хадзіў у круізы. З сям’і ён — хворыя маці і бабуля, для якіх ён быў адзінай апорай, ды малодшы брат.

Пасля вяртання працаваў кіроўцам на Ціхаатлантычных лайнерах, на адзінку крабаў, ахоўнікам гатэля «Краўн Плаза». Усё жыццё захапляўся спортам. Політыка, наадварот, не была ў сферы ягоных інтарэсаў. Ніколі раней не ўдзельнічаў у мітынгах пратэстаў, але 19 снежня на Плошчы ён прыйшоў, каб выказаць сваю грамадзянскую думку, веру ў перамены.

Затрыманы позна ўвечары 23 снежня дома ў Баранавічах, абвінавачаны ва ўдзеле ў масавых беспарадках (ч. 2 арт. 293 КК). Да суда знаходзіўся пад вартай у СІЗА КДБ.

02.03.2011 г. суддзя Фрунзенскага райсуда Мінска Таццяна Чэркас вынесла пакаранне ў выглядзе пазбаўлення волі на тэрмін 3 гады 6 месяцаў у калоніі ўзмоцненага рэжыму.


Dzmitry Novik

Born on 16 September 1981 in Baranavichy. Finished School #13. According to his mother, he was one of the best pupils and had an excellent command of English. However, he didn’t manage to enter Minsk State Linguistic University. Instead, he studied in Minsk Physical Culture Academy and eventually was called up to the army. After this he spent a year working in the US with his friends, working at cruise ships. His family consists of mother and grandmother, both of whom are ill, and a younger brother.

After his return home Dzmitry used to work as a driver at the Unite Arab Emirates embassy and a security guard at the “Crown Plaza” restaurant.

Aliaksandr has always been keen on sports, paying little attention to politics. He had never taken part in protest actions before 19 December. He came to the Square to express his civil position and faith in changes.

Detained on 23 December 2010 in Baranavichy as a suspect in the mass riot criminal case (part 2 of Article 293). Was kept in custody of the KGB pre-trial prison in Minsk.

On 2 March 2011 Tatsiana Cherkas, Judge of the Frunzenski District Court of Minsk, sentenced him to 3.5 years in a high-security colony.

Pardoned by presidential decree on 14 September 2011.
Ivan Gaponov

Resident of the town of Svislach, Pukhavichy district, Minsk region.


His mother Sabira Atakishiyeva was born in Kyrgyzstan, his father is of Russian origin. Ivan’s family arrived in Belarus from Latvia as Russian citizens. There were three minors in the family — Ivan, his brother and sister. Their migration to Belarus was advantaged by the fact that Ivan’s father used to have a job in Belarus at the moment, while his mother had lost her job in Ventspils, Latvia. They could not go to Kyrgyzstan, nor could they move to Russia, having no relatives there. Ivan is a former student of Odessa University and a novice writer.

He worked at kilning of production at the ceramic workshop in St. Elisabeth monastery. The mother taught him to find good moments even in hard times. Nuns from the workshop expressed their support to him during the trial.

At first Ivan was arrested on 19 December and sentenced to 10 days of arrest. On 29 December he was released together with other Russian nationals. However, an hour later he was detained in the criminal case under part 2 of Article 293. Was kept in the pre-trial prison in Valadarski Street till trial.

On 10 March 2011 Liubou Simakhina, Judge of the Maskouski District Court of Minsk, sentenced him to pay 10,5 million rubles fine. He was released from custody in the courtroom.
Грамадзянін Расійскай Федэрацыі. Народзіўся 5 жніўня 1983 г. у Мінску. Дзяцінства правёў у Эстоніі, скончыў гімназію ў Таліне і Талінскі Еўрапейскі ўніверсітэт па спецыяльнасці «Дызайнер». Апошні час жыў у Мінску, дзе мае рэгістрацыю. Халосты. Затрыманы падчас разгону паслявыбарчай акцыі пратэсту 19 снежня на плошчы Незалежнасці. Асуджаны да адбыцця адміністрацыйнага арышту на 10 сутак. Пасля вызвалення 29 снежня зноў затрыманы ў межах крымінальнай справы. Абвінавачаны ва ўдзеле ў масавых беспарадках (ч. 2 арт. 293 КК). Знаходзіўся пад вартай у СІЗА № 1 на вул. Валадарскага. 10.03.2011 г. суддзя Маскоўскага райсуда Любоў Сімахіна пакарала штрафам у памеры 300 базавых велічынь (10,5 мільёнаў бел.рублёў). Вызвалены ў зале суда.

Artyom Breus
Citizen of the Russian Federation, born on 5 August 19983 in Minsk. He spent his childhood in Estonia, where he is currently registered by the local consular section of the Russian Federation embassy as a Russian citizen. Finished a gymnasium in Tallin and Tallinn European University where he studied design. Lately, resided in Minsk. Single. Was detained during the 19 December post-election protest rally in Nezalezhnasts Square. Arrested for 10 days and released on 29 December together with other Russian nationals. However, on the same day he was detained in the criminal case under part 2 of Article 293. On 5 January he was officially charged. Was kept in custody at Minsk pre-trial prison #1 in Valadarski Street.

On 10 March 2011 Liubou Simakhina, Judge of the Maskouski District Court of Minsk, sentenced him to pay 10,5 million rubles fine. He was released from custody in the courtroom.
Dzmitry Miadzvedz

Born on 16 January 1960 in Minsk. Received a degree in power engineering at Minsk Polytechnic Institute. Former employee of the Institute, he later worked in construction industry. Many of Minsk’s famous buildings were constructed with Dzmitry’s assistance, e.g. the Sun Valley recreation park. He has recently launched his own business in repairing, its future being currently at risk due to Dzmitry’s arrests. He has a wife and two sons.

Dzmitry is not affiliated with any political parties or movements. He was detained in Nezalezhnasts Square on 19 December together with his elder son (from the first marriage) and sentenced to 10 days in prison. After that he was once again detained in the mass riot criminal case. On 6 January he was charged under parts 1 and 2 of Article 293 of the Criminal Code. Was kept in custody in the pre-trial prison in Valadarski Street in Minsk.

On 10 March Alena Rudnitskaya, Judge of the Maskouski District Court of Minsk, sentenced him to 3 years of personal restraint without direction to an open penitentiary institution.
Zmitser Dashkevich

B orn on 20 July 1981 in the village of Kushnery, Ivatsevichy district, Brest region. As a child, Zmitser lived in Russia’s Magadan, then in the town of Staryia Darohi, Belarus. There he finished school #2. Former student of Hrodna Agricultural Institute. In 2001 he joined the “Young Front” youth movement. In the autumn of 2001, he was one of the protectors of the Kurapaty memorial. Then he entered the Faculty of Slavic Studies at Vilnius University.

Zmitser was elected chair of the “Young Front” Minsk city office. Active participant and organizer of numerous pro-dem mass events. Has been repeatedly sentenced to arrest and fined large sums for money for his political activities.

In 2004 he participated in a protest against the results of the referendum on Lukashenka’s third term. Then he was elected chair of the “Young Front”. In the 2006 presidential election, Zmitser collaborated with Aliaksandr Milinkevich’s team, being one of the organizers of mass protest rally in Kastrychnitskaya Square in Minsk. In September 2006 he was arrested and charged with “activities on behalf of an unregistered organization” (Article 193-1 of the Criminal Code). Sentenced to 1.5 years of imprisonment. A year later new charges were brought against him for his refusal to testify against a 16-year-old “Young Front” activist, Ivan Shyla. However, under a severe pressure from the international community, the court sentenced him to a fine of BYR 1,860,000. In 2007 he was one of the nominees for the Robert Kennedy Award.

Detained on 18 December 2010 out-of-doors together with Eduard Lobau, facing charges for criminal “hooliganism” (Article 339 of the Criminal Code). Was kept in custody in the pre-trial prison in Zhodzina, then – in the pre-trial prison in Valadarski Street in Minsk.

On 24 March 2011 Alena Shylko, Judge of the Maskouski District Court of Minsk, sentenced him to 2 years in a minimum-security colony.
Eduard Lobau

Born on 1 December 1988 in Vilnius. Finished secondary school #219 and vocational school #38 (on the speciality “operation of test instruments” in Minsk. He dreamed of pursuing a military career since the 8th grade.

Served in the special unit of Vitsebsk paratroops, where he met a “Young Front” Homel activist and later became member of the movement. Former chairperson of the “Young Front” Minsk office. He is still planning to become a professional officer and dreams of reviving the Belarusian army.

Detained on 18 December together with the “Young Front” leader Zmitser Dashkevich. Charged under part 3 of Article 339 of the Criminal Code (“hooliganism”). While in Zhodzina penal colony, he refused to testify against “Young Front” activists and was threatened with violence.

On 24 March 2011 Alena Shylko, Judge of the Maskouski District Court of Minsk, sentenced him to 4 years in a high-security colony.
Мікіта Ліхавід

Нарадзіўся 27 мая 1990 г. у Мінску. Скончыў сярэднюю школу № 177, пасля чаго паступіў на юрыдычны факультэт недзяржаўнага Мінскага інстытута кіравання. Навучаўся завочна.

Актывіст Руху «За свабоду». Быў затрыманы 19 снежня падчас разгону паслявыбарчай акцыі пратэсту на плошчы Незалежнасці і асуджаны на 15 сутак адміністрацыйнага арышту.

Актывіст Руху «За свабоду». Быў затрыманы 19 снежня падчас разгону паслявыборчай акцыі пратэсту на плошчы Незалежнасці і асуджаны на 15 сутак адміністрацыйнага арышту. У выглядзе пазбаўлення волі на тэрмін 3 гады 6 месяцаў у калоніі ўзмоцненага рэжыму. За кратамі праводзіў галадоўку супраць несправядлівага прысуду.


Mikita Likhavid

Born on 27 May 1990 in Minsk. Finished secondary school #177 in Minsk. Former student of the Faculty of Law at Minsk Institute of Management. His studies were suspended after the 19 December events.

Activist of the “For Freedom” movement. Detained on 19 December in Nezalezhnasts Square and sentenced to 15 days of arrest. However, the verdict was revoked on 23 January. Mikita was given charges for involvement in the 19 December mass riot. He was transferred from the pre-trial prison in Zhodzina to the pre-trial prison in Valadarski Street in Minsk. The day before the trial he was put in a cell with the people who had committed hard crimes.

On 29 March was sentenced to 3.5 years of imprisonment by Natallia Pykina, Judge of the Partyzanski District Court of Minsk. Held a hunger-strike of protest against the unfair verdict. Was repeatedly placed in the penal cell for alleged violations of the prison regime.

Pardoned by presidential decree on 14 September 2011.
Зміцер Бандарэнка


Падчас прэзідэнцкіх выбараў 2010 г. быў даверанай асобай кандыдата А. Сянікаўа. Арыштаваны 20 снежня ва ўласнай кватэры і змяшчаны ў СІЗА КДБ. Прад’яўлена абвінавачванне па крымінальнай справе аб масавых беспарадках (чч. 1 і 2 арт. 293 КК). 4 красавіка стала вядома, што следства перакваліфікавала абвінавачванне на ч. 1 арт. 342 КК РБ — «Арганізацыя і падрыхтоўка дзеянняў, якія груба парушаюць грамадскі парадак, альбо актыўны ўдзел у іх».

27.04.2011 суддзя Першамайскага райсуда Таццяна Равінская вынесла прысуд у выглядзе пазбаўлення волі на тэрмін 2 гады ў калонії агульнага рэжыму.

Zmitser Bandarenka

Born on 28 September 1963 in Minsk. Graduated from the Institute of Physical Culture.

In 1995-1996 worked at the independent Radio 101.2 FM, later closed down by the authorities. One of the founders of the “Charter’97” civil initiative, coordinator of the “European Belarus” civil campaign, a member of the Belarusian Association of Journalists. Was persecuted for his political activity. During the 2010 presidential election — activist of Andrei Sannikau’s campaign team.

Arrested on 20 December at his apartment and put in custody at the KGB pre-trial prison. In late December he was officially charged in a criminal case initiated by the preliminary investigation department of Minsk city department of internal affairs under parts 1 and 2 of Article 293 of the Criminal Code (mass riot). On 4 March the charges to Bandarenka were changed to part 1 of Article 342, “actions that grossly violate the public order”.

On 27 April Tatsiana Ravinskaya, Judge of the Pershamaiski District Court of Minsk, sentenced him to two years of imprisonment in a minimum-security colony.
Павел ВІНАГРАДАЎ

Народзіўся 24 красавіка 1988 г. у Мінску. Пасля разводу бацькоў і их ад’езду з Мінска выхоўваўся бабуляю. Скончыў професійна-тэхнічны ліцей № 4 па спецыяльнасці «Цырульнік», музычную школу па класу фартэпіяна. З 18 гадоў жыве самастойна. Некаторы час вучыўся на гісторыка-геаграфічным факультэце Мінскага педагагічнага ўніверсітэта, сам забраў дакументы пасля размовы з дэканам.


Павел Вінахрадаў

Born on 24 April 1988 in Minsk. Was brought up by his grandmother after the divorce of parents and their departure from Minsk. Finished Technical Lyceum #4 with the qualification of hairdresser, and a musical school – as a piano player. Has lead an independent life since 18 years. Former student of Minsk Pedagogical “University (had to take away his documents after a talk with the dean).

Was an activist of the “European Belarus” campaign for several years. Repeatedly detained by the police for his political activity. He was detained for the first time at a protest action against the repeal of social benefits in 2007: he got to the police station after tearing his girl out of policemen’s hands, and was sentenced to 5 days of arrest. In 2008 Pavel was one of the defendants in the “case of 14” (instigated against participants of a protest rally of entrepreneurs under Article 342 of the Criminal Code) and was sentenced to 2 years of personal restraint without direction to an open penitentiary institution. Was granted parole a year later. He worked as a plumber at that time.

Activist of the “Tell the Truth!” civil campaign since summer 2010, took part in many of its actions. Pavel was one of the most active members of Uladzimir Niakliayeu’s campaign team. Arrested on 5 January 2011 and charged under parts 1 and 2 of Article 293 of the Criminal Code. His apartment was illegally searched. Was kept in custody in the pre-trial prison in Valadarski Street.

On 5 May Ala Bulash, Judge of the Kastrychnitski District Court of Minsk, sentenced him to 4 years in a high-security colony.

Pardoned by presidential decree on 14 September 2011.
Ales Kirkevich

Born on 11 November 1989 in Hrodna in the family of historians. His grandfather Aliaksandr was a well-known regional ethnographer. After school Ales entered the historical faculty of the Hrodna State University to study archaeology. However, later he decided to postpone his studies if favor of political activity, which he considered to be more important. Deputy chairperson of the “Young Front” and leader of its Hrodna branch.

Participant of the 19 December rally. Detained during the 24 December solidarity picket outside the delinquents’ isolation center where his girlfriend, Nadzeya Krapivina, a student of Lublin University, was serving 12-day arrest. Ales was sentenced to 10 day-arrest. Released on 3 January. On 6 January fined for arranging an election meeting with presidential candidate Mikalai Statkevich.

Arrested on 28 January after a search at his apartment and interrogation by Hrodna KGB, then escorted to the KGB Minsk prison and charged under part 2 of Article 293 of the Criminal Code.

On 5 May Ala Bulash, Judge of the Kastrychnitski District Court of Minsk, sentenced him to 4 years in a high-security colony.

Pardoned by presidential decree on 1 September 2011.
Dzmitry Drozd

Born on 26 March 1973 in the village of Drazdy (which became a part of Minsk in 1976). His ancestors lived in the village for about a century. In 1992 Drozd graduated from Minsk Technological School as a specialist in photo technique. In 2005 graduated from the historical faculty of Belarusian State University as a specialist in museum management and protection of historical and cultural heritage.

Worked as a photographer, was keen on science, did research in historical archive. He didn’t deal with politics. In 2010 published a great work, “Landlords of the Minsk province in 1861-1900”. He was also working over another book, dedicated to the history of photography and the fates of the 20th century photographers.

Was a member of the electoral team of Andrei Sannikau during the presidential election. Served 10-day arrest for participation in the 19 December action. On 1 February 2011 was detained and put in the pre-trial prison in Valadarski Street as an accused under part 2 of Article 293.

On 5 May 2011 Ala Bulash, Judge of the Kastrychnitski District Court of Minsk, sentenced him to 3 years of imprisonment in a high-security colony.

Pardoned by presidential decree on 11 August 2011.
Andrei Pratasenia

Born on 12 December 1981 in Minsk. Graduate of the faculty of applied mathematics of the Belarusian State University. Programmer. Andrei has been involved in charity projects, helping to raise funds for surgical operations. Is fond of extreme sports: rope-jumping, rock-climbing and motor racing.

Joined the United Civic Party in November 2010. Worked as volunteer in Yaraslau Ramanchuk’s campaign team.

Participated in the 19 December protest, but managed to leave without arrest. Detained on 9 February 2011 under circumstances yet unclear. The same day the apartment of his parents was searched. Charged under part 2 of Article 293. Was kept in custody in the KGB pre-trial prison. Human rights defenders learned about it only on 16 March.

On 5 May Ala Bulash, Judge of the Kastrychnitski District Court of Minsk, sentenced him to 3 years in a high-security colony.

Pardoned by presidential decree on 1 September 2011.
Uladzimir
Khamichenka

Born on 1986. According to information of the “Solidarity”, was educated in the kindergarten in Staryia Darohi and at the boarding school in the town of Rudzensk, Minsk region. His parents were deprived of parental rights when he was four years old. Graduated from Slutsk Agricultural College in 2004. Teachers took care of him, helping to organize his life. It was hard for Uladzimir to study. He doesn’t have any relation to politics. According to some information, worked at a construction site for some time. Repeatedly convicted for administrative offenses and twice convicted for criminal offenses, including an attempt of theft on the territory of Belarus.

On 6 December 2010, he was freed on parole. Detained on 19 December and sentenced to 15 days of arrest. Then was transferred to the pre-trial prison in Valadarski Street and given charges under part 2 of Article 293 of the Criminal Code, “participation in mass riot”. Was kept in custody in the pre-trial prison in Valadarski Street in Minsk. On 5 May was sentenced to 3 years of imprisonment.

Thanks to the photo, distributed by bloggers, where U.Khamichenka is holding presses his hand to ear, he was called “Earphone” and considered to be a provocateur: it looked like he was hiding a microphone in the sleeve of his coat.

On 5 May Ala Bulash, Judge of the Kastrychnitski District Court of Minsk, sentenced him to 3 years in a high-security colony.

Pardoned by presidential decree on 11 August 2011.
Dzmitry Daronin

Born on 19 April 1982. Resides in Minsk, employee of the Minsk Automobile Plant. Graduate of a vocational school. Second child in a family with eight children. Four of them are under age and go to school. The father is disabled and works in the association of the blind, that’s why Dzmitry was one of the main bread-winners and helped the mother to raise the younger children.

Not affiliated with any political movement.

Worked as a plumber at Minsk Automobile Plant. Was on the Square on 19 December, but escaped arrest. Was detained on 14 March and placed in the delinquents’ isolation center in Akrestsin Street, then transferred to the pre-trial prison in Valadarzki Street in Minsk. Officially charged under Article 293 of the Criminal Code on 22 March.

On 12 May Alena Shylko, Judge of the Maskouski District Court of Minsk, sentenced him to 3.5 years in a minimum-security colony.

Pardoned by presidential decree on 1 September 2011.
Сяргей КАЗАКОЎ

Самы малады фігурант крымінальнай справы аб масавых беспарадках. Народзіўся 12 лютага 1992 г. у г. Ленінагорскі ў Расіі. З гадавалага ўзросту пасля разводу бацькоў жыў у Мінску, на радзіме маці. Скончыў мінскую сярэднюю школу № 85. Яшчэ ў малодшых класах школы спрабаваў напісаць сваю кнігу. Захапіўся музыкай, быў удзельнікам КВЗ і музычных конкурсаў. Граць на гітары і бас-гітары навучыўся самастойна, быў гітарыстам у беларускамоўных рок-гуртах (у адным з іх граў да свайго арышту).

Працаваў у розных месцах, каб дапамагаць маці, якая выгадавала яго адна. Меў сур'ёзні камп'ютераўція стайшава лячыць гітару і музычную навучальную ўстанову.

Актывіст грамадзянскай кампаніі «Еўрапейская Беларусь». Сябры называюць яго добросумленным, сур'ёзнім і годным чалавекам з высокімі маральнымі каштоўнасцямі. 27 студзеня быў затрыманы ў якасці падазраванага, потым прад'яўлены абвінавачванне ва ўдзеле ў масавых беспарадках.

Да суда ўтрымліваўся ў СІЗА №1 на вул. Валадарскага.

12.05.2011 г. суддзя Маскоўскага райсуда Мінска Алена Шылько вынесла пакаранне ў выглядзе пазбаўлення волі на тэрмін 3 гады ў колоніі агульнага рэжыму.

Памілаваны ўказам Прэзідэнта Беларусі 11.08.2011 г.

Siarhei Kazakou

The youngest figurant of the “mass riot” criminal case. Born on 12 February 1992 in the town of Leninogorsk in Russia. Following the divorce of his parents, lived with his mother in Minsk. Finished secondary school #85. Being a pupil of minor forms, he tried to write a book. Was kin on music, took part in humorist and musical contests. Learned to play the bass guitar and the electric guitar on his own, played the guitar in rock bands (he continued playing in one of them till his arrest). It was his favorite occupation, in which he put his soul. He worked in different places to help his mother, who was a single parent. He had a serious intention to enter a musical educational establishment.

Siarhei is an activist of the “European Belarus”. Friends call him an honest, serious and dignified man with high moral standards. Was detained on 27 January as a suspect in the “mass riot” case. Was given charges under Article 293 of the Criminal Code and placed in the pre-trial prison in Valadarski Street in Minsk.

On 12 May 2011 Alena Shylko, Judge of the Maskouski District Court, sentenced him to 3 years in a minimum-security colony.

Pardoned by presidential decree on 11 August 2011.
Уладзімір Лобан

Народзіўся 16 студзеня 1978 г. у Хойніках на Гомельшчыне. Пасля Чарнобыльскай катастрофы сям’я пераехала ў Віцебскую вобласць, горад Верхнядзвінск, дзе ён скончыў сярэднюю школу і куда вярнуўся працаваць пасля заканчэння Мінскага Беларускага дзяржаўнага тэхналагічнага ўніверсітэта. З красавіка 2010 г. жыў і працаваў у сталіцы. На працы яго характарызуюць станоўча. Халасты. Палітыкай не займаўся, ні ў якія партыі і рухі не ўваходзіў.

Па словах сваякоў, напэўна, пайшоў на Плошчу з-за адмовы яму на выбарчым участку ў праве прагаласаваць 19 снежня ў Мінску, — Уладзіміра адпраўлялі ў Верхнядзвінск. Гэта апошні горад на тэртыоры Беларусі перад мяжай з Латвіяй.

Быў затрыманы пры разгоне акцыі 19 снежня, асуджаны на 10 сутак адміністрацыйнага арышту. Затым змешчаны на Валадарку ў якасці падазраванага па крымінальнай справе аб масавых беспарадках, патым прысуджаны абвінавачванне.

12.05.2011 г. суддзя Маскоўскага райсуда Мінска Алена Шылько вынесла пакаранне ў выглядзе пазбаўлення волі на тэрмін 3 гады ў калоніі агульнага рэжыму.


Uladzimir Loban

Born on 16 January 1978 in the town of Khoiniki, Homel region. After the Chernobyl disaster, his family moved to the city of Verkhniadzvinsk in the Vitsebsk region, where he finished a secondary school and where he returned after graduating from Belarusian State Technology University. He has lived and worked in Minsk since April 2010. Is characterized positively at work. Single. Not affiliated with any political movement.

According to his relatives, went to the Square after he hadn’t been let to vote in Minsk on 19 December — he was told to go to Verkhhiadzvinsk, the last city on the territory of Belarus before the Latvian border.

Detained during the dispersal of the 19 December rally and sentenced to 10 days of arrest. Later detained as a suspect in the mass riot criminal case and charged under Article 293. Was kept in the pre-trial prison in Valadarski Street, being deprived of an opportunity to meet with his counsel for over a month.

On 12 May 2011 Alena Shylko, Judge of the Maskouski District Court of Minsk, sentenced to 3 years in a minimum-security colony.

Pardoned by presidential decree on 14 September 2011.
None of his relatives expected that the events would develop in such a way.

On 12 May 2011 Alena Shylko, Judge of the Maskouski District Court of Minsk, sentenced him to 3.5 years in a minimum-security colony.

Pardoned by presidential decree on 14 September 2011.
Яўген САКРЕТ

Народзіўся 3 кастрычніка 1966 г. у Мінску. Пасля заканчэння сярэдняй школы № 110 служыў у войску. Выпускнік лесагаспадарчага факультэта Тэхналагічнага інстытута імя Кірава ў Мінску (зараз Беларускі дзяржаўны тэхналагічны ўніверсітэт). Захапіўся ландшафтным дызайнам, стаў займацца ім прафесійна, скончыўшы адпаведныя курсы.

Яшчэ адна яго захапленне — літаратурна. Яўген піша вершы і прозу, друкаваўся ў прэсе. Прывлечыў дэмакратычнага накірунку развіцця грамадства. Падчас прэзідэнцкіх выбараў быў сябрам ініцыятывнай групы кандыдата А. Саннікава.

Затрыманы 19 снежня падчас разгону паслявыбарчага мітынгу, правёў 10 сутак адміністрацыйнага арышту на Акрэсціна. Замешчаны ў СІЗА па вул. Валадарскага ў якасці абвінавачанага ва ўдзеле ў масавых беспарадках.

12.05.2011 г. суддзя Маскоўскага райсуду Мінска Алена Шылько вынесла пакаранне ў выглядзе пазбаўлення волі на тэрмін 3 гады ў калоні ў тэменгі. Памілаваны ўказам Прэзідэнта Беларусі 11.08.2011 г.

Yauhen Sakret

Born on 3 October 1966 in Minsk. Graduate of the Belarusian State Technology University. Got interested in landscape design and made it his occupation after finishing appropriate courses.

His other passion is literature. Yauhen writes verses and prose, was published in the press. He is an adherent of the democratic way of the country’s development. In the 2010 presidential election he was an activist of Andrei Sannikau’s campaign team.

Detained on 19 December 2010 and sentenced to 10 days of arrest. Detained again on 17 January 2011. Three days later his residence was searched. Was kept in custody in Minsk pre-trial prison in Valadarski Street. Was charged under part 2 of Article 293 of the Criminal Code (“participation in mass riot”).

On 12 May Alena Shylko, Judge of the Maskouski District Court of Minsk, sentenced him to 3 years in a minimum-security colony.

Pardoned by presidential decree on 11 August 2011.
Vital Matsukevich

23 years old. Studied at the Belarusian State Economic University, getting ready for receiving his diploma. Lecturers and classmates characterized him only positively. Vital was going to get married in summer.

Detained on 21 March as a suspect in the “mass riot” criminal case. On 4 April the preliminary investigation board of the Main Police Bureau of the Minsk City Executive Committee stated that charges were given to him. Was kept in custody in the pre-trial prison of the KGB.

On 12 May 2011 Alena Shylko, Judge of the Maskouski District Court of Minsk, sentenced him to 3 years in a high-security colony.

Pardoned by presidential decree on 11 August 2011.
Андрэй САННІКАЎ

Народзіўся 8 сакавіка 1954 г. у Мінску. Унук аднаго з заснавальнікаў Купалаўскага тэатра Канстанціна Саннікава. Скончыў 42-ю мінскую школу, Мінскі дзяржаўны інстытут замежных справ, дыпламатычную акадэмію Міністэрства замежных справ СССР у Маскве. Стаў чатырыма мовамі.


Кандыдат у Прэзідэнты Рэспублікі Беларусь на выбарах-2010. Падчас разгону мірнай акцыі на плошчы Незалежнасці быў збіты спецназам і разам з жонкай Ірынай Халіп жорстка затрыманы па шляху ў шпіталь. Абвінавачаны ў організацыі і удзеле ў масавых беспарадках 19 снежня (чч.1, 2 арт. 293 КК РБ).

14.05.2011 г. суддзя Партызанскага райсуда Наталля Чацвертакова вынесла пакаранне ў выглядзе пазбаўлення волі на тэрмін 5 гадоў у калоніі ўзмоцненага рэжыму.
Ілля Васілевіч

Нарадзіўся 6 жніўня 1991 г. у горадзе Баранавічы. Пасля атрымання базавай адукацыі ў гімназіі № 4 паступіў у Мінскі палітэхнічны каледж. Вучыўся выдатна, быў старастам групы. Добры, адкрыты, спагадлівы, чулы, упарты ў доброму сэнсе гэтага слова.

Пасля адыходства 10-ці сутак адміністрацыйнага арышту за ўдзел у паслявыборчым мітынгу пратэсту атрымаў паведамленне аб выключэнні з навучальнай установы. 5 студзеня быў запрошаны ў адміністрацыю каледжа для падпісання адпаведных папераў, але там Іллю чакалі супрацоўнікі КДБ. У якасці падазраванага па крымінальнай справе аб масавых беспарадках быў змешчаны спачатку ў ІЧУ на Акрэсціна, а пасля прад'яўлення абвінавачвання — у СІЗА на вул. Валадарскага. Адзін з самых маладых фігурантаў крымінальнай справы.


Illia Vasilevich

Born on 6 August 1991 in Baranavichy. Former student of Minsk Polytechnic College. Demonstrated an excellent academic progress, was the senior of his group. A good, kind-hearted and persistent person.

Served 10 days of arrest for participation in the 19 December protest. Was expelled from the college. He was invited there on 5 January, allegedly to sign the appropriate papers. However, KGB officers were waiting for him there. He was detained as a suspect in the case and taken to Akrestsin Street detention center, later transferred to Minsk pre-trial prison #1 in Valadarshi Street. Is one of the youngest figurants of the criminal case.

On 14 May Natallia Chatsvertakova, Judge of the Partyzanski District Court of Minsk, sentenced him to 3 years in a high-security colony. Pardoned by presidential decree on 14 September 2011.
Фёдар Мірзаянаў

Нарадзіўся 9 снежня 1990 г. у Баранавічах Брэсцкай вобласці.

Падчас вучобы ў гімназіі з’яўляўся актыўным удзельнікам алімпіяднага руху ў горадзе, вобласці і рэспубліцы, браў удзел у алімпіядах па гісторыі, інфарматыцы і геаграфіі. У 2008 г. паступіў на факультэт менеджмента Беларускага дзяржаўнага эканамічнага ўніверсітэта па спецыяльнасці “Эканамічная кібернэтыка”. У студэнцтве з’яўляўся мадэлям эканамічнага развіцця краіны, паспрабаваў сілы ў навуцы, уздараваўшыся пры ўдзелніцтве ў міжнароднай студэнцкай навуковай практыцы.

Затрыманы ў выніку разгону Плошчы-2010, пакараны адміністрацыйным арыштараннем на 15 сутак, які адбываў у следчым ізалятары г. Жодзіна. 25 студзеня выкліканы на допыт у следчая ўпраўленне папярэдняго расследавання ГУУС Мінгарвыканкама.

14.05.2011 г. суддзя Партызанскага райсуда Наталля Чацвертакова вынесла пакаранне у выглядзе пазбаўлення волі на тэрмін 3 гады ў калоніі ўзмоцненага рэжыму.


Fiodar Mirzayyanau

Born on 9 December 1990 in the town of Baranavichy in the Brest region. Finished a gymnasium. During his study there he was an active participant of educational contests in history, computer science and geography that were held in the town, the region and the country. In 2008 he entered the faculty of management at the Belarusian State Economic University. During his study there he paid interest to models of economic development of the country. He also took part in a scientific-practical student conference. Fiodar is keen on tourism, bicycle sport and literature. One of his favorite writers is Lev Gumilyov.

Following the protest rally of 19 December he served 15-day arrest in the pre-trial prison in Zhodzina. On 25 January 2011 he was summoned for an interrogation and given charges under parts 1 and 2 of Article 293 of the Criminal Code, “mass riot”. Was kept in custody in the pre-trial prison in Valadarski Street in Minsk.

On 14 May 2011 Natallia Chatsvertakova, Judge of the Partyzanski District Court of Minsk, sentenced him to 3 years in a high-security colony.

Pardoned by presidential decree on 14 September 2011.
Aleh Hnedchyk

Born on 22 November 1986 in Minsk. Has a secondary education. Single. In 2003-2005, he was repeatedly arrested and convicted for his activities as member of the “Young Front” youth movement.

In July 2003, being under age, he was detained for handing out informational materials of the “Young Front” in Minsk. He was beaten and unlawfully kept at the Savetski District Police Department in Minsk for 15 hours. His parents even applied to the procuracy with the demand to punish the policemen. In 2006, Aleh was sentenced to 12 days of arrest for involvement in the post-election protests in Kastrychnitskaya Square in Minsk.

Detained on 6 January 2011 as a suspect in the mass riot case. Released on 9 January. On 25 March, officially charged with participation in the mass riot. Was kept in custody in the pre-trial prison in Valadarski Street.

On 14 May Natallia Chatsverakova, Judge of the Partyzanski District Court of Minsk, sentenced him to 3.5 years in a high-security colony.

Pardoned by presidential decree on 1 September 2011.
Уладзімір Яроменац

Народзіўся 4 верасня 1990 г. у горадзе Міёры Віцебскай вобласці. Пасля заканчэння сярэдняй школы паступіў у Беларускі дзяржаўны ўніверсітэт інфарматыкі і радыёэлектронікі. Сябра «Маладога Фронту». Стали ўдзельнік акцыяў салідарнасці з палітвязнямі, што праводзіліся 16-га числа штомесяц у фармаце «ланцуга неабыякавых людзей».
Затрыманы супрацоўнікамі спецслужбаў 20 снежня пасля пікету салідарнасці з палітвязнямі насупраць Дома Урада, за што быў асуджаны на 15 сутак адміністрацыйнага арышту, які ён адбыў у Жодзінскім СІЗА.
Па выхадзе адтуль быў выкліканы ў якасці сведкі на допыт у КДБ, які скончыўся 7-сутачным арыштам на Акрэсціна.
28 студзеня арыштаваны ў трэці раз, цяпер ужо ў якасці падазраванага па крымінальнай справе. Змешчаны пад варту ў СІЗА КДБ. Прад’яўлены абвінавачванне ва ўдзеле ў масавых беспарадках.
14.05.2011 г. суддзя Партызанскага райсуда Наталля Чацвертакова вынесла пакаранне у выглядзе пазбаўлення волі на тэрмін 3 гады ў калоніі ўзмоцненага рэжыму.
Pамілаваны ўказам Прэзідэнта Беларусі 11.08.2011 г.

Uladzimir Yaromenak

Born on 4 September 1990 in the town of Miyory in the Vitsebsk region. Student of Belarusian State University of Informatics and Radio-Electronics. Member of the “Young Front”. Regular participant of actions of solidarity with political prisoners which are held on the 16th every month.

Participated in the 19 December events. Detained by security services the following day, during a picket of solidarity with political prisoners, held opposite the House of Government. Sentenced to 15 days of arrest. After release, he was summoned as a witness and sentenced to 7 more days of arrest.

On 28 January arrested again as a suspect in the mass riot case and put in the KGB pre-trial prison. Charged under parts 1 and 2 of Article 293, “mass riot”.

On 14 May 2011 Natallia Chatsverakova, Judge of the Partyzanski District Court of Minsk, sentenced him to 3 years in a high-security colony.

Pardoned by presidential decree on 11 August 2011.
Civil activist, a member of the Belarusian Association of Journalists’ Council. Born on 30 December 1976 in Orsha. Finished secondary school #25 in Vitsebsk with excellent marks in all subjects. He started showing interest to politics in the 10th grade, when he was elected to the children’ national parliament. He was kin on geography and geology. Graduated from the geographic faculty of the Belarusian State University. In 1994—1999 he worked in a number of independent media. Has published publicistic articles in the pres in 1998. Won the literary prize of Ales Adamovich and the prize of Vasil Bykau “For freedom of thought”.

In 1999—2003 Pavel was deputy chair of the Belarusian Popular Front Party. In 1999—2004 he was chair of the “Young Front”, now he is co-chair of the steering committee of the Belarusian Christian Democracy Party. During the 2010 presidential election, Pavel was an activist of Vital Rymasheuski’s campaign team. Arrested on 20 December at home and put into the KGB pre-trial prison. In late December he was charged under parts 1 and 2 of Article 293.

On 4 April the charges were changed to Article 342 of the Criminal Code, “Organization and preparation of group actions that grossly violate the public order or active participation in them”.

On 16 May Zhana Brysina, Judge of the Zavadski District Court of Minsk sentenced Pavel to 3 years of personal restraint with direction to an open penitentiary institution. The term of his keeping in custody was taken into account — each day of imprisonment was counted as two days of personal restraint.
Iryna Khalip


Repeatedly prosecuted for her journalist activities, received warnings from procuracy. In April 1997 Iryna, together with her father screenwriter and documentarian Uladzimir Khalip, was severely beaten during an opposition rally. At the end of 2009 unidentified people threatened her with murder. Wife of presidential candidate A. Sannikau. Granddaughter of the well-known Belarusian composer Yury Bialzatski.

Winner of a number of awards, including the Dzmitry Zavadski Award (2003), the Henri Nannen Press Award (2005), the Hero of Europe Award (2005) “For Courage in Journalism” Award (2009) and “Russia’s Golden Pen”.

On 19 December 2010, Iryna was violently detained together with her husband during the dispersal of the protest action in Nezalezhnasts Square and put into the KGB pre-trial prison. In late December Iryna was charged with the organization of and taking part in mass riots (parts 1 and 2 of Article 293 of the Criminal Code). During her detention, the authorities tried to take her 3-year-old son Danik Sannikau to an orphanage.

On 29 January the restraint to Iryna Khalip was changed to home arrest and a written non-leave undertaking. On 4 April the charges to Iryna were changed to Article 342 of the Criminal Code, “organization of actions that grossly violate the public order or active participation in them”.

On 16 May 2011 Zhana Brysina, Judge of the Zavadski District Court of Minsk, sentenced her to 2 years of imprisonment with 2-year determent.
Сяргей МАРЦАЛЕЎ

Народзіўся 29 красавіка 1977 г. у Мінску ў сям'і навукоўцаў. Унук Станіслава Марцалева, кіраўніка Інстытута мастацтвазнаўства, этнаграфіі і фальклору Акадэміі навук. Таксама ўнук акадэміка-філосафа Лэаніда Яўменава.

Пасля заканчэння сярэдняй школы вучыўся на факультэце міжнародных адносін БДУ, але быў адлічаны за палітычную дзейнасць пры рэктары А. Казуліне. Тым не менш, пасля пераходу палітыка ў апазіцыю працаваў з ім разам. У сярэдзіне 1990-х быў абраны старшынёй «Маладой Грамады» (моладзевай арганізацыі пры БСДП М. Статкевіч), дзея гэтай дзейнасці адмовіўся ад вучобы ў Маскве. Потым з’ехаў вучыцца ў Польшчу і скончыў Познанскі ўніверсітэт па спецыяльнасці «Паліталогія».

На прэзідэнцкіх выбарах- 2010 кіраваў перадвыборчым штабам кандыдата М. Статкевіча. 19 снежня на плошчы Незалежнасці амаль не прысутнічаў. Уначы 23 снежня зняты з цягніка, на якім ехаў у Варшаву на здымкі перадачы тэлеканала «Белсат». Быў змешчаны ў СІЗА КДБ, абвінавачаны ў арганізацыі масавых беспарадкаў. 4 красавіка абвінавачанне перакваліфікавана на іншы крымінальны артыкул — «Арганізацыя і падрыхтоўка групавых дзеянняў, якая груба парушаюць грамадскі парадак, альбо актыўны ўдзел у іх» (ч. 1 арт. 342 КК).

16.05.2011 г. суддзя Завадскаго райсуда Мінска Жана Брысіна вынесла пакаранне ў выглядзе пазбаўлення волі тэрмінам на 2 гады з выпрабаваўчым тэрмінам у 2 гады.

Siarhei Martsaleu


Former student of the Foreign Relations Faculty of the Belarusian State University, expelled with Aliaksandr Kazulin as rector. However, later he became Kazulin’s associate. In mid-1990s he was elected chair of the “Young Hramada” (the youth wing of Mikalai Statkevich’s Belarusian Social Democratic Party) and refused from studying in Moscow for pursuing this career. Later he left for Poland to receive a degree in political studies at Poznan University.

In the 2010 presidential election, he was campaign chief of Mikalai Statkevich. He participated in the 19 December protest for a short time. Siarhei was detained on a train to Warsaw (where he was going to appear in a program of the “BelSat” TV channel) and put into the KGB pre-trial prison. Initially charged under Article 293. On 4 March the charges were changed to Article 342 of the Criminal Code, “organization of actions that grossly violate the public order or active participation in them”.

On 16 May 2011 Zhana Brysina, Judge of the Zavadski District Court of Minsk, sentenced him to two years of conditional imprisonment with a two-year probation period.
Uladzimir Niakliayeu

Born on 11 July 1946 in the town of Smarhon, where he finished school №1. In 1961—1966 he was a student at Higher State Communications College, in 1973 he graduated from the department of philology at Minsk Pedagogical Institute. In 1971 he entered the department of poetry at Moscow Literature Institute. Uladzimir worked in Vladivostok, Taishet, and Norilsk. Upon his return to Minsk, he worked as a literature counsel in the newspaper “Znamya Yunosti” (1972—1975), editor of bulletin “Theatrical Minsk” (1975—1987).

In 1978 he became member of the USSR Union of Writers, collaborated with the Belarusian state TV, in 1987—1998 he was chief editor of one of the most popular periodicals of the time — magazine “Krynitsa”. He was also chief editor of weekly edition “Litaratura i Mastatstva”. In 1998—2001 Uladzimir was chair of the Union of Belarusian Writers. At a Union’s meeting in 2001, he suggested adopting a resolution declaring President Lukashenka an usurper, not eligible for running in the future elections.

In 1999 he left Belarus due to political reasons and settled in Poland. In 2003 he returned to Belarus. In 2005—2009 he was chair of the Belarusian Council of PEN-Center.

He is well-known for numerous collections of poetry and song lyrics. Between 1979 and 2009 he received many awards for his poetry. On 17 February was nominated for Nobel Prize at the general assembly of PEN-center.

In 2010 Niakliayeu initiated the creation of the civil campaign “Tell the Truth!”, later denied registration by the authorities, and became a presidential candidate. One of the leaders of the 2010 presidential campaign.

On 19 December he was badly beaten and lost consciousness on his way to a peaceful protest rally. He was taken to hospital with a brain injury. A few hours later he was kidnapped by the secret service agents, while on a drip. His whereabouts and state of health remained unknown for a long time.

The violent detention was abrupt: being unable to walk, he was ragged to a car in a blanket. He was later found in the KGB pre-trial prison, where he was kept on charges in mass rioting. There he suffered four hypertonic crises and had no opportunities to meet with a lawyer. On 29 January he released from prison and put under house arrest.

On 30 March the charges were changed to Article 342 of the Criminal Code, “organization and preparation of actions that grossly violate the public order, or active participation in them”. On 20 May 2011 Zhana Zhukouskaya, Judge of the Frunzenski District Court of Minsk, sentenced him to 2 years of imprisonment with two-year determent.
Сяргей ВАЗНЯК


Актывіст грамадзянскай кампаніі «Гавары праўду!» Падчас прэзідэнцкіх выбараў 2010 г. працаваў у штабе кандыдата У. Някляеўа. Быў арыштаваны 20 снежня ва ўласнай кватэры і змешчаны ў СІЗА КДБ, абвінавачаны па крымінальнай справе, узбуджанай следчым упраўленнем папярэдняга расследавання ГУУС Мінгарвыканкама па чч. 1 і 2 арт. 293 КК «Масавы беспарадкі».

29 снежня мера стрымання зменена на падпіску аб нявыездзе. 30 сакавіка 2011 г. абвінавачванне перакваліфікавана на ч.1 арт. 342 КК РБ — «Арганізацыя і падрыхтоўка дзеянняў, якія груба парушаюць грамадскі парадак, альбо актыўны удзел у іх».

20.05.2011 г. суддзя Фрунзенскага райсуда Мінска Жанна Жукоўская вынесла пакаранне ў выглядзе пазбаўлення волі на тэрмін 2 гады з выпрабаваўчым тэрмінам 2 гады.

Siarhei Vazniak


During the 2010 presidential election he was activist of the civil campaign “Tell the Truth!” and Uladzimir Niakliayeu’s campaign team. Arrested on 20 December at his apartment and put in custody in the KGB pre-trial prison. In late December he was officially charged under parts 1 and 2 Article 293 of the Criminal Code, “organization of and taking part in a mass riot”.

On 29 December he was released on recognizance. On 30 March 2011 the charges to him were changed to Article 342, part 1 of the Criminal Code, “organization of actions that grossly violate the public order or active participation in them”.

On 20 May Zhana Zhukouskaya, Judge of the Frunzenski District Court of Minsk, sentenced Siarhei Vazniak to 2 years of conditional imprisonment with a two-year probation period.
Вітал Рымашэўскі


Кандыдат у прэзідэнты на выбарах-2010. Падчас акцыі пратэсту і змешчаны ў СІЗА КДБ пад час разгону адкрытымі заслоўняў кампактны падатак ад нявыезду пасля напісання тлумачальнай запіскі на імя А.Лукашэнкі.

19 снежня на плошчы Незалежнасці быў захаваны падчас расапраўлення, затрыманы падчас акцыі пратэсту і змешчаны ў СІЗА КДБ пад час разгону адкрытымі заслоўняў кампактны падатак ад нявыезду пасля напісання тлумачальнай запіскі на імя А.Лукашэнкі.

20.05.2011 г. суддзя Фрунзенскага райсуда Мінска Жанна Жукоўская вынесла пакаранне ў выглядзе пазбаўлення волі на тэрмін 2 гады ўмоўна з выпрабаваўчым тэрмінам 2 гады.

Vital Rymasheuski


A presidential candidate at the presidential election of 2010. Was injured by the riot police during the protest action of 19 December (his head was slashed with a truncheon). Detained during the dispersal of the action and put in the pre-trial prison of the KGB. Received charges under Article 293 of the Criminal Code. On 31 December was released under a written undertaking not to leave after writing an explanatory note for A.Lukashenka.

On 30 March 2011 the charges were changed to Article 342, part 1, “organization of actions that grossly violate the public order or active participation in them”.

On 20 May, Zhana Zhukouskaya, Judge of the Minsk Frunzenski District Court, sentenced Vital Rymasheuski to 2 years of conditional imprisonment with a two-year probation term.
Andrei Dzmitryieu

Born on 17 May 1981 in Minsk, studied at the philosophical faculty of the European Humanities University. Served in the army in 2000—2001. A member of the United Civil Party since 2001, a member of the political council of the party, in 2007—2010 — the head of the international affairs commission of the UCP. Has taken part in the electoral campaigns of different levels since 1999. He advanced from a volunteer to the head of an electoral headquarters. Dzmitryieu was detained by the police for his political activities. In 2007 he served administrative arrest. On 18 May 2010 he was detained together with other activists of the “Tell the Truth!” civil campaign which they authorities tried to dissolve.

In 2005-2009 he had a business, being the head of a consulting company, but decided to close it down not to have any trouble with the authorities, as he intended to participate in the presidential electoral campaign.

In 2010 — deputy head of the civil campaign “Tell the Truth!”. During the electoral campaign he headed the electoral team of the presidential candidate Uladzimir Niakliayeu.

Was detained in the night of 19-20 December 2010, after the action of protest in Nezalezhnasts Square in Minsk, and put in the pre-trial prison of the KGB. Received charges under Article 293 of the Criminal Code, “mass riot”.

On 3 January he was released under a written recognizance not to leave Minsk. On 30 March 2011 the charges to him were changed to Article 342, part 1 of the Criminal Code “organization of actions that grossly violate the public order or active participation in them”.

On 20 May 2011 Zhana Zhukouskaya, Judge of the Frunzenski District Court of Minsk, sentenced Andrei Dzmitryeu to 2 years of conditional imprisonment with a two-year probation period.
Аляксандр Фяду́та


30 сакавіка абвінавачванне перафармувалася на ч.1 арт.342 КК РБ — «Арганізацыя і падрыхтоўка дзеянняў, якія груба парушаюць грамадскі парадак, альбо актыўны ўдзел у іх». 8 красавіка вызвалены з турмы пад падпіску аб нявыездзе.

20.05.2011 г. суддзя Фрунзенскага райсуда Мінска Жанна Жукоўская вынесла пакаранне ў выглядзе пазбаўлення волі на тэрмін 2 гады ўмоўна з выпрабаваўчым тэрмінам 2 гады.

Aliaksandr Fiaduta

Born on 3 November 1964 in Hrodna. Graduated from the philological faculty of the Hrodna State University, worked as a teacher. In 1994 he was the head of the Central Committee of Lenin’s Komsomol and an activist of Aliaksandr Lukashenka’s campaign team, later was appointed the head of the Public and Political Information Department of the Presidential Administration. In 1995 Aliaksandr joined the opposition, collaborating with a number of independent newspapers: “Beloruskaya Delovaya Gazeta”, “Moskovskie Novosti”, “Imya”, “Narodnaya Volia”. Was one of the founders of the expert website “Our Opinion”. Candidate of philological sciences (1997). Literary critic and political scientist.

During the 2010 presidential election, Fiaduta was member of Uladzimir Niakliayeu’s headquarters. Detained on 20 December in his apartment and put into the KGB prison. In late December he was charged with participation in the 19 December mass riot.

On 30 March 2011 the charges were changed to Article 342, part 1 of the Criminal Code, “organization of actions that grossly violate the public order, or participation in them”. On 8 April was released under a written undertaking not to leave Minsk.

On 20 May Zhana Zhukouskaya, Judge of the Minsk Frunzenski District Court, sentenced Aliaksandr Fiaduta to 2 years of conditional imprisonment with a two-year probation period.
Наста Палацханка


Пасля мітынгу пратэсту на плошчы Незалежнасці ўначы была схоплена ў сябе дома. Аперацыю па затрыманні 20-гадовай дзяўчыны аквітывалі прэд’яўленыя замешчанай ў СіЗА КДБ.

17 лютага вечарам вызвалена пад падпіску аб нявыездзе. 30 сакавіка абвінавачванне перафармулявана на ч.1 арт.342 КК РБ — «Арганізацыя і падрыхтоўка дзеянняў, якія груба парушаюць грамадскі парадак, альбо актыўны ўдзел у іх».

8 сакавіка стала першай беларускай, узнагароджанай Міжнароднай жаночай прэміяй за мужнасць, яку ўручала дзяржсакратар ЗША Хілары Клінтан.

20.05.2011 г. суддзя Фрунзенскага райсуда Мінска Жанна Жукоўская вынесла пакаранне ў выглядзе пазбаўлення волі на тэрмін 1 год умоўна з выпрабаваўчым тэрмінам 1 год.

Nasta Palazhanka

Born on 2 August 1990 in Minsk. In 1997-2008 attended Schools # 73 (with intensive study of the German language) and #37 (with aesthetic specialization). In 2008 she entered the Philosophy and Political Studies Faculty of the European Humanities University.

Member of the “Young Front” since 2004. Was elected deputy chairperson of the organization in 2008. She has been detained and sentenced to arrest terms many times. In 2007 Nasta was, together with other “Young Front” activists, convicted under Article 193-1 of the Criminal Code, “activities on behalf of an unregistered organization” and received an official warning from the court.

After the 19 December protest, Nasta was arrested at home by 15 KGB agents. She received charges under Article 293 of the Criminal Code, “mass riot”, and taken to the pre-trial prison of the KGB.

On 17 February evening she was released on recognizance. On 8 March she became the first Belarusian citizen awarded with the International Women’s Prize for Courage, passed to her by the US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. On 30 March the charges to Nasta were changed to Article 342, part 1, “organization of actions that grossly violate the public order or active participation in them”.

On 20 May Zhana Zhukouskauya, Judge of the Frunzenski District Court of Minsk, sentenced Nasta Palazhanka to 1 year of conditional imprisonment with one-year probation period.
Mikalai Statkevich

Born on 12 August 1956 in the village of Liadna, Slutsk district, in the family of teachers. Graduated from Minsk Army Engineering College in 1978, with the qualification of military engineer in radio-electronics. In 1978—982 Mikalai served in the army in Murmansk region, Russia, as an engineer of an automated control center of anti-aircraft brigade. In 1985—1990 he worked as a lecturer at Minsk Army Engineering College. In 1986 he received a candidate’s degree, in 1993 — a doctor’s degree. He is the author of over 60 works on ergonomics, engineering psychology and social psychology. Awarded with a medal “For Impeccable Service”. Mikalai retired in the military rank of lieutenant colonel.

In 1990 he was an author of the new concept of the Belarusian army. In 1991 he left the USSR Communist Party in protest against the Vilnius January events. On 20 August 1991 he was the only Belarusian military officer to denounce the Soviet coup d’état attempt. The same year he founded the Association of Belarusian Military Officers and was its head until 1995.


In 2005 he was sentenced to 3 years of imprisonment for staging a street protest against the official results of the 2004 parliamentary elections and referendum. Has two daughters.

In 2010 he became a presidential candidate. Mikalai took part in the 19 December Minsk demonstration. He was detained and put into the KGB pre-trial prison, where he was on a hunger strike of protest on 19 December — 12 January. Was initially charged under part 2 of Article 293, “participation in mass riot”, but later the charges were changed to part 1 of Article 293, “organization of mass riot”.

On 26 May 2011 Liudmila Hrachova, Judge of the Leninski District Court of Minsk, sentenced him to 6 years in a high-security colony.
Дзмітрый Ус


Кандыдат у прэзідэнты на выбарах — 2010. Затрыманы ў Мінску ўнавы пасля масавай акцыі пратэсту на плошчы Незалежнасці, змешчаны ў СІЗА КДБ. Удзень 20 снежня вызвалены адтуль падпіску аб нявыезде. Доўгі час з’яўляўся падазраваным па справе аб масавых беспарадках. Заяўляў пра ціск з боку следства з мэтай атрымання абвінаваўчых паказанняў на ягонага сябра, другога кандыдата М. Статкевіча.

18 сакавіка было пра'яўлена абвінавачванне ў арганізацыі масавых беспарадкаў па ч. 1 арт. 293 КК РБ. 26.05.2011 г. суддзя Ленінскага райсуда Мінска Людміла Грачова вынесла пакаранне ў выглядзе пазбаўлення волі на тэрмін 5 гадоў 6 месяцаў у калоніі ўзмоцненага рэжыму. Памілаваны ўказам Прэзідэнта Беларусі 01.10.2011 г.

Dzmitry Uss


A presidential candidate at the 2010 election. Detained in the night of 19—20 December in Minsk, after the protest action. Kept at the pre-trial prison of the KGB. On 20 December was released under a written undertaking not to leave. On 19 March was given charges under Article 293, part 2, “participation in mass riot”. Stated that the investigation had pressurized him with the aim to make him testify against his friend Mikola Statkevich, another presidential candidate.

On 18 March received charges under part 1 of Article 293, “organization of mass riot”.

On 26 May Liudmila Hrachova, Judge of the Leninski District Court of Minsk, sentenced him to 5.5 years in a high-security colony. Pardoned by presidential decree on 1 October 2011.
Аляксандр КЛАСКОЎСКІ


Затрэтымаваны ў ноч на 21 снежня 2010 г. у сябе дома. Зможаў пад варту ў СІЗА КДБ. Абвінавачаны па трох крымінальных артыкулах: ч. 1 і ч. 2 арт. 293 — «Масавья беспарадкі», арт. 369 — «Абраза прадстаўніка ўлады» і арт. 382 — «Самавольнае прысваенне звання ці ўлады службовай асобы».


Aliaksandr Klaszkouski

Born on 26 September 1978. Finished Minsk school #55 in 1995 and entered the faculty of journalism of the Belarusian State University, later received a higher education in law. In July 1997 — December 1998 served in the army. In 1999 he returned from military service and married a girl from the town of Bialynichy, Mahiliou region. At present the family three children, born in 1999, 2003 and 2008. According to his wife Natallia, Aliaksandr is very compassionate, loving and responsible husband and father.

In 1999 he got employed as a road police inspector at the Leninski District Road Police Department of Minsk. During his military service, he arrested armed car thieves and received a state prize for that. Apart from that, he took first places in sports competitions. However, he was fired from his job in 2005, having the rank of lieutenant.

Aliaksandr was not a regular policeman, he usually spoke Belarusian, tried to draw up reports in the native language and brought “Narodnaya Volia”, “Nasha Niva” and other independent periodicals to work. His father and sister are well-known Belarusian journalists. The latter even became a political refugee because of her journalistic activity.

Aliaksandr was detained in the night of 20-21 December 2010 at his apartment and put in custody in the KGB pre-trial prison. Was charged under 3 articles of the Criminal Code, parts 1 and 2 of Article 293, “mass riot”, Article 369, “insult of state official” and Article 382 “unauthorized conferment of the rank or powers of an official”.

On 26 May 2011 Liudmila Hrachova, Judge of the Leninski District Court of Minsk, sentenced Aliaksandr Klaszkouski to 5 years in a high-security colony.

Pardoned by presidential decree on 14 September 2011.
Народзіўся 25 жніўня 1984 г. у Мінску. Пакутуе на шэраг хранічных захворванняў, сярод іх рэўматызм, небяспечныя алергічныя рэакцыі. Скончыў медыцынскі каледж, два гады працаваў па размеркаванні медбратам у інфекцыйнай бальніцы. Потым быў заняты ў камерцыйных структурах у сфере медыцыны. Паступова вырашыў звязаць жыццё з музыкай, паступіў у Інстытут сучасных ведаў на спецыяльнасць «Прадзюсаванне», заняўся камп’ютарнай аранжыроўкай. Грае на бас-гітары, стварыў свой уласны музычны калектыў. Палітыкай не цікавіўся, ніколі не быў сябрам палітычных партыяў і рухаў. 

Быў затрыманы і збіты падчас разгону мірнай акцыі 19 снежня, яму рассеклі галаву. Пасля адбыцця 10 сутак арышту на Акрэсціна, з траўмай галавы ў шпіталі хутка накладалі швы.


Dzmitry Bulanau

Born on 25 August 1984 in Minsk. Suffers from a number of chronic diseases, including rheumatism, dangerous allergic reactions. Graduate of a medical college, he worked as a male nurse in an isolation hospital for two years, and then — in some commercial medical institutions.

Has profound interest in music. Entered the Institute of Contemporary Knowledge to study sound production. He also learned computer arrangement. Plays bass-guitar, created a music band. He has never been engaged in politics.

Detained and beaten up (head injury) during the dispersal of the 19 December peaceful protest. Sentenced to 10 days of arrest. Stitches were put on his head in the ambulance hospital after he served the arrest.

He was on Nezalezhnasts Square for a short period of time, but was registered by video cameras. On 12 January he was detained again for refusing to turn up for interrogation without an official summons. Dzmitry was declared suspect in the mass riot criminal case and put in the delinquents’ isolation center on Akrestsin Street for three days. Then he was later transferred to Minsk pre-trial prison #1 in Valadarski Street and was charged under part 2 of Article 293, “participation in mass riot”.

On 26 May Liudmila Hrachova, Judge of the Leninski District Court of Minsk, sentenced him to 3 years in a high-security colony.

Pardoned by presidential decree on 14 September 2011.
Aliaksandr Kviatkevich

Born on 4 February 1987 in a family of workers. He has helped his mother in her work and household since childhood. Kviatkevich finished secondary school #168, and then — a vocational school, where he received the qualification of a joiner and machine operator. He worked at a plant, producing compressors for cars. Is interested in engineering, played football.

He voted on the Election Day and then went to the Square. According to his mother, he said “One needs not just to vote, but also to defend one’s vote” before going there. Aliaksandr was detained and served 12-day arrest for participation in the 19 December action.

On 4 January he was detained and placed to the pre-trial prison of the KGB as a suspect. Received charges under Article 293 of the Criminal Code, part 1 and 2, “mass riot”.

On 26 May 2011 Liudmila Hrachova, Judge of the Leninski District Court of Minsk, was sentenced to 3.5 years in a high-security colony.

Pardoned by presidential decree on 11 August 2011.
Арцём Грыбкоў

Б
orn on 6 January 1989 in the village of Savashy of the Karelichy district of the Hrodna region. Finished secondary school in the village of Paluzzha. He learned well, wrote funny poems and scenarios for school feasts (he paid interest to them even after finishing the school).

He also studied at the Minsk College of Light Industry. Always paid a great interest to theatric plays, literature and art. He returned home and finished a building vocational school in Karelichy. As far as it was difficult to find a job in Karelichy, he moved to Minsk, where he worked as a loader and pressman. He helped his relatives, especially in upbringing his little sister.

On 19 December, after work, he came to the Nezalezhnasts Square and joined the demonstrators. Was detained near St.Symon and Alena Church and served 10-day arrest for participation in the protest rally. On 12 January he was detained again and charged with participation in mass riot. Was kept in custody in the pre-trial prison in Valadarski Street.

On 26 May 2011 Liudmila Hrachova, Judge of the Leninski District Court of Minsk, sentenced him to 4 years in a high-security colony.

Pardoned by presidential decree on 11 August 2011.
Андрэй Пазняк

Народжаны 20 мая 1977 г. у г. Жодзіна. Скончыў Жодзінскі прафесійны ліцэй, на працягу 14 гадоў працаваў у родным горадзе электраманцёрам на БелАЗе. Палітыка цікавіўся. Выраўнаўся сім'яй, захапляўся футболам, займаўся ім, быў балельшчыкам БАТЭ.

Затрыманы 19 снежня на плошчы Незалежнасці, пакараны штрафам у памеры 30 базавых велічынь. Калі пасля навагодніх свят не з’явіўся на працу, аказалася, што ён затрыманы ў межах крыміналнай справы і ўзяты пад варту. Прад’яўлена абвінавачанне па крыміналнай справе аб масавых беспарадках. Змесцаны ў СІЗА № 1 на вул. Валадарскага ў Мінску.

26.05.2011 г. суддзя Ленінскага райсуда Мінска Людміла Грачова вынесла пакаранне ў выглядзе абмежавання волі на тэрмін 2 гады без накіравання ў папраўчую ўстанову адкрытага тыпу. Вызвалены з-пад варты ў зале суда.

Detained on 19 December in Nezalezhnasts Sqaure. Fined BYR 1,050,000. Didn’t come to work after the New Year holidays. As it became known later, he was arrested and charged under pats 1 and 2 of Article 293. Was kept in custody in the pre-trial prison in Valadarski Street.

On 26 May Luiudmila Hrachova, Judge of the Leninski District Court of Minsk, sentenced him to 2 years of personal restraint without direction to an open penitentiary institution. Released from custody in the court hall.

Andrei Pazniak

Born on 20 May 1977 in Zhodzina. Graduate of local professional lyceum. Employee of the BeIAZ carcar plant. Paid no interest to politics. Grew up in a sportive family, plays football and is a fan of the BATE football team.
Святаслаў Барановіч

Народзіўся 16 красавіка 1986 г. у в. Кавалі Вілейскага раёна Мінскай вобласці ў шматдзетнай сям’і. Шосты і самы малодшы з дзяцей. Скончыў Праўдзінскі дзяржаўны будаўнічы прафесійны ліцэй у Пухавіцкім раёне, атрымаў спеціяльнасць сантэхніка. Працуе будуўніком у Мінску. Прафесійна займаецца боксам.

На Плошчу прыйшоў, каб падтрымаць кандыдата, за якога галасаваў, А. Саннікава. Падчас гвалтоўнага разгону мірнай акцыі яго затрымалі і пакаралі адміністрацыйным арыштам на 10 сутак.

Апошні фігурант крымінальнай справы аб масавых беспарадках. Быў затрыманы паўторна ў межах крымінальнай справы толькі праз паўгода — 15 чэрвеня. Ён сам з’явіўся ў міліцыю пасля тэлефонага выкліку. Замешчаны ў СІЗА на вул. Валадарскага. На відэа зафіксавана, што ён аказаў супраціў спецназаўцам, біў па шчытах, але гэта адбылося пасля таго, як Святаслава ўдарылі дубінкай па галаве.

Судовы працэс пачаўся 29 жніўня, аднак быў перанесены ў выніку загалам нез'яўлення пацярпелых. Суддзя Маскоўскага райсуда Алена Рудніцкая вынесла пакаранне у выглядзе адміністрацыйных арыштаў на 10 сутак.

Sviataslau Baranovich

Born on 16 April 1986 in the village of Kavali in the Vileika district of the Minsk region. He is the sixth, the youngest child in the family. Graduated from Praudzina State Building Lyceum in the Pukhavichy district with the qualification of sanitary technician. Works as a builder in Minsk. Is a professional boxer.

He came to the Square to support the candidate for whom he voted, A. Sannikau. Was detained during the violent dispersal of the peaceful rally and sentenced to 10 days of arrest.

Sviataslau is the last figurant of the “mass riot” criminal case. He was detained within the framework of this case only in six months — on 15 June. He came to the police after being summonsed there by phone. Kept in custody in the pre-trial prison in Valadarski Street. As it can be seen on video recordings, after receiving a blow in the head with a police baton, Sviataslau started showing resistance to the police and hitting on their shields.

The trial started on 29 August, but was postponed as only 12 out of 30 victims, riot policemen, came to court. The same day Sviataslau Baranovich was released from custody under a recognizance.

On 12 October Alena Rudnitskaya, Judge of the Maskouski District Court of Minsk, sentenced him to 3 years of personal restraint without direction to an open penitentiary institution.
Абвінавачаныя па справе аб масавых беспарадках
Accused in the “mass riot” case
Aliaksei Mikhailevich

Born on 15 May 1975 in Minsk in the family of scientists. Student of Minsk school #19 and the Belarusian Humanities Lyceum.

In 1997 he graduated from the Faculty of Law of the Belarusian State University. During his studies, he was head of the Association of Belarusian Students (an organization that protects the rights of Belarusian students). Attended the internship courses at Warsaw University and Oxford University. Brings up two daughters, born in 2000 and 2009, together with his wife Milana, a teacher of the English language.

Since 1997 he was engaged in youth exchange and tourism projects, since 2000 employed as a manager in the “Arcadia” travel agency. Left his job after seven inspections, following his participation in the 2004 parliamentary elections. Since 2005 he has been accredited by the Ministry of Economics as an anti-recession manager. In 2007—2008 he worked as legal counsel at the Soviet-Afghan War Disabled Veterans Association, in 2008-2010 — as a legal counsel at Belarusian Independent Trade Union. Fluent in four foreign languages.

Between 2003 and 2007 he was deputy of Pukhavichy district council and coordinator of the Local Council Deputies Assembly. Former editor of the “Rehiyon” independent newspaper, issued in the town of Mar’ina Horka, Minsk region. Initiator of a number of decisions for the accretion of power of local self-government bodies. In 2004—2008 — deputy chair of the Belarusian Popular Front Party. In 2008 he was nominated for the post of the Party’s chair, but was expelled for public criticism of its leaders. In 2010 he launched a new movement “For Modernization”.

A candidate at the presidential election-2010. Detained on 20 December in his apartment for participation in the 19 December protest and put into custody in the KGB pre-trial prison. Charged under Article 293 (“mass riot”).

On 19 January Aliaksei was released on recognizance. On 28 February 2011 Aliaksei made a public statement that he had to sign a cooperation agreement with the KGB in order to be released from jail, and that he was tortured at the pre-trial prison of the KGB, which he called a concentration camp in the center of Minsk. He also filed appropriate appeals with the General Procuracy of Belarusian and the UN Human Rights Committee. During the press-conference A.Mikhailevich also emphasized that he considered the disclosure of this information as cessation of the cooperation agreement with the KGB. His confession and statement had a wide public response.

Aliaksei Mikhailevich received a summons to KGB for 12 a.m. on 14 March. However, as it became known that morning, he had secretly left the country. On 24 March the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Czech Republic confirmed that he had received political asylum in the country.
Natalia Radzina

Born on 3 May 1979 in the town of Kobryn in the family of an officer. She worked with various independent periodicals — "Imya", "Narodnaya Volia", "Naviny" and "Nasha Svaboda". Repeatedly arrested and beaten during opposition rallies. On 16 March 2010 she received a blow at her face during a search at the "Charter'97" office, held under the framework of the criminal case concerning the alleged libel against the former head of the Homel Region KGB Department, Ivan Korzh. The office of "Charter'97" and Natalia's apartment were repeatedly searched within the framework of the case. Three more independent journalists — S. Kalinkina, I. Khalip and M. Koktysh were witnesses in the case, too.

In 2010 Natalia was nominated by the British human rights group "Index on Censorship" for the Freedom of Speech award for "fighting against repressions and activities aimed at changing political climate."

On 23 August the criminal case against the journalist was dropped because of the absence of corpus delicti. Her parents received an appropriate document, signed by police captain D. Dyshchanka.

On 29 January Natalia was released and put under house arrest in her native town of Kobryn. On 30 March she went to Minsk to take part in investigative actions of the KGB. On 31 March her phone stopped answering, and on 1 April the website of "Charter'97" wrote that she was abroad. On 4 August 2011 N Radzina asked for political asylum in Lithuania.

28 September a search warrant was served at the "Charter'97" office. She was detained at the Charter-97 office on 20 December 2010 and put under house arrest in Kobryn. In late December she was charged under Article 293 ("mass riot").

In 2011 Natalia was nominated by the British human rights group "Index on Censorship" for the Freedom of Speech award for "fighting against repressions and activities aimed at changing political climate."

She was detained at the Charter-97 office on 20 December 2010 and put under house arrest in Kobryn. In late December she was charged under Article 293 ("mass riot").

In 2010 Natalia was nominated by the British human rights group "Index on Censorship" for the Freedom of Speech award for "fighting against repressions and activities aimed at changing political climate."

She was detained at the Charter-97 office on 20 December 2010 and put under house arrest in Kobryn. In late December she was charged under Article 293 ("mass riot").

In 2010 Natalia was nominated by the British human rights group "Index on Censorship" for the Freedom of Speech award for "fighting against repressions and activities aimed at changing political climate."
Born on 7 November, 1971 in the town of Slonim. In 1989 he graduated from the Belarusian State University, department of Geography. Member of the Belarusian Geography Society. Received two diplomas of the Sweden-based Uppsala University distance courses — “The Human Population of the Baltic States” and “The Environment of the Baltic Sea Area”. Former employee of the Minsk Regional Institute of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection (since 1999). In 2000 graduated from the Academy of Public Administration under the aegis of the President of the Republic of Belarus with the qualification of manager. The same year he left civil service and became one of the founders of the “Zubr” opposition movement.


Campaign chief of Andrei Sannikau’s team. Detained by the KGB agents on 21 December 2010. Charged under parts 1 and 2 of Article 293 of the Criminal Code (“mass riot”). On 27 January he was released on recognizance.

On 23 August the criminal case against U.Kobets was dropped because of absence of corpus delicti. An appropriate document, signed by police captain D.Dyshchanka was received by his wife.

On 19 September an article by U.Kobets was published on the website of “Charter’97”. There he wrote about the tortures and recruitment at the KGB pre-trial prison. According to the oppositionist, he was unable to write about it earlier, feeling the psychological difficulties he couldn’t overcome without the aid of specialists. “I have been outside Belarus for 1,5 months by known... The time has come to give an answer to the question which I couldn’t answer while staying in the country: what were the condition’s of one’s release from the KGB jail? I will say it openly — these are the conditions Ales Mikhalevich said about — a written undertaking about “voluntary” assistance to the security services in the realization of the “constitutional duties”...”
Anatol Liabedzka

Leader of the United Civic Party of Belarus. Born on 27 June 1961 in the village of Tryles, Staubtsy district, Minsk region. Worked as a mechanizer on a collective farm in his district. Then he entered the Faculty of French and History of Minsk Pedagogic University, graduating from it in 1985. Between 1985 and 1987 Anatol served in the Soviet Army. Then he worked as deputy head of Ashmiany boarding school. In 1990 he was elected deputy of the Supreme Soviet of the 12th convocation, working as deputy chair of the Commission for Youth Affairs. In 1992 he founded and headed the Belarusian Association of Young Politicians. In 1993 he graduated from the Law Faculty of Belarusian State University. Married with a son.

During the 1994 presidential election, Anatol worked in Lukashenka’s team, later resigning over a row and joining the United Civic Party. In 1995 he was re-elected deputy of the Supreme Soviet of the 13th convocation, working as deputy chair of the Commission for Foreign Affairs. He denounced the 1996 referendum and refused to join the National Assembly after the dissolution of the Supreme Soviet. In 2000 he was elected chairperson of the United Civil Party.

He has been repeatedly repressed by the authorities for his political activities. Anatol has been for a number of times charged with libel of the President. He was beaten up by unknown person in masks.

During the 2010 presidential election he worked in Yaraslau Ramanchuk’s team. Anatol was detained on 20 December by the KGB and put in the KGB pre-trial prison. Facing charges for staging mass riots. Late in the evening of 6 March he was released under a written non-leave undertaking.

A. Liabedzka singled out three periods during his imprisonment. The first and the hardest one was January-February when people in black masks ruled in the pre-trial prison of the KGB. In February there started some slight liberalization and in March the situation became normal, but not better that in ordinary soviet prison. No investigative activities were conducted with Anatol Liabedzka.

On 23 August the criminal case against him was dropped because of the absence of corpus delicti. He received an appropriate document by mail. The foreign travel restrictions towards him were removed formally removed. However, the KGB refused to return his passport for a long time, as a result of which he had difficulties while going abroad.
Алег Корбан

Born on 4 February 1985. Finished secondary school #22. Studied at the juridical faculty of the International Humanities Economic University, but was expelled from it for active participation in the national youth movement “Young Front”. Is interested in Belarusian history and culture. Worked at the Minsk Pinion Plant, but was dismissed because of the pressurization of the KGB on the administration. An active participant of pro-dem street actions, frequently detained by KGB and police officers and sentenced to arrest.

In 2007, being a member of the “Young Front”, was fined within the framework of a criminal case instigated for “activities on behalf of unregistered organization” (Article 193-1 of the Criminal Code). A member of the National Committee of the United Civil Party. Deputy Chair of the Minsk city organization of the United Civil Party. Chair of the Minsk city organization of the “Young Democrats”, the UCP youth wing (elected on 29 January 2011).

During the presidential election he was an active participant of the electoral campaign of Yaraslav Ramanchuk, headed his electoral headquarters in Minsk.

Detained in the night of 19-20 December 2010, after the protest action in central Minsk. Received charges under part 1 and 2 of Article 293, “organizing and participation in mass riot”. Was kept in the pre-trial prison of the KGB till 7 January, then was released under a written recognizance not to leave Minsk. Was repeatedly detained on 31 January in Minsk, interrogated at the KGB for about two hours and then let go.

On 23 August the criminal case against him was dropped because of the absence of corpus delicti. He received an appropriate document, signed by police captain D.Dyshchanka, by mail. The foreign travel restrictions towards him were removed.
Анатоль Паўлаў


Старшыня Мінскай гарадской арганізацыі АГП, сябра Палітсавета і Нацыянальнага камітэта партыі, кіраўнік камісіі па адукацыі і навуцы.

Падчас прэзідэнцкіх выбараў-2010 быў даверанай асобай кандыдата ў прэзідэнты Яраслава Раманчука. Затрыманы 20 снежня ў сябе дома. Абвінавачаны па крымінальнай справе аб масавых беспарадках. Змешчаны ў СІЗА КДБ.

Вызвалены 7 студзеня пад падпіску аб нявыездзе. 23 жніўня крымінальная справа спынена ў сувязі з адсутнасцю складу злачынства. Адпаведны дакумент за подпісам следчага, капітану міліцыі Д.У. Дышчанкі ён атрымаў па пошце. Абмежаванне на выезд знята.

Анатоль Паўлаў

Born on 18 June 1949 in the town of Vyborg in the Leningrad region, in the family of a military officer. He spent a part of his childhood at the Novaya Zemlya archipelago. Has lived in Minsk since 1965, when his father retired because the state of his health. Finished secondary school #4 in 1966, and graduated from the chemical faculty of Belarusian State University in 1971. Worked as a teacher in the Lahoisk district. In 1973-2000 – at various official positions in BSU. In the beginning of 2000 he was elected a member of the Minsk city committee of the trade union of educational and scientific workers, which was later dissolved. Headed the electoral headquarters of the presidential candidate Mikhail Chyhir at the election of 2001, and joined the UCP together with him.

Chair of the Minsk city organization of the United Civil Party, member of its Political and National councils.

Was an electioneering agent of the presidential candidate Yaroslav Ramanchuk during the 2010 presidential election. Detained at 7 A.M. on 20 December at home. Received charges under parts 1 and 2 of Article 293 of the Criminal Code, “organizing and participation in mass riot” and was placed in the pre-trial prison of the KGB. On 7 January was released under a written recognizance not to leave Minsk.

On 23 August the criminal case against him was dropped because of the absence of corpus delicti. He received an appropriate document, signed by police captain D.Dyshchanka, by mail. The foreign travel restrictions towards him were removed.
Аляксандар Арастовіч

Born on 9 December 1952 in the town of Slutsk. Graduated from the Belarusian State Polytechnic Institute (at present — the Belarusian National Technical University) in 1975. Studied at post-graduate courses in Czechoslovakia, defended a thesis and became a docent. Worked as a professor at the Belarusian National Technical University for 27 years. Had to retire because of health problems. Worked at a building trust. Now is employee of a private firm.


Detained on 19 December together with Mikalai Statkevich (the taxi they had taken was blocked by the police). Was kept in the KGB pre-trial prison, released on recognizance on 15 February. Officially charged under Article 293 of the Criminal Code. Acording to Arastovich, he had three interrogations in the KGB prison, but wasn’t confronted to anyone.

On 23 August the criminal case against him was dropped because of the absence of corpus delicti. He received an appropriate document, signed by police captain D.Dyshchanka, by mail. The foreign travel restrictions towards him were removed.
«За права на выбар: Партрэты асуджаных. Плошча-2010» — альбом фотаздымкаў фігурантаў крымінальнай справы аб масавых беспарадках, якая была ўзбуджана пасля правядзення мірнай акцыі пратэсту супраць фальсіфікацыі падчас прэзідэнцкіх выбараў у Беларусі 19 снежня 2010 года.

Сярод аўтараў здымкаў фотажурналісты Уладзь Грыдзін, Юлія Дарашкевіч, Сяргей Балай, Вадзім Заміроўскі, Ксенія Авімава, Алеся Пілецкі, Сяргей Гудзілін, Леанід Варламаў, Аляксандр Карсакоў.

На беларускай і англійскай мовах.

Надрукавана ў Літве. Выдавецтва «Gudas», Вільнюс.

Наклад 1000 асобнікаў.

Адказны рэдактар: Алена Лапцёнак

Мастацкі рэдактар: Сяржук Канаеўскі

Фота на вокладцы: Юлія Дарашкевіч

Прадмова: Аляксей Кароль

Пераклад: Алег Жлутка

Карэктура: Наталля Карнейенка

Праваабарончы цэнтр «Вясна»

Электронная версія кнігі змешчана на сайте spring96.org

For Right to Elect: Portraits of Convicts. Square-2010 — album of photos of figurants of the «mass riot» criminal case, instigated after the peaceful protest action against the rigging of the presidential election on 19 December 2010.

Among the authors of the photos there are the Belarusian photo Uladz Hrydzin, Yuliya Darashkevich, Siarhei Balai, Vadzim Zamirouski, Kseniya Avimava, Ales Piletski, Siarhei Hudzilin, Leonid Varlamov, Alexander Korsakov.

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