

**“LUKASHENKA IS THE ONLY ONE WHO FEELS FOR THE
UKRAINIAN PEOPLE”**

**Main narratives of Belarusian propaganda on the fourth anniversary of
the full-scale invasion of Ukraine (February 2026)**

Monthly analytical propaganda review

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS FOR FEBRUARY 2026

The operations, targets, and ideological lines of Minsk's propaganda media fall into two broad categories: the "domestic" and the "foreign" fronts.

On the "domestic front," propaganda efforts are aimed at achieving the following goals:

1. The creation and promotion of the image of Belarusian "president" Aliaksandr Lukashenka as the unifying force of the nation, a sole and irreplaceable "leader." This approach is reflected in a constant stream of praise and flattery toward Lukashenka. In the loyal media, any criticism of the ruler's actions is strictly prohibited.
2. The creation and maintenance of Belarus's image as a country of peace, prosperity, and unity – one that remains so no matter what, thanks to the "president's" efforts.
3. The so-called "internal enemy" – Belarusian democratic forces, Belarusians who oppose the regime, protesters, and political refugees who left the country after 2020 – is the focus of attacks and a flood of lies from propaganda channels.

On the "foreign front":

1. Reinforcing and preserving the image of Western countries and the "collective West" as a whole as the primary foreign policy enemy, which, according to propaganda, dreams of seizing, destroying, or weakening Belarus and its alliance with Russia. In this context, everything the West does is seen as a threat to Belarus or is viewed negatively in other ways.
2. The core of anti-Western discourse is an anti-European narrative. The main efforts to discredit these countries in the eyes of the Belarusian audience are directed against Poland and the Baltic states (especially Lithuania).

Belarusian propaganda's involvement in **Russia's hybrid war against Ukraine** can be considered a separate issue. However, this situation is not so simple. The Belarusian government, which is completely dependent on Russia, is in fact forced to play by the Kremlin's rules in its bloody aggression against its neighbor. Before the start of the full-scale invasion in February 2022, it actually became an accomplice to Putin's crimes by providing Russian troops with a bridgehead for the offensive from the territory of Belarus, as well as military infrastructure, weapons, and hospitals.

For their part, the state-controlled media were creating a negative image of Ukraine, denying its right to statehood and independence, inciting hatred against Ukrainians, justifying and explaining the necessity of the war – in other words, they were in fact participating in the unleashing of military aggression alongside the pro-Kremlin media.

As several years passed and against the background of the Russian army's growing failures in Ukraine, the mood began to shift. Pro-government commentators (and above all Lukashenka himself, who is the main source of ideological narratives) are

increasingly making conciliatory and even friendly statements toward Ukrainians, calling for an end to the war and a transition to peace talks. It is claimed that Belarus should once again serve as the venue for these talks, as it did during the Minsk agreements. A flow of lies and insults directed at Ukraine continues to pour out of propaganda channels, and the media still shifts all responsibility for the continuation of the war onto Ukraine. However, calls for peace and demands to end the war are increasingly heard on local channels. Unfortunately, these demands so far apply only to Ukraine and its leadership, and not to Putin or Russia.

In the second half of February, the situation in the Middle East, particularly the war waged by the U.S.-Israel coalition against Iran, was added to the main topics of discussion in Lukashenka's propaganda.

BELARUS

The cult of personality of Lukashenka

One of the main goals of Belarusian propaganda is to strengthen the cult of personality of Aliaksandr Lukashenka – that is, to create and maintain the image of the “president” of Belarus in the eyes of the public as the sole and irreplaceable “leader” for whom there is no alternative, the “demiurge” of modern Belarus, the creator of “Belarusian prosperity,” who keeps the country from falling into the abyss of chaos, wars, and conflicts. In propaganda materials, Lukashenka is presented to the public, first and foremost, as the “father of the nation” (which is why the respectful and flattering nickname ‘Batska’ [‘father’ in Belarusian] has been used for many years) – a caring, kind, and strict leader, a “son of the land,” who is skilled in every field and an expert on every issue – from agriculture to space.

The cult of personality in propaganda also involves a constant flow of praise and gratitude toward the “president” and the attribution of any imaginary merits to him. Any criticism of Lukashenka is impossible in the state-controlled media.

Examples from February.

Aliaksandr Shpakouski:

“Our people can credit the current president with [...] 35 years of peace. Perhaps many nations envy Belarusians in this regard.” ([ZhS Premium](#) Telegram channel, 12.02)

Valeryi Baineu:

“Aliaksandr Lukashenka once explained why peaceful Belarus is constantly being bothered: ‘Our values do not fit into the globalist world order.’ After all, what they really dislike is that **Belarusians are the guardians of peace, Christian traditions, and, to put it bluntly, sound conservatism.**” ([Minskaya Prauda](#), 02.02)

Ryhor Azaronak:

“All services are running like clockwork. The President himself oversees the entire situation, both the **fires and the calves and piglets**. Even in a seemingly small matter like this, but given all the **satanism** going on in the world, even a small gesture of care and love like this [...] saves humanity.” ([Azaryonok. STV. Belarus](#) Telegram channel, 06.02)

The narrative “Belarus is a peaceful country” as part of the rhetoric of the cult of personality

The image of “Lukashenka the peacemaker” is further reinforced by the narrative that Belarus is a peaceful, prosperous country, an “island of stability and harmony” amidst

a raging ocean of passions and conflicts. Propagandists constantly repeat that the sole goal of Belarusians is peaceful and friendly coexistence with other nations, and the only reason why the Belarusian army needs to arm itself is because of “troublesome neighbors.”

Kseniya Lebedzeva:

“Our country is committed to peaceful development, regardless of what our neighbors have made up and what ideas they are promoting in their media, using both us and Russia to intimidate their own people.” ([LEBEDEVA](#) Telegram channel, 17.02)

Siarhei Klishevich

“Our young people live in wonderful conditions that cannot be found abroad. What we see elsewhere is often nothing more than a pretty picture. We should not allow ourselves to be deceived or exploited. We should appreciate what we have – our peaceful homeland, where anything can be achieved through desire and hard work.” ([House of Representatives of the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus](#) Telegram channel, 13.02)

Another “key to success” for Belarus is its alliance with Russia. According to propaganda narratives, Russia serves as a guarantor of security and stability for Belarus. Moreover, according to propagandists, this applies not only to Belarus but to all other countries of the post-Soviet space as well. The promotion of this narrative reinforces the old colonial myth that Russia is the “center of unity” for the “dependent” republics of the former USSR, which in turn fall within Russia’s “sphere of special interests.” According to this myth, this is precisely why the West is allegedly so eager to sever cooperation between Minsk and Moscow.

Russia’s true attitude toward the security of its neighbors in the post-Soviet space can be seen in the tragic example of Ukraine.

Aleh Haidukevich:

“Any post-Soviet republic can only be secure in alliance with the Russian Federation. Only Russia has an interest in ensuring that the post-Soviet republics remain peaceful and free from war. Why? Because they surround Russia. Russia does not want war on its border.” ([House of Representatives of the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus](#) Telegram channel, 06.02)

Ryhor Azaronak:

“The [West’s] primary goal is to weaken the ties between Minsk and Moscow. **They want to cut us off from Russia at any cost.** If pressure and threats don’t work, let’s try the old carrot-and-stick game then. They’re offering to ‘guarantee sovereignty’ after we separate from Russia. Thanks. Ukraine has already been through that. We don’t want that fate for our people.” ([Minskaya Prauda](#), 09.02)

Belarusian democratic forces

Media monitoring of state-controlled channels shows that the “internal enemy” – the opposition, Belarusians dissenting with the regime, and political refugees – continues to be viewed by propaganda as the main threat to the regime’s stability. This picture has remained unchanged for years, since the suppression of the peaceful protests in 2020. Every day, a flood of curses, insults, slander, and lies pours from TV screens and the pages of pro-government channels onto representatives of democratic forces. For the regime’s servants, 2020 remains one of the worst nightmares they have ever experienced. Aliaksandr Lukashenka has been declared Belarus’s sole savior from the “Minsk Maidan.”

A common argument is that by supporting the opposition, the West seeks to weaken Belarus and undermine its alliance with Russia. Propaganda paints vivid, dramatic pictures of what Belarus’s future would look like if the democratic revolution were to succeed

Ryhor Azaronak:

“We know what happened in August 2020. [...] What would have happened next? Russia would not have accepted it. And then it wouldn’t have been a SMO [special military operation] in Ukraine, but a world war. Belarus would have been simply wiped off the face of the earth by that wave. **All the men alive today would already have been killed. All the women would be hiding with their children in the woods and swamps, wailing over photos of their men.** This place would be a barren, lifeless wasteland. One man prevented that from happening – Aliaksandr Lukashenka.” ([Minskaya Prauda](#), 13.02)

Aleh Haidukevich:

“If they had come to power in 2020, we would be like Kyiv today: no electricity, no heat, **corpses everywhere, and the country would be awash in blood.**” ([ZhS Premium](#) Telegram channel, 06.02)

“Any opposition in Belarus that is supported by the West is always anti-Russian. It cannot be otherwise. Or else they won’t get any money.” ([ZhS Premium](#) Telegram channel, 17.02)

Ivan Eismant:

“The greatest crime is the actions of our fugitives. They are pushing for **sanctions against their own enterprises, where their own people work.**” ([ZhS Premium](#) Telegram channel, 04.02)

Aliaksei Bialiayeu:

“Today we have purged Belarus of these elements. [...] It has become clear that these fellows have minimal influence within our country. It has been eliminated, and today they hold no real authority here, so they cannot influence society.” ([ONT NEWS](#) Telegram channel, 12.02)

Aliaksei Dzermant:

“I feel great and safe in Minsk because there are no longer any fugitive scum here. It’s been a long time since I’ve had this feeling of a clean country.” ([Azaryonok.STV. Belarus](#) Telegram channel, 12.02)

WAR IN UKRAINE

Reaction to Ukraine’s new sanctions

In January and February 2026, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy repeatedly provided opportunities for Belarusian propagandists to comment – he deliberately addressed Belarusians several times in his speeches and spoke about Belarus’s role in the aggression against Ukraine.

For instance, on January 25 in Vilnius, Volodymyr Zelenskyy spoke about the rights of Belarusians, noting in particular that “Lukashenka’s white spitz has more rights than the people” and that “there was an opportunity to change this in 2020, and there will be again.” While in Vilnius, he met with Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya, the leader of the Belarusian opposition, [invited](#) her to Kyiv, and promised to appoint a presidential special representative for relations with the Belarusian opposition.

On February 7, the Ukrainian president stated that there is a risk of “Belarus being drawn into the war” because the Russian Oreshnik missile system and relay antennas used for Russian drone attacks on Ukrainian cities are deployed there.

But the most high-profile event for the state-controlled media was Ukraine’s imposition of personal sanctions against Aliaksandr Lukashenka, which Zelenskyy announced on February 18. According to Zelenskyy’s statement, the sanctions were imposed on the “president” of Belarus for “aiding in the killings of Ukrainians.” The main reasons cited were the work of the Belarusian military-industrial complex for the Russian army, the creation of a network of relay stations for Russian UAVs, and Lukashenka’s facilitation of the forced deportation of Ukrainian children.

As expected, Belarusian propagandists reacted to Zelenskyy’s decision with genuine confusion: “Why? After all, Lukashenka has done so much for peace in Ukraine!”

Aleh Haidukevich:

“Zelenskyy imposes sanctions against Belarus... **A country that has done everything for Ukrainians and Ukraine!**” ([ZhS Premium](#) Telegram channel, 18.02)

“Zelenskyy is well aware that if elections were held in Ukraine today and Aliaksandr Lukashenka were to run, **he would win more than 90% of the vote.**” ([ZhS Premium](#) Telegram channel, 18.02)

“The Ukrainian authorities simply cannot grasp that neither the EU nor NATO wants them, **the only ones who care about them are Belarus and Russia.**” ([Sputnik](#), 15.02)

Ryhor Azaronak:

“[Zelenskyy] imposes sanctions on Belarus. Bastard. **Lukashenka is the only person in the world who cares about the Ukrainian people.**” ([Azaryonok. STV. Belarus](#) Telegram channel, 18.02)

Anton Shabashou:

“Zelenskyy imposed sanctions against Lukashenka. **Our Batska Lukashenka cares about Ukrainians more than anyone else and is calling for peace.**” ([Anton Shabashov](#) Telegram channel, 18.02)

In an interview on Ryhor Azaronak’s livestream, propagandist Andrei Lazutkin suggested that Kyiv is “cheeking” Lukashenka because it has stopped fearing Minsk, and views Belarus’s refusal to join the war on Russia’s side as a “sign of weakness”:

“Today, they [Ukrainians] apparently believe that the Batska won’t do anything, that nothing will happen, so they feel free to say whatever they want. Of course, if there were a real threat of Belarus joining the conflict, they would probably behave differently. They believe that since Belarusians are so kind, friendly, and do nothing, this is perceived as our weakness,” the propagandist complained. (Quoted from: [Zerkalo](#), 24.02)

Moreover, Lazutkin has a rather unique view of his role in the information sphere regarding the conflict – to pit Ukrainians and their neighbors against each other:

“Our task today is to create divisions between Poland and Ukraine. They will never be able to act as a united front: Poles, Ukrainians, and the Balts. There are too many internal conflicts among the nationalists. And our task today is to watch who comes to power in the elections there and try to pit them against each other a little bit.” ([Azaryonok. STV. Belarus](#) Telegram channel, 20.02)

Anniversary of the full-scale invasion (February 24)

Media monitoring did not detect any critical reflection in the Lukashenka-controlled media regarding this tragic date – the fourth anniversary of the start of Russia’s full-scale invasion of Ukraine. On this day, propaganda channels resorted to the same old, hackneyed accusations against the Ukrainian leadership, shifting the blame for the war’s continuation onto Volodymyr Zelenskyy, and justifying Russia’s criminal actions. Belarusian propagandists continue to directly and openly participate in the hybrid information war against Ukraine on the Kremlin’s side.

Aliaksandr Shpakouski:

“Zelenskyy sees his political salvation in prolonging the conflict, because as long as the war continues, he can avoid holding presidential elections in Ukraine and, in effect, continue to rule the country.” ([ZhS Premium](#) Telegram channel, 18.02)

Yury Vaskrasenski:

“Ukraine’s leadership does not see its future as tied to Ukraine or the Ukrainian people. They are exploiting Ukraine’s territory and the suffering of the Ukrainian people for their own enrichment. This is the main reason why they are determined to continue this fratricidal war by any means.” ([News.by](#), 06.02)

Aleh Haidukevich:

“Any post-Soviet republic, and this applies not only to Ukraine, can only be secure in alliance with the Russian Federation. Because only Russia has an interest in ensuring that the post-Soviet republics remain peaceful and free from war. Why? Because they surround Russia. Russia does not want war on its border.” ([Sputnik](#), 04.02)

Yury Vaskrasenski:

“Ukraine is using the peace track to build up its forces and deceive its adversary. Until the Ukrainian political class understands the need for serious concessions based on the situation on the ground (and the frontline is advancing toward Kyiv every day, even in the cold), there will be no results.” ([News.by](#), 06.02)

Meanwhile, Russian pro-war bloggers are criticizing Belarus for not doing enough to help Russia in its war against Ukraine. For example, pro-government “philosopher” Aliaksei Dzermant had to respond to accusations from the Z-community that North Korea, not Belarus, is Russia’s only ally in the war against Ukraine:

“Well, if you say so, then not an ally. Although military alliances come in different forms. For example, participating in defense and deterrence along the western border, providing cover for Kaliningrad region, and mobilizing the country’s entire military-industrial complex to meet Russia’s needs on the frontline amid a technological blockade. Or transferring virtually the entire stockpile of ammunition to Russia. [...] That is why Belarus plays the role for Russia that we are all capable of fulfilling together.” (quoted from: [Reform.news](#), 24.02)

Aliaksei Bialiyeu:

“The President of Belarus has a succinct saying: the Belarusian flag stands for peace. That is why we are ready to go to the ends of the earth, so to speak, if these actions can in any way contribute to achieving peace.” ([SB. Belarus Segodnya](#), 17.02)

THE “COLLECTIVE WEST”

Anti-Western narratives in February

In the eyes of propagandists, the West is a source of threats, problems, and vices, a hostile alliance seeking to weaken, subjugate, or dismember Belarus, as well as to undermine its alliance with Russia. Therefore, according to state ideologues, Belarus must always be prepared to repel potential aggression from the West. Some propagandists call for an arms buildup to counter the “aggressive” West, while others denounce its democratic values as corrupt and predict its inevitable and imminent collapse.

In his article *“The West Hates Belarus for Its Alliance with Russia,”* republished by the state-run channel Sputnik.by, Aleh Haidukevich writes that the West wants to overthrow the government in Belarus solely because “Aliaksandr Lukashenka, upon coming to power, set a course toward an alliance with the Russian Federation”:

“Western countries hate Belarus because it is strengthening its sovereignty and independence and has chosen a path toward an alliance with Russia. [...] An alliance with Russia strengthens Belarus’s statehood, strengthens Belarus’s sovereignty. It makes both Belarus and Russia stronger. That is what the West does not like. To the West, any post-Soviet republic is needed for only one thing – to turn it into an anti-Russia.” ([Sputnik](#), 09.02)

Piotr Piatrouski:

“The West [...] promotes its hegemony under the guise of human rights and so-called liberal democracy, which proclaims universal values and forces everyone to follow them. But what do we see now? **This model has failed.** It turns out that countries can be developed without the liberal bourgeois Western model. Moreover, they can even be more successful.” ([BelTA](#), 12.02)

Andrei Savinykh:

“The West is deeply divided – Western civilization no longer exists.”

“There are two camps: the technocrats, who would like to reset the world, and Trump’s team, and there are also the ultra-globalists, the financiers, who simply want to muddle through and preserve the West’s system of financial dominance. It is this group that wants a war with Russia, and they continue to hope that they will be able to secure a victory.” ([ONT NEWS](#) Telegram channel, 20.02)

Anti-European narratives

European countries and the European Union are the primary targets of propaganda attacks. Europe occupies the position of the “most despicable enemy”: in the descriptions of propagandists, it appears old, weak, mired in vice, and at the same time aggressive toward its “kind” eastern neighbors – Russia and Belarus – with whom it would be in its interest to befriend and build bridges. According to pro-government commentators, there is no unity in Europe, it cannot resist Russia, and all of its policies are controlled from Washington and Brussels (NATO).

Ivan Eismant:

“We know that a cornered beast is twice as dangerous. And that is exactly what the European Union is right now. Everyone is trampling on the officials of this organization, from the United States of America to former partners located further east.” ([SB. Belarus Segodnya](#), 04.02)

Aliaksei Audonin:

“We always try to explain to young people that everything boils down to economics. And when people spout fancy phrases about Europe, European integration, and European values – don’t believe them. **The main goal of European values or European policy is to turn you into slaves.**” ([ZhS Premium](#) Telegram channel, 07.02)

Aleh Haidukevich:

“America doesn’t need a strong Europe. That’s why they’ve managed to get Europe to abandon cheap Russian gas and oil. They’ve managed to weaken Europe economically through sanctions.” ([ZhS Premium](#) Telegram channel, 07.02)

Vadzim Hihin:

“The European Union is now the **‘sick man of the world,’** who creates problems for all other countries. That is why this issue must be addressed, we must solve the problem of this ‘sick man.’” ([SB. Belarus Segodnya](#), 06.02)

Poland and the Baltic states are subject to particularly intense propaganda attacks. The reason for this special focus lies in their consistent, uncompromising stance toward the authoritarian regimes in Russia and Belarus.

Aliaksei Bialiayeu:

“Unfortunately, we see that the governments of the Baltic states and Poland do not just adhere to, but actively **promote a form of Belarusophobia and Russophobia.** They have convinced themselves that Belarus is their enemy, and are trying to instill this same view in their citizens by every possible and impossible means.” ([SB. Belarus Segodnya](#), 03.02)

Ryhor Azaronak:

“Poland dreams of a regional empire. And no matter who is in power – they will dream, they will fantasize about our Hrodna and Brest, and Minsk too, and even Mahiliou.” ([Minskaya Prada](#), 10.02)

Aleh Haidukevich:

“The Lithuanian government does not listen to its own people and pursues policies not in the national interest, but in the interests of other states, thereby destroying its own country. **Lithuania’s future, its sovereignty, and independence are possible only through good relations with Belarus and Russia.** There is no other option, because the West needs Lithuania solely as an anti-Russian, anti-Belarusian outpost.” ([ZhS Premium](#) Telegram channel, 16.02)

Lukashenka's (non-)participation in the Board of Peace

In February, Donald Trump officially invited Lukashenka to join the Board of Peace – an intergovernmental organization whose creation was initiated by the U.S. president as part of a peace plan for the Gaza Strip, approved by the UN Security Council in November 2025. Belarus gladly and immediately agreed to join. However, the Belarusian delegation was unable to attend the first meeting on February 18 – officials from Minsk were denied U.S. visas. Propaganda was extremely outraged by this fact, but tried to pretend that the Board of Peace was “not really necessary,” that Lukashenka himself allegedly refused to go to the U.S. because he had more important matters to attend to, and that, in any case, none of the self-respecting leaders went there.

Ryhor Azaronak:

“What kind of Board of Peace is this that makes Batska rush off and cancel his plans, his schedule, drop everything, and fly somewhere? It’s still a very rough draft, more like a fan club for Donald Trump himself. Batska has places to fly to. **He is the leader of the free world. Here they come – Xi, Putin, Kim, and Batska. The magnificent four.**” ([Minskaya Prauda](#), 11.02)

Aliaksei Bialiayeu:

“Bialiayeu commented on **Lukashenka’s refusal to visit the U.S. at Trump’s invitation**: ‘Trump’s invitation was largely symbolic, intended to draw attention to the Board of Peace once again. **No serious political leader would have gone there.**’” ([Azaryonok. STV. Belarus](#) Telegram channel, 11.02)

WAR IN IRAN

Throughout the month, pro-Kremlin media discussed the escalation in the Middle East and accused the U.S. and the West in general of pursuing aggressive policies against sovereign nations.

Ryhor Azaronak:

“Israel has labeled Iran as aggressive and terrorist. Yet in the 40 years since the Islamic Revolution, Iran has not started a single war. Nor has China started a single war. North Korea hasn’t started one. Belarus hasn’t started one. But the West still classifies us all as ‘aggressors’ and villains. Well, the bastions of democracy, on the other hand, are constantly at war. Endlessly. All the time.” ([Minskaya Prauda](#), 28.02)

Finally, on February 28, a new military intervention in Iran began. In a short time, the country’s top leadership, which had been threatening Israel with annihilation for decades, was eliminated. For pro-Kremlin commentators, this all seemed to come as a surprise. The main conclusion that Belarusian commentators managed to draw that day was: there is no international law, so we must defend ourselves. It is impossible to

attack Belarus in the same way because it possesses weapons that would prevent such an attack.

Ryhor Azaronak:

“Israel and the U.S. started a new war. They attacked Iran. Hundreds of missiles were fired at a sovereign country.” ([STV](#), 28.02)

“Fight on, sacred Iran. You are fighting against Epstein’s regime, satanic pedophiles. This is the Antichrist himself. But the noble Ayatollah is leading his people into battle. And all of us around the world are saying, ‘Allahu Akbar!’” (Quoted from: [Ukraina 365](#) Telegram channel, 28.02)

Aleh Haidukevich:

“There is actually no international law. Agreements and negotiations – none of that works. If there’s an opportunity to attack someone, they will attack.”

“For Belarus, the conclusion is clear: **it’s great that nuclear weapons are deployed here, it’s great that we have Oreshnik**. We need to strengthen the army, the special services, and domestic political unity. The same applies to the Russian Federation. Strengthening our alliance with Russia is a guarantee of our sovereignty and security.” ([ZhS Premium](#) Telegram channel, 28.02)

Aliaksei Dzermant:

“Iran is fighting for all of us today. May it stand firm and triumph over the servants of Satan. I hope we are all helping it, because if Iran does not stand firm, they will come after us. Any decent person must do everything possible to strike the U.S. and its allies. It’s not a state, it’s a satanic creature.” ([Dzermant](#) Telegram channel, 28.02)

iSANS will continue to analyze the main narratives of Belarusian and Kremlin propaganda in 2026