

## **“DONALD TRUMP INVITES THE STRONG!”**

Ideological lines of Belarusian propaganda in the 1st quarter of 2026



Analytical review

**April 2026**



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## PREFACE

iSANS is an international expert initiative dedicated to identifying, analyzing, and countering hybrid threats to democracy, the rule of law, and state sovereignty in Western, Central, and Eastern Europe and Eurasia. Documenting and analyzing pro-Kremlin propaganda narratives in Russia and Belarus is one of the most important areas of our work.

Since August 2020, iSANS has been analyzing narratives aimed at suppressing the democratic movement, civil society, and protests in Belarus. With the start of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, media monitoring has also covered statements indicating the involvement of pro-government Belarusian channels in Russia's information war against Ukraine.<sup>1</sup>

In 2025, a comprehensive report on incitement to genocide against the Ukrainian people in Russian and Belarusian propaganda was published.<sup>2</sup> The report was submitted to international and national investigative bodies, including the Office of the Prosecutor General of Ukraine.

The monitoring of pro-government media not only helps us understand the mechanisms of propaganda influence, but also facilitates the early detection of threats posed by authoritarian regimes, the prediction of their actions, and the identification and analysis of future political trends.

### ***The ideological lines of the Lukashenka regime in the 1st quarter of 2026***

The following main lines can be identified in Lukashenka's propaganda.

Internal:

- Promoting the image of Lukashenka as the nation's sole and irreplaceable leader, the focal point and symbol of social unity. Unconditional support for all of the dictator's actions, the glorification of his real and imagined achievements, personal qualities and traits, and a constant stream of flattery and gratitude. Any criticism is out of the question. In fact, one can speak of the emergence of a cult of personality of Lukashenka.
- Ensuring and strengthening Belarus's image as a peaceful, stable, and prosperous country. This objective can be viewed as an extension of the previous one, given that the country's prosperity is inextricably linked to Lukashenka's actions.
- Struggle against the "internal threat" – the opposition, Belarusians who disagree with the regime, and participants in the protest movement who have

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<sup>1</sup> See Andrey Kalikh, "From the 'Fortress' Rhetoric to the Rhetoric of War: The Transformation of Key Narratives in Pro-Kremlin Propaganda in Belarus Before and After the Start of Russian Aggression Against Ukraine," iSANS, November 2022. <https://isans.org/propaganda/propaganda-analytics/from-fortress-rhetoric-to-the-rhetoric-of-war.html>

<sup>2</sup> See Andrey Kalikh, Yuri Dzhibladze. "The Crime of Incitement to Genocide of Ukrainians in Russian and Belarusian Propaganda." iSANS, 2025. <https://isans.org/human-rights/the-crime-of-incitement-to-genocide-of-ukrainians-in-russian-and-belarusian-propaganda-documentation-analysis-and-recommendations.html>

been forced to leave the country due to political repression. Actions aimed at discrediting and dividing Belarusian democratic forces.

External:

- The exaggeration of the image of the “hostile West” as the primary external threat. The West dreams of weakening and destroying Belarus (and its alliance with Russia) and seizing its western territories. In this context, everything the “West” does is viewed negatively.
- The core of anti-Western discourse is an anti-European narrative. Europe is portrayed as an aggressive yet declining, isolated, and weakened player – an antagonist to a peaceful and stable Belarus. The main information attacks are directed at Poland and the Baltic states (primarily Lithuania).
- Anti-Ukrainian narrative. The creation of a negative image of Ukraine and its leadership, and the justification of Russia’s military aggression. It consists of a set of attitudes that deny Ukraine’s independence, territorial integrity, sovereignty, and right to exist, as well as the crimes committed by the Russian Armed Forces, etc.

The latter narrative adds to our understanding of the extent to which the Lukashenka regime is dependent on the Kremlin, as Belarusian state media are forced to echo the Kremlin media’s main anti-Ukrainian and pro-war lines. Belarus continues to offer Russia unconditional support in this aggression, including ideological support. Any criticism of Russia’s actions in Ukraine is out of the question.

Also, in March, the situation in the Middle East and the war of the U.S. and Israel against Iran were added to the main propaganda themes.

### ***Definition of propaganda***

For the purposes of this study, propaganda is understood as the information policy of the state, aimed not at objectively informing the public with the possibility of choosing between different points of view, but at forming false and one-sided views in the audience, prompting to react and take actions necessary for the immediate benefit of the political regime. Propagandists very easily abandon their own attitudes if they suddenly begin to contradict the changed values or needs of the authorities at a given moment, and promote those that were previously considered harmful or even hostile.

### ***Research methodology***

This report is based on an analysis of the findings of the iSANS monitoring group for the period from January 1 to March 31, 2026.

The monitoring covers the following sources of information:

- Information channels of the authorities, primarily official websites of Aliaksandr Lukashenka, the parliament and ministries, as well as the state-owned Belarusian Telegraph Agency BelTA).
- State media (TV channels STV, ONT, Pervy Informatsionny, Belarus 1; newspapers SB. Belarus Segodnya, Minskaya Prada; online publications

Minsk-Novosti, Sputnik.by, News.by, etc.), their websites and accounts on Telegram, YouTube, RuTube, and TikTok.

- Personal Telegram channels of Belarusian propagandists;
- Anonymous Telegram channels linked to law enforcement agencies and special services (for example, Belorussky Silovik, Nevolfovich, Zheltiye Slivy, etc.).
- Publications by Russian state media on Belarusian topics;

It is important to note that iSANS only considers reports from anonymous sources in exceptional cases. In any case, all information received is subject to verification.

In addition to statements made by propagandists, statements by officials, primarily Aliaksandr Lukashenka himself, are also studied, as they set the tone for the main ideological lines.

Software tools, such as the GAMMA system, developed by the iSANS team for automated collection of information, is used as a tool to facilitate monitoring tasks. To study television broadcasts, [War of Words](#) project, speech recognition applications, such as Aiko on OpenAI's Whisper model, are used.

### ***Structure of the study***

The report consists of four parts reflecting the main thematic lines (or "metanarratives") of Belarusian propaganda in early 2026: "Belarus," "The West," "Ukraine," and "Iran." Each metanarrative is further divided into a series of subnarratives, which analyze the propaganda's response to specific events or processes.

## Part 1. BELARUS

In the first quarter of 2026, the following narratives regarding Belarus can be observed:

### 1.1. “Belarus is among the first”

These statements were prompted by the expansion of contacts with the U.S. in the second half of 2025, which continued into early 2026. The propaganda interpreted these developments as signs of a thaw in relations between Minsk and Washington. In August 2025, U.S. President Donald Trump called Lukashenka before his meeting with Vladimir Putin in Alaska to consult with him on how to speak with the Russian dictator. This gave propagandists reason to claim that world leaders were turning to Lukashenka as a [political “guru.”](#) The U.S. president’s special envoys began visiting Minsk – first Keith Kellogg, then John Coale.

These meetings resulted in the release of Belarusian political prisoners in exchange for the lifting of U.S. sanctions.

In mid-March, U.S. sanctions against a number of Belarusian banks and potash companies were lifted. Earlier (in September 2025), sanctions against the Belavia airline had been lifted.

According to a [version](#) popular among propagandists, lifting sanctions against Belarusian potash is beneficial, first and foremost, “to Washington itself, as a means of pressuring Canada and lowering prices on potash fertilizers.”

Propagandists celebrated all these agreements as a triumph, a victory over naive Americans. They made no secret of the fact that the political prisoners were needed by the regime precisely as hostages, as part of a “grand deal.” Both Kellogg and Coale showered Lukashenka with compliments during their visits and presented him with gifts from the U.S. President. Trump publicly thanked Lukashenka for releasing the political prisoners and called him a [“strong leader.”](#) The American side is also seriously discussing with Lukashenka his possible visit to the U.S. for one of the upcoming meetings of the “Board of Peace.” All of this gave propagandists cause to joyfully assert that Belarus is returning to the world political stage.

Ryhor Azaronak:

“They’ve invited Batska to America. When he has time, he’ll go. And he’ll fix up the White House properly, deal with agriculture there, pay off the national debt, and send the Pentagon’s trillion dollars toward building dairy farms. It’s time for this country, which has brought so much suffering to the world, to **finally get a decent president.** Americans will be happy, as will the rest of the planet. Batska will handle it.” ([Minskaya Prauda](#), 19.03)

Yury Vaskrasenski:

“Americans understand that Belarus is a country that is a pleasure to deal with, that the president of Belarus is a man who stands by his word – a true

statesman. And such contacts are beneficial.” ([STV | Novosti Belarus](#) Telegram channel, 19.03)

Ihar Tur:

“The White House has effectively admitted defeat in its attempt to orchestrate a coup in Belarus. The various sanctions have not inflicted any significant damage on the economy. So Washington is changing its strategy and is seeking negotiations with Belarus.” ([ONT](#), 25.03)

The March paradox: Celebrations marking U.S. recognition coincide with a rise in harsh anti-American rhetoric against the background of the war in the Middle East (for more details, see Part 4 “Iran”).

## **1.2. “Board of Peace”**

Another source of pride in early 2026 was Trump’s invitation to Lukashenka to join the “Board of Peace” he had established. Pro-government media portrayed this event as a historic recognition of Belarus’s role as a peacemaker and an equal player among the world’s leading nations, as well as a failure of the West’s policy of isolating Belarus and proof that Lukashenka had chosen the right course.

Vadzim Yelfimau:

“Trump appealed to Lukashenka because he understands that he can get smart advice. Another fact: good friendly relations have been established between Trump and Lukashenka.” ([ONT NEWS](#), 29.01)

Aliaksandr Alesin:

“Belarus’s participation in the Board of Peace will allow us not only to participate in resolving issues of global importance. Belarus has gained authority throughout the world as perhaps the most peace-loving state on the planet.” ([BeITA](#), 24.01)

Aliaksei Audonin

“Donald Trump invites the strong! This appeal [to Lukashenka] signifies recognition of the high standing of our Head of State and the Republic of Belarus in matters of conflict resolution.” ([BeITA](#), 20.01)

Yury Vaskrasenski:

“Trump does not recognize weaklings and does not invite them to the Board of Peace.” ([STV](#), 22.01)

Aleh Haidukevich:

“Today, we see how the diplomatic efforts of Russia and Belarus in the American direction are proving successful. That is why our countries have been invited to join the Board of Peace, unlike Lithuania, for example.” ([Sputnik](#), 21.01)

“Belarus is a powerful state on which the security of all Europe and the future of the world depend, which is why we are being invited. Donald Trump invites the strong.” ([ZhS Premium](#), 19.01)

At the same time, Lukashenka did not travel to Washington for the first meeting of the “Board of Peace” on February 19. Independent commentators cited [“external pressure”](#) – that is, at Putin’s behest – as a possible reason for his absence. To explain Belarus’s absence, propagandists attempted to downplay the significance of the “Board of Peace,” claiming that the “president” did not alter his schedule for such an unimportant event.

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:

“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)

### **1.3. “The Kind Master”**

One of the key tasks of propaganda is to ensure that “popular support” for Lukashenka remains at the required level. The state media portrays him as the country’s authoritative leader, for whom there is no alternative – the architect of modern Belarus, the protector of its people, and the one who keeps the country safe from chaos, wars, and conflicts. Propagandists flatteringly call Lukashenka “Batska,” meaning “father,” hinting at his “universality” and drawing inspiration from the Stalinist era. In articles and TV reports about his trips around the country, they portray him as a caring, kind, yet strict leader. In propaganda stories, Lukashenka is portrayed as an expert in every field – from agriculture to space.

Ryhor Azaronak:

“He [*Lukashenka*] stands on the side of justice, on the side of truth, on the side of the oppressed. He stands on the side of those who are being treacherously attacked. He speaks the truth, openly and honestly.” ([STV | Novosti Belarus](#) Telegram channel, 04.03)

“Lukashenka brings joy. He rewards, inspires, and delights. He protects. Because he’s a dictator.” ([Ibid.](#), 05.03)

“We see our President as a father. He is at home with us, all is well. He lives by Christ’s teachings. He does not bow down to the power of this world. His heart is with the oppressed and insulted, with the poor and the hungry. With those under the bombs. He lives by the principle ‘strength lies in truth.’” ([Minskaya Prauda](#), 07.03)

“We have a wonderful conductor – Aliaksandr Ryhoravich Lukashenka. And Belarus is his magnificent symphony.” ([Ibid.](#), 13.03)

Aliaksandr Shpakouski:

“Aliaksandr Ryhoravich is also a wise man. And more and more often, that is exactly how he comes across when he speaks. Lukashenka is a pragmatic, kind-hearted, and forgiving politician who has repeatedly said, ‘Neighbors are a gift from God – you don’t choose your neighbors.’” ([ZhS Premium](#) Telegram channel, 19.03)

Yauhen Pustavy:

“An unyielding leader among men of steel, a speaker who is equally bold and heartfelt. A gallant gentleman at ceremonies honoring mothers of large families and at balls for talented young people. A wise mediator at Eurasian summits and on matters of union integration, a bold and honest speaker on the world stage and in interviews with overseas media titans. A strict boss and an experienced manager.” ([STV](#), 14.03)

#### **1.4. “A peaceful and prosperous Belarus”**

This narrative can be viewed as an extension of the previous one, as state-run media inextricably link “Belarus’s successes” to Lukashenka’s actions. These claims reinforce his reputation as a strong and effective leader. Propaganda efforts are aimed at preserving the image of Belarus as an island of stability, prosperity, and harmony amid a raging ocean of passions and conflicts.

Aliaksandr Shpakouski:

“Belarus adheres to peaceful principles in its foreign policy. Belarus is not at war with anyone. And this is thanks to our Armed Forces, the Belarusian people, and our national leader.” ([SB. Belarus Segodnya](#), 29.01)

“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)

Viktar Kalina:

"Aliaksandr Ryhoravich saved the country from war. Alexander Grigoryevich saved Belarusians, Belarusian men, from destruction, from the front, from war. That is why I say that Lukashenka is the best thing God has given Belarus." ([ZhS Premium](#) Telegram channel, 18.01)

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)

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)

Yauhen Horyn (after the deployment of the Oreshnik ballistic missiles in Belarus):

“We can now focus on the economy and not spend money on the arms race. We have hypersonic weapons that are decades ahead of our opponents.” ([SB.BY Belarus Segodnya](#) Telegram channel, 05.01)

### **1.5. “Belarus’s success lies in its alliance with Russia”**

Propaganda continues to convince the public of the need for an alliance with Russia, which is portrayed as the guarantor of Belarus’s security and stability. Pro-government media extend this argument not only to Belarus but also to all countries of the former Soviet Union, thereby echoing the Kremlin’s narrative that the entire post-Soviet space is within Russia’s sphere of influence.

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)

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)

“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)

### **1.6. “Spirituality and tradition are our shield against the West”**

In propaganda narratives, Belarus is portrayed as the guardian of traditional values, morality, and the family, and is contrasted with the “spiritless West” – the bearer of destructive ideologies, mired in vice and sin. To prevent the “germs of Western ideology” from penetrating Belarus, one must “fight for society.”

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)

Aliaksey Audonin:

"The state has no future unless society develops a positive attitude toward women and the traditional family." ([Alfa Radio](#), 14.01)

"Capitalism is geared toward destroying spirituality, destroying all divine elements within a person." ([STV](#), 09.01)

### **1.7. "Internal treason is more dangerous than external aggression"**

And yet, the regime's propaganda views the main threat to its existence not as coming from the West, but from its own citizens – Belarusians who oppose the Lukashenka regime. In the media's narrative, democratic forces and political exiles are portrayed as traitors, terrorists, and extremists seeking to stage a coup. They are also portrayed as a pathetic group of outcasts and losers, feuding among themselves over Western money and mired in internal scandals and intrigues.

The West, with the help of the opposition, seeks to weaken Belarus and undermine its alliance with Russia. To justify the repression, it employs a narrative of the "right of might" and internal treason, which is portrayed as "worse than external aggression." This narrative provides a basis for any restrictive measures. The main efforts of propaganda channels are directed at fighting "fugitives." The systematic dehumanization of the opposition is aimed at suppressing any alternative sentiments. State channels credit Lukashenka with preventing a coup in 2020.

Aleh Haidukevich:

"Thank God that Lukashenka showed strength of will in 2020. Lukashenka had and still has this strength of will. That is why he restored order: the security forces stood by him, and the people stood by the president. That is why Belarus is now a peaceful, calm, and good country." ([ZhS Premium](#) Telegram channel, 24.01)

"This isn't the opposition. These are a fifth column and enemies." ([ZhS Premium](#) Telegram channel, 02.03)

Ryhor Azaronak:

"Scandals. The only form of existence of the so-called Belarusian opposition. Denunciations, hatred, squabbling." ([Minskaya Prauda](#), 13.01)

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)

Lukashenka uses the media to issue threats to the opposition:

“I tell them that if anyone tries to repeat what happened in 2020, the response will be brutal. What’s more, **regardless of any laws or regulations**, I will respond with the utmost severity.” ([STV](#), 13.03)

## Part 2. THE WEST

### 2.1. “The Hostile Alliance”

The essence of the narrative: The West is portrayed as a unified alliance of hostile forces. These forces are constantly plotting against Belarus and its alliance with Russia. They dream of occupying it (or, according to another version, seizing its western regions), weakening it, and conquering it. In the West, terrorist and nationalist units are being trained to prepare for a change of power in Belarus. The country must build up its arsenal and prepare its army to repel Western aggression.

Before Donald Trump’s return to the political heights of the United States, this rhetoric applied to the entire so-called “collective West,” without distinguishing between the “Old World” and the “New World.” However, as the U.S. president’s priorities have shifted, there has been a gradual softening of rhetoric toward the U.S. and a hardening of rhetoric toward Europe.

Ivan Eismant:

“They [the West] are going crazy because they haven’t been able to bring down Aliaksandr Lukashenka for 30 years and take control of our country. They want power here; they want territory. To them, we’re nothing.” ([ZhS Premium](#) Telegram channel, 07.03)

Ryhor Azaronak:

“They [the West] lie. They always lie. They lie from their very first word, even as infants. The Western elite absorbs lies with their genes, with their mother’s milk.” ([Azaryonok. STV. Belarus](#) Telegram channel, 03.03)

Siarhei Banar:

“They [Western countries] are preparing a new attack on the East. It has always been this way and will continue to be so.” ([BELTA](#), 13.01)

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.**” ([BeITA](#), 12.02)

Andrei Savinykh:

“The West is deeply divided – Western civilization no longer exists.” ([ONT NEWS](#) Telegram channel, 20.02)

### 2.2. “The world has entered an era where might makes right – get ready to defend yourself”

According to this narrative, Donald Trump’s return marks the beginning of a new era in which only those who possess power and are willing to use it will survive. This is

evident in Trump's actions in early 2026: Venezuela, threats to annex Canada and Greenland, the war in Iran, and the split within NATO. International law is dead, one can only rely on themselves. The U.S. has demonstrated to the world that it will seize whatever it wants. We are the next victim of American aggression, say the propagandists. Belarus, Russia, Iran, China, North Korea – all are next in line for destruction. The only guarantee of security is our own strong army, nuclear weapons, and friendship with Russia.

Aliaksei Dzermant:

“After Venezuela, Greenland, and Iran, we're next. The only answer to imperialism is solidarity among those who refuse to accept the oligarchy's iron fist.” ([STV](#), 16.01)

“If Iran doesn't stand firm, then the apocalypse will follow, because then they'll take us down one by one.” ([STV](#), 16.01)

Ryhor Azaronak:

“Humanity has finally descended into a state of law of the jungle. The only guarantee that you won't be bombed is nuclear weapons. Those who don't have them will do everything in their power to acquire them.” ([Minskaya Prada](#), 04.01)

Aleh Haidukevich:

“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)

The reaction to the outbreak of the war in Iran in March was similar. Ryhor Azaronak:

“The U.S. is a country built according to blueprints drawn up in hell by the devil himself. It is a satanic empire. And so, on the orders of their 'father,' they are forced to kill and kill, endlessly offering bloody sacrifices.” ([Minskaya Prada](#), 06.03)

### **2.3. “A lonely, weak, and aggressive Europe”**

During Donald Trump's first year in office, the role of the primary enemy in pro-Kremlin propaganda narratives gradually shifted from the United States to Europe. In the propagandists' descriptions, Europe appears weak, mired in vice, and at the same time aggressive toward its eastern neighbors – Russia and Belarus. According to these portrayals, European countries have lost their independence within the European Union, and their policies are controlled from Washington and Brussels.

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)

Viktar Khrenin (Minister of Defense of Belarus)

“There is ongoing development and militarization of forces and resources in European countries. We are witnessing unprecedented militarization, continuing aggressive attacks and intentions towards our country.” ([BelTA](#), 12.01)

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)

Ryhor Azaronak:

“Will Europe succeed in reviving fascism? They already have a racial theory. But fascism needs the involvement of the masses; it needs millions of people who believe in the Führer unconditionally, who are even ready to die for him. And they need a Führer himself.” ([Azaryonok. STV. Belarus](#) Telegram channel, 01.01)

“Why does he need to raise the flag [in Greenland]? He wants to demonstrate his triumph. And also to humiliate the European Union. After all, those he hates have entrenched themselves there.” ([Minskaya Prauda](#), 18.01)

Andrei Mukavozchyk:

“If Donald Trump is right, and Europe is heading toward the disappearance of its civilization, then it is understandable that everything that is best [in Belarus] will be perceived by Europeans as hostile.” ([STV](#), 05.01)

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:

“If Donald Trump decides to take Greenland by force tomorrow, Europe will do nothing. It will simply put up with it, and that will be all. It is incapable of anything: it cannot fight or oppose the U.S. America doesn't need to use force, Greenland will be handed over just like that.” ([Minsk-Novosti](#) Telegram channel, 13.01)

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In March, another anti-European narrative emerged: America has turned its back on Europe and turned toward Belarus. Now Minsk and Washington will engage in profitable business and trade together, while Europe will decline and weaken on its

own. The basis for such claims was the expansion of contacts with the Trump administration and the partial lifting of U.S. sanctions.

Ryhor Azaronak:

“No matter what happens in the world, it’s stupid Europe that will pay for everything. [...] But Lukashenka explained to them that their happiness lies in Russia’s cheap resources. **We’ll share them with Trump. There are no other options.**” ([Minskaya Prouda](#), 20.03)

Andrei Mukavozchyk:

“[Europe] has severed ties with Russia and Belarus, while at the same time America will be establishing trade and cooperation with Russia. There is simply no reason for Belarus to join Europe.” ([SB. Belarus Segodnya](#), 14.03)

Aliaksei Bialiayeu:

“The Belarusian economy is growing, unlike the economies of European countries. There, recession and economic decline have been observed in recent years.” ([SB. Belarus Segodnya](#), 03.03)

At the same time, the propagandists are quick to point out that the channel of communication with Europe remains open, that “the door has not been slammed shut,” and that Belarus is always ready to sit down at the negotiating table, extend a “hand of friendship,” and return to business as usual, as if nothing had happened.

Aleh Haidukevich:

“If Europe wants to be strong, if it really wants to have a say in this world, there is only one way, as history has proven. That is through good relations with Belarus and Russia.” ([ZhS Premium](#) Telegram channel, 18.01)

Aliaksandr Lukashenka:

“The best thing for them [European countries] is Russia’s resource base. They need to build normal relations with Russia, with us. And everything will be fine.” ([News.by](#), 20.03)

Ruslan Varankou, spokesperson for the Belarusian Ministry of Foreign Affairs:

“Belarus remains ready to lend a helping hand. If Lithuania or Poland needs electricity – reliable, affordable, and generated just a stone’s throw away – our doors are open. **Like good neighbors.**” ([STV](#), 13.03)

## **2.4. “Hostile neighbors”**

Of all European countries, Belarus’s western neighbors – Poland and the Baltic states (Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia) – are the targets of the most intense propaganda attacks. The reason lies in their consistent, principled, and uncompromising stance toward the regimes of Putin and Lukashenka and Russia’s aggression against Ukraine.

Ryhor Azaronak:

“Lithuania is a small fascist limitrophe. It needs an eternal enemy, but somehow it can't seem to fight Lukashenka.” ([SB. Belarus Segodnya](#) Telegram channel, 26.01)

“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 Prauda](#), 10.02)

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)

“Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, and a number of other European countries are currently frightening their populations with the prospect of war in either 2029 or 2030. [...] The goal is to bring the “right” politicians to power on the crest of militaristic ideas. They will demonstrate a firm hand in the fight against a supposed external aggressor, but in reality, they will establish fascist dictatorships within European states.” ([SB. Belarus Segodnya](#), 13.01)

Aleh Haidukevich:

“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)

Vadzim Yelfimau:

“20% of Estonians collaborated with Hitler’s occupation regime! That’s why we need to understand the Russophobia that exists there. It’s unclear what triggered it, because these states themselves were created back then with our help.” ([ONT](#), 18.03)

## Part 3. UKRAINE

### 3.1. “The West's war against Russia”

When it comes to Ukraine, Belarusian propaganda is forced to echo the narratives of the Kremlin-controlled media. Ukraine continues to be labeled an “aggressor,” a “terrorist” or “Nazi state,” while its political and military leadership is subjected to a barrage of insults and slander. In this narrative, Ukraine is portrayed as a dependent state, deprived of a voice, with all decisions made on its behalf in Brussels or Washington. According to state propaganda, it is the West that is forcing Ukrainians to fight against Russia, which is why the events are presented as “the West’s war against Russia waged by Ukrainians.”

Marat Markau:

“Over the past 20 years, Ukraine has effectively become one of the hubs of terrorism in Europe and a source of terrorism.” ([NEWS.BY](#) Telegram channel, 01.03)

Aleh Haidukevich:

“It is obvious that this [attacks on the territory of Russia] is not being done without reason. It is a deliberate tactic by the Kyiv regime to derail peace talks and provoke Russia into taking actions that would send a signal to the West that Russia allegedly does not want a peace process.” ([Sputnik.by](#), 11.03)

Kseniya Lebedzeva:

“If a Ukrainian kamikaze drone fails to find a military target, it strikes civilians, which underscores the terrorist nature of the AFU [Armed Forces of Ukraine].” ([ZhS Premium](#) Telegram channel, 18.03)

Ryhor Azaronak:

“Ukraine hasn’t gone anywhere. What’s more, without international attention, this vampire is becoming even more savage.” ([Azaryonok. STV. Belarus](#) Telegram channel, 08.03)

Pavel Karnazytski:

“European leaders and their overseas patrons do not care how many more Ukrainians must die before peace comes to the country.” ([Minskaya Prauda](#), 26.01)

### 3.2. *Shifting the blame onto the victim*

A common tactic of anti-Ukrainian disinformation is the deliberate distortion of the truth and its meaning, as well as the complete reversal of facts. Lukashenka himself is often the primary source of such narratives.

In particular, Lukashenka – and the media outlets under his control – have repeatedly claimed that the only parties seeking peace are Russia and Belarus. They are the ones calling for peace talks. Volodymyr Zelenskyy (President of Ukraine) is deliberately prolonging the war because he does not want to disrupt Western financial flows.

Corruption reigns in Ukraine, and international humanitarian aid is being plundered. Such claims, repeated countless times in the media, are extremely dangerous, as they shift the blame for the continuation of the war – and thus the focus of public outrage – from the aggressor to the victim of aggression.

Another example of the misrepresentation of facts: propaganda accuses the Ukrainian military of crimes that are actually being committed by the Russian army (the killing of civilians, shelling of civilian towns and infrastructure, etc.).

Lyudmila Hladkaya:

“If the war ends, how many people will lose their income because they steal weapons, steal equipment, steal from the trenches.” (“Lyudmila Gladkaya on why it is beneficial for the Ukrainian authorities to sabotage peace talks”). (SB.BY Belarus Segodnya Telegram [channel](#), 30.01)

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)

Aleh Haidukevich:

“Any post-Soviet republic, and this applies not only to Ukraine, can only be secure in alliance with the Russian Federation.” ([Sputnik](#), 04.02)

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)

“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)

### **3.3. “The family of Slavic peoples”**

The core of the narrative: Ukraine is part of a single family of three Slavic nations, alongside Russia and Belarus, and must therefore be brought back into that fold – whether voluntarily or by force. Neither NATO nor the European Union will help Ukraine, the only hope lies in “Slavic brotherhood.” No one understands Russia and Ukraine as well as Belarus, which is why it must become a full-fledged participant in the negotiation process.

Ryhor Azaronak:

“Batska is doing everything he can to end this war. He repeatedly appeals to Ukrainians: no one will help you except your neighbors. We must mend the

broken pots. We must live in this world here. Neither Europe nor NATO will accept you. **Our happiness lies in our families, close to our loved ones, our brothers.**" ([Minskaya Prauda](#), 25.01)

Aleh Haidukevich:

"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)

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)

### **3.4. "Calls for peace"**

Against the background of major failures and the slowdown in the Russian army's advance in Ukraine, the official discourse in Minsk regarding the war is gradually shifting. Lukashenka, the primary source of the country's ideological lines, is increasingly speaking of the need to end the war. It is clear that he is interested in ending the hostilities that have been taking place near his borders for five years. In addition, the dictator hopes to restore his reputation as a peacemaker and constantly emphasizes Belarus's role as the best venue for negotiations.

Lukashenka's demand to end the war is not "pro-Ukrainian" or anti-war in the full sense of the word, since it is directed not at the party responsible for the war – Russia – but at Ukraine and the West. According to the propaganda, the latter can bring the bloodshed to an end by ceasing to provide financial and military aid to Ukraine. In fact, through its propagandists, Belarus is calling on Ukraine to lay down its arms and move toward peace talks on Moscow's terms.

According to another propaganda claim, the "peacemaker president" is preventing Belarus from entering the war, despite pressure from the Kremlin. In addition to wanting to play a key role in the peace process, Lukashenka also hopes to secure the lifting of sanctions and bring Belarus out of international isolation.

Aliaksei Bialiayeu:

"We have influence not only in Europe, but also in Eurasia. Belarus has always advocated peaceful means of conflict resolution." ([News.by](#), 21.01)

Aleh Haidukevich:

"Belarus is a crucial country for ensuring regional security. Without us, it is impossible to achieve lasting peace in Ukraine – it depends on us. No matter what they say in Kyiv, a great deal depends on Belarus – what kind of peace there will be in Ukraine. And Belarus has already done a lot to ensure there is peace there." ([ZhS Premium](#) Telegram channel, 20.03)

## Part 4. IRAN

### 4.1. Civil protests in January

The situation in Iran was being actively discussed by the Belarusian media throughout the entire period under review. In January, their attention was focused on the mass peaceful protests in Tehran and other cities, which were brutally suppressed by the authorities. Media outlets loyal to Lukashenka condemned the protesters and justified and endorsed the bloody suppression of the street demonstrations.

Aliaksandr Shpakouski:

“The Iranian security forces dealt with the extremists decisively and harshly. It should be noted that such actions in response to an armed rebellion are entirely justified.” ([Shpakovsky. Po sushchestvu](#) Telegram channel, 17.01)

Ryhor Azaronak:

“Iran is under attack right now. Don't believe anyone who tells you nonsense about some terrible terrorist regime there. The rioters, rebels, and insurgents are the terrorists. The government in Tehran is an enlightened spiritual theocracy that treats women and people in general much better than the crazy feminists in the evil West.” ([STV](#), 14.01)

### 4.2. The start of the U.S.-Israel military operation

A new military operation in Iran began on February 28. In a short period of time, the country's top leadership, which had been threatening to destroy Israel for decades, was eliminated. Pro-government commentators discussed the news with outrage.

Ryhor Azaronak was especially outraged:

“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)

“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,’ villains.” ([Minskaya Prouda](#), 28.02)

“The U.S. is a country built according to blueprints drawn up in hell by the devil himself. It is a satanic empire. And so, on the orders of their ‘father,’ they are forced to kill and kill, endlessly offering bloody sacrifices.” ([Minskaya Prouda](#), 06.03)

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)

Ivan Eismant:

“As far as I’m concerned, nothing new has happened. For centuries, the United States, the collective West, and NATO countries have been attacking other countries, killing people, raping, looting.” ([ZhS Premium](#) Telegram channel, 07.03)

Yury Uvarau:

“Lies have always been one of the West’s main tools for achieving its predatory goals. This reached its peak with the aggression by the U.S. and Israel against Iran.” ([Minskaya Prauda](#), 05.03)

## CONCLUSION

The analysis of monitoring results from Belarusian state-controlled media shows that pro-Kremlin propaganda efforts in the first quarter of 2026 were aimed at achieving the following objectives.

On the domestic information front:

- Promoting the image of Belarus as a peaceful and prosperous country thanks to the “president’s” efforts. Through this narrative, pro-government channels seek to enhance Aliaksandr Lukashenka’s reputation, strengthen his personal authority, and reinforce the belief in him as the irreplaceable leader.
- Propaganda attacks are aimed at weakening the “internal fronde” – democratic forces, political exiles, and the protest movement within the country.

On the external frame:

- The “collective West” remains the primary target of these attacks. The U.S. is falling out of the propaganda’s focus, giving way to Europe as the “main threat.”
- The media sharply criticized the launch of military operations in Iran. The paradox of March: celebrations marking acceptance by America (exchanges of pleasantries with Trump, visits by special envoys, and the partial lifting of sanctions) coincided with an escalation of anti-American rhetoric in connection with the outbreak of the war in the Middle East.
- Official media outlets continue to spread aggressive anti-Ukrainian narratives, essentially participating in the information war against Ukraine alongside Kremlin-affiliated media. In this regard, they are fully aligned with Russian ideological stances.

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