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## REPRESSIONS

At GrSU Marina Saltykova-Volkovich, candidate of pedagogical sciences, associate professor of the department of pedagogy and psychology of childhood, was dismissed by mutual agreement of the parties. She had been working at GrSU for more than 20 years. [According to the lecturer](#), at first she was given a preventive talk, but was later informed that the management no longer needed her services. In the autumn of 2020, Marina Saltykova-Voytovich openly supported student protests at GrSU.

According to insider information, more than 55 people were fired at BSU in December-January. In particular, at biological faculty — 2, history faculty — 2, philology faculty — 6, chemistry faculty — 4, economics faculty — 1, law faculty — 3, physics faculty — 1, geography and geoinformatics faculty — 2, journalism faculty — 2, international relations faculty — 3, socio-cultural communications — 2, philosophy and social sciences - 1, radiophysics - 10, at the Research Institute of Physical and Chemical Problems — 4, at the Research Institute for Nuclear Problems — 6, at the Research Institute of Applied Physical Problems — 2, at the department of physical training — 1, at BSU publishing — 1. Among those dismissed (including those fired under the pressure of the administration) there are professors, associate professors, lecturers, and research assistants.

The list of dismissed at BSU includes Yulia Petrovna Gavrilchenko, professor at the Financial Law Department, the only PhD in financial law in Belarus. Details [here](#).

Dismissals for political reasons are taking place at BNTU. We know about dismissed employees at the Faculty of Architecture and the Faculty of Management Technologies and Humanitarianism. The total number of dismissals between December and February is 15 people.

On January 11, third-year student of the BSU Faculty of Economics Nikita Ivankou was detained, and the political prisoner, student of the BSU Faculty of Economics Daniil Kastsiukevich, detained in September last year for comments in the social network, was expelled from the university because of the missed exam session. Source: [BSU Free Union](#).

At health care institutions, political dismissals of students working there have begun. Read more [here](#).

The Minsk City Executive Committee intends to monitor “destructive” talk in student chats. To this end, groups have been formed to work in student and labour chats, which have a potential audience of over 1 million people. Source: [Honest University](#).

The convicts in the “students’ case” are forced to sign clemency petitions. According to [Belarusian Student Association](#), students in the colony are subjected to pressure, they are threatened with deprivation of visits and phone calls, and letters are not delivered to them — all to force students to sign pardon petitions.

Alena Shkulepa, director of Gymnasium No. 4, was dismissed in Brest. In the 2020 elections, the gymnasium housed two polling stations where Alena Shkulepa was the chair of the election commissions. Both of these polling stations posted protocols, according to which Sviatlana Tikhanouskaya won.

Svetlana Khromova, deputy director for educational work at Gymnasium 42, and her daughter, who were arrested in December, were [declared political prisoners](#). Svetlana Khromova was the deputy head of the electoral commission, which was located on the territory of the gymnasium. Polling station no. 35 was located there.

The [Honest University](#) and [BeSSA](#) initiatives offer advice and assistance to students and teachers who have experienced reprisals. More information [here](#) and [here](#).

## REGIME’S POLICY

The history education curricula in Belarus [will be amended](#) and a textbook on the history of the Belarusian statehood will appear for universities.

Two lyceums [will be closed](#) in Minsk. The current students will be allowed to continue their studies, but there will be no new intake. The deputy Minister of Education Alexander Kadlubay commented on the closure of lyceums: “A logical question arose: what then is the difference between lyceums and upper-secondary schools? That’s why we proposed the local authorities to [streamline](#) the work of lyceums.”

In Loyew, Gomel region, in the town house of culture, the police [made an exemplary arrest](#) of a 16-year-old teenager. The arrest took place on the initiative of the prosecutor's office of Loyewski district and the commission on juvenile affairs, as the local newspaper "Lojeŭski kraj" reported.

Meetings devoted to the discussion of the amendments to the Constitution are held at universities. It is known that lectures on the amendments to the Constitution were held in the Belarusian National Technical University and the International Sakharov Environmental Institute of BSU. Similar events are planned at all BSU faculties. It was also reported that the administration of MGLU was going to hold a meeting on the Constitution for its students with the head of Partyzanski district of Minsk.

The first [degree in military sciences](#) in the field of civil defence was awarded in Belarus.

Brest Region Prosecutor's Office has collected over 873 thousand rubles from the graduates who failed to complete their placement. Brest Region Prosecutor's Office filed 197 lawsuits in 2021, and the courts fully satisfied all the claims.

## INDEPENDENT INITIATIVES AND EVENTS

The Initiative "Belarusian Education on the Way to Change" invites to take part in discussions on pressing issues in education in Belarus. Announcements of events can be found [here](#). You may watch videos of the past discussions on the initiative's [YouTube channel](#).

The Free Belarusian University with the support of the International Solidarity Foundation announces registration for free online courses for Belarusian teachers for the spring semester. Classes are expected to start at the end of January-February 2022. One can register [here](#).

The Belarusian Interdisciplinary Seminar initiative invites you to online lectures by Belarusian researchers. The next lecture «Quantum Sensors for Biology» will be held on February 6. Further details and timetable are available [here](#).

An [independent BNTU website](#) has been launched on the ZUBR platform. According to the team of the site, it was created to talk openly about the problems at the university, to help students, to look for like-minded people and to share experience.