

EDITORIAL LANGUAGE POLICY AND TRANSLITERATION PRINCIPLES

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

BELARUS AND BELARUSIAN

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

PLACE NAMES

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

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

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

PERSONAL NAMES

Personal names follow the same rules as place names.

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

Given the large number of existing systems and their contradictory nature, in our opinion, the use of a single standard both for personal

names and place names is the only correct way out. In the most significant cases, double writing is provided.

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

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

NEWSPAPER NAMES

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

ORGANISATION AND PARTY NAMES

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

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

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

SOME HISTORICAL CASES

We use:

1) *Rus’ Rusian, Old Rusian* (not Russian) for Eastern Europe history of 9th-13th centuries;

2) *Ruthenia, Ruthenian* are used for Eastern Slavic Lands as a part of Great Duchy of Lithuania and Polish Kingdom, 13th-18th centuries;

3) *Litva, Litvins* are used as equivalents to *historical Lithuania* in 13th-19th centuries (contemporary Belarus and Lithuania).

OTHER CASES

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

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

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

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

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

1		2		3
О	о	О	о	Орша – Orša
П	п	Р	р	Паставы – Pastavy
С	с	S	s	Светлагорск – Svetlahorsk
Т	т	T	t	Талачын – Talačyn
У	у	U	u	Узда – Uzda
Ў	ў	Ŭ	ŭ	Шаркаўшчына – Šarkaŭščyna
Ф	ф	F	f	Фаніпаль – Fanipał
Х	х	Ch	ch	Хоцімск – Chocimsk
Ц	ц	C	c	Цёмны Лес – Ciomny Lies
Ч	ч	Č	č	Чавусы – Čavusy
Ш	ш	Š	š	Шуміліна – Šumilina
Ы	ы	Y	y	Чыгірынка – Čyhirynka
Ь	ь			Чэрвень – Červień, Друць – Druć
Э	э	E	e	Чачэрск – Čačersk
Ю	ю	Ju	ju*	Юхнаўка – Juchnaŭka
				Гаюціна – Hajucina
			iu**	Цюрлі – Ciurli, Любонічы – Liuboničy
Я	я	Ja	ja*	Ямнае – Jamnae, Баяры – Bajary
			ia**	Валяр’яны – Valiarjany
				Вязынка – Viazynka

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

** After consonants