



12 December 2025

Activities for 2026 – 2027

agreed following the meeting of the Council of Europe Contact Group
on co-operation with Representatives of Belarusian democratic forces
and civil society on 12 December 2025

Document prepared by the Directorate of Programme Co-ordination

LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

CDADI	Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion
CEPEJ	European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice
CJEU	Court of Justice of the European Union
CPT	European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
CSO	Civil society organisation
DGI	Directorate General for Human Rights and the Rule of Law
DGII	Directorate General of Democracy and Human Dignity
ECHR	European Convention on Human Rights
ECRI	European Commission against Racism and Intolerance
ECRML	European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages
ECSR	European Committee of Social Rights
European Court	European Court of Human Rights
EFJ	European Federation of Journalists
GRECO	Group of States against Corruption
GRETA	Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings
GREVIO	Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence
HELP	European Programme for Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals
LGBTI	Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons
LSG	Local Self-Government
MAE	Major Administrative Entity of the Council of Europe

I. Securing human rights and fundamental freedoms

1.1. Effective implementation of the European Convention on Human Rights

1)

Activity	“BRINGING THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE HUMAN RIGHTS STANDARDS TO BELARUS”: AWARENESS RAISING AND CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOPS ON EUROPEAN STANDARDS INCLUDING THE ECHR FOR BELARUSIAN LAWYERS AND HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS
Description	A series of up to three 3-day, practice-oriented, workshops (up to 30 participants each) on Council of Europe human rights and rule of law standards, with the focus on the European Convention on Human Rights and case law of the European Court of Human Rights (European Court) and in areas of expertise of the Venice Commission as appropriate. The purpose is to demonstrate how the ECHR provisions can be used for reforming the relevant legislation and shape the judicial practice when the opportunity is there. The workshops should help prepare Council of Europe-minded lawyers and human rights defenders. Workshops will be organised with the participation of lawyers from the Registry of the European Court, members/experts of the Venice Commission and representatives of other Council of Europe standard setting and monitoring bodies, where relevant.
Proposed timeline	Spring 2026 - Autumn 2027

2)

Activity	“BRINGING THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE HUMAN RIGHTS STANDARDS TO BELARUS”: STUDY VISITS ON THE ECHR AND THE RULE OF LAW, INCLUDING THE FUNCTIONING OF DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS (Bar Associations, NHRIs, Equality Bodies, etc.) FOR BELARUSIAN LAWYERS AND CSO ACTIVISTS
Description	Several study visits to Strasbourg and member States of the Council of Europe for Belarusian lawyers in exile and human rights defenders will be organised. One study visit to Strasbourg will include in-depth familiarisation with Council of Europe bodies, including work practices of the European Court and the Venice Commission. Study visits to the member States will include meetings with local/national bar associations and other professional associations of lawyers, lawyers working with ECHR, human rights NGOs, judiciary, National Human Rights Institutions and Equality bodies. Such visits will ensure sustainability and help prepare future actors for the transformation and rebuilding of the legal system of Belarus, including in the context of transitional justice.
Proposed timeline	Spring 2026 - Autumn 2027

3)

Activity	“BRINGING THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE HUMAN RIGHTS STANDARDS TO BELARUS”: ONLINE AWARENESS RAISING AND HELP TRAINING ON THE ECHR AND OTHER COUNCIL OF EUROPE STANDARDS
Description	Up to four 2-day online/face-to-face training-of trainers (ToT) sessions on the use of the Council of Europe HELP Programme and selected courses for University (law) professors, expanding the pool of certified tutors able to deliver human rights training to Belarusian audiences.
Proposed timeline	Spring 2026 - Autumn 2027

4)

Activity	SEMINAR “ON THE ABOLITION OF THE DEATH PENALTY IN BELARUS”
Description	The purpose of the seminar is to continue discussing possible scenarios for abolishing the death penalty in Belarus and steps that democratic authorities should take following democratic changes. This will build on the seminar organised in March 2025 and the Memorandum on the Abolition of the death penalty in Belarus. Participants would be the key actors who will lead the abolition of the death penalty in a democratic Belarus, including RADA, Viasna, and European NGOs sharing best practices, along with representatives of youth-led organisations who continuously engage or launch actions in this field.
Proposed timeline	2026-2027

5)

Activity	SUPPORT OF PARTICIPATION OF BELARUSIAN CIVIL SOCIETY IN COUNCIL OF EUROPE-SPONSORED EVENTS ON THE ABOLITION OF THE DEATH PENALTY
Description	Representatives of Belarusian civil society will participate in various international events on the abolition of the death penalty, which are supported by the Council of Europe, in particular the World Congress Against the Death Penalty (June-July 2026), Youth Workshops, etc. The events for participation will be selected on the basis of their relevance for the promotion of the abolition of death penalty in Belarus.
Proposed timeline	Spring 2026 - Autumn 2027

6)

Activity	INFORMATION CAMPAIGN ON THE ABOLITION OF THE DEATH PENALTY IN BELARUS AMONG BELARUSIAN SOCIETY, INCLUDING DIASPORA (WEB MATERIALS, PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS)
Description	With differing views on the death penalty remaining in the Belarusian society, including the diaspora, there is a need for an information campaign to promote abolition, especially among youth. Developing diverse promotional materials and activities (based on ideas from the 2024 Workshop for youth), as part of a two-year information campaign targeting Belarusian citizens will help build public support for abolition. Materials will be distributed through NGOs and other initiatives and available channels. Offline awareness-raising events will be targeted specifically on diaspora.
Proposed timeline	2026-2027

7)

Activity	SEMINAR “ABOLITION OF THE DEATH PENALTY IN BELARUS – WORKING WITH MEDIA”
Description	The purpose of the 1-day seminar is continue strengthening the role of independent media, bloggers and communicators in promoting the abolition of the death penalty in Belarus. Building on the previous seminars, in particular the seminar “Abolition of the death penalty in Belarus – next steps” held in March 2025, where a broad political consensus was reached and following which a Memorandum on the abolition was signed – open for endorsement by political organisations, civil society initiatives and private individuals – the next step is to ensure professional and consistent coverage of this topic in the public space. The seminar will provide practical guidance for Belarusian media professionals and influencers on: • why this topic is already relevant today and should not wait until political change occurs; • how to communicate the human rights dimension of the abolition debate; • best practices of media reporting from other European countries that abolished the death penalty; • storytelling approaches and framing to reach both Belarusian society inside the country and the diaspora. Participants will be Belarusian journalists, bloggers, media trainers, together with international experts who will share their experience on covering similar debates globally. The seminar will be held in Vilnius, Warsaw or Strasbourg in Spring 2026. It may lead to follow-up work.
Proposed timeline	Spring 2026

II. Acting for equality, diversity and respect

2.1. Gender Equality – Violence against women and domestic violence

8)

Activity	CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES RELATED TO GENDER EQUALITY AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, IN LINE WITH COUNCIL OF EUROPE STANDARDS
Description	This project will strengthen the understanding and application of Council of Europe standards on gender equality and the prevention of violence against women among Belarusian democratic forces and civil society. It will promote gender mainstreaming within their structures and support the integration of gender-sensitive approaches in policies and decision-making processes to promote women's political participation. Activities will include: 1. Organising a round-table discussion featuring international experts on the topic of developing and implementing gender equality policies within Belarusian democratic forces. The event will consist of two parts: a presentation of Internal policies for gender equality (created within the previous action plan point) and a collaborative session to brainstorm potential implementation scenarios of these policies within the existing standards and current activities of the democratic forces. The event will be held in Vilnius or Warsaw. 2. Adapting and delivering an online HELP course on gender equality and gender mainstreaming for a group of civil society representatives, democratic actors, journalists, and legal professionals. 3. Conducting a series of practice-oriented workshops in a hybrid format (online and offline) focused on GREVIO (Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence) standards as a monitoring tool for the Istanbul Convention. 4. Conducting research on gendered harassment, including sexual harassment within Belarusian civil society and democratic forces to raise awareness and promote a culture of zero tolerance. As a follow-up to the research, a framework anti-harassment policy will be developed for civil society organisations and democratic forces in Belarus. The guidelines will be rooted in the Council of Europe's standards and further informed by contributions from international and Belarusian experts and researchers. 5. Creation of an advocacy action plan for gender policy-making aligned with the Council of Europe's standards as a result of a series of educational and practice-oriented workshops (in-person) between members of the Coordination Council, United Transitional Cabinet, FemGroup Belarus, representatives of NGOs working on women's and gender issues, civil society activists, and other key stakeholders involved in policy-making. The Belarusian representatives within the Contact group will lead on the development and promotion of the action plan. 6. Translation of the "<i>Guidance for the development of positive narratives to deflect anti-gender rhetoric</i>" and its supporting document into Belarusian, and dissemination among Belarusian civil society.
Proposed timeline	2026-2027

2.2. Anti-discrimination, diversity and inclusion – National minorities, regional or minority languages – LGBTI

9)

Activity	INITIATIVE TO PROMOTE EQUALITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION IN BELARUS
Description	Building on the work carried out in 2023-2025, including the successful translation and adaptation of three online HELP courses into Belarusian and the training of 30 representatives of civil society and democratic forces, activities will continue to promote equality and non-discrimination among professional groups working on the topic and at the societal level, in line with European standards. In addition, based on needs expressed by Belarusian partners, initiatives will be developed to address hate speech and hate crime, in particular in the online environment, in cooperation with CSOs representing targeted groups, media and digital sector as well as legal professionals. In this connection, work will continue to enhance the protection of vulnerable groups from discrimination, hatred and transnational repression, including LGBTI people, youth and human rights defenders in exile. Such activities will result in: ensuring the sustainability of the results achieved, enhancing the understanding of the practical application of the Council of Europe's equality and non-discrimination standards among professional groups representing Belarusian civil society and democratic forces, promoting a positive use of digital technologies to tackle hate speech and hate crime, strengthening the capacity of vulnerable groups to advance equality and combat all forms of discrimination and fostering their civic engagement using innovative tools and inclusive narratives, and promoting the development of a national legal terminology compliant with international and European human rights standards. In this context the following specific activities are proposed: 1. Practical workshops to reinforce the implementation of European anti-discrimination principles in the work, advocacy, strategic litigation and overall activism of Belarusian CSOs, as a follow-up to the Anti-discrimination Training Series held in 2024 - 2025 and mainstreaming the terminology developed in the 2025 Glossary of Key Terminology on Equality and Non-discrimination in Belarusian; 2. Peer exchanges between representatives of Belarusian CSOs and democratic forces, and Equality bodies from Council of Europe member States, to share models and good practices, linked to the regular meetings of Equality bodies within the Council of Europe, and building on the Concept Law on Equality and Anti-discrimination in Belarusian; 3. Continued peering and networking of Belarusian counterparts with Horizontal Facility/Partnership for Good Governance beneficiaries during relevant Council of Europe events, notably through participation in regional events and initiatives; 4. Adaptation of the HELP courses on hate speech, hate crime, xenophobia and intolerance, and delivery of a training for a group of CSO activists, democratic forces, legal professionals, and representatives of the media;

	5. A workshop with the involvement of youth, civil society and media representatives aimed at supporting and implementing small-scale projects to increase digital and media literacy, foster civil engagement and address hate speech, building on the hate speech/intolerance training and Council of Europe tools on devising counter and alternative narratives; 6. Development of a Common Position Document on Addressing Hate Speech between CSOs and democratic forces, defining hate speech targeting vulnerable groups from Belarus and outlining an agreed approach and concrete measures to counter it, based on European standards. Once endorsed, this document would serve as a reference policy position for the democratic forces and a roadmap for multistakeholder co-operation in combating hate speech narratives; 7. Provision of support to vulnerable groups including LGBTI communities, human rights defenders in exile, people with disabilities and youth to enhance resilience against discriminatory practices, intolerance, intimidation and repression through capacity building and grants to CSOs working directly with these communities. The grants will help organisations support victims of discrimination, online threats, hate speech and hate crimes, and, where relevant, provide practical safety measures, legal advice and support services to those affected, and, where possible, maintain their ability to continue public activities. 8. An ad-hoc activity to present Council of Europe standards on the protection of national minorities and minority languages.
Proposed timeline	March 2026 – December 2027

III. Anchoring democratic values in European societies

3.1. Freedom of expression and information – Safety of journalists

10)

Activity	“STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITIES AND SKILLS OF BELARUSIAN JOURNALISTS IN EXILE”
Description	Built on successes and lessons learned during implementation of the Council of Europe Project “Strengthening the capacities and skills of Belarusian journalists and media actors in exile” (implemented during the period of October 2024-December 2025), this activity will provide further support in building resilience and capacity of exiled Belarusian media community in such areas as addressing the issues of human rights and freedom of expression in Belarus, countering disinformation and increasing skills of media actors, including those who joined the profession in exile. Strong partnership, created with the major exiled Belarusian media outlets, media CSOs as well as freelance journalists and bloggers during the implementation of the above-mentioned project in 2024-2025, will allow continuing tailored and targeted support to the major stakeholders. The activity will focus on the following main Components: 1. Building capacity and resilience of Belarusian media and journalists in exile by providing targeted support to the main media outlets, CSOs, freelance journalists and other media actors as well training sessions and seminars on professional reporting, debunking disinformation and media literacy; 2. Legal and technical support to exiled journalists and media actors in the countries of their residence; 3. Support to participation of exiled Belarusian journalists and media actors in international conferences and events, such as the World Forum for Democracy to increase their knowledge about Council of Europe and other international standards on democracy and freedom of expression.
Proposed timeline	January 2026 – December 2027

3.2. Local democracy

11)

Activity	LEADING THE CHANGE FOR DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS AT LOCAL LEVEL AND STRENGTHENING POLITICAL DIALOGUE WITH BELARUSIAN DEMOCRATIC FORCES
Description	The proposed activities have been discussed with representatives of the Belarusian democratic forces and are a follow-up to meetings with the delegation to the Congress as well as to activities in 2025 in view of preparing a democratic transition. The proposed project will focus on three main areas: • Political support for the Belarusian democratic forces, especially through the continued participation of the Delegation of the Belarusian Democratic Forces in the Congress sessions. The Congress will also facilitate dialogue between representatives of the Belarusian democratic forces and local/regional authorities in Council of Europe member States to address practical challenges and share good practices, including local solutions to transnational repression against Belarusians in exile. • Expert support in the preparation for the transformation of the local self-government system and transition stages to democracy in line with European standards • Capacity development for Belarusian democratic forces and civil society on good democratic governance, local elections, and human rights through targeted training and peer exchange. This includes thematic courses for the Personnel Reserve and tailored workshops to further promote the European Charter of Local Self-Government and its Additional Protocol. Project activities will seek to include Belarusian youth in capacity development activities and consultations on the future local self-government system of a democratic Belarus, making use of the new European Charter on the Participation of Young People in Local and Regional Life adopted by the Congress in October 2025.
Proposed timeline	2026 - 2027

3.3. Youth

12)

Activity	YOUTH PERSPECTIVES FOR DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN BELARUS: CAPACITY BUILDING ON ADVOCACY AND DEMOCRATIC YOUTH PARTICIPATION
Description	The activities seek to enhance the advocacy capacity, leadership and democratic participation of Belarusian youth organisations and activists, both inside the country and in exile. These will draw on the Council of Europe's expertise and key reference documents, including the Reykjavik Declaration, the Luxembourg Solutions, the Reference Framework on a Youth Perspective, and the European Charter on the participation of young people in local and regional life The capacity building component (seminars, training courses) will be complemented by networking meetings, strategic dialogue bringing together youth leaders and activists for democracy, along with political decision-makers from the Council of Europe and other relevant European institutions. Internship (placement) opportunities in the relevant bodies of the Organisation will also be considered. The activities will follow up on the recommendations to policymakers from the strategic workshop "A youth agenda for democracy and human rights in Belarus", held in Strasbourg in April 2025, and monitor its implementation in co-operation with relevant Council of Europe bodies, the Parliamentary Assembly, the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities. These recommendations include: establishing a youth-based body within Belarusian democratic political structure based on a co-management approach; developing a democratic youth policy; identifying current trends; and preparing a needs assessment of the Belarusian democratic youth. The activities will also explore the Council of Europe's unique co-management system, while drawing on and contributing to the distinctive experiences of Belarusian youth and RADA, including those with refugee backgrounds, operating in a shrinking civil space, and working as young human rights defenders. Co-operation with other relevant entities such as the Gender Equality Unit and SOGIESC, particularly in relation to LGBTI inclusion will be sought. Main activities will include: - A seminar on empowering and supporting young people to take part in the democratic political life; - Training course on countering false narratives: focused on anti-discrimination, media literacy, and youth participation for representatives of youth organisations and initiatives, particularly newcomers to civil society in Poland and Lithuania. - Follow-up expert support to development and implementation of projects based on participants' ideas. Activities will be held at the European Youth Centres in Strasbourg and in Budapest, offering participants opportunities to engage with different Council of Europe entities.
Proposed timeline	2026 – 2027

13)

Activity	YOUTH-FOCUSED SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN: “BRIDGES, NOT BORDERS”
Description	This activity will promote democratic values and strengthen the sense of European identity among Belarusian youth through a creative online campaign. Centred on the theme ‘Belarus Inside – Europe Within’, the campaign will use social media storytelling to highlight Belarusian cultural identity, civic resilience, and links to European values. It builds on the Council of Europe’s long-standing expertise in youth participation, intercultural dialogue, and countering hate and disinformation through initiatives of the Council of Europe Youth Sector. The campaign will use the creative potential of young Belarusians to produce and disseminate digital stories, videos, and visual materials that celebrate Belarusian language, culture, and civic values in a European context. The campaign will also encourage peer-to-peer collaboration and cross-border digital initiatives, contributing to a shared sense of belonging and democratic awareness among young Belarusians. By linking civic activism with artistic expression, it will provide a platform for youth voices and perspectives that are often marginalised in traditional media. In the long term, the activity will contribute to building a self-sustaining online community of young Belarusians committed to human rights, dialogue and participation in public life.
Proposed timeline	2026 – 2027

3.4. Democratic governance and dialogue, civil society

14)

Activity	STRENGTHENING POLITICAL DIALOGUE WITH DEMOCRATIC FORCES FROM BELARUS - CONTINUED PARTICIPATION IN PACE
Description	This activity will ensure the continuation of the structured co-operation between the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) and the representative delegation of the Belarusian democratic forces, composed of members of the Coordination Council. Building on the achievements of 2024–2025, the aim is to consolidate the representation of Belarusian democratic forces in the Assembly and expand their opportunities for participation. The activity will include: • continued participation of the representative delegation of Belarusian democratic forces in the work of the Assembly; • participation of the representative delegation of Belarusian democratic forces, representatives of civil society, human rights defenders, independent journalists and academia in meetings with rapporteurs and general rapporteurs, as well as in hearings organised by Assembly committees, sub-committees and networks; • seminars/conferences on the situation in Belarus co-organised with national parliaments; • study visits of members of the Belarusian democratic forces to the Assembly; • support for Belarusians undertaking study visits with the Assembly Secretariat (including travel and accommodation costs); • translation of relevant Assembly documents into Belarusian.
Proposed timeline	2026 - 2027

15)

Activity	IT IMPLEMENTATION TOOL FOR THE “LUXEMBOURG SOLUTIONS” – ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF BELARUSIANS IN EXILE
Description	Building on PACE Resolution 2499 (2023) “<i>Addressing the specific challenges faced by Belarusians in exile</i>” and the subsequent development of the “Luxembourg Solutions” in 2024, this activity aims to ensure practical follow-up through advocacy and co-operation with member States. The activity will include: • a feasibility study conducted in 3-4 pilot countries in consultation with relevant national interlocutors (ministries, services) to discuss the specific parameters for the development of the tool for a given country; • development and roll-out of a centralised IT tool (public portal and secure database) to track the implementation of the Luxembourg Solutions, including the identification of good practices; • consultations with national authorities to detect gaps and exchange solutions; • production of interactive reports and dashboards on the implementation of measures in support of Belarusians in exile. The issues to be addressed will include legal entry and stay, freedom of movement and consular services, reprisals in Belarus, access to education, professional career and entrepreneurship in exile, and the preservation of Belarusian cultural identity. This activity will complement the political dialogue in PACE and ensure that the specific needs of Belarusians abroad remain visible and addressed in Council of Europe member States. The content of the IT tool will be developed in co-operation with the relevant MAEs, in particular the Congress for Local and Regional Authorities.
Proposed timeline	2026 - 2027

16)

Activity	SUPPORT TO BELARUS CIVIL SOCIETY SHADOW REPORTING
Description	The aim of the activity is to raise awareness of the Belarusian civil society regarding Council of Europe standards and monitoring mechanisms, to create connections with relevant practitioners, and to develop support for training, training-of-trainers, and the provision of feedback on shadow reporting notably with respect to Council of Europe human rights standards, instruments, and monitoring mechanisms The monitoring of the Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings by GRETA depends on shadow reports submitted by civil society. The 3rd evaluation round, focusing on access to justice and effective remedies for victims of trafficking, started for Belarus in 2025. The goal of the activity is to provide information related to the questions included in GRETA's questionnaire for the 3rd evaluation round which will serve as a source of independent information for the preparation of GRETA's draft report. In addition, the activity will continue the efforts of the Belarusian civil society to raise public awareness of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings.
Proposed timeline	2026 – 2027

3.5. Culture and cultural heritage

17)

Activity	SUPPORT OF CULTURAL RIGHTS MONITORING BY BELARUSIAN CIVIL SOCIETY
Description	This activity will strengthen the capacity of Belarusian civil society organisations to document, analyse and advocate for the protection of cultural and linguistic rights in accordance with European standards. It builds on the Council of Europe's long-standing experience in cultural rights and anti-discrimination monitoring through the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. These mechanisms provide an appropriate framework for integrating Belarusian evidence and perspectives into broader European debates on rights, identity, and inclusion. The expected results include the establishment of a structured and verifiable evidence base on cultural and linguistic rights violations, the enhanced capacity of Belarusian civil society organisations to align their advocacy with European standards, greater awareness within the Council of Europe system of the role of cultural identity in Belarus's democratic transformation and increased public understanding in Belarus of the importance of cultural rights. Proposed actions include: • Baseline report to be prepared by PACE • Training of civil society groups on Council of Europe standards and reporting procedures. • Recognition and support of Belarusian journalists through awards or microgrants for coverage of cultural rights issues.
Proposed timeline	2026 – 2027

IV. Supporting Belarusian democratic forces and civil society: Transversal activities

18)

Activity	SPECIAL PROGRAMME FOR BELARUSIAN PROFESSIONALS
Description	Building on the success of the programme in the previous implementation period, and thematic workshops organised for the Belarusian lawyers, this initiative is designed to familiarise Belarusian professionals with the Council of Europe's institutional framework, policy instruments and working methods through immersive experience and direct co-operation. It will offer placements within relevant Council of Europe structures to up to 10 Belarusian experts per year. It is envisaged that each programme will be of approximately six months in duration. Belarusian professionals will join the Council of Europe in Strasbourg to contribute with their expertise to the activities of the organisation in line with the applicable Council of Europe legal framework. The programme will also create conditions for professional exchange and mentoring, encouraging the transfer of knowledge to Belarusian civil society, media, academia and democratic institutions. By fostering a network of professionals with first-hand experience of Council of Europe practices, the activity will strengthen long-term co-operation with Belarusian partners and build a reservoir of expertise to support future democratic reforms in Belarus. The selection of the candidates will take into consideration their proven expertise, their motivation to apply acquired experience within the Belarusian democratic forces or civil society, knowledge of English and/or French languages. A balance of representation of democratic forces and civil society will be aimed for.
Proposed timeline	Spring 2026 - Autumn 2027

19)

Activity	ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE INFORMATION POINT FOR BELARUSIAN PEOPLE IN VILNIUS, LITHUANIA
Description	This activity follows the agreement signed with the Government of the Republic of Lithuania for the establishment of the Council of Europe Information Point for Belarusian people in Vilnius. The Information Point will operate as a technical assistance project in liaison with the Belarusian democratic forces and Lithuanian authorities. Its objective is to raise awareness among democratic forces, non-governmental organisations, mass media outlets, and the citizens of Belarus on the Council of Europe's fundamental values and legal instruments including by supporting the conduct of activities. This will in turn pave the way for increased interaction between the Council of Europe and democratic forces of Belarus in accordance with the decisions of the Reykjavik Summit of 16-17 May 2024. More specifically, the Information Point will be tasked with the following activities: - Organisation, implementation and support of selected events and activities agreed by the Contact Group, including lectures, seminars, round tables, conferences, thematic exhibitions etc.; - Translation, publication and distribution of Council of Europe information materials, including video and audio materials; - Facilitate access to public information on the Council of Europe and its activities.
Proposed timeline	2026

20)

Activity	PUBLIC OUTREACH ABOUT THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE
Description	Through public outreach the understanding among the Belarusian citizens will be increased on what the Council of Europe is, what is its role in the European system of multilateral relations, what its core values are, how it is structured, how the Council of Europe activities are related to the daily lives of the Europeans and what the co-operation means for each country. Webpage The maintenance of the dedicated webpage about the Council of Europe Contact Group on Belarus, in English, French and in Belarusian (the general information on the page, except the news), is foreseen. The webpage is a 'hub' for various types of information related to the projects and initiatives carried out by the Council of Europe for Belarusian civil society and media, as well as the relevant work of the Council of Europe institutions and structures. Information materials production • Translation of existing Council of Europe promotional videos and other information materials into Belarusian. • Update of the video on the Council of Europe Contact Group on Belarus created in 2025. • Production of a short video about the opening of the Information Point for Belarusian people in Vilnius. Supporting media coverage of Council of Europe events Supporting independent Belarusian journalists in exile covering Council of Europe events where Belarus will be discussed (PACE and Congress sessions focusing on Belarus-related issues, other dedicated events organised by the Assembly, Congress, DGI and DGII, opening of the Information Point for Belarusian people in Vilnius and its activities).
Proposed timeline	2026 - 2027