

Statement of the National Commission of NSZZ “Solidarność”

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on situation in Belarus

Two and a half years have passed since the presidential elections in Belarus were rigged by the Alexander Lukashenko regime. This has been a time of unprecedented struggle against his own people, destruction of political opposition, independent, pro-democratic, social organizations, including free trade unions. Their leaders, who have remained in the country, are being harassed and sentenced to years in prison. This persecution has not spared the Polish national minority either, as evidenced by the sentences and imprisonment of Polish organizations activists.

The National Commission of NSZZ “Solidarność” condemns these actions and calls on Alexander Lukashenko’ regime to immediately cease the war against its own people. At the same time, it declares unwavering support for Belarusian society, especially that part of it which has found refuge in Poland. In the face of Russia’s aggression against Ukraine, where the attention of the entire world seems to be focused, we must not forget the tragedy of the Belarusian people.

NSZZ “Solidarność” condemns the destruction of the Belarusian free trade union movement, demands the immediate release from prison of the leaders of Belarusian trade unions who, while carrying out legitimate trade union activities on behalf of workers, have been accused among other charges of terrorism. NSZZ “Solidarność” is conducting a broad information campaign on the issue and calling on the international trade union movement to support the action for their release.

The National Commission of NSZZ „Solidarność” calls on the Belarusian authorities to stop supporting the Russian Federation in its aggression against Ukraine. Belarus, ruled by Alexander Lukashenko, is a de facto participant in this war and shares responsibility for the enormity of the casualties and destruction in Ukraine.

Long live free Belarus!

Spała, 7 March 2023

National Commission
of NSZZ „Solidarność”