

## **INSTRUCTION FOR FOREIGN CITIZENS STAYING IN THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS**

Foreign citizens, staying in the Republic of Belarus must have a valid passport or any other ID that is permissive to go abroad and is issued by a state civil organization or by an organization of his/her place of residence or by an international organization with the due authority to issue such documents. They also must have a migration card and other documents certifying that these foreign nationals sojourn, reside either temporary or permanently in Belarus on a legal basis and are to show them on demand of the officers of Internal Affairs, National Security and Border Service Authorities.

Those foreign citizens, who arrive in Belarus, must register their arrival in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in a hotel or in a health resort at the address of their factual sojourn within five days with the exception of weekends, state holidays and the days-off appointed by President of the Republic of Belarus.

The exceptions for the above-stated rule are citizens of Lithuania, Latvia, Russia and Ukraine who are released from the registration for their stay in Belarus for 30 days from the moment of their crossing the border.

Foreign citizens sojourning or residing in Belarus must live at the address where they are registered at migration and registration offices.

Citizens who need visa to enter Belarus are registered for the term, mentioned in their application form or in the petition of the receiving organization but can not exceed the term of visa validity. Citizens of the visa-free states are registered for the period, stipulated by the international agreement of the state with the Republic of Belarus. In case there is no such contract with Belarus or if the period is not indicated in the agreement, a foreign citizen is registered for the term mentioned in his/her application or in the petition of the receiving organization but not more than for 90 days in a calendar year from the moment of his/her crossing the border.

Foreign citizens who commit crimes or administrative offences or break the laws bear responsibility for them in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Belarus.

Clause 23.55 “Violation of residence rules in Belarus and rules of transit through the territory of the Republic of Belarus”. All the infringements stated below involve a penalty (it may be either an official notification with deportation or without, or a fine at the amount up to 20 primary rates (a primary rate is 100 thousand roubles) with deportation or without.

- 1) Violation of the residence rules in Belarus by a foreign citizen or a stateless person. i.e. sojourn without visa, migration card, passport or other ID appropriate to go abroad and is issued by a state civil organization or by an organization of his/her place of residence or by an international organization with the due authority to issue such documents.
- 2) Stay in Belarus on invalid documents.
- 3) Failure to comply with the registration or migration procedure or with the choice of the place of residence and sojourn.
- 4) Evasion to leave the country when the term of the registration is expired.
- 5) Violation of the rules for transit through Belarus.
- 6) Violation of employment rules.

A foreign national may be deported from the Republic of Belarus for the benefit of national security, public order, to safeguard the morals and health of the citizens, their rights and liberties.

Clause 371-2 of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Belarus. “Violation of the term of the prohibited entry into Belarus”.

If a foreign citizen or stateless person who has been either deported or expelled from Belarus enters or stays in the country before the term when the restriction expires in case he/she has no other criminal record stipulated by Clause 371 Part 2 of the Criminal Code, he/she is placed under arrest for the period from 3 to 6 months or imprisoned with maximum for a term of 3 years.

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