



**COUNCIL OF
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EU sanctions against Belarus extended

Following an annual review, the Council today extended EU restrictive measures against Belarus until 31 October 2014. This is because not all political prisoners have been released, no released prisoner has been rehabilitated, and the respect for human rights, the rule of law and democratic principles has not improved in Belarus.

The EU maintains its policy of critical engagement with Belarus, intended to promote respect for human rights, the rule of law and democratic principles in that country.

The annual review updated the list of those targeted with a travel ban and freeze of their assets within the EU. 232 persons and 25 entities remain subject to EU sanctions.

The legal acts have been adopted by written procedure and will enter into force upon publication in the EU Official Journal of 30 October.

For more information on the EU's policy of critical engagement with Belarus, see [Council conclusions on Belarus of 15 October 2012](#) and [factsheet](#).

P R E S S

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