Belarus

**GEOGRAPHY**

**Area**
- Total: 207,600 sq km
- Land: 202,900 sq km
- Water: 4,700 sq km

**Climate**
- Cold winters, cool and moist summers; transitional between continental and maritime

**Natural Resources**
- Timber, peat deposits, small quantities of oil and natural gas, granite, dolomitic limestone, marl, chalk, sand, gravel, clay

**GOVERNMENT**

**Chief of State**
- President Aleksandr LUKASHENKO

**Head of Government**
- Prime Minister Roman GOLOVCHENKO

**Government Type**
- Presidential republic, although in fact a dictatorship

**Capital**
- Minsk

**Legislature**
- Bicameral National Assembly or Natsionalnoye Sobraniye (64 seats); House of Representatives or Palata Predstaviteley (110 seats)

**Judiciary**
- Supreme Court (number of judges varies); Constitutional Court (consists of 12 judges)

**Ambassador to US**
- Charge d'Affaires Dmitriy BASIK

**US Ambassador**
- Charge d'Affaires Jenifer MOORE

**ECONOMY**

**Economic Overview**
- Former Soviet republic; had well-developed industrial base; now outdated, inefficient, and dependent on subsidized Russian energy and preferential access to Russian markets; agricultural base is largely dependent on government subsidies.

**GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)**
- $179.4 billion (2017 est.)

**GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)**
- $18,900 (2017 est.)

**Exports**
- $28.65 billion (2017 est.)
- Partners: Russia 43.9%, Ukraine 11.5%, UK 8.2% (2017)

**Imports**
- $31.58 billion (2017 est.)
- Partners: Russia 57.2%, China 8%, Germany 5.1% (2017)

**PEOPLE & SOCIETY**

**Population**
- 9.5 million (July 2020 est.)

**Population Growth**
- -0.24% (2018 est.)

**Ethnicity**
- Belarusian 83.7%, Russian 8.3%, Polish 3.1%, Ukrainian 1.7%, other 2.4%, unspecified 0.9% (2009 est.)

**Language**
- Russian (official) 70.2%, Belarusian (official) 23.4%, other 3.1% (includes small Polish- and Ukrainian-speaking minorities), unspecified 3.3% (2009 est.)

**Religion**
- Orthodox 48.3%, Catholic 7.1%, other 3.5%, non-believers 41.1% (2011 est.)

**Urbanization**
- Urban population: 79.5% of total population (2020)
- Rate of urbanization: 0.44% annual rate of change (2015-20 est.)

**Literacy**
- 99.8% (2018)

As of September 2020