

## Day of State Flag, Emblem and Anthem of Belarus to be celebrated on May 14

The corresponding decree No. 105 was signed by the President of Belarus Alexander Lukashenko on April 12, 2023. The document amended the decree of March 26, 1998 No. 157 "On public holidays, holidays and memorable dates in the Republic of Belarus".

The name of the state holiday was changed from "Day of the State Emblem of the Republic of Belarus and the State Flag of the Republic of Belarus - the second Sunday of May" to "The Day of the State Flag, the State Emblem and the National Anthem of the Republic of Belarus - the second Sunday of May".

The new name will allow paying tribute to all three state symbols of Belarus. They were adopted on the basis of a nationwide discussion.

On July 2, 2013, the National Flag Square was opened in Minsk.

At the ceremony, a new patriotic tradition was laid of taking an oath of allegiance to the State Flag - the symbol and bulwark of independence and statehood. The most worthy representatives of science, culture, industry and sports were the first to take such an oath. Since then, festive events have been held on the new capital square, labor semesters are solemnly opened, young officers take the military oath, and young citizens of the country receive their first passports. The State Flag Square has become a symbolic place for Minsk residents and guests of the capital, for independent Belarus.

The red stripe on the flag symbolizes the courage of the people who defended their freedom with blood. Green is the color of life and hope, the color of our forests and fields, evidence of the peaceful nature of the Belarusians, their hard work. The white stripe with an ornament is a symbol of our purity and high spirituality.

The Belarusian coat of arms has changed several times since 1918. The last changes were in January 2021.

The image of the Belarusian coat of arms reflects the main national and spiritual values of the Belarusians: civic unity, diligence, peacefulness.

The State Emblem of the Republic of Belarus is a symbol of state sovereignty. It is a golden outline of the State Border of the Republic of Belarus placed in a silver field, superimposed on the golden rays of the sun rising over the globe. At the top of the field is a five-pointed red star. The coat of arms is framed by a wreath of golden ears intertwined with clover flowers on the right and flax flowers on the left. The wreath is intertwined three times on each side with a red-green ribbon, in the middle part of which, at the base of the State Emblem of the Republic of Belarus, the words "Republic of Belarus" are inscribed in two lines in gold.

The national anthem of the Republic of Belarus is a musical and poetic work performed on solemn occasions, the list of which is fixed in the legislation.

The music was written by the Belarusian composer Nestor Sokolovsky, and the words were written by the Belarusian poets Mikhas Klimovich and Vladimir Karizna.

Law of the Republic of Belarus dated July 5, 2004 No. 301-Z "On State Symbols of the Republic of Belarus" https://pravo.by/document/?guid=3871&p2=2/1050

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