

CANDIDATE FOR ELECTION
TO THE ITU COUNCIL
2023-2026 YEARS (REGION C)



The Republic of Belarus has been an ITU Member State **since 1947** and takes an active part in the activities of the Union, attaching fundamental importance to the effective development and application of modern information and communication technologies. The Republic of Belarus has significant experience and achievements in the development of the ICT sector, successfully interacting in these areas with the ITU.

As a socially oriented state, in matters of digitalization and development of advanced information and communication technologies, the Republic of Belarus is steadily guided by the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for the period until 2030, ITU recommendations and international experience.

Our country can be rightly proud of the achieved values of all the SDGs indicators in the ICT field. In the Republic of Belarus at present:

population coverage with the third generation cellular mobile telecommunication network is **99.9 percent**;

population coverage with the fourth generation cellular mobile telecommunication (LTE) network is **97.4 percent** and is constantly increasing due to the active network construction in the regions.

Our country is actively preparing for the deployment of the fifth generation networks and their commercial operation, following the successful completion of the work of all deployed test zones. The Program of activities of the Government of the Republic of Belarus sets the task to ensure population coverage with the fourth and fifth generation networks equal to **99.9 percent** by the end of 2025.

Our state has a well developed information and communication infrastructure, modern networks and communication facilities, highly qualified and competent specialists. The results achieved in the development of ICT sphere ensure stable high positions of the Republic of Belarus in various international ICT development rankings, which is an obvious international recognition of the results of the work carried out in the Republic of Belarus, effective planning and implementation of national digital development programs.

To date, the necessary basis has been established in the republic for the transition to high-tech standards for providing social services, making management decisions and implementing key business processes in electronic form, significant progress has been achieved in the field of electronic government. In 2021, **the implementation of the State Program “Digital Development of Belarus” for 2021–2025 has been launched.**

In the United Nations E-Government Survey 2020, the Republic of Belarus was ranked **40th in the e-government readiness index** out of 193 countries of the world, retaining its position as a country with a high level of the index.

According to the ITU Measuring the Information Society Report on the **ICT development index**, the Republic of Belarus in 2017 was ranked **32nd** out of 176 countries, having improved its position by 21 points for 10 years.

Our country is also one of the leaders in terms of the household penetration of fiber-optic communication lines. Thus, the Republic of Belarus topped the rating of European countries in 2020 in terms of **fiber-optic communication line penetration** with an indicator of 68.4 percent, according to the results of survey carried out by the independent company Idate for the European Council.

Also in 2021, **Belarus entered the top-20 in terms of ICT Access** according to the Global Innovation Index 2021 compiled by the World Intellectual Property Organization, taking the **16th position** out of 132 countries, and in terms of ICT Services Export (telecommunications, computer, and information services) in the total volume of foreign trade, the Republic of **Belarus was ranked 11th in the world** according to this index.

As part of the ITU Council, the Republic of Belarus intends to carry out active work aimed at solving critical global and regional issues in the field of ICT, bridging the digital divide, further development of information and communication technologies and services worldwide, as well as broad promotion of the Union's activities for the benefit of all the ITU Member States and world community.