

Cooperation agreement between the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Belarus and the Federal Service of National Guard Troops of the Russian Federation

The Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Belarus and the Federal Service of National Guard Troops of the Russian Federation, hereinafter referred to as the Parties,

considering great importance to the development of international cooperation in the field of ensuring state and public safety, protection of human and civil rights and freedoms, proceeding from the mutual desire to strengthen the interaction of the Parties, based on the generally recognized principles and norms of international law, have agreed as follows:

Article 1

Commitment to cooperate

The Parties cooperate in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement, acting within its competence, in compliance with the law and international obligations of the states of the Parties.

Article 2

Areas of cooperation

The Parties cooperate in the following areas:

maintaining public order and ensuring public safety;

protection of important state facilities, special cargo;

fight against terrorism and extremism;

state control in the field of arms trafficking;

ensuring the safety of objects of the fuel and energy complex;

protection of especially important facilities and objects of a special protection regime;

protection of property of individuals and legal entities;

providing of the force support measures to counter crime;

development of sports and cultural ties;

provision of assistance on a contractual basis in health-resort treatment for military personnel, employees, civilian personnel of the Parties and their families.

Article 3

Forms of cooperation

1. In order to implement the provisions of article 2 of this Agreement, the Parties cooperate in the following forms:

exchange of experience in the implementation of activities in areas of cooperation, as defined in article 2 of this Agreement;

holding consultations, seminars, conferences and educational and methodological meetings;

staff training;

conducting joint exercises (trainings);

participation as observers in command-post and tactical-special exercises and open examination-competitions of professional skill held by one from the Parties;

research activities;

development of information technology;

exchange of legislative and other regulatory legal acts, scientific technical literature and information on the activities of the Parties;

coordination of the activities of the Parties on issues arising in the process cooperation, including the creation of joint working groups.

2. This Agreement does not prevent the Parties from determining and developing other mutually acceptable forms of cooperation, taking into account the conditions defined in article 1 of this Agreement.

Article 4

Requests for assistance

1. Cooperation under this Agreement is carried out on the basis of requests of the interested Party for assistance (hereinafter - the request) or on the initiative of a Party suggesting that such assistance is of interest for the other Party.

2. The request is sent in writing. In urgent cases, requests can be transmitted orally, but no more than 3 days later they must be confirmed in writing, including using technical means of transmission of text.

If there is any doubt about the authenticity or content of the request, additional confirmation may be requested.

3. The request shall contain:

name of the requesting Party and the requested Party;

statement of the essence of the case;

indication of the purpose and justification of the request;

description of the content of the requested assistance;

any other information that may be useful for proper execution of the request.

4. The request, transmitted or confirmed in writing, is signed by the head of the requesting Party or his deputy and legalized with the seal of requesting Party.

Article 5

Denial of assistance

1. Refuses to provide assistance under this Agreement in full or in part, if the requested Party supposes that the execution of the request can harm sovereignty, safety, public order or other the essential interests of its state either contradicts the law or international obligations of its state.
2. The requested Party, pending a decision to refuse assistance on the basis of paragraph 1 of this article, if possible, hold consultations with the requesting Party to consider whether the assistance can be provided subject to the conditions that the requested Party considers necessary. The requesting Party complies with the conditions on the basis of which its assistance is provided.
3. The requesting Party shall be notified in writing of full or partial refusal to execute the request, indicating the reasons for refusal.

Article 6

Request execution

1. The requested Party shall take all necessary measures to ensure fast and complete execution of the request.

The requesting Party is promptly notified of the circumstances interfering with the execution of the request or significantly delaying its execution.

2. The requested Party has the right to request additional information, necessary, in its opinion, for the proper execution of the request.
3. The requested Party, at the request of the requesting Party, accepts the necessary measures to ensure the confidentiality of the fact of receipt of the request, the content of this request and accompanying documents, as well as the fact of providing assistance.

If it is impossible to fulfill the request without maintaining confidentiality the requested Party shall inform the requesting Party thereof, which decides whether the request should be complied with under such conditions.

4. The requested Party shall, as soon as possible, inform the requesting Party on the results of the execution of the request.

Article 7

Restrictions on the use of information and documents received

1. Each Party shall ensure the confidentiality of information and documents, received from the other Party, if they are of a closed nature or if the transmitting Party considers their disclosure undesirable. Confidentiality of such information and documents is determined by the transmitting Party.
2. The results of the execution of the request, obtained on the basis of this Agreements, without the consent of the Party that provided them, cannot be used for purposes other than those for which they were requested and provided.
3. In order to transfer to a third party information received by one Party under this Agreement, the prior consent of the Party provided this information is required.
4. The provisions of this article do not exclude the use or disclosure of information and documents obtained as a result of the execution of the request, if the law of the state of the requesting Party provides for the obligation to act in such way. Requesting Party notifies requested Party in advance possible and intended use or disclosure of such information and documents. In this case, the requested Party may refuse to transfer confidential information to the requesting Party.
5. When implementing this Agreement, the transfer and protection of state secrets of the Republic of Belarus and information constituting a state secret of the Russian Federation, are carried out in accordance with the Agreement between The Republic of Belarus and the Russian Federation on mutual protection of state secrets of the Republic of Belarus and state secrets of the Russian Federation of January 20, 2003 and the Agreement between the Government of the Republic Belarus and the Government of the Russian Federation on the interaction of bodies and organizations of the Republic of Belarus and the Russian Federation when placing secret orders, transfer (receipt) and (or) use of state secrets of the Republic of Belarus and state secrets of the Russian Federation of December 10, 2009.

Article 8

Expenses

The Parties independently bear the costs arised during fulfillment of this Agreement, if in each specific case a different order has been agreed.

Article 9

Languages

The Parties in the implementation of cooperation based on this Agreement use Russian.

Article 10

Coordination of cooperation

1. Coordination of activities for cooperation between the Parties within the framework of this Agreement is entrusted from the Belarusian side to the Department of International cooperation of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Belarus and the Main Office of the Commander of Internal Troops of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Belarus, from the Russian side - to the Main Organizational Directorate of the Federal Service of the National Guard Troops of the Russian Federation.

The indicated subdivisions of the Parties can carry out direct contacts between themselves.

2. In order to improve the efficiency of interaction and coordination of joint actions under this Agreement, the Parties will work out the issue of exchanging by their representatives.

Article 11

Working meetings and consultations

Representatives of the Parties, if necessary, hold working meetings and consultations to consider strengthening and improving the effectiveness of cooperation based on this Agreement.

Article 12

Dispute resolution

Disagreements between the Parties arising from the interpretation or application of the provisions of this Agreement are resolved by consultations and negotiations.

Article 13

Final provisions

1. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of its signing and will act until the expiration of 6 months from the date of receipt by one of the Parties of the written notifying the other Party of its intention to terminate it.

2. The provisions of Article 7 of this Agreement shall remain in effect for 5 years from the date of its termination, unless the Parties agree otherwise.

3. By mutual agreement of the Parties, this Agreement may be amended and supplemented by separate protocols.

Signed in the city of Minsk on November 19, 2020 in two copies in Russian language.

**For the Ministry of
Internal Affairs of the Republic of Belarus**

Signature

**For the Federal Service of National
Guard Troops of the Russian**

Signature