

Belarus: What's Next?

19 October 2020
15:00 – 16:00 (CET)

Mass protests have rocked Belarus since the 9 August presidential election, with thousands of people marching in Minsk and other cities throughout the country, demanding the resignation of Alyaksandr Lukashenka. The unprecedented wave of unrest was triggered by the results of the election, that handed Lukashenka a crushing victory with 80% of the vote. His main challenger, Svyatlana Tsikhanouskaya, and her supporters refused to recognise the validity of the result. In the first days after the vote, Belarusian authorities cracked down brutally on the protesters, detaining hundreds of protesters and prosecuting top activists. Many prominent members of the Coordination Council for the Transfer of Power have either been arrested or forced to leave the country.

This online event aims to discuss the recent developments in the country, focusing on the radical change within Belarusian society, the driving force of the revolution. How can the EU support the nation's transition to free and democratic elections? Will Putin give his unconditional support to the last dictator in Europe? These and other questions will be tackled during the discussion.

PROGRAMME

15:00

Discussants:

Andrius Kubilius, MEP, EPP & Honorary Board Member, Martens Centre

Artyom Shraibman, Political Analyst, Founder of Sense Analytics

Franak Viačorka, Journalist, non-Resident Fellow at Atlantic Council

Moderated by:

Katerina Jakimovska, Event Officer, Martens Centre

16:00

End of discussion