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**COUNTRY:** The Federal Republic of Germany

**COMMITTEE:** The United Nations Security Council (UNSC)

**ISSUE:** The Belarus Border Conflict

The Belarus Border Conflict is an alarming migrant crisis consisting of an influx of thousands of immigrants, in the search of accesible refuges from countries especially located in Iraq, Iran, the Middle East and Africa, to flood to Belarus, using it as a passageway to Europe. The relations between Belarus and their neighbouring countries mainly form the base of the crisis, but also putting a spotlight to the autocratic regime of Belarus which is solely led by the only president of the country, Alexander Lukashenko, holding it under a strict and active sovereignty. In recent years, Belarus has attracted attention globally with a lack of basic fundamentals of a country regime especially concerning human rights, democracy and freedom. In charge of these developments, Alexander Lukashenko has been in a strong mass of allegationss and revulsions by the Belarusians and the Europian Union(EU) , for his actions. Due to the immense power he holds, and the continuous regime changes he does to have even more authority by this strength; Belarus has gained the disapproval of other countries and an alarming amount of tension with the EU itself. After the 2020 elections of Belarus, which was again won by Lukashenko, Europian Union took the matter in their own hands, imposing several sanctions against both Lukashenko amd other people of interest. Electoral fraud, however, was not the only serious issue that was recognized that contributed implementation of these sanctions. The incident of Ryanair Flight 4978, in which a false bomb threat took place for the sake of supression of political opposition, was also a big part of making these decisions. At last, the crisis came to its climax after Lukashenko stated that he was willing to flood EU with drugs and migrants to cease new sanctions. “We stopped drugs and migrants. Now you will eat them and catch them yourselves.” As the Federal Republic of Germany, we strongly oppose to the government and President Alexander Lukashenko’s biased acts, and are willing to have an even more active role in supporting the Belarusian people and their fight for democracy and freedom.

 The Europian Union has been the most active fighting to stop the ongoing dictatorship of the country, taking several actions and precautions. It has already imposed several sanctions, with a starting point from the 2020 elections. The first prohibitions were a travel ban and an asset freze for 40 individuals, on October 2, 2020, followed by a ban for Belarusian air carriers. And after Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko threatened to flood the EU with human traffickers, drug smugglers, and armed migrants, an airspace ban for Belarus was announced on June 21, 2021, with other measures totaling more than 100. The EU reprimanded Belarus for engaging in illegal border crossing on the borders with Poland and Lithuania on November 15, 2021. The EU also adopted more measures on February 24, 2022, including restrictions on trade and limits on the financial inflows from Belarus to the EU, due to Belarus’ involvement in Russia’s unprovoked and unjustified military invasion of Ukraine.

In response to the events, Germany has held a strong ground, firmly expressing its support to the Belarusian people, their battle for a democratic regime and their right to free and fair elections. The German government supports those protesting against the results of August 9, the presidential election. The independent media and civil society of Belarus have also been receiving active support from the German government, which has also provided these groups with financial and technical assistance so they can continue to fight for democracy and human rights. Germany has also played an important role for making sure the Belarusian government were held responsible for what has been done, with a unity of countries, working closely especially with the EU and NATO to implement diplomatic pressure and economic restrictions. Several speeches and acts have taken place regionally to bring consciousness to the issue; for instance Viktor Balakirev, Belarusian Director of the Minsk centre for education and exchange IBB Johannes Rau, was awarded the Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany in June 2020 for his efforts in pursuit of German-Belarusian reconciliation. Germany has been actively involved in providing Belarus with humanitarian supplies. In addition to supporting the families of political prisoners and human rights activists who have been persecuted by the Belarusian government, the German government has been cooperating with international groups to supply the crisis victims with basic commodities and services.

 Although numerous help was provided and support has been given to the civil society of Belarus, the Federal Republic of Germany has the conscience that simply these are not even nearly half of enough. In the short term, there will not be a solution to the Belarusian political crisis. In that context, it is necessary to support the progressive democratic movement's reenforcement over time and prepare for future change of power. It is also aimed at supporting Belarus's society in the development of political, media, Civil Society, Cultural and Scientific Platforms abroad which serve as an alternative to those imposed by Lukashenka on Belarus. As the Federal Republic of Germany, it has been drawn attention to us that the members of the EU must get more involved in terms of support and the resolution of the issue, and we are willing to take further action in order to ensure political equality and freedom to those of whom are suffering in Belarus.

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