

Realistic female portrait against background of favourable statistics

By Boris Alexandrov

The picture was interesting, with a few surprises. According to researchers, the average Belarusian is a 42 year old married woman, with children, living in a city. She has higher or secondary special education and sees Belarusian as her native language. However, she prefers speaking in Russian.

According to statistics, there are 1,151 women for each thousand men in Belarus. However, urban men prevail over women in the 'under 28' age group. In villages, this extends to the age of 57. The situation is largely due to young women leaving villages for cities, to continue their education and find employment.

Women's thirst for knowledge is worthy of envy; there are more women than men in education: 863,000 as of early 2011 (51 percent of the total). 962,000 girls (49 per-

cent) receive secondary education, while 32 percent attend professional colleges and 53 percent are at special secondary establishments. The share of girls in higher educational establishments remains at a steady 59 percent, with most traditionally preferring humanitarian and social classes, studying culture, arts, medicine, teaching, economics and management. They show less interest in electro-technical studies, architecture and metal processing. Their choices determine their future careers, with most choosing jobs which require patience, attention to detail and sensitivity. Of course, others find their niche in transport, construction and forestry, with these spheres employing up to 25 percent of women.

As regards marriage and family life, much remains unchanged. According to the 2009 census, 62 percent of men and 52 percent of women



Women's growing social status and public importance is state priority

were married, while 27 percent of men and 18 percent of women had never been married. Interestingly, almost 80 percent of never married men and over 75 percent of women were under the age of 30.

The 2009 census showed that 83 percent of women viewed themselves as Belarusians, about 9 percent as Russians, over 3 percent as Poles, and about 2 percent as Ukrainians. Russian was the major

language of communication for 70 percent of Belarusian women, while Belarusian was spoken by 24 percent. Almost 60 percent of women knew English well, while 63 percent knew German.

Implemented projects yield benefits

By Nikolay Khromov

Vladimir Dvornik, Chairman of Gomel's Regional Executive Committee, joins Edmund Lengfelder, Chairman of the German Society for Radiation Protection, to discuss the results of German Otto Hug Radiological Institute's twenty years of operation in Belarus

The German non-governmental organisation began its humanitarian charity work in the sphere of medicine and social protection in Belarus in the early years following the Chernobyl catastrophe. It helped set up a centre to diagnose and cure thyroid, at Gomel's Regional Endocrinological Dispensary, which is equipped with the latest medical technology. Meanwhile, radioiodine therapy for cancer patients is supported by our German partners, who provide a weekly supply of medicine to the Regional Oncological Dispensary. Since the late 1990s, the German scientists have also offered their expertise and support regarding renewable energy sources.

At the recent meeting, Mr. Lengfelder discussed all the projects with Mr. Dvornik, reporting on the successes of the Institute's work.

Road leads to Hall of Victory

3D technologies for new State Museum of Great Patriotic War History in Minsk

Construction of the museum is currently in full swing. "Of course, it won't lose its classical features but we'll be using 3D technologies and information resources, with artefacts and documents viewable via info-kiosks. Visitors will be

able to 'visit' the Museum of Great Patriotic War History in Moscow or Kiev, touring the displays. The system will also link to other museums boasting similar exhibits. We think it'll be interesting," notes Sergei Azaronok, Director of the Belarusian State Museum of Great Patriotic War History.

The new museum will boast a gallery allowing

visitors on the second floor to look down upon the first floor. "The idea is to show the path taken by the war: the road to Victory, to be more exact. It will progress up to the second floor before entering the dome of the Hall of Victory," explains Mr. Azaronok.

Walking through the museum, visitors will be able to trace events from

the beginning of military action to the final stage, with the dome of the Hall of Victory resembling that of the Reichstag. "It is deeply symbolic, as a Belarusian flag will be flying overhead. Belarusians took part in the assaults on Berlin and on the Reichstag at the end of the war. It will be a very interesting exhibition," adds Mr. Azaronok.



Belavia expands fleet alongside geography of flights

Belavia plans to expand its fleet

By Olga Belovets

National Airline Belavia to purchase another Boeing jet

Belavia already operates six Boeing 737-500s, three Boeing 737-300s, four CRJ-100/200 LRs and four Tu-154Ms, all meeting international safety and noise standards; they can fly to any CIS or non-CIS destination without restriction. "There are plans to purchase another Boeing 737-300 jet and we are considering purchasing jets to seat 70-80 passengers in the future," Belavia has announced.

Alongside the modernisation of its fleet, Belavia is to extend the geography of its flights. It already offers regular routes to 37 desti-

nations in 20 countries — within Europe, the Middle East and the CIS. Charter flights are organised to 91 airports across 36 countries, with the company enjoying interline and code-share agreements with renowned carriers such as Aeroflot, Air France-KLM, Delta, Finnair and British Airways.

In 2010, Belavia's transit passenger flow almost doubled, with new routes launched to Riga, Tehran, Stockholm, Batumi and Ashgabat. The airline now plans to streamline its passenger check in, offering online check in, using the most advanced IT technologies. At present, Belavia controls about 65 percent of the market for Belarusian passenger air travel.

Expressive face of whole country

Over a hundred Belarusian enterprises demonstrate products from various branches of activity at National Exhibition in Ukraine

By Tatiana Lobas

The exposition included Belarus' achievements in the fields of science, high technologies and education, including economic attainments and future potential. Belarusian vehicles, tractors, agricultural machinery and tool building equipment were showcased separately at the forum, which primarily aimed to raise turnover between our countries, while strengthening existing ties and establishing new contacts. National exhibitions abroad traditionally build a positive image, while enhancing our investment attractiveness and contrib-



Animated conversation at exhibition stands

uting to the further expansion of bilateral trade and economic collaboration.

Round table discussions were held, with Belarusian and Ukrainian business circles in attendance, in addition to seminars, presenta-

tions and bilateral meetings.

Ukraine is a strategic trading partner for Belarus, occupying second place among CIS states, and fourth among non-CIS nations. Over 100 Belarusian enterprises operate commodity

networks in Ukraine, while five assembly facilities exist: two assemble Minsk Tractor Works' tractors, one assembles lifts and the others produce Lidagropromash machinery and grain harvesters.