23.03.2016

Statement of the Belarusian National Platform of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum

"On the terrorist attack in Brussels"

To citizens of Belgium, representatives of civil society, officials of the EU institutions and EU member states, the EU Delegation in Minsk

We, representatives of the Belarusian civil society organizations, united in the framework of the Belarusian National Platform of the EaP Civil Society Forum, express our deepest condolences to the citizens of Belgium and across the European Union, who became the object of a terrorist attack at the airport and the metro in Brussels.

These days we are together with the whole civilized world are experiencing the tragedy and mourn the victims of the terrorist attack. We want to express our sincere condolences to the families of the victims and convey words of support to the Belgian society and the whole united Europe!

This attack carried out in the heart of Europe is obviously demonstrative to intimidate the citizens and destabilize the European life, to discredit the traditional European values of democracy, openness, tolerance, diversity and mutual respect.

We call upon the European Union, the EU partner countries in the fight against international terrorism to take adequate security measures. However, these measures should not lead to the violations of human rights, incitement of ethnic strife, growth of xenophobia, radicalism, discrimination and harassment of refugees and ethnic minorities in Europe. Otherwise, the terrorists' goals will be achieved.

We sincerely hope that the civilized world will find ways to protect their citizens, way of life and values of the terrorist threat through solidarity and meaningful actions in the interests of our peoples and human rights.

Belarusian civil society organizations, participants of the Belarusian National Platform of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum