

## Press release announcing the creation of BeSSA - Belarusian Student Support Association.

Repressions in Belarus continue to affect all segments of the population. One of the most affected social groups – are our talented students, faculty and researchers. Belarusian diasporas around the world decided to come together and provide support to all students who experienced physical and psychological abuse or who have been expelled or otherwise repressed at their Universities.

Through consolidation of all Belarusian diasporas abroad, we managed to unite most of the initiatives under one roof and form an international association BeSSA - Belarusian Student Support Association.

The Association includes such initiatives as "Honest University" (provides legal and financial aid to repressed students), BAREA (Belarusian scientific community in the USA), a number of information projects, as well as academic and scientific associations in Poland, Lithuania, Switzerland, Italy (Belarusian association "Supolka"), Germany (association "Razam" and DGO academic initiative, and German society dedicated to research of Eastern Europe), Czech Republic, Hungary, Finland and others.

**Belarusian Student Support Association (BeSSA)** team is dedicated to finding and creating educational and scholarship opportunities for all Belarusians who suffered from repressions, as well as organizing support at all stages of the university application process – preparation of the application documents, relocation, and successful integration into the new educational environment.

If you are a student, who suffered from repressions, if you have been expelled from your university for expressing your political views or participating in peaceful demonstration, if the administration of your university is pressuring you or demanding that you leave the university – request the assistance. Fill out the form provided by <u>«Honest University»</u>, and we will process your application and contact you within 24 hours.

If you are a member of the Belarusian diaspora abroad and are willing to get actively involved in working with the Universities to secure scholarships and financial support, free admissions, establishing special programs for affected students in the country of your residence – contact us to work alongside our team!

You can send your questions and suggestions about the work of the association here: <a href="mailto:bystudentsol@gmail.com">bystudentsol@gmail.com</a>