

EU organized hypocrisy in Belarus

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Organized hypocrisy

**WHAT THE EU
SAYS TO BE**

Normative environment



Ideational pressures

HOW THE EU ACTS

Technical environment



Material and institutional
constraints

Cypriot veto

The EU condemned the elections in Belarus as fraudulent and called for the end of violence and the release of political prisoners, but it could not adopt sanctions right away due to the Cypriot obstructionism.



**DOUBLE
STANDARDS**

Russian influence

- Belarus is the most Russianised of the post-soviet countries
- Belarus has remained on the margin of EU enlargement efforts
- Lukashenko is used to switch his allegiance between Russia and the EU



**INTERNATIONAL
ALIGNMENTS**

Activism of Poland and Lithuania

Poland and Lithuania put pressure on the EU for the adoption of strong responses against Lukashenko's regime.

- *POLITICAL REASONS*: cultural ties between these countries and Belarus
- *STRATEGIC REASONS*: to contain Russian influence on the region.



**NATIONAL
PRIORITIES**

Sanctions

PROS

- Targeted individuals
- Prolonged until February 2022
- The EU stands with Belarusian people
- Financial support to the Co-operation Council and the civil society
- Cohesion with Atlantic allies

**UPHOLDING OF
NORMATIVE VALUES**

CONS

- Late implementation of sanctions
- Internal political and procedural constraints
- Disorganisation with the Atlantic allies

**LOSS OF CREDIBILITY AND
BARGAINING POWER**

Thank you for
your attention

Questions

- Is the theory of organised hypocrisy a good method to describe the role of the EU at international level?
- Would European sanctions have been stricter and faster if Belarus had been a more crucial strategical partner for the EU?