

TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS IN THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

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Due to its geographic location, the Republic of Belarus serves as an important transit country in Eastern Europe. Belarus is located at the crossroads of major transportation routes, connecting Western European states with Eastern European countries, and regions on the Black Sea coast with those on the Baltic Sea coast.

According to 2021 estimates, transportation accounted for 5.1% of the gross domestic product of the Republic of Belarus. Transportation services accounted for about 43% of the country's total services exports and 41% of the services foreign trade balance; in 2021, the value of transportation services exports was \$4.4 billion and the transportation services foreign trade balance was positive \$1.8 billion. In the field of the transportation complex of the Republic of Belarus, as of January 1, 2022, there are more than 10.8 thousand organizations of various forms of ownership and more than 37 thousand private entrepreneurs; in 2021, about 159.6 million people were transported by all types of passenger transport (including cabs). At the same time, there is a trend toward shifting national mobility to air transportation, with the share of air transportation reaching more than 22% of the total passenger traffic in the Republic in 2021 [1].

To improve the quality of service, work efficiency, and safety, a number of infrastructure projects are being implemented: In 2019, the highway P80 Sloboda-Papernya, the highway M6 Minsk-Grodno-border of the Republic of Poland (Bruzgi), the highway M1/E30. The reconstruction of the bridge over the Mukhavets River was completed. The second artificial runway at Minsk

National Airport became operational. In Belarusian Railways, electrification of the tracks and renewal of rolling stock continued. In the field of water transportation, emphasis is being placed on the development of the international waterway E40 and the reconstruction of navigable structures on the Dnepr-Bug canal. The development of the transportation sector is closely linked to the development of the logistics system of the Republic of Belarus.

At the beginning of 2022, 61 logistics centers with different functions were in operation in the country.

Transportation by container trains through the territory of the Republic of Belarus on the China-Europe-China connection is effectively developing, the infrastructure of the cargo terminal of the Belarusian railroad on the Belarusian-Polish border has been opened, as well as a transportation management center.

A project to build a large-scale regional logistics center on the territory of the Great Stone Industrial Park is actively underway. Currently, the first stage of the logistics facility with a total area of 50,000square meters, a technical platform for cargo handling operations and a container terminal are functioning on the industrial park's premises.

The next stage is the construction of a bimodal cargo terminal with an area of 800 thousand square meters with the participation of the management company of the largest river port in Europe "Duisburg Hafen", the logistics operator "China Merchants Group", the Belarusian Railway. In the transport sector, work continues to improve existing technological processes and increase the level of their automation and digitalization.

References

1. Uniter [Electronic resource]. – Mode of access: <https://president.gov.by/>. – Date of access: 18.03.2023.