

EURO-WINDOWS

by Jura Shust

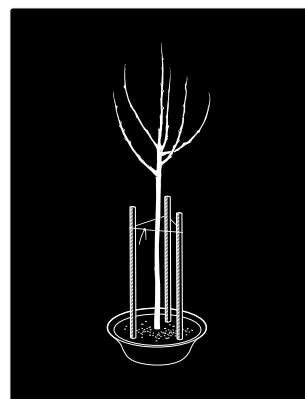
3rd scenario, curated by Lena Prents



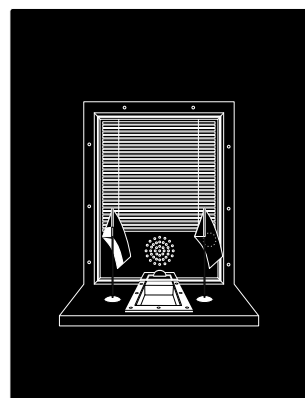
The labels on Belarusian goods clearly indicate the weighting and positioning of Belarus. In spite of a strong dependency upon trade with the EU and Russia, Belarus strives towards not giving in to outside demands for the privatisation of state enterprises.



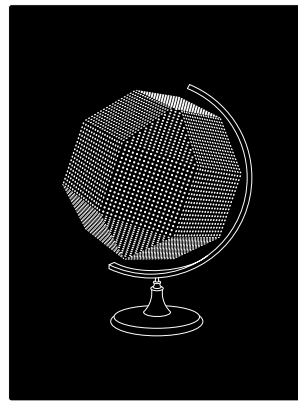
In the game "At the Steering Wheel", popular in the Soviet era, the player had to demonstrate his other skill at steering a car which constantly moved around in circles. The Belarusian identity still has strong Soviet influences.



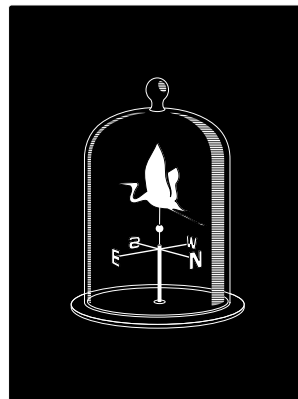
Even amidst the crisis, the official Belarus still presents itself as a growing, prospering economic area. This growth, related to the ideal of the selfless and heroic national Resistance movement in the Second World War, is propagated in an independent country and declared to be the task of each individual.



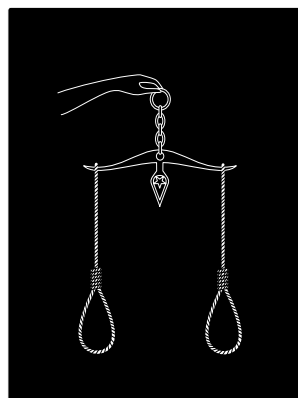
A large number of visits to the authorities are required to survive everyday life in Belarus. For this you need time, money, patience and a certain measure of luck in the face of official arbitrariness. If you wish to escape these difficulties by leaving the country and going to the EU, you will require a visa. For this you need time, money, patience and a certain measure of luck in the face of consular arbitrariness.



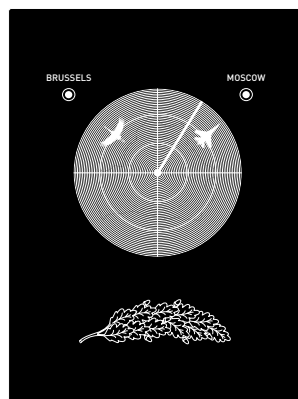
The new building containing the Belarusian National Library, a gigantic octagon as a "temple of knowledge in a diamond", symbolizing contemporary Belarus as well as no other. Is Belarus attempting to find its place in the world, or is it enough as a world unto itself?



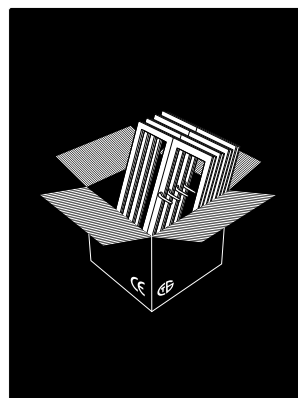
The citizens of Belarus perceive their country as a closed, sealed-off area. The flying stork, the national symbol of Belarus, is becoming an empty metaphor, at best suitable as a decorative motif for vodka bottles.



Belarus is the only European country in which the death sentence is still imposed and carried out. It is estimated that approx. 400 people have been sentenced to death and executed in the last twenty years.



The direction of Belarusian foreign policy fluctuates between Russia and the EU according to current interests. In relation to Europe, Belarus does not follow a long-term strategy.



Euro-windings, euro-renovations, euro-wines, euro-tyre fitting, euro-beauty salons or euro-second hand shops; the "Europe" brand stands for excellent goods and services. Other European values such as human rights or a civil society have, however, not yet become available over the shop counter.