

Belarus

Tobacco Control Policies

Belarus became a Party to the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control on December 7, 2005.

Smoke Free Places: Smoking is prohibited in educational facilities and on most public transport (except for commercial watercraft). Smoking is restricted to designated areas in most other places, including healthcare facilities, cultural facilities, sports facilities, shops, restaurants, government facilities, and public transport facilities.

Tobacco Advertising, Promotion and Sponsorship: The law prohibits most forms of tobacco advertising and promotion. Permitted forms include reverse brand stretching, competitions associated with tobacco products, and unpaid depiction in TV, film, or other media. Product display at points of sale is prohibited except in duty-free shops. Tobacco sponsorship is allowed. However, it is unclear whether certain types of publicity of tobacco sponsorship are prohibited under the law.

Tobacco Packaging and Labeling: On the packaging of smoked tobacco products, rotating picture and text health warnings are required to cover 50 percent of the front and back of the packaging. The law does not require health warnings on smokeless tobacco product packaging. Instead, the law requires that smokeless tobacco products include a leaflet within the package that includes health warnings about tobacco consumption dangers. Misleading packaging and labeling, including terms such as "light" and "low tar" and other signs, is prohibited.

Tobacco Taxation and Prices: The World Health Organization recommends raising tobacco excise taxes so that they account for at least 70 percent of retail prices. Tobacco excise taxes in Belarus are well below these recommendations.

SMOKE FREE ENVIRONMENTS COMPLETE SMOKING BAN			
Health-care facilities	No	Private offices	No
Primary and secondary schools	Yes	Public transport	No
Universities	Yes	Restaurants	No
Governmental facilities	No	Bars and Pubs	No
Can subnational jurisdictions enact more stringent smoking restrictions?	Yes		
BANS ON TOBACCO ADVERTISING, PROMOTION, AND SPONSORSHIP			
Domestic TV and radio	Yes	Promotional discounts	No
Domestic magazines and newspapers	Yes	Non-tobacco products or services with tobacco brand names	Yes
Outdoor advertising	Yes	Tobacco products with non-tobacco brand names	Yes
Outdoor advertising (e.g., billboards, posters)	Yes	Paid placement in media	Uncertain
Retail product display	No	Financial sponsorship, including corporate social responsibility	Yes
Internet advertising	Yes	Publicity of sponsorships	Yes
Free distribution	Yes		
HEALTH WARNINGS ON SMOKED TOBACCO PRODUCTS			
Text warnings describe health impacts	Yes	Number of published warnings at any given time	12
Warnings include a picture or graphic	Yes	Warnings required to rotate	Required
% of principal display areas covered (front and back)	50%	Warnings are written in the principal language(s)	Yes
Front	50%	Ban on misleading packaging and labeling	Yes
Back	50%	Health warnings on smokeless tobacco products	Yes
TOBACCO TAXATION AND PRICE			
PRICE OF MOST SOLD BRAND, PACK OF 20 CIGARETTES		TAXES ON MOST SOLD BRAND (% OF RETAIL PRICE)	
In country currency	1.28 BYR	Total taxes	56%
In US dollars	0.52 USD	Total excise	39%

Sources:

SF, APS, PL: Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids Legal Website. Available at: www.tobaccocontrolaws.org

Tax: WHO Report on the Global Tobacco Epidemic, 2021. Available at: www.who.int/tobacco/global_report/en/

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