

**Contribution for UPR  
Belarus  
3 November 2009**

On 30 – 31 October 2009, the Legal and Human Rights Capacity Building Department of the Directorate General of Human Rights of the Council of Europe organised the first seminar to take place in Belarus itself since 2004. The theme of the seminar was “the European Convention on Human Rights and criminal justice” and its aim was to raise the awareness of the Belarusian authorities and legal professionals of European human rights standards with regard to criminal justice and at examining the compatibility of Belarus law and practice with these standards.

Some 50 to 60 participants including representatives of the Constitutional Court, the General Prosecutor’s Office, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Ministry of Justice, judges, prosecutors, academics, lawyers and civil society representatives took part in the event.