• Agritourism (Agro-Ecological Farms): This unique form of accommodation allows tourists to stay on working farms. They offer a chance to experience rural life and enjoy local cuisine, thus promoting cultural exchange.

• Apartments: Short-term rentals provide families and groups with the flexibility of a home environment. This category has gained popularity due to the growing demand for more spacious and privately controlled accommodation [2].

In conclusion, the classification of accommodation facilities in the Republic of Belarus plays a crucial role in shaping the tourism industry. Accurate classification aids travelers in making informed decisions and enhances their overall experience. As the influx of tourists continues to rise, it is imperative to adopt and maintain high standards for accommodation facilities by aligning them with international practices. This commitment to quality will not only improve customer satisfaction but also contribute to the sustainable development of the tourism sector in Belarus.

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## IMPORT SUBSTITUTION IN THE CONTEXT OF ECONOMIC SANCTIONS: CHALLENGES AND PROSPECTS FOR THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

## Импортозамещение в условиях экономических санкций: вызовы и перспективы для Республики Беларусь

In recent years, import substitution has become one of the crucial strategies of Belarusian economic policy especially in the context of global challenges and a changing geopolitical landscape. The process is becoming particularly relevant in the light of sanctions, economic crises and instability of world markets. So our aim is to consider the problems faced by Belarus and analyze the ways to solve them.

Import substitution is a type of economic strategy and industrial policy that is designed to protect domestic producers by replacing imported goods with national goods. The development of import substitution programs in Belarus began in 1997, but now their nature has changed. Until recently, government import substitution plans put the interests

of the economy at the forefront rather than politics. Previously, the programs adhered to the criteria of economic efficiency, but now they set the goals of maintaining economic security.

The changes are caused by the influence of economic sanctions, because of the high import dependence of Belarus (demand of the Belarusian economy for imported goods used in production) many high-tech industries faced problems with a shortage of raw materials and the inner market also experienced a lack of imported ready-made consumer goods. According to the international agency Fitch the GPD of Belarus will decrease by 0,3% in 2024 due to the ongoing reorientation of trade flows and weak investment, with further adaption of businesses to sanctions. That is why import substitution is one of the top priorities of the Belarusian economic policy.

At this stage, three directions are being implemented in Belarus:

1. Changing the geography of imports and the search for new trading partners from *friendly countries*. There is an increase in mutual supplies within the framework of the Union State of Belarus and Russia (cooperation KAMAZ – BelAZ, 25 integration projects in high-tech industries, also 10 projects under approval and development). It's also important to note the strategic cooperation of Belarus and China (Geely Automobiles Holding Limited – an excellent example of a successful import-substituting company).

2. *Parallel imports*. This is one of the temporary measures to restore broken supply chains was legalized in Belarus in 2023.

3. *Localization of import-substituting products*. Of course, the most important task is to create Belarusian own production. This means, that it is necessary to increase the efficiency of the scientific sphere, technical potential and industrial competencies. The indicators of scientific and technological development are presented in Table.

Indicator, 2022	Belarus	The leading country
Domestic research and development costs (% of GDP)	0,47	5,56 (Israel)
Number of researches per 10,000 employed in the economy	34	208 (Sweden)
Number of patent applications for inventions filed by national		
applicants at home and abroad	980	1 538 604 (China)

The indicators of scientific and technological development

The data highlights the need to improve indicators to boost Belarusian economy.

However, despite all the difficulties, Belarus continues to master the production of new import-substituting products with high export potential. But in order to build a competitive import independent economy under the conditions of sanctions pressure, the Republic of Belarus should also develop products that will be in demand in 5–10 years.