society. It cultivates in women the predisposition to passiveness and dependence, and, at best, provides them with a sort of a greenhouse — a limited scope of possibilities of personal self-realization.

But nevertheless you might be asking what for in general it is necessary to rise this problem in our country when with such serious economic problems it is unreasonably to worry democratic transformations to a society? But it's an economic problem, not only social one!

Women represent the biggest social-demographic group in Belarus. There are above 5 000 000 women that make up 53 % of all the population living in this country. Today women face with excessive loadings on work, growth of unemployment and poverty. In each branch of the economy there are significant distinctions in the incomes received by men and women. You can see that the average wages of women make 81 % from average wages of men. In spite of the fact, that women and men have the same educational level.

Thus, the gender problem is really urgent in our society because having refused from a social equality of men and women we refuse huge prospects of successful economic development of our country.

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## THE PERSPECTIVES OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM IN BELARUS ПЕРСПЕКТИВЫ РАЗВИТИЯ ТУРИЗМА В РЕСПУБЛИКЕ БЕЛАРУСЬ

Множество стран во всем мире ведут активный туристический бизнес, что существенно пополняет государственную казну. Развитие туризма становится все более актуальным и в Беларуси. Благодаря неповторимости природы, выгодному географическому положению и богатому историческому прошлому у страны есть все шансы преуспеть в этой индустрии. Но отсутствие развитой инфраструктуры значительно тормозит процесс становления данного сектора экономики.

Tourism is becoming more and more popular all over the world. A lot of countries, such as Egypt, Greece, Turkey, Slovenia, and others have risen to higher levels, increased their economy and replenished the state Exchequer due to the development of tourist business. What prevents Belarus from expansion of tourism?

On the one hand, Europe abounds in different resorts. It's possible to visit ancient palaces and famous places. Those who are not interested

in history and culture can have their rest at seaside, enjoying modern bars or cosy restaurants or simply taking pleasure in the suite of a five-star hotel. Well, the competition is really tough. So, there are no guarantees that holiday-makers will choose our country to have a rest in. But on the other hand, a lot of Europeans are tired of similar resorts. They are looking for something different and unexpected. Exactly due to the wildness of its nature, original architecture of its ancient palaces and temples and economic resources which can be profitably used, Belarus has a chance to succeed in this area.

What will it give to us? No doubt, it will attract investments from abroad. Secondly, tourists will spend their money here. Thirdly it will partly solve problem of unemployment in the country, so as service people will be required. Fourthly, Belarusian culture will be got to know abroad, which is the way to establish a good reputation, to widespread our culture. In my opinion we need it nowadays. We know a lot about France and German, Italy and Spain. But who heard of the beauty of Belarus? Fifthly, the Belarusians themselves will become familiar with their native culture. I'm sure it's not less important than the previous point. The history of Belarus is really rich. But unfortunately we can't be proud of our good knowledge of it. And they say those who have no past have no future...

What should be done? Belarus is said to be the country of castles. But to my mind we don't use this advantage as far as possible. Of course, several fortresses are being rebuilt and restored, but that's not enough. One of the most famous castles in Belarus is Mirsky castle. It's really a unique one, but to be frank it doesn't attract the rush of foreign tourists, because of the lack of inns and places of entertainment. The same situation concerns other castles of Belarus. The main problem is that the infrastructure isn't developed well enough. It doesn't meet the European standards.

Nothing can be done without highly qualified specialists. And it's really silly not to spend money on inviting foreign professionals to

share their experience with us.

Expanded advertising should be done. Because our places of interest are to be got to know. So the country should take part in international tourist exhibitions, all the Belarusian Embassies should be full of advertising products about national parks, palaces and castles, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs should accept foreign journalists. The USA, Germany, Turkey, Egypt spend millions of dollars on advertising tourist attractions. And as a result they get millions of dollars of profit.

And of course the main thing to be done is to develop the infrastructure. Modern hotels and inns should be built, all roads

should be reconstructed and the procedure of going through the customs and getting visa should be simplified.

Belarusian President A.G. Lukashenko said that rush of tourists was being expected in Belarus, because of its advantageous geographical position. But I dare say it costs nothing without developed infrastructure. Egypt, Libya, and Algeria lie at the same sea. But the rush of tourists is observed only in Egypt.

What for did I make my report? I wanted to point at the advantages and foibles of the country. Although I quite understand it'll hardly change anything. But I wanted to remind you of the uniqueness of Belarus, her striking nature, and unique history.

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## INFLATION IN BELARUS: THE WAYS OF SOLVING THE PROBLEM ИНФЛЯЦИЯ В БЕЛАРУСИ: ПУТИ РЕШЕНИЯ ПРОБЛЕМЫ

Инфляция присуща всем экономическим системам, независимо от уровня их развития и методов управления национальной экономикой. Для стран с трансформационной экономикой, таких, как Беларусь, инфляционные процессы представляют собой острую проблему, являясь одним из наиболее существенных препятствий на пути стабильного экономического развития. В статье выдвинуто предложение, что в антиинфляционной политике необходимо уделить особое внимание тем методам борьбы с инфляцией, которые проводятся Национальным банком Республики Беларусь.

An acute problem of the Belarusian economy is a high inflation rate. Actually, Belarus occupies the first place amid the CIS countries in terms of inflation. Certainly, to develop its economy successfully Belarus should change this situation.

A long-term inflation is disastrous for the economy. Its main negative effect is the redistribution of resources. When inflation is moderate, it's possible for the economy to maintain the existing level of production, but with the rate of inflation approaching 100 % a year, economic growth is principally impossible. Now the situation is changing. The inflation rate in the Republic of Belarus in 2003 was only 25,4 % of the GDP. This inflation rate is considered to be too high. It's common knowledge that the growth of the inflation is 518