especially if they come to the country for a short period and they need to understand quickly the local business environment.

The leading positions are occupied by "Imaguru", "Who is John Galt?" and "Penthouse", each one provides more than 100 seats.

Even Belarusian universities create their own coworking spaces. For example, the Belarusian National Technical University has its own modern spacious coworking in the city center. It is free for students and teachers.

Summing up, it is obvious that Belarus has very good conditions for the development of the coworking market. The "boom" of startups and the growing number of self-employed workers stimulates the demand for services. The lack of competition, easy entry into the market and low risks makes this business attractive for investment. Probably this is the beginning of creating a new culture of work, business development and business communications.

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## DEVELOPMENT OF THE DIGITAL ECONOMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

## Развитие цифровой экономики Республики Беларусь

Currently, we witness a transition of civilization from the industrial to the postindustrial stage of development, and at this stage, global changes associated with the emergence of new digital infrastructures, the active development of digital communications and the improvement of computer technology take place. The introduction of these technologies into economic life of the society means formation of a new digital system of economy.

The purpose of this work is to give an idea of the concept of the digital economy and to determine its main directions. Also the importance of the digital economy for our country.

The digital economy is an activity that is directly related to the development of digital computer technologies, including various services for the provision of online services, as well as e-commerce, electronic payments, artificial intelligence and so on.

Nowadays, one of the main directions of the digital economy development is IT-technologies, which receive huge support from the State.

Decree  $\mathbb{N}$  8 "On the Development of the Digital Economy" of the Republic of Belarus is aimed at: the development of a high-tech Park; the development of innovation; the construction of a modern digital economy in the Republic of Belarus.

The Hi-Tech Park was established in 2005 in order to promote the development of sectors of the economy that use high technologies in their activities, increase the export of information services and high-tech products, and attract foreign investment.

Major residents of the Hi-Tech Park are EPAM System, Sberbank Technologies, Itransition and others.

Positive results can be highlighted in the development of the innovation sphere: Belarus has entered the TOP 50 countries of the world with a high level of human development; domestic medicine has reached the world level in all areas without exception; large scale modernization of industry and agriculture has been carried out.

For the further development of the innovation sphere, it is necessary to attract investments in the scientific and technical sphere, and in order to do this, investors should be provided with favorable conditions; to conduct serious discussions on all issues of innovation policy, as well as economic developments. After all, our state has a sufficient number of competent, serious researchers, and with the skillful coordination of their activities, topical issues of innovation policy will be successfully resolved.

Within the framework of the State Program "Digital Development of Belarus" for 2021–2025, it is planned to implement the measures to create a modern information and communication infrastructure, to introduce both digital innovations in the sectors of the economy and technologies of "smart cities", as well as to ensure the information security of such solutions. Considering that the State Program provides for a comprehensive digital transformation of the processes of public administration, regional and sectoral development, its results will have a positive impact on achieving most of the Sustainable Development Goals, including those in the areas of health, education, ensuring environmental sustainability of settlements and others.

So, the successful implementation of the digitalization policy depends on certain skills and capacities of key actors and institutions responsible for the implementation of this strategy. It also requires specific skills for policy development and decision-making, skills for managing networks and projects and interacting with stakeholders; as well as skills for coordination, communication and conflict resolution.