

## **Foreign Economic Activity**

In 2023, the Ministry of Communications and Information carried out work aimed at solving both current foreign economic issues and tasks for the future.

The development of foreign economic activity in 2023 was carried out as part of the implementation of approved action plans for international cooperation and foreign economic activity of the ministry and organizations of the Ministry of Communications.

In 2023, significant attention was paid to activities that would facilitate the implementation of the completed task for the export of computer, telecommunications and information services (ICT services); work was carried out aimed at strengthening positions in traditional and developing promising sales markets.

As part of strengthening Belarusian-Russian cooperation in the field of communications and information, the Ministry of Communications of Belarus together with the Ministry of Digital Development of Russia in 2023 carried out the implementation of the Action Plan for the implementation of the Union Program for the formation of common principles for the functioning of a single market for communications and information in order to implement the provisions of the Treaty on the Establishment of the Union State dated 8 December 1999. As a result, in 2023 there will be an increase in the export of ICT services to the Russian Federation.

In order to increase trade and economic cooperation, in 2023, meetings and negotiations were held with the leadership of the Chuvash Republic, Kursk, Chelyabinsk, Nizhny Novgorod regions, Altai Territory, during which topical issues of increasing mutual trade turnover and deepening cooperation in the field of digital development were discussed.

In 2023, the Belarusian delegation took part in the VIII conference "Digital Industry of Industrial Russia". Projects of 5 Belarusian companies in the field of information and communication technologies were presented.

In turn, representatives of business circles from various constituent entities of the Russian Federation took part in the TIBO-2023 forum, which was held in April 2023 in Minsk.

Taking into account the requirements of Directive of the President of the Republic of Belarus dated December 3, 2021 No. 9 "On the development of bilateral relations of the Republic of Belarus with the People's Republic of China," special attention was paid to the development of cooperation with the PRC.

An Action Plan to develop cooperation with the People's Republic of China and increase export volumes for 2023–2025 has been developed, approved and is being implemented as part of the interface with the Chinese Digital Silk Road initiative.

In 2023, meetings were held with representatives of a number of Chinese companies. During the meetings, current issues of cooperation in the field of information and communication technologies were discussed.

As a result of the efforts made by the parties, by the end of 2023 there has been a significant increase in the export of ICT services to China.

An increase in the export of ICT services by the end of 2023 is also observed with the CIS countries: Azerbaijan, Armenia, Kazakhstan.

In 2024, the Ministry of Communications and Information will continue work aimed at developing foreign economic activity and increasing the export of services in the ICT sector.

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