

## Chronicle of repressions against women in Belarus

*Our House* would like to draw attention to the ‘public’ violence against politically and socially active women perpetrated by the state representatives such as police, state officials or other individuals in power representing various state bodies during last two weeks. This violence varies from physical to psychological; its purpose is to prevent women from participation in the public life or from expressing their opinion regarding the state of social and political affairs in their country. Only in the course of the last two weeks at least **20** politically vocal women were victims of the state repressions; they were punished for their participation in the protests against the tax on unemployed ‘parasites’ or for their journalist work.

This is what happened:



Tatiana Severinets

**26.02.2017, Vitebsk:** Tatiana Severinets (Vitebsk) was detained by police. Tatiana Severinets participated in the unemployment tax protests in Vitebsk. Police filed her case in preparation to take it to court.



Natalia Popkova

**03.03.2017, Brest:** Natalia Popkova was arrested by police; she was forcibly placed into a mental institution in Brest where she spent three days. Natalia went on the hunger strike to protest illegal actions against her. After three days of the hunger strike Natalia was released.

**05.03.2017, Minsk:** Maya Naumova was arrested as she was distributing invitations to take part in the protest against the social ‘parasite’ tax. Maya’s arrest by the police was violent and abusive; the leaflets she was distributing were confiscated.



Natalia Goriachko-Basalyga

**05.03.2017, Minsk:** Natalia Goriachko-Basalyga was detained by the police. During the arrest she experienced physical violence by police officers against her; she was left with multiple bruises on her shoulders.



Olga Koval'kova

**11.03.2017, Molodechno:** Olga Koval'kova was detained during the rally against the jobless tax; she has been sentenced to 7 days’ imprisonment.



Olga Veromeenko

**11.03.2017, Grodno:** Olga Veromeenko was summoned to appear before the court on 14.03.2017 because of her participation in the protests.



Galina Smirnova

**12.03.2017, Bobruisk:** Galina Smirnova was arrested on the ground of her being a leader of Bobruisk ‘parasite’ tax protest group. Olga Avdeichik, a member of this group, was detained too. Both were released.



Adaria Gushtyn

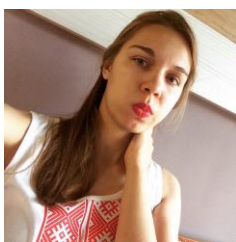
**12.03.2017, Orsha:** five women, activists and hournalists, were detained shortly before an unemployed tax protest was due to start. Among them are Adaria Gushtyn, Galina Abakunchik, Tatiana Matveeva, Anastasia Piliugina, Ekaterina Andreeva (Bahvalova). All women, apart from Galina Abakunchik and Ekaterina Andreeva (Bahvalova) who were detained for a night, were released after a while.



Galina Abakunchik



Tatiana Matveeva



Anastasia Piliugina



Ekaterina Andreeva (Bahvalova)



Valentina Ignatenko

**12.03.2017, Orsha:** an unidentified law-enforcer blocked the car of Valentina Ignatenko, a leader of the protest group against the unemployment tax in Orsha, when she was on her way to the rally to ensure her absence at the protest.



Olga Chaichits

**12.03.2017, Rogachev:** a journalist Olga Chaichits was detained.



Olesia Sadovskaya

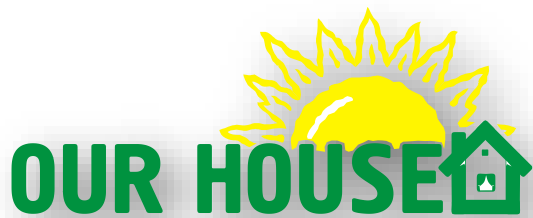
**12.03.2017, Molodechno:** Olesia Sadovskaya was summoned by the head of a regional department of internal affairs to have a “preventive conversation” about her participation in the protests.



Inga Sudilovskaia

**13.03.2017, Bobruisk:** an activist Inga Sudilovskaia was arrested, after several hours in detention she was released. Galina Smirnova was arrested again. As for now her location is unknown.

**13.03.2017, Rogachev:** two female activists Alla Romanchik and Natalia Schukina are summoned by the head of a regional department of internal affairs on the 14.03.2017 to a meeting with unknown consequence for them.



# International Centre for Civil Initiatives „OUR HOUSE”



Galina Abakunchik

**13.03.2017, Orsha:** journalists Galina Abakunchik and Ekaterina Andreeva (Bahvalova) were fined for their “participation” in the protest rally (about 200 USD each) which they covered as reporters.



Ekaterina Andreeva (Bahvalova)

Repressions against women continue...

