

# EU calls for sanctions on Belarus

The European Union has rejected the result of the disputed Belarus election, which saw longtime president Alexander Lukashenko win 80% of the vote, and announced financial sanctions against his government



■ **Aug 9, 2020:** President **Alexander Lukashenko** (above) re-elected to sixth consecutive term in office. Opposition leader **Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya** (right) rejects results



■ **Aug 9-10:** Thousands of people flood streets to protest “fraudulent” vote. Belarusian police violently disperse demonstrators. About 3,000 people arrested

■ **Aug 11:** EU condemns police violence. Tsikhanouskaya forced to leave Belarus for Lithuania

■ **Aug 12:** Protesters rally for fourth straight night. Large groups of women form human chains in capital, Minsk, to urge end to crackdown



■ **Aug 14:** EU foreign ministers say those responsible for vote-rigging and violence should face sanctions

■ **Aug 15:** Authorities free about 2,000 of 7,000 people arrested, amid claims that protesters were tortured. Lukashenko says Russia is willing to help counter mass protests

■ **Aug 16:** Lukashenko rejects calls for new election. Some 200,000 demonstrators gather in Minsk

■ **Aug 17:** Opposition calls for nationwide general strike

■ **Aug 19:** European Council President **Charles Michel** says EU drawing up sanctions list. Lukashenko warns of tough new steps against protesters

