

# Belarus poised for troubled election

President Alexander Lukashenko – branded “Europe’s last dictator” – is expected to win a rubber-stamp third term in Sunday’s presidential poll. The regime has clamped down on campaign activity of opposition candidates and barred a European Union delegation and Georgian observers from entering the country



**Alexander Milinkevich:**  
Main opposition candidate, campaigning for rule of law and liberal economic reforms

Claims early voting – starting on Tuesday – is chance for vote-rigging

**Scores of supporters, including senior aides, have been detained**



**U.S., EU:** Threat of limited sanctions if independent observers deem election neither free nor fair

**Lukashenko:** Accuses West of backing popular uprising in ex-Soviet Georgia and Ukraine. Widely seen as responsible for increase in living standards

