CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO BELARUS

MESSAGE

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRANSMITTING

NOTIFICATION THAT THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO BLOCKING PROPERTY OF CERTAIN PERSONS UNDERMINING DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES OR INSTITUTIONS IN BELARUS, AS DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13405, IS TO CONTINUE IN EFFECT BEYOND JUNE 16, 2013, PURSUANT TO 50 U.S.C. 1622(d)

JUNE 13, 2013.—Message and accompanying papers referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

29-011

WASHINGTON : 2013
To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the Federal Register and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the Federal Register for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to the actions and policies of certain members of the Government of Belarus and other persons to undermine Belarus’s democratic processes or institutions that was declared in Executive Order 13405 of June 16, 2006, is to continue in effect beyond June 16, 2013.

In 2012, the Government of Belarus continued its crackdown against political opposition, civil society, and independent media. The September 23 elections failed to meet international standards. The government arbitrarily arrested, detained, and imprisoned citizens for criticizing officials or for participating in demonstrations; imprisoned at least one human rights activist on manufactured charges; and prevented independent media from disseminating information and materials. These actions show that the Government of Belarus has not taken steps forward in the development of democratic governance and respect for human rights.

The actions and policies of certain members of the Government of Belarus and other persons to undermine Belarus’s democratic processes or institutions, to commit human rights abuses related to political repression, and to engage in public corruption continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13405 with respect to Belarus.

BARACK OBAMA.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO
THE ACTIONS AND POLICIES OF CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE GOV-
ERNMENT OF BELARUS AND OTHER PERSONS TO UNDERMINE
BELARUS'S DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES OR INSTITUTIONS

On June 16, 2006, by Executive Order 13405, the President de-
clared a national emergency pursuant to the International Emer-
gency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701–1706) to deal with the
unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and for-
gain policy of the United States constituted by the actions and poli-
cies of certain members of the Government of Belarus and other
persons to undermine Belarus's democratic processes or institu-
tions, manifested in the fundamentally undemocratic March 2006
elections, to commit human rights abuses related to political re-
pression, including detentions and disappearances, and to engage
in public corruption, including by diverting or misusing Belarusian
public assets or by misusing public authority.

In 2012, the Government of Belarus continued its crackdown
against political opposition, civil society, and independent media.
The September 23 elections failed to meet international standards.
The government arbitrarily arrested, detained, and imprisoned citi-
zens for criticizing officials or for participating in demonstrations;
imprisoned at least one human rights activist on manufactured
charges; and prevented independent media from disseminating in-
formation and materials. These actions show that the Government
of Belarus has not taken steps forward in the development of
democratic governance and respect for human rights.

The actions and policies of certain members of the Government
of Belarus and other persons continue to pose an unusual and ex-
traordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the
United States. For this reason, the national emergency declared on
June 16, 2006, and the measures adopted on that date to deal with
that emergency, must continue in effect beyond June 16, 2013.
Therefore, in accordance with section 202(d) of the National Emer-
gencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)), I am continuing for 1 year the na-
tional emergency declared in Executive Order 13405.

This notice shall be published in the Federal Register and trans-
mitted to the Congress.

BARACK OBAMA.