

POLAND SUSPENDS ASYLUM AT BELARUS BORDER, CITING HYBRID WAR BY 'MOSCOW AND MINSK'

On 27 March 2025 Poland suspended the right to submit asylum claims along its entire border with Belarus under a new law signed on 26 March, with exemptions for minors, pregnant women and others at risk. The Prime Minister's office said Belarus 'has been conducting an organised operation' to push migrants across the border, and the interior minister called illegal migration 'an element of hybrid aggression against Poland'. The suspension remained in force about 18 months later, in September 2026.

UKRAINE EVIDENCE HUB
BEYOND UKRAINE
AS OF 20 OCT 2026

DEGREE OF PROOF

OFFICIAL ATTRIBUTION

A government, a prosecutor, the EU, NATO or a UN body has formally named Russia, its services or its state-backed forces. This is a position of that authority, not a verdict.

WHO ESTABLISHED IT

Named: Belarus, and Russia via PM Tusk. Polish Chancellery of the Prime Minister and Interior Minister Siemoniak (Mar 2025); PM Donald Tusk (13 Oct 2024) called the plan a response to hybrid war against the EU 'by the regimes of Moscow and Minsk'. European Commission Communication of 11 Dec 2024 refers to 'the weaponisation of migration by Russia, assisted by Belarus'.

LATEST

On 16 Sept 2026 Commission President von der Leyen announced a planned 'European Emergency Response Framework' for cases where mass movements are 'engineered and weaponised'. UNHCR and Poland's human rights commissioner have criticised the Polish law.

LINK TO THE WAR AGAINST UKRAINE

Warsaw and the Commission present the pressure as a Russia-led hybrid operation against EU states supporting Ukraine.

SOURCES

- C** Notes from Poland – Poland suspends right to asylum at Belarus border · 2025-03-27
<https://notesfrompoland.com/2025/03/27/poland-suspends-right-to-asylum-at-belarus-border/>
- B** PAP – Poland's halt to right of asylum a response to Moscow and Minsk, says PM · 2024-10-14
<https://pap.pl/en/news/polands-halt-right-asylum-response-moscow-and-minsk-says-pm>
- A** European Commission (DG HOME) – Commission issues Communication on countering the weaponisation of migration · 2024-12-11
https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/commission-issues-communication-countering-weaponisation-migration-and-provides-funding-enhance-2024-12-11_en
- C** AP via NY1 – Poland halted asylum claims at the Belarus border and now wants Europe to follow its example · 2026-09-25
<https://ny1.com/nyc/all-boroughs/ap-top-news/2026/09/25/poland-halted-asylum-claims-at-the-belarus-border-and-now-wants-europe-to-follow-its-example>
- C** ECRE – State of the European Union 2026 · 2026-09-17
<https://ecre.org/state-of-the-european-union-2026/>

WHAT WE ASK OF MEMBER STATES

- Name the instrumentalisation of migrants as a hybrid attack by the state that organises it.
- Support the EU and frontline states in protecting their borders while respecting international law.
- Sanction the officials and networks that move people to the border.

