

Marie Landry's Spy Shop

OSINT Report

Subject: Dismantling of Belarusian Spy Network by Czech and Allied Intelligence

Date: September 9, 2025

1. Summary

Czech counterintelligence (BIS), in collaboration with Romanian, Hungarian, and Polish agencies, dismantled a Belarusian KGB espionage network.

Actions included the arrest of former Moldovan SIS officer Alexandru Balan, the expulsion of Belarusian embassy adviser Nikolay Dukhta, and a Polish arrest.

The operation coincided with Zapad-2025 drills, raising regional tensions.

Sources:

- <https://apnews.com/article/belarus-czech-republic-espionage-a14d21c49ec61dbb4cb2c1b61dc806b1>
- <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/czechia-says-it-broke-up-belarusian-spy-network-2025-09-08/>
- <https://kyivindependent.com/czech-intelligence-service-says-it-has-dismantled-belarusian-spy-network/>

2. Operatives & Network Structure

- Alexandru Balan: Former deputy head of Moldova's SIS, arrested in Romania for spying for Belarus. Met handlers in Budapest (2024–25).

- Nikolay Dukhta: Belarus embassy adviser in Prague, expelled for espionage under diplomatic cover.

- Poland-based suspect: Unnamed Belarusian agent arrested with allied cooperation.

Sources:

- <https://g4media.ro/fostul-sef-adjunct-al-sis-alexandru-balan-retinut-in-romania-pentru-spionaj.html>
- <https://www.rferl.org/a/czech-republic-belarus-spy-network/33194562.html>

3. Intelligence Coordination & Timeline

Operation led by Czech BIS, with Romania's DIICOT arresting Balan on Sept 8, 2025. Poland announced parallel arrests on Sept 9.

Eurojust coordinated judicial collaboration.

Sources:

- <https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2025/09/1b72c6b624b5-czechia-disrupts-belarus-spy-ring.html>
- <https://apnews.com/article/belarus-czech-republic-espionage-a14d21c49ec61dbb4cb2c1b61dc806b1>

4. Belarusian State Role

Belarus KGB orchestrated the ring. Lukashenko's regime acts as proxy for Russian intelligence in Europe. No verified Latin American ties despite CNN's "latam-intl" tag.

Sources:

- <https://kyivindependent.com/czech-intelligence-service-says-it-has-dismantled-belarusian-spy-network/>
- <https://www.euractiv.com/section/global-europe/news/czechia-breaks-up-belarusian-spy-network/>

5. Geopolitical & Security Implications

Case underscores Schengen's vulnerabilities, strengthens allied counterintelligence cooperation, and may accelerate moves to restrict Belarusian/Russian diplomats.

Coincides with Zapad-2025 drills.

Sources:

- <https://apnews.com/article/belarus-czech-republic-espionage-a14d21c49ec61dbb4cb2c1b61dc806b1>
- <https://www.rferl.org/a/czech-republic-belarus-spy-network/33194562.html>

6. Diplomatic & Economic Fallout

Czech–Belarus ties worsen; Belarus calls expulsions groundless. Poland mirrors expulsion. EU sanctions on Belarus remain.

Likely tighter EU policy on Belarusian diplomats.

Sources:

- <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/czechia-says-it-broke-up-belarusian-spy-network-2025-09-08/>
- <https://www.euractiv.com/section/global-europe/news/czechia-breaks-up-belarusian-spy-network/>

7. Cross-source Validation

AP, Reuters, RFE/RL, Ukrainska Pravda, Kyiv Independent, and others corroborate the story.

Belarusian counterclaims of catching a Polish spy seen as propaganda.

Sources:

- <https://www.ukrinform.net/rubric-politics/3949216-czech-intelligence-disrupts-belarusian-spy-network.html>
- <https://belsat.eu/en/news/09-09-2025-belarusian-diplomat-expelled-from-prague-in-espionage-case>