

An exhibition of treasures from Belarus and Latvia — *The Prototype of the European Constitution* — has opened in the Book Museum of the National Library

The exhibition is dedicated to Constitution Day. Belarusians were one of the first in the world to gain constitutional legislation. The Statute of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, compiled in the Belarusian language and approved in 1588, actually became the prototype for the Constitution in Europe, built on the principles of democracy, equality, justice and the rule of law.



The exhibition first presents a list of the 1588 Statute of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania translated into German, as well as printed copies of the 17th-19th century Statute in other European languages, testifying to the wide influence of Belarusian legal culture on the formation of international constitutional legislation.