

Business and wealth of Viktor Sheiman

In 2016, Russian and Belarusian journalists began writing about Globalcustom, a firm involved in the supply of sanctioned goods. At the same time, Belarusian **Hanna Pushkarova (Anna Pushkareva)** was named as the company's co-owner.

Pushkarova came to Belarus from Irkutsk in the 1990s. She studied at a regular school in Dzerzhinsk. In 2007, she entered the Belarusian State Academy of Arts' School of Acting at the Faculty of Theater.

One of the teachers told us about her: "She was an excellent student. Beautiful. Like a star from a French glossy magazine. Such a promising girl who thinks about her future. She is very businesslike, persistent in achieving her goals. She can manage any office with her talent".

Pushkarova graduated from the Academy of Arts in the summer of 2012, and in the autumn, yesterday's student became an owner of a premium real estate - an apartment on Kharuzhai Street in Minsk worth about US\$240,000.

Four months after that deal, the 22-year-old Hanna founded Kids Time. Her sister Yulia Brygadnaia (Yulia Brigadnaya) was managing the company. The company owned a children's store Dzetki-tsukerki (Detki-konfetki or Kids-Sweets) in the Southwest of Minsk. Now the firm is liquidated.

In 2013, Hanna Pushkarova entered Minsk State Linguistic University. In 2015, she became a co-owner of Globalcustom. The firm was founded a year after Russia had banned food imports from Western countries in response to sanctions.

The company Globalcustom became known to the general public after the Russian edition of RBC made a publication about the smuggling of sanctioned goods from Belarus to Russia. Globalcustom was named among the main suppliers.

The company denied its guilt:

«Globalcustom does not supply sanctioned products to the Russian Federation, the Russian authorities did not receive any claims from the control bodies, just as our Russian partners did not receive them.»

Nevertheless, the company was included in the reports of Rosselkhoznadzor more than once. Thus, in January 2019, the company exported to Russia 20 tons of walnuts allegedly from Turkey, but inspectors found old labels on some of the bags, according to which the place of origin of the goods was the United States. The vehicle was not allowed to enter Russia.

16:20

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 **ВКонтакте**

Войти

Зарегистрироваться



Анна Пушкарева

 Город: Минск

 21 подписчик

ОБРАЗОВАНИЕ

Вуз

[БГАИ '12](#)

[Театральный](#)

[Актерского мастерства](#)

[Очное отделение](#)

Школа

[Дзержинская белорусская №3 '07](#)

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Aliaksei Koraneu (Alexei Korenev), the analyst of the Finam group of companies, confirmed the fact of sanctioned products delivery from the Belarusian side: **“We remember well the wonderful story about Belarusian shrimps, mussels, kiwis, bananas, which do not grow in Belarus, but Belarus was stated as the country of origin everywhere. There were more complex schemes when products were shipped with a certificate from African countries. In fact, the products could be from any other country.»**

But Globalcustom was involved in more than just food smuggling. As our previous investigation revealed, the company is involved in the illegal supply of clothing under the guise of fabric.

A truck was detained in Russia, the case was considered in a Belarusian court. At the trial, it turned out that Globalcustom had purchased the goods, cleared them in Belarus, benefited from reduced fees, and sent them to Moscow for sale to its own subsidiary, as Aliaksei Koraneu explained:

“In fact, large deliveries of cargo are carried out completely openly by trucks or through substitution of cargo in the documents. That is, for example, clothing is declared as a fabric, and fabrics are subject to a much lower customs duty. This is a fairly common violation in the customs system, not only between Belarus and Russia. There was a large number of sanctioned products, so this practice became widespread.»

The court refused to prosecute Globalcustom, accepting the company’s explanation that they had a lot of cargo and they simply were not able to check all the trucks. As a result, the driver and the owner of the vehicle were convicted.

Beside Globalcustom, a number of other companies close to the Belarusian authorities are involved in the re-export of flowers to Russia at discounted prices. Russian authorities are trying to cover up this scheme, as Ivan Utenkov, the founder of the Tsvetochnyi Ryad (Flower Aisle) company and a member of the board of the Russian Flower Retail Association, told Belsat:

“A real genocide of transit of flower products through the Republic of Belarus to the Russian Federation has begun. A vehicle loaded with flowers, with a complete set of documents goes to the border of Belarus with Russia to obtain an act of phytosanitary control. There, they take it away for an examination, they take it to the Smolensk or Moscow region. After the examination, they don’t return the vehicles to their owners. And we have been observing this practice since February 4.»

In addition to flowers, in 2017-2020 Globalcustom supplied to Russia clothing, footwear, furniture, electrical equipment, car parts, fabrics, bicycles, and children’s toys.

Late last year, the company was restructured. In its place emerged Globalcustom-Management, associated with the Presidential Affairs Management (the PAM). The company owns 75% of the enterprise Belgepoisk. The remaining 25% is owned by the state enterprise Belzagratorg, which is subordinated to the Presidential Affairs Management.

Previously, Globalcustom-Management also owned GardService. This is the only private organization in Belarus to whom Lukashenko granted the use of lethal weapons.

Aliaksandr Miatla (Alexander Metla), the head of the charitable foundation Memory of Afghanistan, now owns GardService. The foundation had the support of Viktor Sheiman (Viktor Sheiman), as political observer **Aliaksandr Fiaduta (Alexander Feduta) confirmed to us: “Viktor Sheiman is an Afghan war veteran himself, so it is clear that as a person who had been in Afghanistan all this time, he was trying to help them. His former comrades from Afghanistan. But it so happened that the benefits given to this foundation at some point became much greater than the business that the Afghan veterans were engaged in from the start. Businessmen began to use them, and very actively.»**

Today, Globalcustom-Management manages another firm, Globalcustom-Commerce. It is the latter that supplies goods to Russia now. We are talking about the re-export of food and industrial products.

According to the insiders from the logistics field, re-exports go through the logistics centre Breminavorsha, for which a tax offshore was created on the border with Russia.

The project is being implemented by the businessmen close to the authorities, i.e. **Aliaksei Aleksin (Alexey Oleksin), Mikalai Varabei (Nikolai Vorobey), and Aliaksandr Zaitsau (Alexander Zaitsev).**



Aliaksandr Miatla (Alexander Metla) speaks in the Investigative Committee. Photo: Investigative Committee of Belarus

Political scientist **Andrei Suzdalsau (Andrei Suzdaltsev)** comments: **“The thing is that the smuggling industry in Belarus is state-owned. There are several dozen companies organized by the oligarchs close to Lukashenko. They are insured by the Presidential Affairs Management.”**

For a long time, Hanna Pushkarova was a co-owner of both Globalcustom-Management and Globalcustom-Commerce. Since the summer and autumn of last year, Yauhen Zhouner (Evgeni Zhovner), Aliaksandr Ramanouski (Alexander Romanovsky), and Anton Novik became the owners.

Anton Novik’s full namesake is a member of the presidium of the Belarusian Judo Federation, the son of the famous Soviet sambo wrestler, European champion Anton Novik Sr. Aliaksandr Ramanouski and former KGB press secretary Dzmitry Paberzhyn (Dmitry Poberzhin) own the company URANEX-Security. Yauhen Zhouner is considered Viktor Sheiman’s trustee.

A former high-ranking senior official confirmed that Zhouner had previously worked in the Presidential Affairs Management. Under the guise of businessmen, we phoned the organization: «The name, of course, is familiar, but we don’t have anyone like this in the apparatus.»

Yauhen Zhouner settled in Minsk on Peramozhtsau Avenue in the Slavyanski Kvartal complex. The apartment was leased in 2016. Experts estimate the possible cost of the deal at more than US\$250,000.

We visited Zhouner, but he categorically refused to talk to us: “I’m not interested in you. What is not clear to you? Should I call the police or what? Goodbye!”

As for Hanna Pushkarova, there are rumors that she lives with **Viktar Sheiman**.

To verify this information, Belsat journalists met with Hanna’s sister under the guise of couriers, handed her some documents supposedly from Globalcustom, and asked her to arrange a meeting with Viktor Sheiman.

Nobody contacted the editorial office after the meeting. Attempts to contact Hanna Pushkarova in another way were unsuccessful.



Viktar Sheiman

The Presidential Affairs Management was established by one of the first presidential decrees in August 1994, and subordinates exclusively to Alexander Lukashenko. From a small structure that serviced government agencies, it has evolved into a huge holding that now unites more than 100 companies. Political observer Aliaksandr Fyaduta comments: «It is a state entity that controls the business subordinate to the state. This has been the case since 1994, when it was created. And from the very beginning it was its duty.»

At one time, the Presidential Affairs Management was headed by officials of various calibers. The most memorable are **Ivan Tsitsiankou (Ivan Titenkov)**, **Halina Zhuraukova (Galina Zhuravkova)**, and **Mikalai Korbut (Nikolai Korbut)**.

Their activities in charge of the presidential economy were accompanied by corruption scandals and criminal cases. The first scandal took place in 1996 and involved the state-controlled company TorgExpo. Lukashenko issued a personal decree granting it tax benefits «to provide the population with consumer goods.»

In actual fact, it was mostly alcohol and cigarettes that went to Russia, says Aliaksandr Fyaduta: “Suddenly, the Russian Federation found a transparent border where there was a lot of alcohol that did not bear the mark of customs duties in the Russian treasury. And it turned out that this goes through the entities that manage the affairs of the President of Belarus.»

In early 2013, the PAM was headed by Viktor Sheiman. He is the only active official from the team that brought Lukashenko to power. Sheiman began his career as Secretary of State of the Security Council.

After that, he was the Attorney General, the Chairman of the Presidential Affairs Management, and the President’s Assistant on special assignments. And so he found himself in charge of the presidential economy.

According to Aliaksandr Fyaduta, «Sheiman has always been a tool, and Alyaksandr Ryhorovich [Lukashenko] used him as a tool that would do whatever the president ordered: he was completely satisfied with him.»

With Viktor Sheiman’s arrival, a successful agricultural enterprise, the Machulishchi agro-industrial complex, soon became part of the Presidential Affairs Management. It also included a number of former collective farms, Pinsk meat processing plant, and the dairy processing plant Malochny Hascinec.

The holding also owns the farm Vostok in Atolin, which was specifically established to deliver food to the table of Lukashenko and his closest officials. In 2015, the Presidential Affairs Management was the leader in milk production in the entire CIS.

In 2014, the company Belzagratorg, which sells petroleum products, was established. According to the Ukrainian consulting group A-95, in 2020 Belzagratorg delivered to the Ukrainian market 540 thousand tons of road bitumen, says NaftoRinok's analyst **Alexander Sirenko**:

“We can only analyze the previous year, because it's indicative in principle. Our market has doubled on an equal footing. Total imports - about 860 thousand tons in 2020. And Belzagratorg had 500,000 tons. That is, more than half of the supplies are Belzagratorg's.

Road bitumen from Naftan and the Mazyr Oil Refinery intended for Ukraine goes through a subsidiary in Kyiv, BZT-Ukraine. The company acts as a trader and gets its margin for it, commented the director of the consulting group A-95 **Sergei Kuyun**:

“This operator was nominated by the Belarusian Oil Company. They don't make a big secret out of this. A couple of years ago, they even revealed financial terms. In my opinion, Belzagratorg receives US\$1.16 from a ton of shipped bitumen. That is the financial interest of the company. But it also takes on the function of drawing up contracts. All the paperwork that accompanies this business.”

Under Sheiman, Belarustorg, a company controlled by the Presidential Affairs Management, is actively expanding its activities. It becomes the owner or co-owner of several entities in Belarus and abroad. Among them is Belagrafert in Hrodna. The company was registered as a FEZ Hrodnainvest resident in 2016. It purchases raw materials from Hrodna Azot and produces granular ammonium sulfate. The annual production volume is 120 thousand tons.

The main market is Ukraine.

According to Belstat, more than 146,000 tons worth US\$22.6 million were delivered to Ukraine last year.

This is what the mineral fertilizers market expert Sergei Ruban confirms: “The total market volume of ammonium sulfate in Ukraine is 400-500 thousand tons. Everything that Belarus could deliver here, most likely, our market would have consumed.»

Belarustorg's partner in the Hrodna project is the British firm Fertife Industry Limited, backed by Ukrainian businessman Oleksandr Skrypka.

Sergei Ruban comments: “I wouldn't say he's a very public figure. There are much better media-promoted businessmen. But what I personally know about Oleksandr Skrypka is that he is one of the most active, enterprising and, most importantly, systemic business developers.”

Oleksander Skrypka has another joint business with Belarus - Agrorozkvit, a subsidiary of the Belarusian Potash Company (BPC). 60% of Agrorozkvit belongs to BPC, 40% - to the British company Agrofertrans, controlled by that very Skrypka.

Agrofertrans is a multinational company specializing in the production of and trade in fertilizers. The company supplies produce to 50 countries. It occupies half of the Ukrainian market of ammonium sulfate.

Expert Sergei Ruban believes that Agrofertrans is a classic trader. And practically every company registered in the countries of the former Soviet Union, for the ease of doing business is registered in the European Union or in the territories where doing business is much easier than in the volatile political environment, which is still the dominant factor for business in Ukraine, in Belarus, in the Russian Federation».

Belarustorg sells technical salt in Russia through Amatista Group, and tractors through the Trading House of the Minsk Tractor Works (MTZ). Last year, the revenue of all enterprises of the Presidential Affairs Management amounted to more than a billion dollars, Sheiman said during a meeting with Lukashenko earlier this year.

Lukashenko's press service noted: “Viktar Sheiman reported to the President on the results of the work of the enterprises of the Presidential Affairs Management system in 2020, the results are not bad. In particular, sales revenue amounted to Br 2.6 billion (an increase of more than 140%).

During his service in public office, Viktor Sheiman's family obtained at least two rather not cheap houses and an apartment.

Near Gorky Park, in the centre of Minsk, the family owns a 4-room apartment with the area of 98 square meters. It is registered to the son Sergei, and, according to realtors, costs an upward of US\$170 thousand.

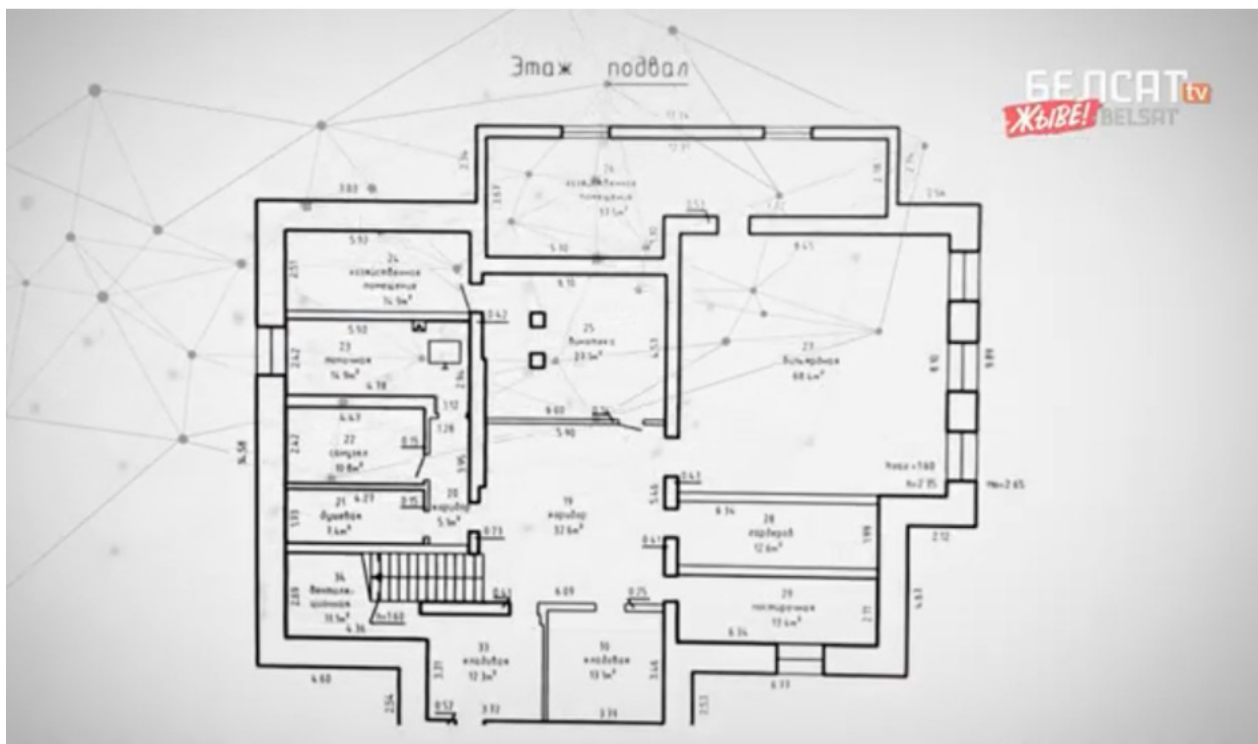
A two-storey residential house with a terrace, a bathhouse, and with a total area of 416 square meters has been built in Drazdy. And on almost 20 acres of land. The property is registered to the daughter Olga, and is valued at at least US\$400,000.

Uladzimir Kavalkin (Vladimir Kovalkin), head of the Adkrytyia Zakupki (Open Procurement) project, is certain: "US\$400,000 is not a lot of money. The general and the high official can collect it and scrape it. But, I'm afraid that this 400 thousand dollars isn't even 1% of what Sheiman has. People who are so close to Lukashenko, and people who take care of such trade schemes as oil, arms trade, sanctioned stuff... US\$400,000 is a joke."

In 2017, Viktor Sheiman bought real estate in the village of Padlipki, Pukhavitsky district, for US\$15,500.

Номер записи: 1505/17.1002	
Наименование права по числу собственников: <i>Собственность на 1/1 доли</i>	
Цена: <i>30 000.00 BYN</i>	
Правообладатели, иные субъекты регистрации:	
Наименование/ФИО: <i>Шейман Виктор Владимирович</i>	Наименование:
Дата и время регистрации: <i>01.02.2017 09:38:00</i>	Дата и время:
Государство/Гражданство: <i>Республика Беларусь</i>	Государство:
Доля: <i>1/1</i>	Доля:
Свидетельство: <i>11.07.2003г. Партизанским РУВД г. Минска</i>	Свидетельство:
	УНП/Идентификационный номер:
	Адрес:

Доля:	
Свидетельство:	
УНП/Идентификационный номер:	
Адрес:	
Дата	
областного нотариального округа	<i>27.01.2017</i>
са и жилого дома	



After that, at his own expense, he built on this land a new house with a basement, a veranda and a utility block with a total area of 547 square meters.

On the ground floor there is a kitchen, offices, bedrooms, and in the basement there is a wine cellar, billiards and utility rooms. 25 acres of land surround the house. The house is valued at a minimum of US\$350,000.

And here's the most interesting part. The previous owner of the site was **Aliaksandr Miatla**.

The very chairman of the Memory of Afghanistan Foundation whom we mentioned earlier. Euroradio called him a close friend of **Viktar Sheiman's**.

Номер записи: 24292/00.031-2	
Наименование права по числу собственников: Собственность в долевой форме	
Цена: 0.00 BYN	
Правообладатели, иные субъекты регистрации:	
Наименование/ФИО: Метла Александр Михайлович	Наименование/ФИО:
Дата и время регистрации: 10.08.2006 16:58:13	Дата и время регистрации:
Государство/Гражданство: Республика Беларусь	Государство/Гражданство:
Доля: 1/1	Доля:
Свидетельство; 14.05.2003г. Советским РУВД г.Минска	Свидетельство:
	УНП/Идентификационный номер:
	Адрес:
Основания регистрации:	
Наименование документа:	

в размере 142 316,94 рублей, в связи с тем, что 14 апреля 2017 года частным предприятием «Витязь», правопреемником которого является ООО «Стивит», на транспортном средстве с регистрационным номером АЕ9095-4/А8382Ф-4 осуществлен незаконный ввоз на таможенную территорию ЕАЭС товаров «одежда в ассортименте» под видом товаров «ткани для пошива штор». Доставка товара осуществлялась для получателя ООО «Глобалкастом»;

- частным предприятием «Витязь» в таможенном пункте пропуска товары были помещены под таможенную процедуру таможенного транзита по ТД №11219404/1404117/0138167 от 14.04.2017 для доставки во внутренний пункт таможенного оформления №06611 «Белкульторг» Минской региональной таможни;
- таможенная процедура таможенного транзита завершена ЧП «Витязь» 14.04.2017;
- получателем товаров ООО «Глобалкастом» была подана декларация на товары №06611/140417/0015960 для выпуска товаров под таможенную процедуру для внутреннего потребления с применением льгот и преференций в соответствии с Указом Президента Республики Беларусь от 11 августа 2011 года №358 «О стимулировании реализации товаров»; от 14.04.2017 №1191375 ООО «Глобалкастом»

от 13.04.2017), также следует, что в транспортном средстве с регистрационным номером АЕ9095-4/А8382А-4 до момента таможенного оформления на территории Литовской Республики перемещен товар «одежда в ассортименте».

По итогам проведения таможенного контроля таможенным органом сделан вывод о незаконности ввоза частным предприятием «Витязь» на таможенную территорию Таможенного союза товара «одежда в ассортименте» под видом товара «ткани для пошива штор».

11 июня 2018 года заместителем начальника Минской региональной таможни вынесено решение №08-3/20675 о взыскании с ООО «Стивит» (правопреемник ЧП «Витязь») таможенных платежей и пеней согласно прилагаемому к решению расчету.

В соответствии с п. 1 статьи 215 Таможенного кодекса Таможенного союза (далее по тексту ТК ТС, действовал на дату ввоза товара на территорию Таможенного союза) таможенный транзит - таможенная процедура, в соответствии с которой товары перевозятся под таможенным контролем по таможенной территории таможенного союза, в том числе