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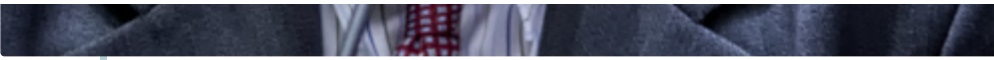
# EU adopts its latest package of sanctions against Russia over the illegal annexation of Ukraine's Donetsk, Luhansk, Zaporizhzhia and Kherson regions

This document is available in non-EU languages: Ukrainian

In light of Russia's escalating war of aggression against Ukraine and the illegal annexation of Ukraine's Donetsk, Luhansk, Zaporizhzhia and Kherson regions, the Council decided today to impose a new package of economic and individual sanctions against Russia.

The agreed package includes a series of biting measures intended to reinforce pressure on the Russian government and economy, weaken Russia's military capabilities, and make the Kremlin pay for the recent escalation.





This new sanctions package against Russia is proof of our determination to stop Putin's war machine and respond to his latest escalation with fake "referenda" and illegal annexation of Ukrainian territories. We are further hitting Russia's war economy, limiting Russia's import/export capacities and are on the fast-track to liberate ourselves from Russian energy dependence. We are also targeting those responsible for the illegal annexation of Ukrainian territories. The EU will stand by Ukraine for as long as it takes.

— Josep Borrell, High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

The package agreed today introduces into the EU legislation the basis to put in place a **price cap** related to the maritime transport of **Russian oil for third countries** and further restrictions on the **maritime transport of crude oil and petroleum products** to third countries.

Concretely, the combination of these measures works as follows. It will be **prohibited to provide maritime transport** and to provide technical assistance, brokering services or financing or financial assistance, related to the maritime transport to third countries of **crude oil** (as of December 2022) or **petroleum products** (as of February 2023) which originate in or are exported from Russia. The price cap derogation would allow the provision of the transport and these services if the oil or petroleum products are purchased at or below a pre-established price cap. The new prohibition for EU vessels to provide maritime transport for such products to third countries will apply as of the date in which the Council will unanimously decide to introduce the price cap. The price cap will drastically reduce the revenues Russia earns from oil after its illegal war on Ukraine has inflated global energy prices. The oil price cap can also serve to stabilise global energy prices.

As concerns **trade**, the EU is extending the **import ban** on **steel products** that either originate in Russia or are exported from Russia. Further import restrictions are also imposed on **wood pulp and paper, cigarettes, plastics and cosmetics** as well as elements used in the jewellery industry such as stones and precious metals, that altogether generate significant revenues for Russia. The sale, supply transfer or export of additional goods used in the **aviation sector** will also be restricted.

The package agreed today also comprises:

- the sanctioning of individuals and entities that have played a role in the organisation of **illegal "referenda"**, representatives of the **defence sector**, and well-known **persons spreading disinformation about the war**. The Council also decided to **broaden the listing criteria** on which specific designations can be based, in order to

include the possibility **to target those who facilitate the circumvention of EU sanctions**

- the extension of the **list of restricted items** which may contribute to Russia's military and technological enhancement or the development of its defence and security sector. The list will now include certain electronic components, additional chemicals and goods that can be used for capital punishment, torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment
  - a prohibition to sell, supply, transfer or export **civilian firearms** and their essential components and ammunition, military vehicles and equipment, paramilitary equipment, and spare parts
  - a ban on EU nationals to hold any posts on the **governing bodies** of certain Russian state-owned or controlled legal persons, entities or bodies
  - the insertion in the list of state-owned entities that are subject to the transaction ban of the **Russian Maritime Shipping Register**, a 100% State-owned entity which performs activities related to the classification and inspection, including in the field of security, of Russian and non-Russian ships and crafts
  - a full ban of the provision of crypto-asset wallet, account or custody services to Russian persons and residents, regardless of the total value of those crypto-assets
  - the prohibition to provide **architectural and engineering services** as well as **IT consultancy services and legal advisory services** to Russia
- The Council also decided that as of today, the **geographical scope of the restrictions introduced on 23 February**, including notably the import ban on goods from the non-government controlled areas of the Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts, will be **extended to cover** also the non-controlled areas of the oblasts of **Zaporizhzhia and Kherson**.

The relevant legal acts will soon be published in the Official Journal.

## Background

On 21 September 2022, in spite of numerous calls by the international community on Russia to immediately stop its military aggression against Ukraine, the Russian Federation decided to further escalate its aggression against Ukraine by supporting the organisation of illegal "referenda" in the parts of Donetsk, Kherson, Luhansk, and Zaporizhzhia regions that are currently occupied by Russia. The Russian Federation also further escalated its aggression against Ukraine by announcing a mobilisation in the Russian Federation and by again threatening to use weapons of mass destruction.

These illegal "referenda" were strongly condemned on 22 September 2022 by a declaration of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy on behalf of the EU.

On 28 September 2022, the High Representative issued a declaration on behalf of the EU

On 26 September 2022, the High Representative issued a declaration on behalf of the EU once more condemning in the strongest possible terms the illegal sham “referenda”, and confirming that the EU would never recognise them and their falsified outcome. The EU urged all UN members to do the same. The High Representative also indicated that all those involved in organising these illegal sham “referenda” as well as those responsible for other violations of international law in Ukraine would be held accountable and that additional restrictive measures against Russia would be brought forward in this regard. The High Representative recalled that the Union remains unwavering in its support for Ukraine's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognised borders, and demands that Russia immediately, completely and

unconditionally withdraw all of its troops and military equipment from the entire territory of Ukraine. The High Representative further declared that the Union and its Member States will continue to support Ukraine's efforts to this end, as long as necessary. On 30 September 2022, the members of the European Council adopted a statement in which they firmly rejected and unequivocally condemned the illegal annexation by Russia of Ukraine's Donetsk, Luhansk, Zaporizhzhia and Kherson regions. They also states that, by wilfully undermining the rules-based international order and blatantly violating the fundamental rights of Ukraine to independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, core principles as enshrined in the UN Charter and international law, Russia is putting global security at risk. They called on all states and international organisations to unequivocally reject that illegal annexation and recalled that Ukraine is exercising its legitimate right to defend itself against the Russian aggression to regain full control of its territory and has the right to liberate occupied territories within its internationally recognised borders.

- › Official journal
- › EU restrictive measures in response to the crisis in Ukraine (background information)
- › Declaration by the High Representative on behalf of the European Union on Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, 22 September 2022
- › G7 leaders' statement, 23 September 2022
- › Ukraine: Declaration by the High Representative on behalf of the European Union on the illegal sham “referenda” by Russia in the Donetsk, Kherson, Luhansk and Zaporizhzhia regions, 28 September 2022
- › Statement by the Members of the European Council, 30 September 2022

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