



EU adopts 19th package of sanctions against Russia *

Brussels, 23 October 2025

The European Commission welcomes the adoption by EU Member States of the 19th package of sanctions against Russia. The new package of sanctions substantially increases the pressure on the Russian war economy, targeting key sectors such as energy, finance, the military industrial base, special economic zones, as well as enablers and profiteers of its war of aggression.

A total ban on Russian Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and a further clamp-down on the shadow fleet represent the strongest sanctions yet on Russia's crucial energy sector. Strong measures also target financial services and infrastructure (including for the first time crypto), as well as trade. The measures also target the services sector and strengthen anti-circumvention tools. With this package, the number of listed vessels in Russia's shadow fleet reaches a total of **557**.

The **19th package** contains the following key elements:

ENERGY MEASURES

- **Ban on imports of Russian liquefied natural gas (LNG) as of 1 January 2027 for long-term contracts, and within six months as of the entry into force of the sanctions for short-term contracts.**
- **Full transaction ban on major companies Rosneft and Gazprom Neft:** The new measures eliminate the exemption for Rosneft's and Gazprom Neft's oil and gas imports into the EU. The import of oil from third countries, such as Kazakhstan, and the transport of oil compliant with the Oil Price Cap to third countries, are exempted.
- The EU is also taking measures against important third country operators enabling Russia's revenue streams. This involves sanctioning **Chinese entities** - two refineries and an oil trader - that are significant buyers of Russian crude oil.
- **Import ban on a variant of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG):** This measure addresses circumvention, as some Member States report that this variant has been used to bypass existing LPG restrictions.
- **117 additional vessel listings:** With these new listings, a total of **557** vessels in Russia's shadow fleet are now listed by the EU. They are subject to a port access ban and a ban on receiving services. The EU continues **conducting** outreach to flag states to ensure that ship registers do not allow these tankers to sail under their flag.
- Additional sanctions are notably imposed across **the shadow fleet value chain**, including on Litasco Middle East DMCC, Lukoil's prominent shadow fleet enabler based in the UA, as well as on maritime registries providing false flags to shadow fleet vessels. In addition, **2 oil trading companies in Hong Kong and the United Arab Emirates (UAE)** are added to the scope of the transaction ban.
- **Extension of the port infrastructure ban:** This will enable the EU to list ports in third countries that are instrumental to the Russian war effort.

The new measures also include additional prohibitions on energy-related services, such as scientific and technical services (for example, geological prospecting and mapping).

FINANCIAL MEASURES

- **Banking:** 5 new banks in Russia are added to the transaction ban. No EU operator will be able to engage with any of the listed banks directly or indirectly.
- **Payments:** new bans on Russia's payment card and fast payment system (Mir and SBP). The

measures also list 4 new financial institutions in Belarus and Kazakhstan that use the Russian payments system (SPFS).

- **Cryptocurrencies and exchanges:** The EU is imposing full-fledged sanctions on the developer of a widely used rouble-backed stablecoin A7A5, the Kyrgyz issuer of that coin, and a related major trading platform. For the first time, the new measures also prohibit the use of that cryptocurrency. In addition, the sanctions directly target a cryptocurrency exchange in Paraguay that has played a key role in circumventing existing restrictions. This step marks a significant evolution in the EU's sanctions regime. By addressing the use of stablecoins and offshore exchanges, the EU aims to close loopholes and reinforce the integrity of its financial sanctions framework.
- **Crypto services:** EU operators are banned from providing crypto services and certain fintech services that enable Russia to develop its own financial infrastructure and possibly circumvent sanctions.
- **Transactions:** The package introduces transaction bans on 5 third-country banks in Central Asia that support Russia's war economy and frustrate the effectiveness of our sanctions. EU operators are banned from carrying out transactions with any of those financial operators.

TRADE MEASURES

The package expands export restrictions and bans to further disrupt and weaken Russia's military-industrial complex. These include:

- **Individual sanctions** ('listings') of businesspersons and companies forming part of the Russian military-industrial complex, and operators from UAE and China producing or supplying military and dual-use goods to Russia.
- **New export restrictions** on additional dual-use items and advanced technologies, including metals for the construction of weapon systems and products used in the preparation of propellants, not yet under sanctions.
- **New export bans** on items such as salts and ores, construction materials and articles of rubber, corresponding to a value of EUR 155 million of EU exports in 2024 prices.

ANTI-CIRCUMVENTION MEASURES

- This package adds **45 entities** to the list of those providing direct or indirect support to Russia's military industrial complex or engaged in sanctions circumvention. This includes **28 established in Russia** and **17 in third countries** (12 in China, including Hong Kong, 3 in India and 2 in Thailand).

ADDITIONAL LISTINGS

Today's package contains **69** additional listings. They are now subject to asset freezes and the prohibition to make funds and economic resources available to them, and – in the case of individuals – also to travel bans. These listings include oligarchs, Russian energy companies, a large Russian company involved in gold production, a Russian company managing the shadow fleet, one petrochemical company and one refinery in China facilitating oil trade with Russia, a large Chinese State owned company, other legal and natural persons. The EU is reinforcing accountability of those involved in abduction, forced assimilation and indoctrination of Ukrainian children. Therefore, today's listings include 11 additional individuals involved in such activities. In order to streamline future sanctions on persons responsible for the abduction, forced assimilation and militarised education of Ukrainian minors, the Council is also introducing a new listing criterion.

OTHER MEASURES

- **Measures targeting Russia's Special Economic Zones (SEZs):** These zones are designed to attract foreign investment and play a critical role in driving economic growth and infrastructure development. To make it clear that EU businesses should stay away, the package proposes a prohibition on entering into new contracts with any entity established within certain Russian SEZs. In addition, two of these SEZs – Alabuga and Technopolis Moscow – will be subject to a ban that applies also to existing contracts. This decision – essentially forcing divestment – reflects the documented focus of these two zones on activities that contribute to the war effort.

- **Service bans:** As part of the new measures, the EU introduces service bans blocking Russian access to advanced digital capabilities within the Union, including certain space-based services and AI services. In parallel, the existing targeted ban on services to the Russian government will be reinforced. A new requirement for prior authorisation will apply to any non-prohibited services to the Russian government, ensuring that all such activities are subject to strict scrutiny and oversight.
- **Prohibition of re-insurance:** The new measures prohibit re-insurance services regarding vessels and aircraft of the Russian government or Russian persons for up to five years after their sale to third countries.
- **Russian diplomats:** The new measures introduce an obligation for Russian diplomats, travelling across the EU beyond their country of accreditation, to inform the relevant EU Member State in advance. EU Member States may impose an authorisation requirement on Russian diplomats for traveling to their territories, based on visas or residence permits issued by another state. This measure is meant to tackle the increasingly hostile intelligence activities that support Russia's aggression against Ukraine.
- **Ukrainian children:** The EU is reinforcing accountability of those involved in abduction, forced assimilation and indoctrination of Ukrainian children by listing 11 additional individuals. In order to streamline future sanctions on persons responsible for the abduction, forced assimilation and militarised education of Ukrainian minors, the Council is also introducing a new listing criterion.

BELARUS

The package mirrors certain trade, financial and services-related provisions in the Belarus sanctions regime as per previous practice. The Council also decided on five new listings related to the Belarusian military-industrial complex and the Lukashenka regime.

For more information

[Official Journal](#)

[More information on sanctions](#)

[EU Sanctions Helpdesk](#)

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Quote(s):

"We have just adopted our 19th package of sanctions. It targets Russian energy, banks, crypto exchanges, and entities in China, among others. The EU is also regulating the movements of Russian diplomats to counter attempts at destabilisation. It is becoming increasingly difficult for Putin to finance his war. Every euro we deny Russia is one it cannot spend on war. The 19th package will not be the last."

Kaja Kallas, High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-President of the European Commission

"With this 19th package we are deploying a very wide range of additional measures to weaken Russia's faltering economy even further. A ban on LNG will hit where it hurts most, while additional measures on financial services – including crypto – and stronger anti-circumvention measures will also have a strong impact. The breadth and depth of these measures highlight our tireless resolve to go the extra mile in support of Ukraine. We will continue developing and deploying new measures for as long as it takes."

Maria Luís Albuquerque, Commissioner for Financial Services and the Savings and Investments Union

"Europe has made a historic decision. We will stop all imports of Russian LNG by the end of 2026 and crack down on the oil shadow fleet. This is an unprecedented move that the EU makes in unity and full solidarity with Ukraine. It will deal a major blow to Putin's war machine and sustain peace efforts for Kyiv. Europe must regain its energy independence. Ukraine must prevail."

Dan Jørgensen, Commissioner for Energy and Housing

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