

12 March 2023

#### **EU OFFICIALS VISITING PANAMA TO VERIFY CONTROLS OVER ILLEGAL FISHING**

On 12 March, El Siglo reported that EU officials were visiting Panama on 13-17 March to examine the controls on illegal fishing. Panama received a “yellow card” warning from the EU over the lack of controls. The Deputy Director of International Economic Relations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is quoted as saying that he hopes that the EU recognises the progress that the country has made in all aspects related to the issue.

<http://elsiglo.com.pa/panama/verificara-avances-panama-lucha-contra-pesca-ilegal/24221787>

#### **US AUTHORITIES SEIZE AND RETURN SMUGGLED ARTIFACTS THAT WERE STOLEN FROM UKRAINE**

On 12 March, CNN reported that 6 months after US authorities in New York seized 3 metal swords and a stone axe head that had been stolen from Ukraine, the cultural artifacts were returned to the people they belong to. The items were seized in early September by customs officers working at the John F Kennedy International Airport’s International Mail Facility.

<https://edition.cnn.com/2023/03/12/us/us-customs-border-patrol-ukrainian-artifacts-returned-trnd/index.html>

#### **GUYANA INTENSIFIES THE FIGHT AGAINST FINANCIAL CRIMES**

On 11 March, MENA FN reported on steps said to being taken by the Guyanese government, including an AML/CFT/PF National Coordination Committee (NCC), that will have the responsibility of defining, overseeing, and coordinating the implementation of the national strategy, as well as coordinating Guyana's participation in the international effort against financial crimes. A policy sets out 8 key strategic objectives.

<https://menafn.com/1105753951/Guyana-Zeros-In-On-Financial-Crimes>

<https://guyanachronicle.com/2023/03/10/greater-collaboration-needed-to-tackle-financial-crimes/>

#### **THE “MINOR” AMENDMENT TO US CUSTOMS BROKER REGULATIONS AND THE POTENTIAL EFFECTS ON BROKER-IMPORTER RELATIONS IN THE EVENT OF FALSE STATEMENTS**

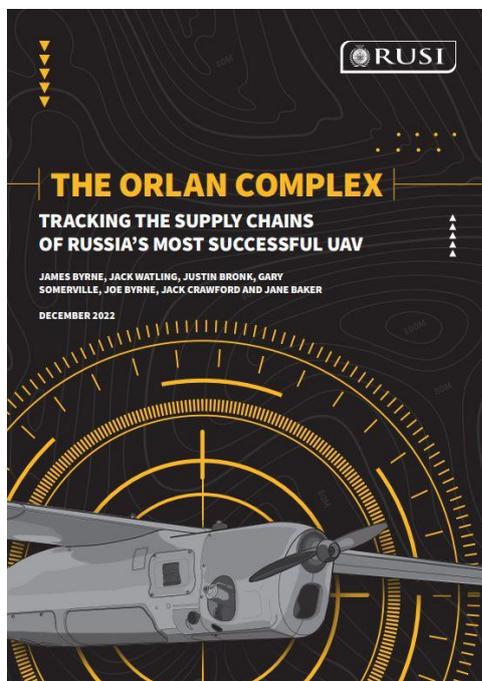
On 9 March, DLA Piper published an article concerning a minor amendment to the Regulations which may ultimately have a massive impact on brokers and their importer clients. It warns that, in its view, there is now no clear expression in the language of a requirement for brokers to do more than just ensure that they themselves do not commit violations of the laws, or that they do not counsel or knowingly aid or abet others to commit violations of laws enforced by CBP; and that this means that

brokers and their importer clients may face a number of issues when they first realise that a false statement may have been made in entries already filed with CBP.

<https://www.dlapiper.com/en-us/insights/publications/2023/03/a-minor-amendment-to-the-customs-broker-regulations-has-a-broad-reach>

### **TRACKING THE SUPPLY CHAINS FOR RUSSIA'S MOST SUCCESSFUL UAV**

In December, RUSI published this report which sets out to understand and explain how the Russian military depends on Western technology. To achieve this purpose, it identifies a number of individuals/companies/ governments who are believed to be involved in the designing and manufacturing of components which have been acquired by the Russian military and are used in their military hardware.



<https://static.rusi.org/SR-Orlan-complex-web-final.pdf>

### **RUSSIA EXPORTING DIESEL TO SAUDI VIA SHIP-TO-SHIP LOADINGS**

On 11 March, Hellenic Shipping News carried an article saying that Russia is ramping up its diesel supplies to Saudi Arabia using ship-to-ship (STS) loadings in addition to direct supplies.

<https://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/russia-exporting-diesel-to-saudi-via-ship-to-ship-loadings-traders-refinitiv-data/>

## **GERMAN POLICE RAID HOUSING GIANT VONOVIA ON SUSPICION OF CORRUPTION IN AWARDING CONTRACTS**

On 7 March, NASDAQ reported that police had raided the company as part of an investigation into individuals suspected of receiving kickbacks for awarding contracts to third parties.

<https://www.nasdaq.com/articles/german-police-raid-vonovia-on-suspicion-of-corruption-in-awarding-contracts>

## **MoU BETWEEN US, DRC AND ZAMBIA CONCERNING SUPPORT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A VALUE CHAIN IN THE ELECTRIC VEHICLE BATTERY SECTOR**

On 6 March, CSIS published a report on this new MoU which aims “to facilitate the development of an integrated value chain for the production of electric vehicle (EV) batteries in the DRC and Zambia”. It says that DR Congo and Zambia are among the main world producers of copper and cobalt — the DRC itself produces 67%-70% of the world's cobalt — which are key to the production of batteries for electric vehicles, and Zambia ranking as the world's eighth-largest copper producer and second in Africa. The agreement is seen as a way to counter Chinese influence, the report stating that China has been the dominant player for many years - in DRC it controls close to 80% of the copper and cobalt production and worldwide process 73% of the world's cobalt.

<https://www.csis.org/analysis/us-zambia-drc-agreement-ev-batteries-production-what-comes-next>

## **JERSEY: 3 AT THE CENTRE OF AN ALLEGED FRAUD INVESTIGATION – THOUGHT TO BE THE BIGGEST IN THE ISLAND’S HISTORY – APPEAR IN COURT**

On 12 March, the Jersey Evening Post reported that former Jersey Mutual general manager Roy Anthony Jeanne and co-defendants Michael John Timms and Tammy Timms are accused of being part of a £3.7 million fraud against the 154-year-old firm between 2004 and 2017.

<https://jerseyeveningpost.com/news/2023/03/12/three-islanders-in-court-after-alleged-37m-fraud/>

## **QATARGATE: HEAD OF GLOBAL TRADE UNION BODY SACKED AFTER DONATION INVESTIGATION**

On 12 March, the Guardian reported that an Italian union leader, Luca Visentini, has been sacked from the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) after he disclosed taking money from the main suspect in the Qatargate bribery scandal that has shaken the EU Parliament. He denies all allegations of wrongdoing, but accepted a donation of less than €50,000 from the Brussels NGO Fight Impunity.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2023/mar/12/luca-visentini-ituc-trade-union-body-sacked-investigation>

# The Richest People in Africa in 2023

The African continent is home to **46 members of the world's richest club**. Below are the top 15 billionaires as of Jan 2023.

**Primary Industry:**

- Manufacturing
- Fashion/Retail
- Metals/Mining
- Construction
- Food & Bev.
- Telecom
- Media/Entertainment
- Diversified



Source: Forbes

visualcapitalist.com

<https://www.visualcapitalist.com/ranked-richest-people-in-africa/>

<https://www.buymeacoffee.com/KolvM842y>

