23 March 2024

US FINAL RULE REMOVING ADDITIONAL HIGH-ENERGY CAPACITORS FROM US MUNITIONS LIST

On 22 March, KPMG reported that the State Department had removed additional high-energy storage capacitors from the export control listing and more clearly identify those that remain. https://kpmg.com/us/en/home/insights/2024/03/tnf-us-final-rule-removing-additional-high-energy-capacitors-usml.html

THE COMPLICATED THREAT OF DIRTY BOMBS

On 22 March, the Middlebury Institute announced a new book on "dirty bombs" (or radiological dispersal devices, RDD) - described as explosives used to disperse radioactive material – and the continued threat from their use.

https://www.middlebury.edu/institute/news/middlebury-experts-examine-complicated-threat-dirty-bombs-new-book

SOUTH AFRICA: SPEAKER OF PARLIAMENT TAKES SPECIAL LEAVE AFTER BRIBERY CLAIMS

On 22 March, Defence Web reported that National Assembly speaker Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula has gone on special leave. This comes in the wake of a Sunday Times report earlier this month linking her to bribery allegations.

https://www.defenceweb.co.za/governance/governance-governance/mapisa-nqakula-takes-special-leave-after-bribery-claims-raid/

INDIA: DELHI CHIEF MINISTER TO BE HELD FOR 6 DAYS AFTER ARREST ON CORRUPTION CHARGES

On 23 March, the Guardian reported that a court has ruled that Delhi's chief minister, Arvind Kejriwal, will be kept in custody for 6 days as part of an investigation into an alleged scam involving kickbacks for alcohol licensing deals.

https://www.theguardian.com/world/2024/mar/22/delhi-chief-minister-to-be-held-for-six-days-after-arrest-on-corruption-charges

GUERNSEY: TRUST OFFICER FINED FOR BREAKING LAWS WITH HIGH-RISK CLIENTS

On 11 March, Guernsey Press reported that an experienced local financial services professional highlighted in the 'Paradise Papers' has been hit with one of the biggest personal fines ever imposed by the financial services regulator. She was accused of having breached the fiduciaries law by carrying out regulated activities without a licence.

https://guernseypress.com/news/2024/03/11/trust-officer-fined-for-breaking-laws-with-high-risk-clients/

MONTENEGRO DELAYS EXTRADITION OF SOUTH KOREAN 'CRYPTOCURRENCY KING'

On 22 March, Rferl reported that the Supreme Court postponed the extradition of South Korean cryptocurrency entrepreneur Do Kwon to his home country despite what was said to be a final rejection earlier of an appeal in the Balkan state.

https://www.rferl.org/a/montenegro-extradition-cryptocurrency-king-extradition-kwon-korea-delays/32870578.html

DUAL-USE GOODS & ITS RED FLAGS

On 22 March, an article from the Financial Crime Digest says that it is crucial for financial institutions to ensure they effectively manage risks associated with dual-use goods and comply with relevant regulations.

https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/dual-use-goods-its-red-falgs-girish-mallya-28mrf/

BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP REGISTERS: RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

On 22 March, an article from MacFarlanes reported on 2 recent developments regarding the UK's beneficial ownership registers.

https://www.macfarlanes.com/what-we-think/in-depth/2024/beneficial-ownership-registers-recent-developments/

IRELAND (AGAIN) IN CROSSHAIRS OF UN RIGHTS BODY

On 21 March, the Tax Justice Network reported that the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights has demanded that Ireland accounts for the human rights impacts of its tax haven policies.

https://taxjustice.net/2024/03/21/ireland-again-in-crosshairs-of-un-rights-body/

NEW DATA SHOWS IRS'S 10-YEAR STRUGGLE TO INVESTIGATE TAX CRIMES

On 19 March, ICIJ reported that the Internal Revenue Service's sprawling civil divisions referred just 157 tax cases for criminal investigation last fiscal year — out of more than 200 million tax forms filed with the agency annually, according to new federal data. IRS criminal investigators accepted just 104 of such cases for further action in 2023, the fewest in the 10 years of data obtained by the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists.

https://www.icij.org/inside-icij/2024/03/new-data-shows-irss-10-year-struggle-to-investigate-tax-crimes/

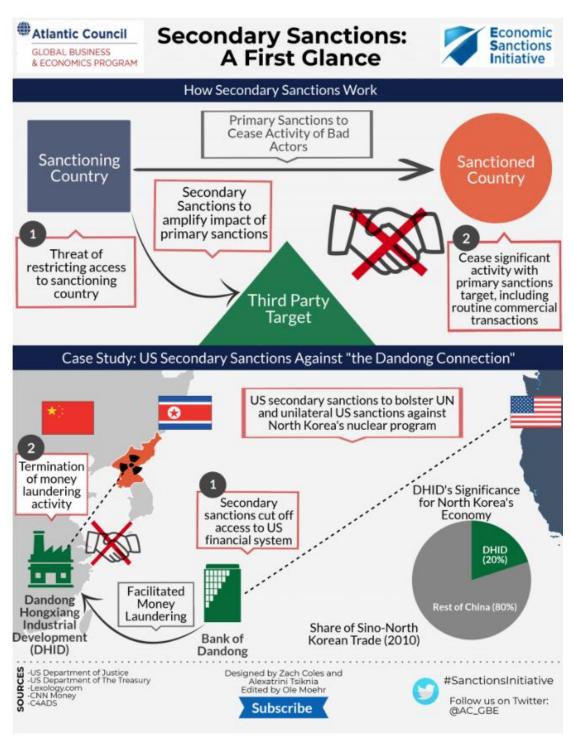
BRANDS DROP SINGAPORE-LISTED PALM OIL GIANT AFTER EXPOSÉ

On 20 March, ICIJ reported that an investigation found evidence the company, First Resources, violated its sustainability pledges and secretly controlled companies that cleared swaths of Indonesian rainforest. 8 companies say they have suspended sourcing from palm oil giant First Resources. The brands include skincare company Beiersdorf, which produces Nivea moisturisers; cleaning and personal care company Procter & Gamble; food manufacturers FrieslandCampina, Danone and Vandemoortele; laundry and hair-care company Henkel; vegetable oils firm Lipsa and chemicals company BASF.

https://www.icij.org/investigations/deforestation-inc/brands-drop-singapore-listed-palm-oil-giant-after-deforestation-inc-expose/

NEW HANDBOOK TO STRENGTHEN NUCLEAR SECURITY IN NORTH AFRICA

On 14 March, King's College London advised that the handbook examines nuclear security challenges in North Africa, offering vital insights to strengthen regional and global strategies. It delves into nuclear and radiological case studies and policies spanning from the 1950s to present day. https://www.kcl.ac.uk/news/kings-launches-new-handbook-to-strengthen-nuclear-security-in-north-africa



https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/econographics/ole-moehr-3/?src=ilaw

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