

9 April 2024

WHY A UK BLOGGER'S SANCTIONS DESIGNATION WAS UPHELD

On 15 January, Rahman Ravelli published an article which details a court's decision that the UK Government was right to designate Graham Phillips for his pro-Russian activities.

<https://www.rahmanravelli.co.uk/expertise/sanctions/articles/why-a-uk-blogger-s-sanctions-designation-was-upheld>

IN-DEPTH ANALYSIS OF THE MAIN CONCEPTS, USE CASES AND RISKS SURROUNDING THE WORLD OF CRYPTO-ASSETS; AND MAIN FEATURES, POTENTIAL BENEFITS, ACTORS AND ELEMENTS OF THE VALUE CHAIN OF CRYPTO-ASSETS

On 4 April, the Centre for European Policy Studies published this analysis.

https://cdn.ceps.eu/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/ECRI-In-depth-analysis_A-radiography-of-cryptocurrencies.pdf

MONEY MULES IN THE UK

On 24 March, the Institute of Money Laundering Prevention Officers published an article which summarised and commented on findings of an FCA review of systems and controls relating to money mule accounts.

<https://www.imlpo.com/articles/institute-insights-money-mules-in-the-spotlight>

CAUSES OF DE-BANKING IN THE UK

On 20 March, an article from the Institute of Money Laundering Prevention Officers seeks to demystify the situation re de-banking in the UK, why it happens and what firms should consider – including giving customers all possible information.

<https://www.imlpo.com/articles/institute-insights-causes-of-de-banking-in-the-uk>

COMPLIANCE'S ROLE IN MANAGING EMPLOYEE SIDE HUSTLES

In March, the International Compliance Association published an article which explores the practicalities of managing these conflicts, delving into the potential risks associated with employee side hustles and providing a roadmap for compliance officers to navigate these challenges effectively.

<https://www.int-comp.org/insight/compliance-s-role-in-managing-employee-side-hustles>

A LOOK BACK AT THE PANAMA PAPERS SCANDAL, AS FIRST DAY OF TRIAL ENDS

On 9 April, a video from France 24 was published as the trial of 27 people charged in the "Panama Papers" tax evasion and money laundering scandal opened in Panama. It looks back at the bombshell investigation that showed how the world's rich and famous used shell companies to avoid their domestic tax authorities.

<https://www.france24.com/en/tv-shows/business/20240409-a-look-back-at-the-panama-papers-scandal-as-first-day-of-trial-ends>

TURKEY IMPOSES EXPORT RESTRICTIONS ON ISRAEL

On 9 April, Arab News reported that Turkey will impose restrictions on the export of 54 different categories of products to Israel until a ceasefire is declared in Gaza.

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2490306/middle-east>

UK: SRA PULLS PROSECUTION AFTER FOREIGN OFFICE WARNING OVER DUBAI EVIDENCE

On 9 April, legal Futures reported that the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA) has withdrawn all its allegations against a solicitor and non-lawyer after the Foreign Office advised against taking evidence remotely from a crucial witness in Dubai without permission from the UAE Government.

<https://www.legalfutures.co.uk/latest-news/sra-pulls-prosecution-after-foreign-office-warning>

JAPAN AUTHORISES FIGHTER JET EXPORTS

On 9 April, Eurasia Review reported that exports of fighter jets produced under the Global Combat Air Programme (GCAP) initiative will be authorised going forward. GCAP involves Italy, Japan and the UK working together to develop the next fighter jet and an agreement allows research experience from the Japanese F-X project to be integrated into GCAP alongside the BAE Tempest fighter jet project.

<https://www.eurasiareview.com/09042024-japan-authorizes-fighter-jet-exports-under-gcap-analysis/>

US: INVESTIGATION INTO INTERNATIONAL COMMODITIES TRADING COMPANIES' FOREIGN BRIBERY SCHEMES RESULTS IN 6 CORPORATE RESOLUTIONS AND 20 INDIVIDUALS CONVICTED

On 28 March, a news release from the DoJ advised that its long-running investigation into international commodities trading companies that paid bribes to win business with state-owned and state-controlled oil companies in Latin America and Africa has resulted in 6 corporate resolutions (including mandatory cooperation, disclosure, and compliance obligations and resulted in total fines,

forfeitures), 20 convictions of individuals, and total fines, forfeitures, and other penalties of more than \$1.7 billion.

<https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-departments-investigation-international-commodities-trading-companies-foreign>

IRAN SANCTIONS: EU HAS DE-LISTED IRANIAN IT COMPANY ARVAN CLOUD

On 9 April, the Global Sanctions blog reported on changes to the EU sanctions lists, including the delisting of Arvan Cloud, added to lists in November 2022 for allegedly being involved in censorship by setting up an Iranian version of the internet.

<https://globalsanctions.co.uk/2024/04/eu-de-lists-arvan-cloud-amends-17-listings-on-iran-sanctions-list/>

EU INSERTS HUMANITARIAN EXCEPTION INTO HUMAN RIGHTS SANCTIONS REGIME

On 9 April, the Global Sanctions blog reported that the EU had inserted an exception in connection with delivery of humanitarian assistance or support.

<https://globalsanctions.co.uk/2024/04/eu-inserts-humanitarian-exception-into-human-rights-sanctions-regime/>

AUSTRALIAN REGISTER OF STOLEN DATA BLOCKS MORE THAN 300,000 ATTEMPTS OF IDENTITY FRAUD

On 9 April, ABC News reported that a register of stolen credentials that was created after the 2022 Optus data breach has blocked more than 300,000 attempts of identity fraud. The attempts were blocked through the use of the federal government's credential protection register, and data is prevented from being used to create new, fraudulent identity documents under the register.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024-04-10/australians-data-protected-from-thousands-of-fraud-attempts/103687922>

TARECK EL AISSAMI, VENEZUELA'S FORMER OIL MINISTER IS ACCUSED OF CORRUPTION AND ARRESTED

On 9 April, Estrella de Panama reported that the former confidant of President Nicolás Maduro and his predecessor Hugo Chávez, had been arrested for his alleged links to a million-dollar corruption scheme to sell crude oil through cryptoassets.

<https://www.laestrella.com.pa/mundo/detienen-a-tareck-el-aissami-exzar-petrolero-de-venezuela-acusado-de-corrupcion-LM6925629>

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