

13 April 2024

US AND UK TAKE ACTION TO REDUCE RUSSIAN REVENUE FROM METALS

On 12 April, a news release from the US Treasury advised of 2 new prohibitions to disrupt the revenue that Russia earns from its export of aluminium, copper, and nickel. These prohibit the import of Russian-origin aluminium, copper, and nickel into the US, and limits the use of Russian-origin aluminium, copper, and nickel on global metal exchanges and in over-the-counter derivatives trading. Metal exchanges, like the London Metal Exchange (LME) and Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME), will be prohibited from accepting new aluminium, copper, and nickel produced by Russia. New and amended related FAQ have also been issued.

<https://ofac.treasury.gov/media/932796/download?inline>

<https://ofac.treasury.gov/media/932801/download?inline>

<https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/jy2249>

<https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/jy2249>

<https://ofac.treasury.gov/faqs/1019>

<https://ofac.treasury.gov/faqs/1128>

LME Intends To Publish Guidance Relating To UK Sanctions On Russian Metal

<https://www.xm.com/es/research/markets/allNews/reuters/london-metal-exchange-intends-to-publish-guidance-relating-to-uk-sanctions-on-russian-metal-published-on-12-april-2024-53812209>

US BLOCKS IMPORTS OF CERTAIN WORK GLOVES MANUFACTURED IN CHINA DUE TO CONCERNS OVER USE OF CONVICT LABOUR

On 12 April, KPMG reported that US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has issued a “withhold release order” (WRO) against a company based in Shanghai and its 2 subsidiaries.

<https://kpmg.com/us/en/home/insights/2024/04/tnf-cbp-wro-work-gloves-china.html>

<https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/national-media-release/cbp-issues-withhold-release-order-shanghai-select-safety-products>

SWISS MINISTRY SAYS 11 APPEALS FILED AGAINST RUSSIA SANCTIONS

On 13 April, Swissinfo reported that, since the start of the current war, 11 requests have been received, and person has been removed from the list and the other 10 requests are still being processed. The 1 person was removed after having previously been withdrawn from the EU list. A

total of 1,703 people and 421 companies are on Switzerland's sanctions list against Russia, according to the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO)'s website.

<https://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/foreign-affairs/swiss-ministry-says-11-appeals-lodged-against-russia-sanctions/75653185>

TAIWAN: TRAVELLER DETAINED FOR ALLEGED INSECT SMUGGLING

On 13 April, the Taiwan Times reported that the Bureau of Animal and Plant Health Inspection said the man had made his first attempt to smuggle 254 insects from Malaysia earlier this month; and has been detained for allegedly trying to smuggle insects from Malaysia and Japan into Taiwan for a second time.

<https://www.taipeitimes.com/News/taiwan/archives/2024/04/13/2003816365>

IRELAND: WOMAN ARRESTED AFTER HALF A MILLION EUROS IN CASH SEIZED

On 13 April, The Journal reported that approximately €500,000 in cash, along with a vacuum packing machine and documentation, have been recovered by gardaí in Dublin as part of a money laundering investigation.

<https://www.thejournal.ie/woman-arrested-money-laundering-6353693-Apr2024/>

NEW REPORT HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUED THREAT OF SOMALI PIRACY

On 10 April, the International Chamber of Commerce reported that the ICC International Maritime Bureau (IMB) raises concern on the continued acts of maritime piracy off the coast of Somalia in its first quarter report for 2024.

<https://iccwbo.org/news-publications/news/new-report-highlights-continued-threat-of-somali-piracy/>

SOUTH AFRICA: THE ONGOING NATIONAL EFFORT TO REIN IN ILLEGAL MINING

On 10 April, Defence Web reported a 2-month haul in mining and allied equipment, diamonds, ore, explosives, and weapons.

<https://www.defenceweb.co.za/security/civil-security/r8-million-plus-setback-for-illegal-miners/>

TIMBER SHIP DETAINED IN GERMANY RAISES KNOTTY SANCTIONS QUESTIONS

On 11 April, Lloyds List reported that the Marshall Islands-flagged *Atlantic Navigator II* was carrying birch plywood and uranium from St Petersburg to Baltimore when it stopped at Rostock in March to repair a damaged propeller. It is still there, with the master under investigation for violations of the

Foreign Trade Act. The article notes that the EU sanctions Russian timber but the US does not. Earthsight, a British group that tracks the trade, claimed at least 650 cu m of plywood in the cargo was supplied by Russian timber giant Sveza, part-owned by a billionaire oligarch.

<https://www.lloydslist.com/LL1148800/Detained-Rostock-ship-raises-knotty-sanctions-questions>

UK PROPERTY BUSINESSES NOT COMPLETING CRITICAL COMPLIANCE CHECKS

An article from Estate Agent Today reported that a new survey found that businesses were not complying with the clear regulatory requirement to complete Know Your Business (KYB) checks. It says that KYB checks play a fundamental role in not only determining the legitimacy of the business, but in verifying the identity of business clients. The survey found that 65% of firms admitted that they do not always carry out verification checks on new business clients.

<https://www.estateagenttoday.co.uk/features/2024/4/are-property-firms-strengthening-financial-crime-measures-with-comprehensive-business-checks>

DENMARK: GAMBLING OPERATOR FACES 3 ACTIONS OVER AML BREACHES

On 12 April, iGB reported that the regulator identified 3 areas of concern regarding Mr Green and its activities in Denmark. These include insufficient risk assessment, defective and missing business processes, and lack of documentation for checks.

<https://igamingbusiness.com/legal-compliance/legal/mr-green-faces-danish-injunctions-over-aml-breaches/>

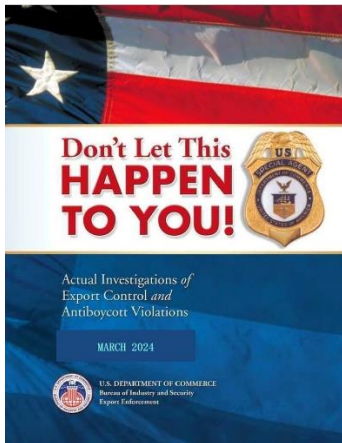
IRANIAN PARAMILITARIES SEIZE CONTAINER SHIP NEAR STRAIT OF HORMUZ

On 13 April, Politico reported that the *MSC Aries*, a Portugal-flag container ship had been boarded and diverted to Iran.

<https://www.politico.eu/article/iran-paramilitary-container-ship-strait-of-hormuz-msc-aries-israel-tension>

US: REAL EXAMPLES OF EXPORT CONTROL VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES

In March, the US Commerce Department issued this report with illustrations involving China, Russia, Iran, the rest of the world, and anti-boycott violations.



<https://www.bis.doc.gov/index.php/documents/enforcement/1005-don-t-let-this-happen-to-you-1/file>



<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7184859626973077504>

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