

UNITED STATES ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AND ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING LAWS: THE EFFECTS ON LATVIAN BUSINESSES AND BANKS

October 12, 2018, Justīcija 2018

# **ECONOMIC SANCTIONS - INTRODUCTION**

✤ Global compliance

Extraterritorial effect of domestic law

Use of foreign law in domestic matters

United States economic sanctions against Russian individuals, entities, and economic sectors

- *Purpose*: to cut off access to the US economy so as to prevent actors from being able to perform unlawful activity
  - Individuals Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons
  - Sectors of the Russian economy oil and gas, banking, mining, defense, etc.
  - Entities banks, companies, financial services institutions, etc.
- Regularly updated since at least 2012 (2014, 2017, 2018) and constantly changing
  - Does it impact my business?
  - What do I need to know?
  - Where can I find relevant information?
  - Does the law apply to me, and if so, how do I comply?

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Exc	ecutive Orders
	Executive Order - Authorizing the Implementation of Certain Sanctions Set Forth in the Countering America Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (September 20, 2018)
	<u>13685</u> - Blocking Property of Certain Persons and Prohibiting Certain Transactions with Respect to the Crime Region of Ukraine (December 19, 2014)
	<u>13662</u> - Blocking Property of Additional Persons Contributing to the Situation in Ukraine (March 20, 2014)
	<u>13661</u> - Blocking Property of Additional Persons Contributing to the Situation in Ukraine (March 17, 2014) <u>13660</u> - Blocking Property of Certain Persons Contributing to the Situation in Ukraine (March 6, 2014)
Sta	tutes
	Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (CAATSA), PL 115-44
	<u>Ukraine Freedom Support Act of 2014 (UFSA)</u>
	Support for the Sovereignty, Integrity, Democracy, and Economic Stability of Ukraine Act of 2014 (SSIDES)
	International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA), 50 U.S.C. §§ 1701-1706
	National Emergencies Act (NEA), 50 U.S.C. §§ 1601-1651
Co	de of Federal Regulations
	31 CFR Part 589 - Ukraine-Related Sanctions Regulations
Fec	leral Register Notices
	79 FR 26365-14 - Issuance of regulations to implement Executive Order 13660, Executive Order 13661, and
	Executive Order 13662

# ECONOMIC SANCTIONS - LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR RUSSIA SANCTIONS

# Economic Sanctions

International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA), 50 U.S.C. §§ 1701-1706

"The President may ... investigate, block ..., regulate, ... void, ... prohibit, any acquisition, ... transfer, ... importation or exportation of, or dealing in, ... any property in which any foreign country or a national thereof has any interest by any person, or with respect to any property, subject to the jurisdiction of the United States"

- Department of the Treasury - Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC)

Money Laundering (often connected with economic sanctions and has an extraterritorial effect)

Bank Secrecy Act - Section 311 of the USA PATRIOT Act – Secretary of the Treasuring requires US banks to take "special measures" regarding <u>foreign banks</u> which are of "primary money laundering concern"

Federal Racketeering statute - 18 U.S.C.A. § 1956 – "**Laundering of monetary instruments**" – prohibits transferring or attempting to transfer funds <u>through the US</u> with intent to promote unlawful activity [such as *violation of the IEEPA regarding economic sanctions*]

- Department of the Treasury – Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN)

#### **ECONOMIC SANCTIONS - LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR RUSSIA SANCTIONS - IEEPA**

# **Sanctions**

International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA), 50 U.S.C. §§ 1701-1706

#### Applies to:

- Transactions occurring within the US (without a license and otherwise not exempt under statute)
- US persons (nationals and companies)
- Foreign subsidiaries of US persons
- Non-US persons operating outside of the US (extraterritorial, but indirect legal and practical effect) who facilitate prohibited transactions (cause a US person to perform an otherwise prohibited transaction, or provide other prohibited services) or attempt or conspire to violate the IEEPA

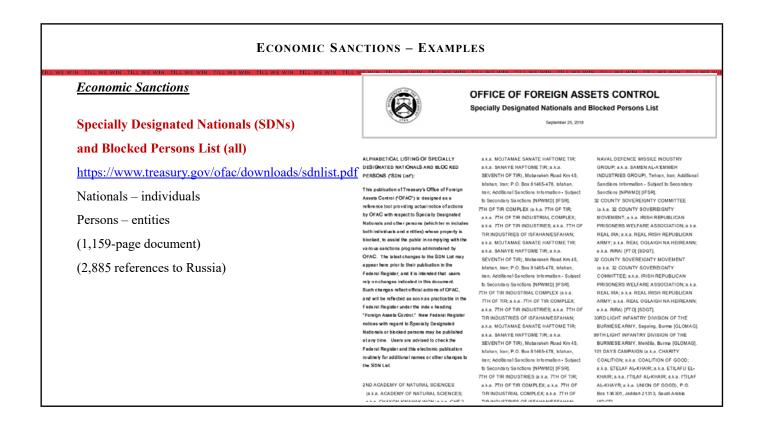
#### Exceptions:

"except to the extent provided by law or unless licensed or otherwise authorized by the Office of Foreign Assets Control"

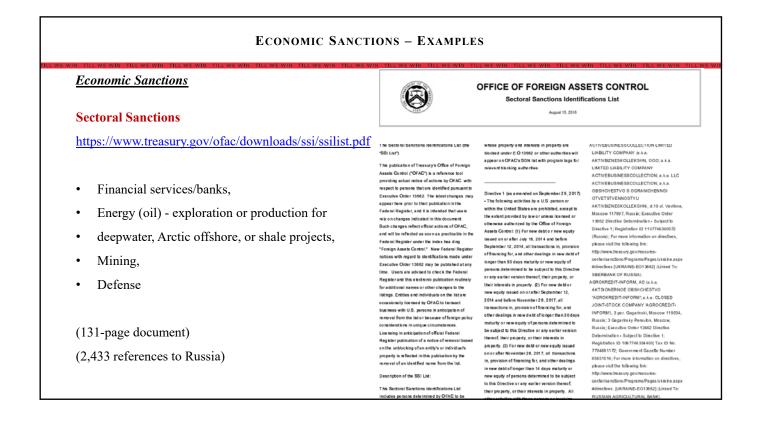
# **ECONOMIC SANCTIONS – RUSSIA-RELATED SANCTIONS**

#### Groups of Economic Sanctions

- Ukraine/Russia-related Sanctions March 2014 through September 2018
- Magnitsky Sanctions December 2012
- Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (CAATSA) August 2017 (new sanctions on Russia, Iran and North Korea)
  - Individuals, entities, and sectors of the economy
  - Usually, the 50% or more rule applies (the property is directly or indirectly owned (*different than controlled*) 50% or more in the aggregate by blocked person(s))
    - Aggregate persons and aggregate programs
    - 25% ownership by one blocked person in one program + 25% ownership by blocked person in another program = 50% ownership and is blocked



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	Download the SDN List						Visit The	e OFAC We	obsite
Economic Sanctions	Download the Consolidated Non-SDN List	1					Pro	ogram Code	e Key
	Lookup								
98 <b>individuals</b> located in Russia within <u>all programs</u>	Type: Name: ID #:	Individual	•	Address: City: State/Province:					
394 <b>entities</b> , including banks, oil and gas companies, investment	Program: Minimum Name Score:	All 561List BALKANS BELARUS	100	Country: List:		Russia All Search	Reset	<b>T</b>	
management	Lookup Results: 98 Found								
companies, etc.	Name		Address		Туре	Program(s)	List	Score V	,
	LEONTYEV, Vladislav Vladimirovich		Al Fattan Marina Towe	r, #901, Dubai Marina	Individual	TCO	SDN		-
	RAKHIMOV, Gafur-Arslanbek Akhmedov	<u>ich</u>		umber 64, Sheikh Zayeo Hills			SDN		
	KHRISTOFOROV, Vasiliy Aleksandrovich	KHRISTOFOROV. Vasiliy Aleksandrovich Murjan 6 Sector, Tower D01-T03.1, Apartment Individua 401	Individual	TCO	SDN				
	SHUSHANASHVILI, Kakhaber Pavlovich	I .	8 Rukavishnikov Stree		Individual	TCO	SDN		
	KALASHOV, Zakhary Knyazevich		General Tyulenev Stre Apartment 277	et, 7, Building 2,	Individual	TCO	SDN		
	SKOCH, Andrei Vladimirovich				Individual	UKRAINE- EO13661	SDN		
	GIRKIN, Igor Vsevolodovich		Shenkurskiy Passage Apartment 136	(Proyezd), House 8-6,	Individual	UKRAINE- EO13660	SDN		



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Sanctions List Search too component as it appears closeness of any potentia matches, based on the co List Search is one tool off	C, including the Foreign tions Identifications List pay close attention to the I uses approximate string on the SDN List and/or the I match returned as a res- nfidence rating set by the ered to assist users in uti-	List Search is designed to facilitate the use - Sanctions Evader List the List of Pensons tids and the Non-SDN Palestinian Legislative Cour program codes associated with each returnes matching to identify possible matches betwee e various other sanctions list. Sanctions List uit of a user's search. Sanctions List Search w user via the sider-bar CFAC does not provid lizing the SDN List and/or the various other san ot limit any criminal or chill baility for any act	ntified as Blocked Sölely P icil List. Given the number i record. These program cc n word or character strings Search has a slider-bar tha ill detect certain misspelling e recommendations with re rotions lists: use of Sanctio	fursuant to E.O. 13599, the Non-S of lists that now reside in the Sano ddes indicate how a true hit on a re a as entered into Sanctions. List Se ti may be used to set a threshold ( gs or other incorrectly entered text agard to the appropriateness of an ins. List Search is not a substitute to	DN Iran Sanctions Act List, the Part citons List Search tool, it is strongly burned value should be treated. The rarch, and any name or name i.e., a confidence rating for the i.e., a confidence rating. Sanctions v specific confidence rating. Sanctions	
Download the SDN L	ist				Visit The OFAC Website	
Download the Consolidated Non-SDN List						
Details:					í.	
Type: Entity Name:	Entity BELNEFTEKH	IM	List: Program: Remarks:	SDN BELARUS		
Aliases:						
Туре	Category	Name				
a.k.a.	strong	BELNEFTEKHIM CONCERN				
a.k.a.	strong	CONCERN BELNEFTEKHIM				
a.k.a.	strong	BELARUSIAN STATE PETROL	EUM AND CHEMICA	LS CONCERN		
a.k.a.	strong	BELARUSIAN STATE CONCE	RN FOR OIL AND CH	EMISTRY		
Addresses:						
Address		City	State/Provin	ce Postal Code	Country	
73 Dzerzhinskogo Av	venue	Minsk		220116	Belarus	
ul Trevskaya, 20/1 Room 536		Moscow		103789	Russia	
ul Pavlovskaya, 29		Kiev		01135	Ukraine	
Oederweg 43		Frankfurt-am-N	lain	D-60318	Germany	
Tower B 19-B Orienta 48 Dongzhimenwai S Dongcheng District		Beijing		100027	China	
GP 1 Apes Street		Riga		LV-1039	Latvia	

#### **ECONOMIC SANCTIONS – LICENSES**

#### **General Licenses**

- ✓ authorizes a type of transaction for a class of persons
- $\checkmark$  limited in time and/or in transactional amount
- ✓ usually contains a reporting requirement
- $\checkmark~$  applies to US and non-US persons equally

Example: winding down or maintaining business with Russian entity United Company RUSAL PLC (RUSAL) and its subsidiaries until October 23, 2018 (largest aluminum company)

#### Specific Licenses

✓ written permission from OFAC specific to a particular person or entity, authorizing that person or entity to perform a particular transaction in response to a written license application

Example: release blocked funds, export agricultural commodities, medical supplies and medicine,

# **ECONOMIC SANCTIONS – RISKS FOR BUSINESSES**

Transactions and Dealings with SDN/Blocked Persons/Sectors of the Economy

- · Blocking / freezing of funds within correspondent or payable-through bank accounts within the US
- Attachment of real property located within the US involved in prohibited transactions
- Forfeiture of blocked funds pursuant to federal civil procedure (18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(A) and (C))
- Appearing on Foreign Sanctions Evaders (FSEs) List or the SDN and Blocked Persons Lists cuts off access to the US business and financial market (US persons are prohibited from doing business with FSEs and SDNs)
- (If subject to general or specific personal jurisdiction in the US, civil and criminal penalties within the statutes apply)

#### Example in Latvia: Public Procurement

July 2018 - Latvian law on international and national sanctions (Starptautisko un (LR) nacionālo sankciju likumā), Section 11.1:

- authorities must comply with sanctions imposed by NATO Members
- must vet candidates, authorized representatives, sub-contractors, and business partners
- basis to reject proposal or rescind contract
- "domestic application" of US law

### **ECONOMIC SANCTIONS – RISKS TO LATVIAN FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS**

#### Facilitating transactions on behalf of SDNs/Blocked Persons/Sectors of the Economy

- · Blocking / freezing of funds within correspondent or payable-through accounts within the US
- Forfeiture of blocked funds pursuant to federal civil procedure
- Appearing on Foreign Sanctions Evaders (FSEs) List or the SDN and Blocked Persons Lists
- FinCEN special measures and findings of "Primary Money Laundering Concern" cuts off access to the US financial market [money laundering due to a 18 U.S.C. § 1956 violation]

**Example in Latvia**: ABLV Bank (*also*: AS Multibanka, 2006, FinCEN investigation and 2005, 2006 and 2011, VEF Banka, FinCEN investigation and findings)

<u>Section 311 of the USA PATRIOT Act</u> - ... Secretary of the Treasury may require domestic financial institutions ... to take 1 or more of the special measures ... if the Secretary finds ... reasonable grounds ... for concluding that a jurisdiction outside of the United States, 1 or more <u>financial institutions</u> operating outside of the United States, ... is of primary money laundering concern.

<u>Special measures</u>: 4 informational, recordkeeping and reporting requirements; 1 severe requirement: "prohibitions or conditions on opening or maintaining certain correspondent or payable-through accounts."

# **ECONOMIC SANCTIONS – PRECAUTIONS AND COMPLIANCE**

- Due diligence partners, customers, transactions, ownership structures (50% or more rule)
- Draft contract language rescission, termination, liability, etc.
- Check sanctions lists and general licenses on a regular basis as sanctions and licenses are amended, added, removed, and extended from time to time (<u>https://www.treasury.gov/resource-</u> center/sanctions/OFAC-Enforcement)
- Seek legal advice
- Apply for a specific license if necessary (OFAC)
- Review whether a general license applies to you (OFAC)



# Paldies! Thank you!

For more information, please contact:

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