



21ST PACKAGE OF EU SANCTIONS AGAINST RUSSIA

Merchant Shipping Notice 207

*Notice to Ship-owners, Ship Operators, Managers, Masters,
Owners' Representatives and Recognized Organizations*

This Directorate brings to the attention of all concerned the adoption of the latest package of EU restrictive measures against Russia. The package expands the EU's measures against the Russian shadow fleet by adding 41 vessels to the list of designated ships, which are subject to a port access ban and a prohibition on receiving services. The scope of the existing regime has also been widened to enable the listing of vessels that support the operation of sanctioned vessels, including through bunkering, refuelling, ship-to-ship transfer activities or transporting cargo from such vessels. Additional entities and individuals involved in supporting shadow fleet operations have also been designated.

The package further suspends, until 15 July 2027, the automatic adjustment mechanism for the oil price cap introduced under previous sanctions packages, while retaining the possibility of a review should market conditions warrant. Operators involved in the transport, financing, brokering or insurance of Russian crude oil and petroleum products remain responsible for ensuring full compliance with all applicable EU restrictions.

New measures affecting LNG shipping have also been introduced. Sales of LNG tankers to third countries are now subject to a notification requirement. The package also clarifies that the prohibition on the provision of LNG terminal services extends to non-Russian operators in third countries that are controlled by Russian entities. In addition, a temporary exemption has been introduced for the transfer of Russian LNG to third countries and related transactions necessary to facilitate such transfers, subject to review and renewal.

The package further introduces additional transaction restrictions, including transaction bans relating to the Russian ports of Olya and Vysotsk, as well as restrictions affecting additional oil-trading entities involved in the transport and sale of Russian oil.

Maritime stakeholders are therefore urged to review their sanctions compliance procedures and exercise enhanced due diligence in relation to chartering arrangements, ship-to-ship transfers, bunkering operations, vessel acquisitions, and all dealings involving Russian trade, energy cargoes or high-risk counterparties.

All those concerned, are requested to comply with these measures at all times and to extend their full cooperation for their effective enforcement, and consult the relevant [EU legal instruments](#) and [additional information](#). The shipping community is reminded, without prejudice, that the use of Maltese ships in any such violation may be considered as being against the interest of Malta and of Maltese shipping and may lead, inter alia, to the imposition of penalties and closure of registry.

Merchant Shipping Directorate

28 July 2026

Malta Transport Centre
Hal Lija LJA 2021, Malta

Tel: +356 2125 0360
Email: mershipmalta.tm@transport.gov.mt
www.transport.gov.mt/ship-registration



Merchant Shipping Directorate
ISO 9001:2015 certified