

Venezuela

Specification Restrictive measures in view of the situation in Venezuela

Adopted by EU

Program VEN

Expiry date 10.01.2027

Last amendment date 15.12.2025

Notes On 13 November 2017, the Council of the EU adopted restrictive measures in view of the existing crisis in Venezuela, caused by the deterioration of democracy and overruling the law and human rights. The restrictive measures aim at fostering a credible and meaningful process that can lead to a peacefully negotiated solution.

Travel restrictions and an asset freeze can be imposed in relation to those responsible for serious human rights violations or abuses or the repression of civil society and democratic opposition, and those whose actions, policies, or activities otherwise undermine democracy or the rule of law in Venezuela. In addition to that, considering the risk of further violence and excessive use of force, the restrictive measures adopted by the Council include an arms embargo as well as restrictions on equipment that might be used for internal repression and measures to prevent the misuse of communication equipment. The measures can be reversed depending on the evolution of the situation in the country, in particular the holding of credible and meaningful negotiations, the respect for democratic institutions, the adoption of a full electoral calendar, and the liberation of all political prisoners.

In order to support efforts by Venezuela to maintain the electoral process and to expand the democratic space in the country, on 13 May 2024, the Council decided to extend the restrictive measures only until 10 January 2025 instead of the standard 12-month renewal. In addition, the Council decided to suspend the travel restrictions on four individuals.

Derogations and exemptions to the restrictive measures are possible, including for the delivery of humanitarian aid.

Measures



Arms export

It shall be prohibited to export arms and related materiel of all types to Venezuela. The prohibition shall not apply to the execution of contracts concluded before 13.11.2017 or to ancillary contracts necessary for the execution of such contracts. Related technical or financial assistance and services are also prohibited.



Asset freeze and prohibition to make funds available



Restrictions on admission

Member states shall prevent the entry into, or transit through their territories through, of persons listed in Annex I of Council Decision (CFSP) 2017/2074.



Restrictions on equipment used for internal repression

It is prohibited to export equipment which might be used for internal repression to Venezuela. Related technical, financial and other assistance is also prohibited.



Telecommunications equipment

It is prohibited to export equipment, technology or software intended primarily for use in the monitoring or interception by the Venezuelan regime of the Internet and of telephone communications on mobile or fixed networks in Venezuela as listed in Annex II of Regulation (EU) 2017/2063. It is also prohibited to provide telecommunication or Internet monitoring or interception services and related financial and technical assistance.