

Ukraine

Specification Restrictive measures in response to the illegal recognition, occupation or annexation by the Russian Federation of certain non-government controlled areas of Ukraine

Acronym Oblasts

Adopted by EU

Expiry date 24.02.2026

Last amendment date 05.03.2025

Notes On 22 February 2022, the EU strongly condemned the decision of the President of the Russian Federation on 21 February 2022 to recognize the non-government controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts of Ukraine as independent entities and the ensuing decision to send Russian troops into these areas. The EU considers that this as an illegal act further undermining Ukraine's sovereignty and independence and is a severe breach of international law and international agreements.

In view of the situation, on 23 February 2022, the Council of the EU adopted restrictive measures, which prohibit the import into the EU of goods originating in the non-government controlled areas of the Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts of Ukraine with the exception of goods having been granted a certificate of origin by the Government of Ukraine. In addition, the measures restrict trade in good and technology for use in certain sectors and prohibit services in the sectors of transport, telecommunications, energy or the prospecting, exploration and production of oil, gas and mineral resources, as well as services related to tourism activities in the non-government controlled areas of the Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts of Ukraine.

On 21 September 2022, the Russian Federation decided to further escalate its aggression against Ukraine by supporting the organisation of illegal 'referenda' in the parts of the Donetsk, Kherson, Luhansk and Zaporizhzhia regions. By organising those illegal sham 'referenda', Russia aimed to change by force the internationally recognised borders of Ukraine, which constitutes a clear and serious breach of the Charter of the United Nations.

In view of the grave circumstances, on 6 October 2022, the Council extended the geographical scope of the regime to cover all the non-government controlled areas of Ukraine in the oblasts of Donetsk, Kherson, Luhansk and Zaporizhzhia.

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

Measures



Financial measures

It is prohibited to create joint ventures in or with an entity in the specified territories.



Financial measures

It is prohibited to grant financing to entities in the specified territories.



Financial measures

It is prohibited to sell, supply, transfer or export banknotes to or for the use in the specified territories.



Investments

The acquisition or extension of a participation in ownership or control of, in entities in the specified territories and of other securities of a participating nature are prohibited.



Investments

The acquisition or extension of a participation in ownership of real estates in the specified territories is prohibited.



Restrictions on goods

It is prohibited to import goods originating in the specified territories into the EU and to provide, directly or indirectly, financing or financial assistance as well as insurance and reinsurance related to such import.



Restrictions on goods

It is prohibited to sell, supply, transfer or export goods and technology listed in Annex II of Council Regulation (EU) 2022/263 to entities in or for the use in the specified territories. Related technical, brokering and financial assistance or training and other services are also prohibited.



Restrictions on services

It is prohibited to provide the following services to entities in the specified territories: accounting, auditing, bookkeeping or tax consulting services, or business and management consulting or public relations services; construction, architectural and engineering services, legal advisory services and IT consultancy services; market research and public opinion polling services, technical testing and analysis services and advertising services. It is also prohibited to sell, supply, transfer, export or provide software (as well as related intellectual property rights) for the management of enterprises and software for industrial design and manufacture as listed in Annex III of Regulation (EU) 2022/263 to entities in the specified territories. Related technical or financial assistance and brokering or other services are also prohibited.



Restrictions on services

It is prohibited to provide services directly related to tourism activities in the specified territories.



Restrictions on services

It is prohibited to provide technical assistance or brokering directly relating to infrastructure in the specified territories in the sectors of (1) transport; (2) telecommunications; (3) energy and (4) the prospecting, exploration and production of oil, gas and mineral resources.