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Adoption of agreed restrictive measures in view of Russia's role in Eastern Ukraine

The Council today adopted EU restrictive measures in view of Russia's actions destabilising the situation in eastern Ukraine. This decision gives legal value to an agreement reached at the Committee of Permanent Representatives on Tuesday 29 July and announced by European Council President Herman Van Rompuy and Commission President José Manuel Barroso.

In order to restrict Russia's access to EU capital markets, EU nationals and companies may no more buy or sell new bonds, equity or similar financial instruments with a maturity exceeding 90 days, issued by major state-owned Russian banks, development banks, their subsidiaries outside the EU and those acting on their behalf. Services related to the issuing of such financial instruments, e.g. brokering, are also prohibited.

In addition, an embargo on the import and export of arms and related material from/to Russia was imposed. It covers all items on the EU common military list.

Exports of dual use goods and technology for military use in Russia or to Russian military endusers will also be prohibited, with all items in the EU list of dual use goods included.

Finally, exports of certain energy-related equipment and technology to Russia will be subject to prior authorisation by competent authorities of Member States. Export licenses will be denied if products are destined for deep water oil exploration and production, arctic oil exploration or production and shale oil projects in Russia.

The measures will apply to new contracts. The legal texts will be published in the EU Official Journal later on today so that the above restrictions will enter into force tomorrow.

More information:

Statement in the name of the European Union on the agreed restrictive measures against Russia

Factsheet on EU-Ukraine relations

Factsheet EU restrictive measures

EU common military list

EU list of dual use goods