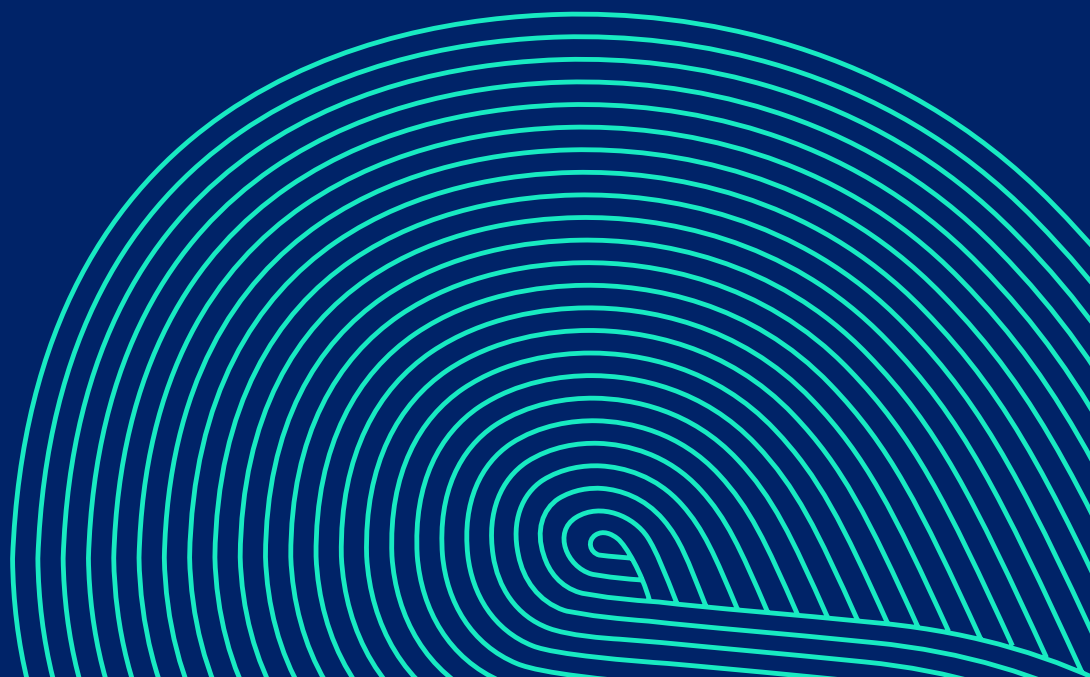
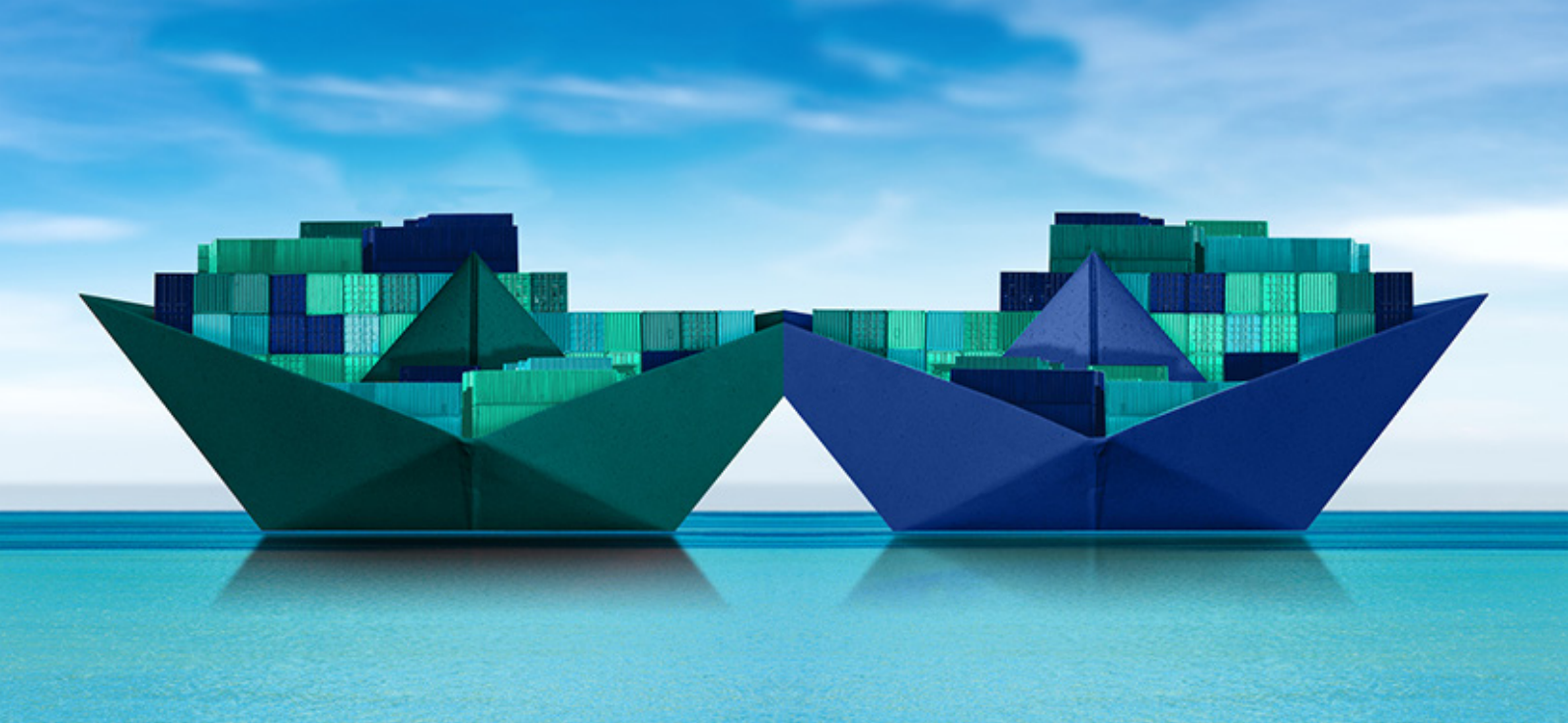




February 2022 Edition

ON SANCTIONS





We're back with more updates from the Sanctions Space

In yet another busy month in sanctions, the focus for most compliance officers has probably been the ongoing diplomatic situation between Russia and the West. Alongside this, there has been significant movement from both the UK and the EU on ensuring humanitarian exemptions for Afghanistan.

SANCTIONS UPDATES

February Monthly Sanctions Update

2nd Annual ACAMS Global Sanctions Space Summit Recap

As diplomatic tensions continued to rise over the international standoff at Ukraine's border, the 2nd Annual ACAMS Global Sanctions Space Summit opened earlier this month with a keynote speech by the White House National Security Council's Peter Harrell on the potential use of economic and trade restrictions to impose "severe costs on Russia's economy" in the event of an invasion. The summit, which featured a live discussion that served as a replacement for the February Monthly Sanctions Update, addressed a broad array of compliance topics, with insights from high-level representatives of the United Nations, World Bank, European Commission, OFAC, OFSI, and many of the world's largest financial institutions.



/ China

OFAC is adding **regulations** to implement a November 12, 2020 Executive order related to securities investments that finance 'Communist Chinese military companies', as amended by a June 3, 2021 Executive order related to the Chinese military-industrial complex and Chinese surveillance technology. OFAC intends

to supplement these regulations with a more comprehensive set of regulations, which may include additional interpretive guidance and definitions, general licenses, and other regulatory provisions. Furthermore, the US Bureau of Industry and Security has added **33 entities** to its Unverified List.

/ Afghanistan

Following the adoption of **UN Security Council resolution 2615** (2021) in January, both the **UK** and the **EU** have amended their Afghanistan sanctions regimes to implement a new humanitarian exemption to facilitate humanitarian assistance and other activities that support basic human needs.

New **US Executive Order** which will block the property of Afghanistan's central bank

- Da Afghanistan Bank - that is held in the US by US financial institutions, and require US financial institutions to transfer the property into a consolidated account. The White House additionally stated that \$3.5 billion of the assets will be used "for the benefit of the Afghan people", and another \$3.5 billion of assets will be available to settle claims brought by US victims of terrorism against the Taliban.

/ Ukraine-Russia

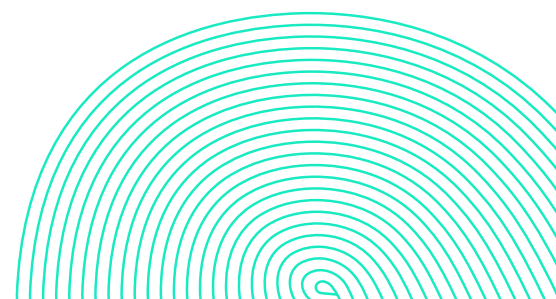
As talks continue regarding the Ukraine-Russia border, alongside reports of continued military build-up, a number of jurisdictions have taken measures to enhance the potential sanctions which

could be imposed in response to military action. The United Kingdom, for example, has amended its **sanctions regulations** to enable designation of new categories of people and entities.

/ Myanmar

Coordinated sanctions have been undertaken by the **US**, **UK**, and **Canada** against a number of Myanmar officials, members of the business community,

and entities. These actions were taken on January 31, a year after the coup by the Myanmar military.



BITS OF INTEREST



Disinformation Sanctions Regime

The EU Parliament Special Committee on Foreign Interference (INGE) has recommended the establishment a **sanctions regime against disinformation**. This recommendation follows an 18-month inquiry, and the EU Parliament is due to vote on the recommendations at its March session. You can read the draft report [here](#).

[Read more](#) 



Updated OFSI Guidance

The UK's Office of Financial Sanctions Implementation has published an update to its "Monetary penalties for breaches of financial sanctions" guidance.

[Read more](#) 



UK Parliamentary Inquiry into Illicit Finance

The House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee has announced an inquiry on responding to illicit and emerging finance. This inquiry will look at how effectively the UK is responding to the challenge of illicit finance flows across borders, and it will also explore the impact that emerging forms of finance could have on the international norms and rules that govern the global financial system. This inquiry is part of a wider program of work that the committee is undertaking on the "rules based international order". The committee is seeking written evidence by March 15, 2022.

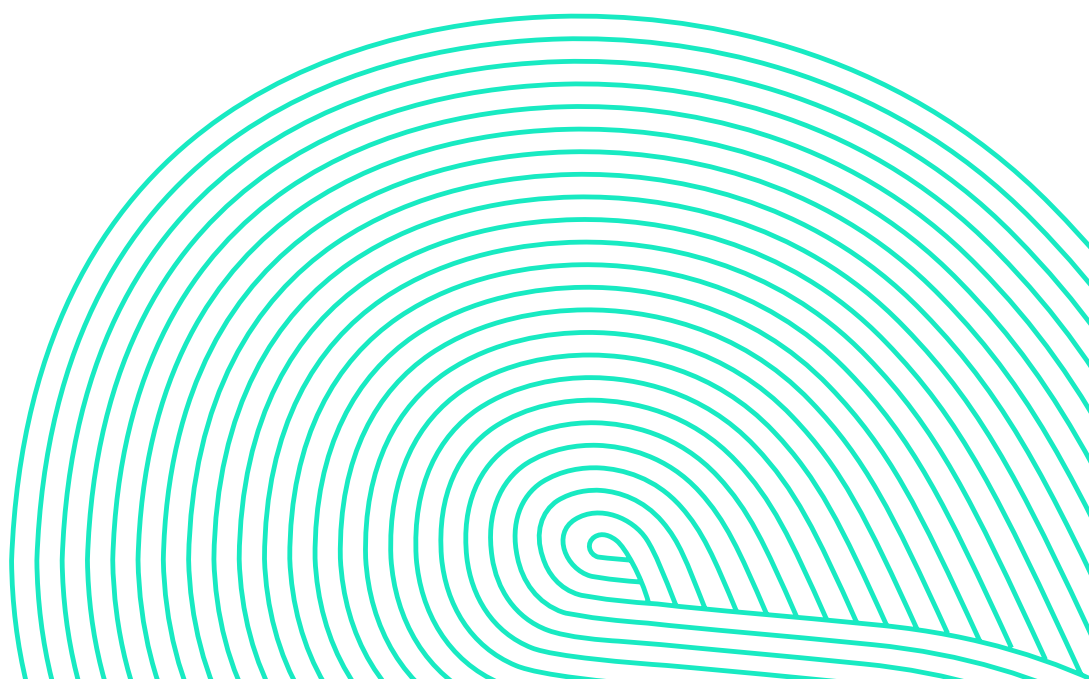
[Read more](#) 



Estonian Unilateral Sanctions

According to Prime Minister Kaja Kallas, Estonia will impose unilateral sanctions on Belarusian mineral oils produced on the basis of coal, i.e., commodity group 2707, which is not subject to the sector-specific sanctions established by the European Union and the transit of which has been possible through Estonia so far. Prime Minister Kallas also stated that Estonia will propose a sanction to be imposed on this group of goods throughout the European Union.

[Read more](#) 



Stay up to date with the world of global sanctions compliance and remain compliant with complex sanctions laws.

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