CYPRUS UNION OF SHIPOWNERS

US TREASURY REPORT

WEEK 28 OF 2026

1. OFAC SDN List Update: Issuance of Democratic Republic of the Congo-related General License

On the 10th July 2026, OFAC **issued the Democratic Republic of the Congo-related General License:**

- Democratic Republic of the Congo-related General License 2, "*Authorizing Transactions Related to Agricultural Commodities, Medicine, Medical Devices, Replacement Parts and Components, Software Updates, or Clinical Trials*".

General License No. 2, provides that:

(a) All transactions prohibited by the Democratic Republic of the Congo Sanctions Regulations, 31 CFR part 547 (DRCSR), that are ordinarily incident and necessary to the following activities are hereby authorized. These include:

(1) the exportation or reexportation of agricultural commodities, medicine, medical devices, replacement parts and components for medical devices, or software updates for medical devices to the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) or the Republic of Rwanda (Rwanda), or to persons in third countries purchasing specifically for provision to the DRC or Rwanda;

(1) the prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of any disease or medical condition in the DRC or Rwanda; or

(2) the conduct of clinical trials and other medical research activities in the DRC or Rwanda.

(b) For the purposes of this general license, agricultural commodities, medicine, and medical devices are defined as follows:

2, Pavlou Nirvana & Agias Fylaxeos Street, Safe Bulkers Shipping Center, 3rd Floor, 3021 Limassol, Cyprus
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(1) Agricultural commodities. Agricultural commodities are products that fall within the term "agricultural commodity" as defined in section 102 of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 5602) and are intended for use as:

(i) Food for humans (including raw, processed, and packaged foods; live animals; vitamins and minerals; food additives or supplements; and bottled drinking water) or animals (including animal feeds);

(ii) Seeds for food crops;

(iii) Fertilizers or organic fertilizers; or

(iv) Reproductive materials (such as live animals, fertilized eggs, embryos, and semen) for the production of food animals.

(2) Medicine. Medicine is an item that falls within the definition of the term "drug" in section 201 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 321).

(3) Medical devices. A medical device is an item that falls within the definition of "device" in section 201 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 321).

(c) This general license does not authorize any transaction otherwise prohibited by the DRCSR, unless separately authorized.

Kindly note, that, nothing in this general license relieves any person from compliance with any other Federal laws or requirements of other Federal agencies. Furthermore, the authorizations in this general license include all transactions ordinarily incident to the provision of medical care and the operation of medical clinics or facilities.

We draw your attention to the official General License for more details on this action.

Related Publication:

OFAC 10/07 - Democratic Republic of the Congo-related General License 2

2. OFAC SDN List Update: Issuance of Amended Russia-related General License and Frequently Asked Questions

On the 8th July 2026, OFAC **issued the Amended Russia-related General License and Frequently Asked Questions:**

- Russia-related General License 13R, "*Authorizing Certain Administrative Transactions Prohibited by Directive 4 under Executive Order 14024*".

General License No. 13R, which replaces and supersedes General License No. 13Q, dated April 8, 2026, is becoming effective by July 8, 2026, provides that:

(a) U.S. persons, or entities which are owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by a U.S. person, are authorized to pay taxes, fees, or import duties, and purchase or receive permits, licenses, registrations, certifications, or tax refunds to the extent such transactions are prohibited, by Directive 4 under Executive Order (E.O.) 14024, provided such transactions are ordinarily incident and necessary to the day-to-day operations in the Russian Federation of such U.S. persons or entities, through 12:01 a.m. eastern daylight time, October 9, 2026.

(b) This general license does not authorize:

(1) Any debit to an account on the books of a U.S. financial institution of the Central Bank of the Russian Federation, the National Wealth Fund of the Russian Federation, or the Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation; or

(2) Any transactions otherwise prohibited by the Russian Harmful Foreign Activities Sanctions Regulations, 31 CFR part 587 (RuHSR), including transactions involving any person blocked pursuant to the RuHSR, unless separately authorized.

We draw your attention to the official General License for more details on this action.

Related Publication:

OFAC 08/07 - Russia-related General License 13R

Additionally, OFAC has updated two Russia-related Frequently Asked Questions, FAQs 999 and 1118.

FAQ 999 - What authorizations exist for entities subject to Directive 4 under Executive Order (E.O.) 14024, "*Prohibitions Related to Transactions Involving the Central Bank of the Russian Federation, the National Wealth Fund of the Russian Federation, and the Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation*," as amended (Russia-related Sovereign Transactions Directive)?

OFAC issued the following General Licenses (GL):

- GL 132 authorizes transactions involving the Paks II civil nuclear power plant project in Hungary, including those involving the Central Bank of the Russian Federation, that would be prohibited by the Russia-related Sovereign Transactions Directive.

- GL 115D authorizes civil nuclear energy-related transactions, including those involving the Central Bank of the Russian Federation, that would be prohibited by the Russia-related Sovereign Transactions Directive.

- GL 13R authorizes U.S. persons to pay taxes, fees, or import duties and purchase or receive permits, licenses, registrations, or certifications, to the extent such transactions are prohibited by the Russia-related Sovereign Transactions Directive, provided such transactions are ordinarily incident and necessary to such persons' day-to-day operations in the Russian Federation. For further information on the types of transactions authorized by GL 13R, see FAQ 1118.

- GL 14 authorizes certain transactions involving any Directive 4 entity where the Directive 4 entity's sole function in the transaction is to act as an operator of a clearing and settlement system. GL 14 does not authorize any transfer of assets to or from any Directive 4 entity, or any transaction where a Directive 4 entity is either a counterparty or beneficiary to the transaction. In addition, GL 14 does not authorize any debit to an account on the books of a U.S. financial institution of any Directive 4 entity. See FAQ 1003.

Kindly note that, GL 13R, GL 14, GL 115D, and GL 132 continue to authorize against the Russia-related Sovereign Transactions Directive.

FAQ 1118 - As of December 2022, the Government of the Russian Federation may require a so-called "exit tax" payment prior to the divestment of assets located in the Russian Federation, potentially requiring transactions involving the Central Bank of the Russian Federation or the Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation. Do U.S. sanctions prohibit the payment of this so-called "exit tax"? Does Russia-related General License (GL) 13R authorize transactions that involve the payment of this exit tax?

Directive 4 under E.O. 14024, "*Prohibitions Related to Transactions Involving the Central Bank of the Russian Federation, the National Wealth Fund of the Russian Federation, and the Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation*," as amended (Russia-related Sovereign Transactions Directive), prohibits the following activities by U.S. persons: any transaction involving the Central Bank of the Russian Federation, the National Wealth Fund of the Russian Federation, or the Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation, including any transfer of assets to such entities or any foreign exchange transaction for or on behalf of such entities (collectively, "Directive 4 entities"). As noted in FAQ 1002, this includes both direct and indirect transactions.

OFAC issued the Russia-related Sovereign Transactions Directive with the explicit aim of preventing the Government of the Russian Federation from leveraging these institutions and their holdings of international reserves in ways that would undermine the impact of U.S. sanctions. Information currently available to OFAC suggests so-called "exit taxes" imposed by the Government of the Russian Federation involve payments to Directive 4 entities. Consequently, U.S. persons whose divestment from the Russian Federation will involve the payment of such an exit tax require a specific license from OFAC prior to the payment of such tax, unless otherwise authorized by OFAC.

GL 13R authorizes U.S. persons, or entities owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by a U.S. person, to pay taxes, fees, or import duties, and purchase or receive permits, licenses, registrations, or certifications involving Directive 4 entities that would otherwise be prohibited by the Russia-related Sovereign Transactions Directive, provided such transactions are ordinarily incident and necessary to such persons' day-to-day operations in the Russian Federation. Payment of exit taxes is not considered ordinarily incident and necessary to day-to-day operations in the Russian Federation and, thus, is not authorized under GL 13R.

Therefore, U.S. persons whose divestment of assets in the Russian Federation will involve a payment of such an "exit tax" should seek a specific license from OFAC. Such persons may submit a request for a specific license with OFAC's Licensing Division online at OFAC Specific Licenses and Interpretive Guidance | Office of Foreign Assets Control. License applications related to these payments should include information regarding the amount of the exit tax, the amount of ongoing taxes that would otherwise be paid to the Government of the Russian Federation should divestment not occur, the impact of a failure to pay the tax on the employees of the exiting company, the specific economic activity in Russia of the exiting company, and the impact on the Russian Federation of the divestment. OFAC will expedite its review of such requests, which will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

While OFAC is aware that the Commission established by the Russian Federation to review such divestments may include individuals from entities subject to the Russia-related Sovereign Transactions Directive or individuals listed on the Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons List, U.S. persons do not need to seek authorization from OFAC for their Russian buyers to submit an application to the Commission regarding a divestment transaction.

Further note, that Russian Harmful Foreign Activities Sanctions the has been updated on Jul 08, 2026.

Related Publication:

OFAC 08/07 - Frequently Asked Questions - Recently Updated