



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 11 May 2021

Today, the European Commission has published [guidance on the implementation of specific provisions of Council Regulation \(EU\) No 401/2013 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Myanmar/Burma](#).

The Guidance Note seeks to address the questions most likely to arise in the implementation of the financial sanctions provided for in this sanctions regime. It includes information about the scope of the financial restrictions therein and their application. It also explains in detail the responsibilities of those who must comply with the Regulation, covering notions such as ownership and control, and the functioning of derogations.

Mairead **McGuinness**, Commissioner for Financial Services, Financial Stability and Capital Markets Union, said: *“The uniform and proper implementation of EU sanctions is a priority. In view of the new changes to the Myanmar/Burma sanctions regime which allow broader listings, it’s more important than ever to bring clarity to EU economic operators. The Commission is ready to engage with operators and national authorities, and will continue issuing guidance and opinions to ensure that EU sanctions are well understood and applied.”*

For more information on the Guidance Note

EU sanctions are a foreign policy tool, which, among others, helps to achieve key EU objectives such as preserving peace, strengthening international security, and consolidating and supporting democracy, international law and human rights. Sanctions are targeted at those whose actions endanger these values, and they seek to reduce as much as possible any adverse consequences on the civilian population. The EU has about 40 different sanctions regimes currently in place.

The EU has a restrictive measures (sanctions) regime in place in view of the situation in Myanmar/Burma which is laid out in a Council Decision [add link] and a Council Regulation [add link]. The regime consists of targeted financial sanctions applying to 35 individuals and two entities and travel bans applying to 35 individuals, as well as limited sectoral sanctions. The limited sectoral sanctions consist of an embargo on the export of arms, an embargo on the export of equipment that might be used for internal repression, an embargo on the export of dual-use goods for use by the military and Border Guard Police in Myanmar, and restrictions on the export of equipment for monitoring communications. Moreover, a prohibition on the provision of military training and military cooperation with the Myanmar Armed Forces (Tatmadaw) is in place.

The present Guidance Note reflects the more common questions received by the Commission in the context of other sanctions regimes, chiefly from EU banks and SMEs, but also from

private citizens and NGOs. Many of these questions refer in particular to financial transactions with persons linked to those who are listed; the humanitarian derogation and other exceptions; and to specific concepts such as the anti-circumvention clause. The purpose of the Note is to help address these and other more common implementation issues that EU operators can face when applying EU sanctions. More detailed analysis, on a case-by-case basis, can be sought from National Competent Authorities (NCA) in the Member States. The Note may be updated at a later stage, in light of possible new questions received from EU operators and NCAs.

The Commission is also working closely with Member States to ensure that national procedures for authorisations are transparent, and that the Regulation is uniformly implemented throughout the EU.

[Guidance note](#)

[Restrictive measures \(sanctions\)](#)

[EU Sanctions Map](#)