

**FOR
INFORMATION**

EBD/22/52

September 23, 2022

To: Members of the Executive Board

From: The Secretary

Subject: **Albania—Notification of Restrictions Under Executive Board
Decision No. 144–(52/51)**

Board Action: Executive Directors' **information**

Additional information: The Secretary has received the attached communications dated September 19, 2022 from the Ministry of Finance and Economy of Albania.

-Albania was among 38 countries to refer Ukraine to the ICC Prosecutor. We fully support his work to gather proof and document crimes committed to present them to the court.

-Albania reaffirms its unwavering support for the Independence, Sovereignty, and Territorial Integrity of Ukraine in its internationally recognized borders. This position of was reiterated on March 7, by a resolution adopted by the Albanian Parliament. The Resolution "On the support of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine and the protection of the principles of international law and European security".

-Albania has aligned itself fully with the EU and enacted in its territory the restrictive measures approved by the European Council against Russia for undermining or threatening the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine. We have completed the major part of the legal basis for the domestic implementation of these measures. The Council of Ministers Decision 123 of 2 March 2022 is approved and another package will follow.

-There are two main categories of **sanctions**, economic/financial and targeted. We have approved sanctions relating to the freezing of assets of 680 individuals and 52 entities. Individuals ranging from President of Russia, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Russia, members of the National Security Council of the Russian Federation, who supported the immediate recognition by Russia as independent entities of the two areas of Donetsk and Luhansk, members of the Russian State Duma, who ratified the government decision of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance between the Russian Federation and these two entities.

-We have also enacted in the Albanian territory the EU's economic sanctions that include restrictive measures in trade of certain goods, finance, energy, transport and technology. The restrictions include prohibition of any transactions with the Central Bank of Russia as well as.

-A no fly zone over Albania has been implemented from the first days of the conflict was also aviation. Permission to land in, take off from, or overfly, the Albanian territory was banned to any aircraft operated by Russian air carriers, including as a marketing carrier, to any Russian-registered aircraft, and to non-Russian-registered aircraft which are owned or chartered, or otherwise controlled by a Russian legal or natural person.

- Albania will no longer participate in any sports activity facing the Russian Federation until the invasion of Ukraine is over.

Actions undertaken from Albania related to Russia's aggression against UKR

Bilaterally

- **On 26 February 2022** Albania supported Joint Statement of the International Crimea Platform's Participants on the Occasion of the Day of Resistance to the Occupation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the City of Sevastopol.

- **On 27 February** Albania closed its airspace for all Russian aircraft except for humanitarian and emergency flights.
- **On 7 March 2022** the Albanian Parliament adopted the resolution: "On the support of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine and the protection of the principles of international law and European security"
- **On 18 March 2022** it was approved the DCM on "Establishing a deadline for entry and residence of citizens of Ukraine in the Republic of Albania."¹

Internationally

At the UNSC

- **Active & vocal role in UNSC meetings;**
- **Co-penholder for UKR;**
 - As co-penholder with the US: presented and mobilized support to the draft UNSC Resolution. Blocked by Russian veto, no one against
 - As co-penholder with the US: presented and mobilized support to the Resolution of the General Assembly, approved with 141 votes, with only five votes against
- **Support humanitarian actions**
- **Accountability:**
 - Alb Referred RF to ICC together with 38 countries
 - Co-founder of the Group o Friends for Accountability on Ukraine (formalised in NY on 25th of March 2022 at a UNSC meeting at ministerial level
- Joint efforts with likeminded countries which decided that Ukraine should be part of the regular agenda of the Security Council as threat to global peace and security.

At the EU

- Albania has also joined all the EU positions and decisions (including sanctions against Russia) in support of Ukraine's territorial integrity and the principles on which European security is built.
- Albania has approved sanctions related to the freezing of assets of **862 individuals and 53 entities**. Individuals, starting with the President of Russia, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, members of the National Security Council of the Russian Federation, who supported the immediate recognition by Russia as independent entities of the two Donetsk and Luhansk regions, members of the Russian State Duma, which ratified the government decision on the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance between the Russian Federation and these two entities.
- Albania has joined EU economic sanctions that include restrictive measures in finance, energy, transport and technology, including limit access to **primary and secondary capital markets** for certain Russian banks and companies, impose an export and import

¹ Në Fletoren Zyrtare nr. 45, datë 24.03.2022 është publikuar Vendimi i dytë i KM nr. 173, datë 18.03.2022 "Për dhënien e mbrojtjes së përkohshme shtetasve ukrainas, personave pa shtetësi dhe personave që kanë fituar mbrojtje ndërkombëtare në Ukrainë, me banim të përkohshëm ose të përhershëm në Ukrainë, si dhe për krijimin e Task-Forcës për menaxhimin e rrjedhës së aplikantëve për mbrojtje ndërkombëtare".

ban on **trade in arms**, establish an export ban on **dual-use goods** for military use or military end users in Russia, impose an export ban in goods and technology in the **transport and space industry**, curtail Russian access to certain **sensitive technologies and services** that can be used for oil production and exploration.

- Albania also aligned and started adopting legislation to implement the Council decision on further restrictive measures related to finance and aviation, including: a ban on transactions with the **Russian Central Bank** and the **Central Bank of Belarus**, a ban on the overflight of **AL airspace** and on access to AL airports by Russian carriers of all kinds, a **SWIFT** ban for seven Russian banks and three Belarusian banks, a prohibition on the provision of euro denominated banknotes to Belarus.
- Albania aligned with the Council's restrictive measures in response to the decision by the Russian Federation to proceed with the recognition of the non-government controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts in Ukraine as independent entities, and the ensuing decision to send Russian troops into these areas. The scope of the measures is limited to the non-government controlled territories of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts and include: an **import ban** on goods, restrictions on **trade and investment** related to certain economic sectors, a prohibition on **supplying tourism services**, an **export ban** on certain goods and technologies.