

[Additional sanctions increase pressure on Assad regime and its backers](#)



This brings the total numbers listed under EU Syria sanctions to 277 people and 71 entities. Under the terms of the Transition Period the UK has also adopted these sanctions, which freeze the individuals' EU and UK assets and stop them from travelling to the EU or UK.

The UK worked closely with European partners to draw up these sanctions, and will look to continue implementing them after December 2020.

Minister for the Middle East and North Africa James Cleverly:

Syria's appalling regime has unleashed unimaginable suffering upon its own people.

The UK continues to work closely with European partners to sanction those profiting from the devastating Syrian war. We will also continue to champion the international rules that keep us safe, and which the Assad regime – and its Russian allies – seeks to undermine.

The sanctions target those who have profited from the ongoing conflict in Syria. The recipients work across a range of industries – some are involved in smuggling and money laundering, while others engage in deals with UN-listed terrorist entities.

The sanctions send a message to backers of the Syrian regime: those who profit from prolonging the conflict will be held to account and the rights of innocent Syrians must be respected and upheld.

Sanctions on Syria will continue until the regime engages seriously with the UN-led political process, which is the only way to end the conflict.

Published 17 February 2020

Last updated 20 February 2020 [+ show all updates](#)

1. 20 February 2020

Added translation

2. 17 February 2020

First published.

[Travel advice: Rugby Union Six Nations match against Italy](#)



Date: Saturday 22 February 2020

Venue: Stadio Olimpico, Viale dei Gladiatori, 00135 Roma RM, Italy

Kick off time: 3:15 pm (local time)

As well as this advice, check out our [travel advice for Italy](#)

Passports and visas

- you don't need a visa to travel to Italy on a British passport from the UK, but your passport should be valid for the duration of your stay
- remember your [European Health Insurance Card \(EHIC\)](#) but also take out travel insurance, even if you're only going for one night – it could save you a lot of money if you get into difficulties
- you must carry ID with you at all times – if you hold a UK driving licence (with photo), you can use this instead of your passport, so as to keep your passport safe
- if you lose your passport, you'll need to get an [Emergency Travel Document](#); you can apply and pay £100.00 online. You might need to attend an appointment at the [British Embassy in Rome](#)

Getting to the stadium

- take Metro Line A to Flaminio/Piazza del Popolo and walk to the Stadium (4.5 km) for about 30 minutes, or take tram no. 2 from Flaminio to Piazza Antonio Mancini, which is less than 10 minutes' walk from the stadium. Bus 910 from Roma Termini also takes you to Piazza Mancini. From the Piazza walk through the park, over the Bridge Duca D'Aosta and you'll see the Stadio Olimpico
- for bus itineraries in Rome please check [Citymapper](#) or [ATAC](#)

Local information and transport links

- further information on [local transport](#)
- combined Metro and bus/tram tickets can be purchased from most tobacconists, bars, or ticket machines at metro stations and major bus stops and cost €1.50 each. You must buy your ticket before travel
- please note that bus and tram tickets must be stamped/validated in the small yellow ticket machine found on buses and trams as soon as you start your journey. Once validated your ticket remains valid for travel for 100 minutes
- failure to validate your ticket will result in a fine, if checked by an inspector

At the match

- the venue for this match will be the Olympic stadium in Rome. Kick-off time is at 15.15, Italian time. The Stadium opens at 13.15. The match is expected to finish at approx 17.00. You should try to arrive early as access to the stadium might take some time. Tickets will be carefully checked on entry and fans may be subjected to a search
- Six Nations tickets are being sold via the official Italian ticketing website TicketOne.it and are priced from €15 to €90. Fans are advised to use the Print@Home (Stampa@Casa) option when purchasing from TicketOne.it. Tickets cannot be purchased or collected at the stadium on match day
- fan zone – this will be found in the Foro Italico, just beside the stadium. Look for the Terzo Tempo Peroni Village
- car parking areas near the stadium are along Viale di Tor di Quinto, in Piazzale Clodio and on Viale XVII Olimpiade
- coaches and tourist buses are advised to visit the Rome town hall dedicated page for [parking bays and procedures](#)
- disabled car parking spaces are located on Viale Alberto Blanc
- motorbike parking areas are located on Via Roberto Morra di Lavriano and Via Salvatore Contarini. Bicycle racks are on Via Leopoldo Franchetti
- Italian police and stewards will conduct ticket checks and security screening. You might be required to show an original identity document so ensure you bring one with you. Any items that could be used as a weapon (like glass or plastic bottles large umbrellas, musical instruments, buggies, helmets, items of luggage etc) and animals are not permitted inside the stadium
- permission to allow use of banners and other similar items inside the stadium should be sought no later than 7 days prior to the match by writing to: commissioneimpianti@federugby.it

Tips

- beware of pickpockets and bag snatchers at airports, railway stations (stazione ferroviaria), around the town centre and when using public transport
- only carry what you need, make use of hotel safes/safety deposit boxes

- if you're travelling by car, always lock the vehicle and never leave valuables inside; hire cars and foreign registered vehicles are more of a target for thieves

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For further information please visit [Ukinitaly Facebook](#)

Other useful contacts/information

Published 17 February 2020

Former Government training centre sold to provide new homes and a retirement village

- Home of former Government Civil Service College to be redeveloped to provide 103 apartments for people over 55 and 168 new homes.
- Sale is part of the Government's commitment to reduce the size of its estate and generate money for public services.

More than 150 new homes and a retirement village are to be built and operated on the site of a former Government training centre.

As part of its commitment to reducing the size of the Government estate, the Cabinet Office has sold the former Government Civil Service College site at Sunningdale Park in Berkshire for around £50 million.

The move will see the neo-Georgian building, Northcote House restored and the surrounding land redeveloped as a retirement village providing 103 apartments for people aged over 55. The site will also see the development of 168 new homes.

Cabinet Office Minister, Lord Agnew said:

This is a concrete example of how reducing the size of the

Government estate can both generate money for vital public services and provide much needed new homes.

The restoration of the listed building at the heart of the development and opening up of its surrounding parkland for use by the public will also benefit the local community for generations to come.

Northcote House was sold to the Government in 1947 and was used as a training centre for civil servants until 2012. In recent years, the building had been used as a conference centre and hotel.

As part of the development of the site, the listed building will be sympathetically restored to form the centre of the retirement village with apartments, a restaurant and facilities for both property owners and those in the local area.

The further 168 new homes built in the grounds will include 38 affordable properties and public access will be allowed to 42 acres of green space surrounding the listed building.

The new homes will be built by the Surrey-based Berkeley Group.

Berkeley Group Chairman, Tony Pidgley CBE, said:

We are delighted to be moving ahead with this exciting project and look forward to working with the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead and local people to create a fantastic community at Sunningdale Park, alongside a beautiful new 42 acre public park for everyone to enjoy.

The retirement village will be built by the Audley Group.

Nick Sanderson, the Chief Executive of the Audley Group said:

This site presents a unique opportunity to create an aspirational mixed use development to serve the whole community. The demand for high quality retirement living options, with a holistic approach to housing, care and health, continues to grow and we're proud to be leading the way.

As part of the Government's work to reduce the size of its central estate, it is now 30 per cent smaller than it was in 2010.

In the past year alone, 339 former government buildings have been disposed of – returning £2.1bn to the public coffers.

DCMS ministerial team confirmed



The Rt Hon **Oliver Dowden CBE** MP, Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport.

The Secretary of State has overall responsibility for strategy and policy across the department and management of Brexit for the department.

Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport and **Office for Civil Society**

Caroline Dinenage MP, Minister of State for Digital and Culture:

- Online Harms and Security
- Digital and Tech Policy including Digital Skills
- Creative Industries
- Arts and Libraries
- Museums and Cultural Property
- Festival of Britain

John Whittingdale OBE MP, Minister of State for Media and Data:

- Media
- Oversight of EU negotiations
- Overall international strategy including approach to future trade deals
- Data and the National Archives
- Public Appointments

Matt Warman MP: Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Digital Infrastructure:

- Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK)
- Gigabit delivery programme
- Mobile coverage
- Telecoms supply chain
- Cyber Security

Nigel Huddleston MP: Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Sport, Tourism and Heritage:

- Sport
- Commonwealth Games
- Gambling and Lotteries
- Tourism and Heritage
- Lead Secondary Legislation Minister (including EU Exit SIs)

Baroness Barran MBE: DCMS Lords Minister, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Civil Society and DCMS

- All DCMS business in the House of Lords
- Ceremonials
- Youth and Social Action
- Office for Civil Society
- Loneliness

Further information

View official Ministerial images on the [DCMS Flickr site](#).

[Full list of new ministerial and government appointments: February 2020.](#)

Published 17 February 2020

Jay Hunt, Michael Birshan, and Eleanor Whitley appointed as Governors of the British Film Institute.

Jay Hunt

Jay Hunt is Apple TV + Creative Director for Europe. She is the only person to have led BBC One, Channel 5 and Channel 4.

Hunt started her career at BBC News working on Newsnight and Panorama before becoming editor of both the One O'clock and Six O'clock News. She was Controller of BBC Daytime and Director of Programmes at Channel 5, before returning to the BBC in 2008 to run BBC One. Her commissions there included Sherlock, Luther and Mrs Brown's Boys.

In 2011 she was made the first Chief Creative Officer of Channel 4. Over the next 7 years, she led what was described as a "creative renaissance" delivering global hits from Gogglebox to Humans, Catastrophe to Hunted, First

Dates to Derry Girls.

Michael Birshan

Michael Birshan is a Senior Partner at McKinsey & Company, where he co-leads the firm's Strategy & Corporate Finance Practice in Europe, the Middle East and Africa. Michael is also a member of the McKinsey Global Institute (MGI) council, which advises on MGI's research on global economic, business and technology trends.

Based in London, Michael has previously been based in San Francisco and Mumbai. Passionate about education, communication and creativity, Michael serves on the governing body of the Royal College of Art and the advisory council of King's Business School.

He has been a commissioner of the Marshall Aid Commemoration Commission, which stewards the British Marshall Scholarships, and a trustee of the World Schools Debating Championships. Michael studied Philosophy, Politics and Economics at Oxford and holds an MBA from Harvard Business School.

Eleanor Whitley

Eleanor (Nell) Whitley has a reputation for driving forward ambitious work in a variety of forms – live events, art installations & digital media – and her collaborations with Marshmallow Laser Feast (where she is Executive Producer) demonstrate a unique vision for the future of creative experiences.

She has produced the critically acclaimed *In the Eyes of the Animal* (Sundance New Frontier 2016, Wired Award for Innovation in Experience Design) and other mixed reality works including; *A Colossal Wave* (SXSW 2018), *Treehugger* (Tribeca Film Festival Storyscapes Award 2017 & Best VR Film at Arles Festival) and *We Live in an Ocean of Air* which premiered at the Saatchi Gallery, London (2018/9).

These roles are not remunerated. These appointments have been made in accordance with the [Cabinet Office's Governance Code on Public Appointments](#), the process is regulated by the Commissioner for Public Appointments. The Government's Governance Code requires that any significant political activity undertaken by an appointee in the last five years is declared. This is defined as holding office, public speaking, making a recordable donation or candidature for election. Ms Hunt, Mr Birshan, and Ms Whitley have not declared any activity.