

UK announces further import sanctions against Russia

Press release

The UK Government announces further trade sanctions against Russia – expanding the list of products facing import bans and increasing tariffs.



The UK Government has announced further trade sanctions against Russia – expanding the list of products facing import bans and increasing tariffs. With these new measures, the UK will now be imposing import tariffs and bans on over £1bn of Russian goods.

The new sanctions – announced today (Thursday, April 21) by International Trade Secretary Anne-Marie Trevelyan and Chancellor of the Exchequer Rishi Sunak – will include import bans on silver, wood products and high-end products from Russia including caviar.

We will also increase tariffs by 35 percentage points on around £130m worth of products from Russia and Belarus, including diamonds and rubber.

The UK has led the international sanctions effort, already increasing tariffs on goods from Russia and Belarus, banning the import of many iron and steel products as well as the export of quantum technologies, advanced materials and luxury goods and cutting off any new UK Export Finance (UKEF) support for Russia and Belarus.

International Trade Secretary Anne-Marie Trevelyan said:

The UK continues to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with Ukraine and is working closely with our international partners to inflict maximum damage to Putin's regime, reducing the resources and funds he needs to carry out this illegal war.

We are taking every opportunity we can to ratchet the pressure to isolate the Russian economy and these further measures will tighten the screws, shutting down lucrative avenues of funding for Putin's

war machine.

Chancellor of the Exchequer Rishi Sunak said:

We are steadfast in our support for the people of Ukraine and these new significant sanctions against Putin will bring the total import tariffs and bans on Russian goods to over £1 billion – imposing further economic pain on Putin’s economy for his barbaric and unjustified attacks on a sovereign nation.

A [full list of products targeted is available online.](#)

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[Civil/crime news: refresh for ‘legal aid learning’ home page](#)

News story

Changes are being made to the look and feel of our training and support website.



We are refreshing the look of the home page for our training and support specialist website from Monday, 25 April 2022.

In response to user feedback, the idea is to make it easier to view highlighted content and give it a more user-friendly feel.

‘What’s new’ section

We’re also adding a ‘what’s new’ section which will highlight any recent

changes, including new additional content.

Webchats

All the existing content will remain. You should note especially that the 'webchat' feature can now be found in the 'contact us' section.

Feedback

We welcome feedback on the redesign which can be submitted via a form on the home page.

Further information

[Legal aid learning home page](#)

[Legal aid learning contact directory](#) – for 'webchat' feature

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[GREAT UK-Turkmenistan Bake Off competition: winner announced](#)

World news story

The British Ambassador to Turkmenistan announced winner of the best recipe for biscuit at Her Majesty's Birthday Party on 14th April.



As part of ongoing commemorations of the thirty years of official relations between UK and Turkmenistan, the British Embassy held a competition to devise a recipe for a biscuit that incorporated ingredients from both countries.

Ms Gulnabat Nepesova receiving winning prize from the British Ambassador to

Turkmenistan.

On 14 April at Her Majesty The Queen's Birthday Party, British Ambassador, Ms Lucia Wilde, announced winner of the GREAT UK-Turkmenistan Bake Off competition – Ms Gulnabat Nepesova. Gulnabat's recipe combined British favourites like carrot, cinnamon and oats, with Turkmen favourites like apricot and raisins. Her winning biscuits were given to all of the guests to take home with them to enjoy along with a cup of British tea!

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[Creative Earth competition in Ashgabat: winners announced](#)

World news story

The British Embassy's Creative Earth competition for young people to paint a picture of the climate-friendly world they'd like to live in generated a fantastic and unprecedented number of entries.



We received almost two hundred pictures that were of an incredibly high standard and that really challenged the judges to select the ultimate winners.

On the evening of 14 April, during the celebration of Her Majesty's birthday, British Ambassador Lucia Wilde presented prizes of tablet computers to the three lucky winners.

Damir Martynenko, age group: 6 to 8 years

8-year old Damir made a picture that shows a future planet powered by solar

and wind and where recycling is king!

Arina Kandroman, age group: 9 to 12 years

Arina painted a picture that showed humour and creativity with the people of the world rolling a carpet of grass over a polluted landscape.

Olga Sidorenko, age group: 13 to 18 years

Olga painted with great technical skill and showed how green homes, farms and offices could co-exist.

The winning pictures and a small selection of others were on display at Her Majesty's Birthday Party on 14 April. We look forward to displaying the pictures at other Embassy events throughout the year as we continue to commemorate the rich 30 years of UK's relationship with Turkmenistan.

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[Andy Start appointed as DE&S Chief Executive](#)

Andy will replace Sir Simon Bollom who has served as the DE&S CEO since 2018.

DE&S is an arm's length body of the MOD responsible for providing equipment and support to the UK's Armed Forces.

Andy will take on this significant role within the Defence community having been CEO of Capita Public Service, one of the largest strategic suppliers to UK government, where he currently leads a team of over 12,000 staff.

He spent the first decade of his career working in the space sector as a designer and programme manager of military satellite systems, followed by leading a wide range of aerospace and defence businesses, with a specialism in helping improve performance and drive strategic change.

Incoming DE&S CEO, Andy Start said:

I am delighted and honoured to be taking on this key role in Government. DE&S plays a major part in keeping the UK secure and maintaining some of the nation's key industrial and technological

skills. There can be few more interesting, more meaningful, or more challenging leadership opportunities.

I'd like to thank Sir Simon Bollom for his extensive work in leading DE&S and setting a clear and deliverable strategy for the future. I look forward to working with DE&S staff, and the wider Defence sector, to drive this forward.

Andy has already previously taken responsibility for leading the UK Aerospace Innovation & Growth Team and supported the development of Defence Industrial Policy.

Minister for Defence Procurement, Jeremy Quin said:

I'm pleased to welcome Andy Start to the role of CEO at Defence Equipment and Support. At an extremely important time in UK Defence, I am pleased that DE&S will be led by a CEO with extensive commercial experience who can take forward the work of Sir Simon Bollom.

Sir Simon, who has led the organisation over the last four years, has consistently been a tireless exemplar of public service leadership and driven DE&S forward. I wish him the very best for the future.

MOD Permanent Secretary, David Williams said:

Andy's appointment is great news for both DE&S and MOD as we look to navigate a critical time in UK Defence. He brings a wealth of expertise from 25 years in senior leadership roles in Defence industry, and I know he has the vision and ambition to lead DE&S into the future.

I would also like to thank Sir Simon Bollom for his leadership of DE&S and commitment to Defence over the last four years and across his career. I wish him all the very best for the future.

The competition for Sir Simon's position was launched in late 2021, attracting strong interest. Over 50 individuals applied and, as with all senior civil service appointments, fair and open competition was ensured, with recruitment of the role being overseen by the Civil Service Commissioner.