

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION



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EU strengthens sanctions against actions undermining Ukraine's territorial integrity

The Council has today adopted legal acts giving effect to the agreement at the European Council to expand the list of individuals subject to travel restrictions and an asset freeze that are responsible for undermining or threatening the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine.

European Council President Herman Van Rompuy said: "Sanctions are not a question of retaliation; they are a foreign policy tool. Not a goal in themselves, but a means to an end. Our goal is to stop Russian action against Ukraine, to restore Ukraine's sovereignty – and to achieve this we need a negotiated solution. Europe stands ready to facilitate and engage in a meaningful dialogue involving Ukraine and Russia and supports all multilateral initiatives towards that aim."

12 additional persons responsible for such actions will be targeted with a travel ban and a freeze of their assets within the EU. This brings the total number of persons subject to sanctions in connection with Ukraine's territorial integrity to 33.

The sanctions enter into force today, once the legal texts with the list of persons concerned are published in the EU Official Journal later on this afternoon.

The legal acts were adopted by written procedure.

More information:

European Council conclusions on Ukraine
Fact sheet EU - Ukraine relations
Fact sheet on EU restrictive measures
EU Official Journal

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