

Russia's 2022 Invasion of Ukraine: Overview of U.S. Sanctions and Other Responses

Updated July 6, 2022

On February 24, 2022, Russia launched an undeclared [war](#) against Ukraine, a country Russia first invaded and partially occupied in 2014. The [United States](#) and many [countries](#) around the [world](#) have condemned Russia's "unprecedented military aggression" as "unprovoked and unjustified." On March 2, 2022, the U.N. General Assembly [voted](#) 141-5 to demand Russia "immediately, completely and unconditionally withdraw" from Ukraine (47 countries, including China and India, abstained or did not vote).

After Russia launched its 2022 war, the United States, the European Union (EU), and others substantially increased [military](#), [humanitarian](#), and [economic](#) assistance to Ukraine and imposed a [series](#) of increasingly severe [sanctions](#) on Russia. In addition, hundreds of U.S. and other [companies](#) have withdrawn, suspended, or curtailed operations in or with Russia.

Congress has provided substantial financial support for Ukraine and has supported sanctions and related measures against Russia. The Ukraine Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2022 (USAA; P.L. 117-103, Div. N) and the Additional Ukraine Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2022 (AUSAA; P.L. 117-128) include almost \$54 billion in assistance for Ukraine and "countries impacted by the situation in Ukraine," direct support of U.S. military operations in Europe, and support of U.S. government agency responses to Russia's 2022 invasion of Ukraine.

Congress also has passed legislation prohibiting the import to the United States of Russian oil and other energy products (P.L. 117-109), suspending normal trade relations with Russia and its ally Belarus (P.L. 117-110), and enabling the expedited leasing or lending of U.S. defense articles to Ukraine (P.L. 117-118). In addition, the House has passed the Ukraine Invasion War Crimes Deterrence and Accountability Act (H.R. 7276), which would direct the President to submit a report to Congress on efforts to collect evidence related to war crimes and other atrocities. The House and Senate have passed related resolutions (H.Res. 956, S.Res. 546).

U.S. Sanctions

Prior to Russia's renewed invasion of Ukraine, the United States had imposed sanctions on Russia in response to its 2014 invasion of Ukraine and other malign activities (see CRS Report R45415, *U.S. Sanctions on Russia*). Beginning in December 2021, the United States and others [warned](#) Russia's

Congressional Research Service

<https://crsreports.congress.gov>

IN11869

leadership that a new attack on Ukraine would lead to severe new sanctions (in addition to increased security [assistance](#) to Ukraine and an enhanced [NATO](#) presence in Central and Eastern Europe).

Sanctions and related actions the Biden Administration has imposed on Russia since February 21, 2022, include the following:

- Full blocking sanctions (including restrictions on transactions and access to U.S.-based property or interests in property) on
 - Russian President Vladimir [Putin](#), Prime Minister Mikhail [Mishustin](#), and members of Russia's [Security Council](#) and [Administration](#), including ministers of foreign affairs, defense, finance, and economic development and the head of the armed forces;
 - The [State Duma](#) (the lower house of Russia's legislature) and most of its members;
 - Six of Russia's largest [banks](#), including state-owned [Sberbank](#) (one of Russia's top five companies) and [VTB Bank](#) and privately held [Alfa Bank](#);
 - [VEB](#), a large state development bank, and the Russian Direct [Investment Fund](#), a sovereign wealth fund;
 - [Rostec](#), a major state-owned defense, industrial, and technology conglomerate; [Alrosa](#), the world's largest diamond-mining company; and [Severstal](#), a major steel producer;
 - [Nord Stream 2 AG](#), the parent company for a natural gas pipeline project;
 - [Members](#) of Russia's [Kremlin-connected business elite](#) (sometimes referred to as [oligarchs](#)), family members, and [business executives](#). In [coordination](#) with international partners, the U.S. Department of Justice [established](#) interagency Task Force KleptoCapture to strengthen enforcement of sanctions and other measures;
 - Dozens of aerospace and [defense-industrial firms](#), [disinformation](#) and [propaganda operations](#), [sanctions evaders](#), and [virtual currency](#) mining companies; and
 - [Belarusian](#) individuals and entities.
 - [Restrictions](#) on transactions with Russia's central bank, limiting its ability to draw on dollar-denominated foreign reserves, and transactions with Russia's Ministry of Finance and National Wealth Fund.
 - [Export controls](#) on trade with Russia and [Belarus](#), including [restrictions](#) on "sensitive U.S. technologies produced in foreign countries using U.S.-origin software, technology, or equipment." Export controls [target](#) Russia's defense, aerospace, and maritime sectors; [energy production](#); and "[a wide range of commercial and industrial operations](#)."
 - [Suspension](#) of normal trade relations with Russia and Belarus.
 - [Ban](#) on the U.S. [import](#) of Russian crude [oil](#), petroleum products, liquefied natural gas, coal, [gold](#), diamonds, seafood, and alcoholic beverages.
 - [Ban](#) on the export of U.S. luxury goods and dollar-denominated banknotes and the [provision](#) of certain accounting, legal, and consulting services.
 - [Ban](#) on new U.S. investment in Russia.
 - [Ban](#) on Russian aircraft entering and using U.S. airspace.
 - [Ban](#) on Russian-affiliated vessels entering U.S. ports.
-

- [Restrictions](#) on secondary-market transactions by U.S. financial institutions in Russian sovereign debt (previous restrictions applied to primary-market transactions).
- [Restrictions](#) against new equity investment and financing for companies including
 - Gazprom, a state-owned energy company and Russia's largest firm;
 - Sovcomflot, Russia's largest maritime and freight shipping firm; and
 - Russian Railways.
- [Additional visa restrictions](#) on at least 3,100 Russian military officers and 650 Russian officials and others.
- [Prohibitions](#) on U.S. trade or investment in Russia-occupied areas of eastern Ukraine and sanctions against [those](#) operating in those areas.

Also see CRS In Focus IF12062, *New Financial and Trade Sanctions Against Russia*, and CRS In Focus IF12092, *Russia's War on Ukraine: The Economic Impact of Sanctions*.

International Sanctions

The [EU](#), the [United Kingdom](#), other non-EU countries in Europe (including Switzerland), Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, South Korea, Singapore, and Taiwan, among others, have imposed sanctions, export controls, or both in response to Russia's war against Ukraine.

Many of these sanctions are identical or similar to U.S. sanctions. Two days before Russia's attack, the German government [suspended](#) certification of the Nord Stream 2 pipeline, preventing it from becoming operational. The EU, with U.S. support, [prohibited](#) the Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication (SWIFT) and other specialized financial messaging services from serving 10 leading Russian financial institutions. An EU [ban](#) on most Russian oil imports is to come into effect in December 2022. The EU has not banned Russian natural gas imports. For more, see CRS Insight IN11897, *Russia's Invasion of Ukraine: European Union Responses and Implications for U.S.-EU Relations*.

Author Information

Cory Welt
Specialist in Russian and European Affairs

Disclaimer

This document was prepared by the Congressional Research Service (CRS). CRS serves as nonpartisan shared staff to congressional committees and Members of Congress. It operates solely at the behest of and under the direction of Congress. Information in a CRS Report should not be relied upon for purposes other than public understanding of information that has been provided by CRS to Members of Congress in connection with CRS's institutional role. CRS Reports, as a work of the United States Government, are not subject to copyright protection in the United States. Any CRS Report may be reproduced and distributed in its entirety without permission from CRS. However, as a CRS Report may include copyrighted images or material from a third party, you may need to obtain the permission of the copyright holder if you wish to copy or otherwise use copyrighted material.