

Overview of current sanctions measures concerning Afghanistan

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1. United Nations (UN) sanctions concerning Afghanistan

ASSETS FREEZE

All states are required to freeze without delay the funds and other financial assets or economic resources of designated individuals and entities.

TRAVEL BAN

All states are required to prevent the entry into or transit through their territories by designated individuals.

ARMS EMBARGO

All states are required to prevent the direct or indirect supply, sale and transfer from their territories or by their nationals outside their territories, or using their flag vessels or aircraft, of arms and related materiel of all types, spare parts, and technical advice, assistance, or training related to military activities, to designated individuals and entities.

SOURCE: <https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/sanctions/1267> & <https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/sanctions/1988>

2. United States (US) sanctions concerning Afghanistan

The Taliban and Haqqani Network are designated as Specially Designated Global Terrorists (SDGTs) and the Haqqani Network is also designated as a Foreign Terrorist Organization.

However, there are no OFAC-administered sanctions that prohibit the export or reexport of goods or services to Afghanistan, moving or sending money into and out of Afghanistan, or activities in Afghanistan, provided that such transactions or activities do not involve sanctioned individuals, entities, or property in which sanctioned individuals and entities have an interest.

Asset freeze

- In February, 2022, the US froze certain property of Da Afghanistan Bank (DAB) held in the United States by United States financial institutions.

Arms embargo

- It is the policy of the United States to deny licenses or other approvals for exports and imports of defense articles and defense services, destined for or originating in Afghanistan, except that a license or other approval may be issued, on a case-by-case basis, for the Government of Afghanistan or coalition forces. In addition, the names of individuals, groups, undertakings, and entities subject to broad prohibitions, including arms embargoes, due to their affiliation with the Taliban, Al-Qaida, or those associated with them, are published in lists maintained by the Security Council committees established pursuant to United Nations Security Council resolutions 1267 and 1988.

Source:

<https://ofac.treasury.gov/sanctions-programs-and-country-information/afghanistan-related-sanctions>

3. European Union (EU) sanctions concerning Afghanistan

The EU imposed restrictive measures against Afghanistan and the Taliban in October 1999. Measures include an asset freeze, a prohibition on arms exports and travel restrictions.

ARMS EMBARGO

Member States shall take the necessary measures to prevent the direct and indirect supply, sale or transfer to them of arms and related materiel of all types including weapons and ammunition, military vehicles and equipment, paramilitary equipment, and spare parts for the aforementioned, and technical advice, assistance or training related to military activities.

TRAVEL BAN

Member States shall take the necessary measures to prevent the entry into, or transit through, their territories of the designated persons.

ASSETS FREEZE

All funds and economic resources owned or controlled directly or indirectly by listed persons, entities or bodies shall be frozen.

No funds or economic resources shall be made available directly or indirectly to or for the benefit of the listed natural or legal persons, entities or bodies.

SOURCE:

<https://www.sanctionsmap.eu/#/main/details/1/?search=%7B%22value%22:%22%22,%22searchType%22:%7B%7D%7D>

4. United Kingdom (UK) sanctions concerning Afghanistan

The Afghanistan (Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020 put in place sanctions measures to ensure the UK continues to meet its obligations under the United Nations sanctions regime relating to Afghanistan. UN sanctions were initially imposed in 1999 in response to the actions of the Taliban, including providing sanctuary and training for international terrorist groups.

PROHIBITIONS ON FINANCE

- Asset freeze in relation to designated persons
- Prohibition to make funds available to, or for the benefit of, designated persons
- Prohibition to make economic resources available to, or for the benefit of, designated persons
- Prohibition on circumventing

PROHIBITIONS ON IMMIGRATION

- Refusal of leave to enter and/or remain in the United Kingdom
- Cancelling a persons leave to enter or remain in the United Kingdom

PROHIBITIONS ON TRADE

Arms embargo - prohibition on export, supply, delivery, making available, transfer, technical assistance, financial services, brokering services in relation to military goods and military technology
Prohibition on enabling or facilitating the conduct of armed hostilities
Prohibition on circumventing

SOURCE:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/afghanistan-sanctions-guidance/afghanistan-sanctions-guidance>

5. Canada sanctions concerning Afghanistan

Canada has implemented measures to suppress international terrorism under three complimentary listing mechanisms: the Regulations Implementing The United Nations Resolutions on the Taliban, ISIL (Da'esh) and Al-Qaida (United Nations Act), the Regulations Implementing the United Nations Resolutions on the Suppression of Terrorism (Special Economic Measures Act), and the Criminal Code. Together these mechanisms include the following:

ARMS EMBARGO

- Prohibition on the export of arms and related material or explosives to any designated person;
- Prohibition on the provision to any designated person of any technical assistance related to the provision, manufacture, maintenance or use of arms and related material or explosives;

PROVIDING OR COLLECTING FUNDS

Prohibition on providing or collecting funds with the intention that the funds be used, or in the knowledge that the funds are to be used, by a designated person;

FINANCIAL RESTRICTIONS

Asset freeze against designated persons

CIRCUMVENTION & FACILITATION

Causing, assisting or promoting prohibited activities is likewise prohibited.

SOURCE:

https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international_relations-relations_internationales/sanctions/terrorists-terroristes.aspx?lang=eng