



# SLM Insights

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## The impact of the fifth package of EU sanctions against Russia on the maritime and transport sector

On Friday, April 8, 2022, the European Union adopted the fifth package of sanctions against Russia.

Among the many measures introduced, one of the most notable certainly concerns the import ban on coal and other solid fossil fuels originating in Russia. Contracts concluded before April 9, 2022, as well as ancillary contracts (including, most likely, transport contracts), can be executed until August 10, 2022.

However, there are other measures impacting the maritime and transport sector. We highlight the main ones below.

- As of April 16, 2022, it will be prohibited for ships flying the Russian flag - as well as those that switched from the Russian flag to the flag of another state after February 24, 2022 - to enter European ports.  
The ban also includes yachts longer than 15 meters, recreational crafts and personal watercrafts.

The rule provides for a number of exceptions: in particular, the competent authorities may allow port access to ships carrying natural gas, oil, medicines, food (such as wheat) and other listed products which are needed in the Union. Until August 10, 2022, access may also be authorized to vessels transporting coal and other solid fossil fuels.

- A prohibition was introduced for any road transport undertaking established in Russia to transport goods by road within the territory of the Union, including in transit.  
This prohibition shall not apply until April 16, 2022, to the transport of goods that started before 9 April 2022, provided that the vehicle of the road transport undertaking was already in the territory of the Union on April 9, 2022, or needs to transit through the Union in order to return to Russia.  
Again, the legislation provides for a number of exceptions for companies transporting those goods (natural gas, oil etc.) which are deemed to be necessary in the Union.

- Another interesting change is the introduction of a ban on the purchase and import of cruise ships, cargo ships, ferries, tugs and other listed vessels from Russia into the Union.

In this regard, it is interesting to note that although yachts are subject to an export ban from the Union to Russia as early as March 16, 2022, they are not listed among the vessels that cannot be imported from Russia to the Union.

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