



The most important events of the period [15/11/2022 - 14/12/2022]		
Source		
1		Emerging trends and risks reports
1	EU Europol	<p>[14/December/2022] Magnitsky case money launderer arrested in Spain</p> <p>With the support of Europol and Eurojust, the Spanish authorities have taken action against a criminal gang laundering dirty money linked to the Magnitsky case, a EUR 219 million corruption case in Russia. This money laundering ring is believed to have funnelled millions of euros through bank accounts in Europe before sending the funds to Spain to purchase real estate. The individual at the centre of this money laundering scheme has been arrested in the Canary Islands. A total of 75 properties have been seized so far across Spain for a cumulative value of EUR 25 million</p> <p>https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/magnitsky-case-money-launderer-arrested-in-spain</p>
1	EU Eurojust	<p>[08/December/2022] Eurojust supports crackdown on criminal network dealing with money laundering and fraud</p> <p>Judicial and law enforcement authorities in Romania, with the support of several other countries, have dismantled an organised crime group (OCG) suspected of money laundering and CEO/BEC fraud. The suspects allegedly set up companies in Romania and subsequently, within a very short period of time, opened bank accounts for these companies where consistent and successive transfers from various foreign companies were being conducted. The investigation showed that the money in these transfers came from fraudulent activities, including CEO/BEC fraud.</p> <p>https://www.eurojust.europa.eu/news/eurojust-supports-crackdown-criminal-network-dealing-money-laundering-and-fraud</p>
1	Interpol	<p>[06/December/2022] Global crackdown on illegal wildlife and timber trade</p> <p>A joint INTERPOL - World Customs Organization law enforcement operation has seen hundreds of arrests and the disruption of wildlife and timber crime networks globally. Codenamed "Thunder 2022", the month-long (3-30 October) operation brought together police, customs, financial intelligence units, wildlife and forestry enforcement agencies from 125 countries - the largest number of countries to take part in a Thunder operation since the series started in 2017. Seizures ranged from timber to live animals, as well as animal parts, bushmeat, and derivatives such as clothing, beauty products, food items, traditional medicines and handicrafts.</p> <p>https://www.interpol.int/en/News-and-Events/News/2022/Global-crackdown-on-illegal-wildlife-and-timber-trade-INTERPOL-and-World-Customs-Organization-join-forces</p>
1	EU Europol	<p>[05/December/2022] Europol - 2 469 money mules arrested in worldwide crackdown against money laundering</p> <p>Law enforcement from 25 countries, supported by Europol, Eurojust, INTERPOL and the European Banking Federation (EBF) have joined forces to crack down on one of the most important enablers of money laundering: money mules and their recruiters. Overview of the results : 2 469 money mules arrested; 1 648 criminal investigations initiated; 4 089 fraudulent transactions identified; EUR 17.5 million intercepted.</p> <p>https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/2-469-money-mules-arrested-in-worldwide-crackdown-against-money-laundering</p>
1	US	<p>[28/November/2022] Assessing the Impact of New Entrant Non-bank Firms on Competition in Consumer Finance Markets</p> <p>New entrant non-bank firms are contributing to the diversification of firms and business models competing in core consumer finance markets, while adding complexity. The evolving role of non-bank firms in core consumer finance markets complicate measurements of competition, but there are indications that new entrant firms are adding competitive pressures in those markets.</p> <p>https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/Assessing-the-Impact-of-New-Entrant-Nonbank-Firms.pdf</p>

	EU	<p>[28/November/2022] Council adds the violation of restrictive measures to the list of EU crimes</p> <p>The Council unanimously adopted a decision to add the violation of restrictive measures to the list of 'EU crimes' included in the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU. The inclusion of the violation of restrictive measures in the list of 'EU crimes' is the first of two steps to ensure a similar degree of sanctions enforcement throughout the EU and to dissuade attempts to circumvent or violate EU measures. Following the adoption of this decision, the European Commission will present a proposal for a directive containing minimum rules concerning the definition of criminal offences and penalties for the violation of EU restrictive measures. This draft directive will then need to be discussed and adopted by the Council and the European Parliament.</p> <p>https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2022/11/28/sanctions-council-adds-the-violation-of-restrictive-measures-to-the-list-of-eu-crimes/</p>
1	EU Europol	<p>[28/November/2022] Europol - International operation shuts down websites offering counterfeit goods and pirated content.</p> <p>Law enforcement agencies across 27 countries have taken down 12 526 websites, disconnected 32 servers used to distribute and host illegal content for 2 294 television channels and shut down 15 online shops selling counterfeit products on social media sites. In the physical realm, investigators seized 127 365 counterfeit products such as clothes, watches, shoes, accessories, perfumes, electronics and phone cases worth more than EUR 3.8 million. These discoveries show once more that the production of counterfeit products increasingly takes place within the European Union. Additionally, it emphasises the growing overlap of intellectual property crimes with tax evasion and money laundering.</p> <p>https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/international-operation-shuts-down-websites-offering-counterfeit-goods-and-pirated-content</p>
1	EU Europol	<p>[24/November/2022] Europol - Action against criminal website that offered 'spoofing' services to fraudsters: 142 arrests</p> <p>The services of the website allowed those who sign up and pay for the service to anonymously make spoofed calls, send recorded messages, and intercept one-time passwords. The users were able to impersonate an infinite number of entities (such as banks, retail companies and government institutions) for financial gain and substantial losses to victims. The investigations showed that the website has earned over EUR 3.7 million in 16 months. According to UK authorities, losses to victims at present are GBP 43 million (EUR 49 million), with estimated worldwide losses in excess of GBP 100 million (EUR 115 million). November</p> <p>https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/action-against-criminal-website-offered-%E2%80%98spoofing%E2%80%99-services-to-fraudsters-142-arrests?mtm_campaign=newsletter</p>
1	EU	<p>[22/November/2022] European Court of Justice judgment regarding UBO register</p> <p>The provision of the anti-money-laundering directive whereby Member States must ensure that the information on the beneficial ownership of corporate and other legal entities incorporated within their territory is accessible in all cases to any member of the general public is invalid. The general public's access to information on beneficial ownership constitutes a serious interference with the fundamental rights to respect for private life and to the protection of personal data. The information disclosed enables a potentially unlimited number of persons to find out about the material and financial situation of a beneficial owner. Furthermore, the potential consequences for the data subjects resulting from possible abuse of their personal data are exacerbated by the fact that, once those data have been made available to the general public, they can not only be freely consulted, but also retained and disseminated.</p> <p>https://curia.europa.eu/jcms/jcms/p1_3865234</p>
1	Global Financial Integrity	<p>[15/November/2022] Global Financial Integrity - Cryptocurrencies: A Financial Crime Risk within Latin America and the Caribbean</p> <p>The report analyzes the benefits of crypto as well as the potential risks that may emerge, both for consumer financial protection as well as for financial crime. It also maps the responses from governments, private sector, academia and civil society in light of rapidly changing dynamics in the region. The report analyzes five countries – Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, El Salvador, and Mexico— selected because of rising crypto usage as well as unique regulatory aspects and domestic contexts.</p> <p>https://34n8bd.p3cdn1.secureserver.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Crypto-Report_GFI.pdf?time=1668797110</p>
2		Warnings and reports, thematic analyzes of national and international authorities

2	Canada FINTRAC	<p>[02/December/2022] FINTRAC 2021-22 Annual Report.</p> <p>The top three predicate offences related to FINTRAC's financial intelligence disclosures in 2021–22 were drugs (33%), fraud (23%), human smuggling/trafficking (15%). FINTRAC conducted 259 compliance examinations across the country in 2021–22, the largest number of which were focused on the real estate sector (96), money services businesses (89), and securities dealers (34). FINTRAC issued 8 Notices of Violation in the real estate sector for a total of \$1,517,176, 4 in the financial entity sector for a total of \$1,683,000, 2 in the money services businesses sector for a total of \$74,250, and 1 in the dealer in precious metals and precious stones sector for a total of \$222,750.</p> <p>https://www.fintrac-canafe.gc.ca/publications/ar/2021/ar2021-eng.pdf</p>
2	SWISS	<p>[01/December/2022] Ukraine: Reported deposits and frozen assets in Switzerland</p> <p>Up until 3 June, the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs had been notified of existing deposits held by Russian nationals and natural persons and legal entities in Russia amounting to CHF 46.1 billion. As of 25 November, the total of frozen financial assets amounts to CHF 7.5 billion; 15 properties in 6 cantons are also blocked.</p> <p>https://www.seco.admin.ch/seco/en/home/seco/nsb-news.msg-id-91994.html</p>
2	FATF	<p>[30/November/2022] FATF - Money Laundering from Fentanyl and Synthetic Opioids</p> <p>This report :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -looks at the way proceeds are laundered from synthetic opioids trafficking. Organised crime groups use a range of methods including bulk cash smuggling, cash couriers, trade-based money laundering and virtual assets (crypto), as well as shell companies and the services of professional money launderers. -makes recommendations on the best approaches to detect and disrupt the criminal networks involved and includes relevant risk indicators that will help identify potential trafficking of illicit synthetic opioids. -helps financial sector stakeholders better understand the risks and recognise patterns of suspicious behaviour that could indicate the misuse of their products or services for money laundering and narcotics trafficking. <p>https://www.fatf-gafi.org/media/fatf/documents/reports/Money-Laundering-Fentanyl-Synthetic-Opioids.pdf</p>
2	EBA	<p>[22/November/2022] Guidelines on the use of Remote Customer Onboarding Solutions EBA/GL/2022/15</p> <p>The European Banking Authority (EBA) published Guidelines on the use of remote customer onboarding solutions. These Guidelines set out the steps credit and financial institutions should take to ensure safe and effective remote customer onboarding practices in line with applicable anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism (AML/CFT) legislation and the EU's data protection framework. The Guidelines apply to all credit and financial institutions that are within the scope of the Anti-money Laundering Directive (AMLD). These Guidelines establish common EU standards on the development and implementation of sound, risk-sensitive initial customer due diligence policies and processes in the remote customer onboarding context. They set out the steps financial institutions should take when choosing remote customer onboarding tools and when assessing the adequacy and reliability of such tools, in order to comply effectively with their AML/CFT obligations. The Guidelines are technologically neutral and do not prioritise the use of one tool over another.</p> <p>https://www.eba.europa.eu/sites/default/documents/files/document_library/Publications/Guidelines/2022/EBA-GL-2022-15%20GL%20on%20remote%20customer%20onboarding/1043884/Guidelines%20on%20the%20use%20of%20Remote%20Customer%20Onboarding%20Solutions.pdf</p>
2	UK	<p>[15/November/2022] UK Maritime Services Prohibition and Oil Price Cap Guidance November 2022</p> <p>Guidance for the UK ban on the provision of maritime transportation services , for of, and associated certain Russian oil and oil products.</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1117318/UK_Maritime_Services_Prohibition_and_Oil_Price_Cap_Guidance_November_2022_.pdf</p>

	2	USA	<p>[15/November/2022] SEC Enforcement Results for fiscal year 2022</p> <p>Commission filed 760 enforcement actions and recovered record \$6.4 billion in penalties and disgorgement on behalf of investing public, a 9 %increase over the prior year. These included 462 new, or "stand alone," enforcement actions, a 6.5 % increase over fiscal year 2021; 129 actions against issuers who were allegedly delinquent in making required filings with the SEC; and 169 "follow-on" administrative proceedings seeking to bar or suspend individuals from certain functions in the securities markets based on criminal convictions, civil injunctions, or other orders.</p> <p>https://www.sec.gov/news/press-release/2022-206</p>
	3		Terrorism Alerts and Changes in Sanctions Regimes
	3	USA	<p>OFAC-Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons List</p> <p>https://www.treasury.gov/ofac/downloads/sdnlist.pdf</p>
	3	EU	<p>European Union Consolidated Financial Sanctions Lis</p> <p>https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fsd/fsf/public/files/pdfFullSanctionsList/content?token=n002g3ky</p>
	3	UN	<p>United Nations Security Council Consolidated List</p> <p>https://scsanctions.un.org/consolidated/</p>
	3	USA	<p>[14/December/2022] OFAC Sanctions List -Counter Narcotics Designation; Issuance of Counter Terrorism General License and Amended Frequently Asked Question</p> <p>The following entities have been added to OFAC's SDN List:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 private individual. <p>https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/financial-sanctions/recent-actions/20221214</p>
	3	USA	<p>[12/December/2022] OFAC Sanctions List -Zimbabwe Designations and Designations Removals; North Korea Designation Update; Iran-related Designation Removal; Syria Designations Removals; Foreign Sanctions Evaders Determination Removals</p> <p>The following entities have been added to OFAC's SDN List:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 4 private individuals; - 2 legal entities. <p>https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/financial-sanctions/recent-actions/20221212</p>
	3	EU	<p>[12/December/2022] Council Implementing Regulation (EU) 2022/2428 implementing Regulation (EU) No 359/2011 concerning restrictive measures directed against certain persons, entities and bodies in view of the situation in Iran</p> <p>The following entities have been added to restrctions List:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 20 private individuals; - 1 legal entities. <p>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32022R2428</p>

	USA	<p>[09/December/2022] OFAC Sanctions List -Global Magnitsky Designations; North Korea Designations; Iran-related Designations; Russia-related Designations and Designation Update</p> <p>The following entities have been added to OFAC's SDN List:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 27 private individuals; - 23 legal entities; - 154 vessel. <p>https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/financial-sanctions/recent-actions/20221209_33 https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/financial-sanctions/recent-actions/20221209</p>
3	UN	<p>[09/December/2022] Exemption to Asset Freeze Measures Imposed by United Nations Sanctions Regimes</p> <p>The Security Council decided to provide a “humanitarian carve-out” — a standing humanitarian exemption — to the asset freeze measures imposed by United Nations sanctions regimes.</p> <p>Adopting resolution 2664 (2022) UN decided that the provision, processing or payment of funds, other financial assets or economic resources or the provision of goods and services necessary to ensure the timely delivery of humanitarian assistance or to support other activities that support basic human needs are permitted and are not a violation of the asset freezes imposed by that organ or its sanctions committees.</p> <p>https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N22/736/72/PDF/N2273672.pdf</p>
3	USA	<p>[08/December/2022] OFAC Sanctions List -Counter Terrorism Designations; Iran-related Designations</p> <p>The following entities have been added to OFAC's SDN List:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 5 private individuals; - 20 legal entities; - 1 vessel. <p>https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/financial-sanctions/recent-actions/20221208</p>
3	EU	<p>[08/December/2022] COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2022/2397 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1183/2005 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo</p> <p>COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING DECISION (CFSP) 2022/2398 implementing Decision 2010/788/CFSP concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo</p> <p>The following entities have been added to restrictions List:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 8 private individuals. <p>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32022R2397 https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32022D2398</p>
3	EU	<p>[06/December/2022] Council Regulation (EU) 2022/2373 amending Regulation (EC) No 1183/2005 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo</p> <p>Council Decision (CFSP) 2022/2377 amending Decision 2010/788/CFSP concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo</p> <p>The criteria for designation under Democratic Republic of the Congo sanctions regime has been extended</p> <p>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32022R2373 https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32022D2377</p>
3	EU	<p>[05/December/2022] Human rights violations: EU restrictive measures prolonged for a further year</p> <p>The Council prolonged the sanctions under its EU Global Human Rights Sanctions Regime against individuals and entities responsible for serious human rights violations and abuses worldwide for an additional year, until 8 December 2023 (Council Regulation (EU) 2020/1998 of 7 December 2020). This means that sanctions will continue to apply to all 17 individuals and 5 entities listed. Those targeted by restrictive measures are subject to a travel ban to the EU, as well as an asset freeze. Additionally, persons and entities in the EU are forbidden from making funds available to those listed.</p> <p>https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2022/12/05/human-rights-violations-eu-restrictive-measures-prolonged-for-a-further-year/</p>

3	USA	<p>[05/December/2022] Price Cap on Crude Oil of Russian Federation Origin</p> <p>The US Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, determines that, effective 12:01 a.m. eastern standard time on December 5, 2022, the price cap on crude oil of Russian Federation origin shall be \$60 per barrel.</p> <p>https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/126/20221205_Price_cap_determination.pdf</p>
3	EU	<p>[03/December/2022] Russian oil: EU agrees on level of price cap</p> <p>The EU Council decided to set an oil price cap for crude oil and petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals (CN code 2709 00) which originate in or are exported from Russia, at USD 60 per barrel. The level of the cap was established in close cooperation with the Price Cap Coalition and will become applicable as of 5 December 2022. The decision sets the level at which the exemption apply, and introduces a transition period of 45 days for vessels carrying crude oil originating in Russia, purchased and loaded onto the vessel prior to 5 December 2022 and unloaded at the final port of destination prior to 19 January 2023. As the price cap may be periodically reviewed to adapt to the market situation, today's decision also sets a transition period of 90 days after every change in the price cap, to ensure coherent implementation of the price cap by all operators.</p> <p>https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2022/12/03/russian-oil-eu-agrees-on-level-of-price-cap/</p>
3	G7	<p>[02/December/2022] Statement of the G7 and Australia on a price cap for seaborne Russian-origin crude oil</p> <p>The G7 and Australia, as current members of the Price Cap Coalition, on 2 December 2022 reached consensus on a maximum price of 60 U.S. dollars per barrel for seaborne Russian-origin crude oil in line with the unanimous decision by Member States of the European Union to endorse a price level for the price cap on seaborne Russian-origin crude oil.</p> <p>https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/g7-australia-price-cap-seaborne-russian-origin-crude-oil/2567026</p>
3	USA	<p>[02/December/2022] OFAC Sanctions List -Counter Narcotics Designations</p> <p>The following entities have been added to OFAC's SDN List:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 private individuals. <p>Linked To: Haiti</p> <p>https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/financial-sanctions/recent-actions/20221202</p>
3	EU	<p>[02/Decembre/2022] Ukraine: Commission proposes to criminalise the violation of EU sanctions</p> <p>The European Commission has submitted a proposal to harmonize offenses and sanctions for breaching EU restrictive measures. The proposed list of criminal offences which violate EU sanctions: i) making funds or economic resources available to, or for the benefit of, a designated person, entity or body; ii) failing to freeze these funds; iii) enabling the entry of designated people into the territory of a Member State or their transit through the territory of a Member State; iv) entering into transactions with third countries, which are prohibited or restricted by EU restrictive measures; v) trading in goods or services whose import, export, sale, purchase, transfer, transit or transport is prohibited or restricted; vi) providing financial activities which are prohibited or restricted; vii) providing other services which are prohibited or restricted, such as legal advisory services, trust services and tax consulting services.</p> <p>https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_22_7371</p>
3	USA	<p>[01/December/2022] OFAC Sanctions List -Counter Terrorism Designations; North Korea Designations</p> <p>The following entities have been added to OFAC's SDN List:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 6 private individuals; - 2 legal entities. <p>https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/financial-sanctions/recent-actions/20221201</p>

	USA	<p>[30/November/2022] OFAC Sanctions List -Counter Terrorism Designations</p> <p>The following entities have been added to OFAC's SDN List: - 4 private individuals. Linked to: TEHRIK-E TALIBAN PAKISTAN & AL-QA'IDA IN THE INDIAN SUBCONTINENT</p> <p>https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/financial-sanctions/recent-actions/20221130</p>
3	EU	<p>[29/November/2022] COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2022/2332 on identifying the violation of Union restrictive measures as an area of crime that meets the criteria specified in Article 83(1) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union</p> <p>The violation of Union restrictive measures shall be an area of crime within the meaning of Article 83(1), second subparagraph, TFEU.</p> <p>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32022D2332</p>
3	EU	<p>[28/November/2022] COUNCIL REGULATION (EU) 2022/2309 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Haiti</p> <p>New prohibitions:</p> <p>1/ to provide technical assistance related to military activities and to the provision, manufacture, maintenance and use of arms and related materiel of all types, including weapons and ammunition, military vehicles and equipment, paramilitary equipment, and spare parts therefor, directly or indirectly to any natural or legal person, entity or body, as listed in the Annex;</p> <p>2/to provide financing or financial assistance related to military activities, including in particular grants, loans and export credit insurance, as well as insurance and reinsurance, for any sale, supply, transfer or export of arms and related materiel, or for the provision of related technical assistance, directly or indirectly to any natural or legal person, entity or body, as listed in the Annex .</p> <p>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32022R2309</p>
3	EU	<p>[23/November/2022] European Parliament declares Russia to be a state sponsor of terrorism</p> <p>The Parliament adopted a resolution on the latest developments in Russia's brutal war of aggression against Ukraine. MEPs highlight that the deliberate attacks and atrocities committed by Russian forces and their proxies against civilians in Ukraine, the destruction of civilian infrastructure and other serious violations of international and humanitarian law amount to acts of terror and constitute war crimes. In light of this, they recognise Russia as a state sponsor of terrorism and as a state that "uses means of terrorism".</p> <p>https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/ATAG/2022/738218/EPRS_ATA(2022)738218_EN.pdf</p>
3	USA	<p>[23/November/2022] OFAC Sanctions List -Iran-related Designations and Designation Update</p> <p>The following entities have been added to OFAC's SDN List: -3 private individuals Linked to: ISLAMIC REVOLUTIONARY GUARD CORPS & LAW ENFORCEMENT FORCES OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN</p> <p>https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/financial-sanctions/recent-actions/20221123</p>
3	USA	<p>[18/November/2022] OFAC Sanctions List - Global Magnitsky Designations</p> <p>The following entities have been added to OFAC's SDN List: - 2 private individuals; - 3 legal entities. Linked to: exploiting Guatemalan mining sector</p> <p>https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/financial-sanctions/recent-actions/20221118</p>

		[17/November/2022] OFAC Sanctions List - Counter Narcotics Designations; Iran-related Designations
3	USA	<p>The following entities have been added to OFAC's SDN List:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 private individuals; - 13 legal entities. <p>Linked to: Iranian petrochemicals and petroleum products</p> <p>https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/financial-sanctions/recent-actions/20221117</p>
3	USA	<p>[16/November/2022] OFAC Sanctions List - Iran-related Designations</p> <p>The following entities have been added to OFAC's SDN List:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -6 private individuals <p>Linked to: ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN BROADCASTING</p> <p>https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/financial-sanctions/recent-actions/20221116</p>
3	USA	<p>[15/November/2022] OFAC Sanctions List- Russia-related Designations and Designation Update; Iran-related Designation and Designations Updates; Issuance of Counter Terrorism General License and related Frequently Asked Question</p> <p>The following entities have been added to OFAC's SDN List:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 private individuals; - 3 legal entities. <p>https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/financial-sanctions/recent-actions/20221115</p>
3	UE	<p>[14/Noiembre/2022] COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2022/2231 implementing Regulation (EU) No 359/2011 concerning restrictive measures directed against certain persons, entities and bodies in view of the situation in Iran</p> <p>COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING DECISION (CFSP) 2022/2235 implementing Decision 2011/235/CFSP concerning restrictive measures directed against certain persons and entities in view of the situation in Iran</p> <p>The following entities have been added to restrictions List:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 28 private individuals; - 3 legal entities. <p>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32022R2231</p> <p>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32022D2235</p>
4		EU ML/TF SupraNational Risk Assessment
	EU	<p>The last EU report of the risk of money laundering and terrorist financing affecting the internal market and relating to cross-border activities (EU SNRA) was issued on [27/October/2022] :</p> <p>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:52022DC0554</p> <p>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:52022SC0344</p>
5		Information and assessments by national authorities on risks at national level, policy statements and warnings or explanatory statements for relevant legislation

	5	RO	<p>[22/November/2022] The main findings and conclusions of the Romania ML/TF National Risk Assessment (NRA)</p> <p>This is the first risk assessment of Romania at the National level that started in 2019 based on data from the period 2018-2020. Romania is a country with relatively limited attractiveness for money laundering, due to specific regulations, as well as a relatively low degree of financial secrecy. The financing of terrorism remains at a very low level, it has a conjunctural character, depending on developments from abroad. Romania is not facing a domestic terrorist phenomenon and there are no terrorist organizations or cells operating on the national territory. No networks established for the purpose of obtaining, collecting or transmitting funds abroad, for the benefit of terrorist organizations or persons involved in activities qualified as acts of terrorism, have been identified. The extensive use of cash is the main method of money laundering. Cash intensive businesses are constructions, real estate development, agriculture, waste industry, exchange houses and gambling.</p> <p>http://www.onpcsb.ro/pdf/Rezumat%20NRA%20Public.pdf</p>
6		Specific guidelines, guides, instructions or warnings	
6	EU	<p>[09/December/2022] European Commission updated numerous FAQs related to the Russia sanctions regime.</p> <p>The updates cover:</p> <p>09 December : Chemicals 02 December : Oil price cap 02 December : Consolidated version</p> <p>https://finance.ec.europa.eu/eu-and-world/sanctions-restrictive-measures/sanctions-adopted-following-russias-military-aggression-against-ukraine/frequently-asked-questions-sanctions-against-russia_en</p> <p>https://finance.ec.europa.eu/document/download/66e8fd7d-8057-4b9b-96c2-5e54bf573cd1_en?filename=faqs-sanctions-russia-consolidated_en.pdf</p>	
6	EU	<p>[07/December/2022] European Council agrees its position on a strengthened AML/CFT rulebook</p> <p>In order to enlarge the scope of the existing regulatory framework and to close possible loopholes, the Council agreed its position on an anti-money laundering (AML) regulation and a new directive (AMLD6). Together with the proposal for a recast of the transfer of funds regulation, on which an agreement has already been reached with the European Parliament, these will form the new EU AML rulebook once adopted.</p> <p>https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2022/12/07/anti-money-laundering-council-agrees-its-position-on-a-strengthened-rulebook/</p>	
6	EU	<p>[06/December/2022] EBA consults on new Guidelines to tackle de-risking</p> <p>The European Banking Authority (EBA) launched a public consultation on new Guidelines on the effective management of money laundering and terrorist financing (ML/TF) risks when providing access to financial services. Through these Guidelines, the EBA aims to ensure that customers, especially the most vulnerable ones, are not denied access to financial services without valid reason. This consultation runs until 6 February 2023.</p> <p>https://www.eba.europa.eu/eba-consults-new-guidelines-tackle-de-risking</p>	
6	UK	<p>[02/December/2022] Guidance - UK ban on Russian oil and oil products</p> <p>This guidance provides an overview of some of the prohibitions and requirements relating to oil and oil products in the UK's sanctions legislation and, where appropriate, links to further detailed information</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-ban-on-russian-oil-and-oil-products/uk-ban-on-russian-oil-and-oil-products</p>	
6	UK OFSI	<p>[01/December/2022] OFSI updated the Russia Sanctions Guidance</p> <p>This document provides guidance on best practice for complying with the prohibitions and requirements; the enforcement of them; and circumstances where they do not apply. It is designed to give an overview of the prohibitions and requirements in the Regulations and, where appropriate, direct readers to further detailed guidance.</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/russia-sanctions-guidance/russia-sanctions-guidance</p>	

6	USA OFAC	<p>[28/November/2022] OFAC Guidance on Implementation of the Price Cap Policy for Crude Oil of Russian Federation Origin</p> <p>This document provides guidance on the implementation of the price cap policy for crude oil of Russian Federation origin (or “Russian oil”). The price cap policy is intended to maintain a reliable supply of oil to the global market while reducing the revenues the Russian Federation earns from oil after its own war of choice in Ukraine inflated global energy prices.</p> <p>https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/126/price_cap_policy_guidance_11222022.pdf</p>
7	⚠️	Fines and warnings for violating the AML/CTF legislation
7	US DOJ	<p>[13/December/2022] Danske Bank Pleads Guilty to Fraud on U.S. Banks in Multi-Billion Dollar Scheme to Access the U.S. Financial System</p> <p>Danske Bank A/S (Danske Bank) pleaded guilty and agreed to forfeit \$2 billion to resolve the United States’ investigation into Danske Bank’s fraud on U.S. banks. Danske Bank defrauded U.S. banks regarding Danske Bank Estonia’s customers and anti-money laundering controls to facilitate access to the U.S. financial system for Danske Bank Estonia’s high-risk customers, who resided outside of Estonia – including in Russia.</p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/danske-bank-pleads-guilty-fraud-us-banks-multi-billion-dollar-scheme-access-us-financial</p>
7	US SEC	<p>[13/December/2022] SEC Charges Samuel Bankman-Fried with Defrauding Investors in Crypto Asset Trading Platform FTX</p> <p>The US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) charged Samuel Bankman-Fried with orchestrating a scheme to defraud equity investors in FTX Trading Ltd. (FTX), the crypto trading platform of which he was the CEO and co-founder. Defendant concealed his diversion of FTX customers’ funds to crypto trading firm Alameda Research while raising more than \$1.8 billion from investors.</p> <p>https://www.sec.gov/news/press-release/2022-219</p>
7	RO NBR	<p>[13/December/2022] Libra Internet Bank sanctioned with warning</p> <p>National Bank of Romania (NBR) sanctioned Libra Internet Bank with warning (Order of the First Deputy Governor of the NBR no. nr.156/10.11.2022) because it did not comply with the Romanian AML Law, as following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - failure to detect suspicious transactions and ante-factum report to FIU; - improper documentation and analysis of high-risk transactions; - deficiencies in obtaining relevant information related to purpose and nature of the business relationship, including the purpose and nature of banking services to be provided; - deficiencies in the investigation and closing of the AML monitoring alerts. <p>https://www.bnro.ro/Sanc%C8%9Biuni-emise-de-BNR-pentru-nerespectarea-legisla%C8%9Biei-incidente--20132.aspx#peloc</p>
7	UK FCA	<p>[09/December/2022] FCA fines Santander UK £107.7 million for repeated anti-money laundering failures</p> <p>Between 31 December 2012 and 18 October 2017, Santander failed to properly oversee and manage its AML systems, which significantly impacted the account oversight of more than 560,000 business customers. Santander had ineffective systems to adequately verify the information provided by customers about the business they would be doing. The firm also failed to properly monitor the money customers had told them would be going through their accounts compared with what actually was being deposited.</p> <p>www.fca.org.uk/publication/final-notices/santander-uk-plc-2022.pdf</p>
7	UK NCA	<p>[08/December/2022] City fund managers convicted in a £46m fraud</p> <p>Three fund managers have been convicted of a large-scale fraud which resulted in losses of £46 million to the Libyan Sovereign Wealth Fund.</p> <p>https://nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/city-fund-managers-convicted-in-a-46m-fraud</p>

	AUSTRAC	<p>[07/December/2022] AUSTRAC commences Federal Court proceedings against SkyCity Adelaide</p> <p>AUSTRAC's investigation identified a range of circumstances where SkyCity failed to carry out appropriate ongoing customer due diligence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -failed to appropriately assess the money laundering and terrorism financing risks it faced, including the likelihood and impact of those risks, and to identify and respond to changes in risk over time. -did not include in its AML/CTF programs appropriate risk-based systems and controls to mitigate and manage the risks to which SkyCity was reasonably exposed. -failed to establish an appropriate framework for Board and senior management oversight of the AML/CTF programs. -did not have a transaction monitoring program to monitor transactions and identify suspicious activity that was appropriately risk-based or appropriate to the nature, size and complexity of SkyCity. -did not have an appropriate enhanced customer due diligence program to carry out additional checks on higher risk customers. -did not conduct appropriate ongoing customer due diligence on a range of customers who presented higher money laundering risks. <p>https://www.austrac.gov.au/sites/default/files/2022-12/Concise%20Statement%20-%20AUSTRAC%20v%20SkyCity.pdf</p>
7	Malta	<p>[05/December/2022] HSBC Bank Malta fined €82,966</p> <p>HSBC Malta has been fined for breaching anti-money laundering provisions, as following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - failure to collect the necessary documents to verify the identity or address of the beneficial owners/senior managing officials; - failure to monitor whether transaction patterns are in line with the customer's profile; - no or insufficient information/documentation for high value transactions; - no pre-transaction monitoring carried out. <p>https://fiaumalta.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Publication-Notice-05122022.pdf</p>
7	UK FCA	<p>[30/November/2022] FCA fines Julius Baer International Limited £18m and publishes decision notices for three individuals</p> <p>The FCA has fined Julius Baer International Limited (JBI), an investment advisory and wealth management firm, £18,022,500 for failing to conduct its business with integrity, failing to take reasonable care to organise and control its affairs and failing to be open and cooperative with the FCA. The FCA has also decided to ban Gustavo Raitzin, former Regional Head for Bank Julius Baer (BJB), Thomas Seiler, former BJB Sub-Regional (Market) Head for Russia and Eastern Europe and JBI non-executive director, and Louise Whitestone, former relationship manager on JBI's Russian and Eastern European Desk.</p> <p>https://www.fca.org.uk/news/press-releases/fca-fines-julius-baer-international-limited-ps18m-and-publishes-decision-notices-three-individuals</p>
7	USA OFAC	<p>[28/November/2022] Settlement Agreement between OFAC and Kraken</p> <p>Payward, Inc. ("Kraken"), a Delaware-incorporated virtual currency exchange with operations in the United States and elsewhere, has agreed to pay \$362,158.70 to settle its potential civil liability for apparent violations of the Iranian Transactions and Sanctions Regulations. As part of its settlement with OFAC, Kraken also has agreed to invest an additional \$100,000 in certain sanctions compliance controls. The settlement amount reflects OFAC's determination that Kraken's apparent violations were non-egregious and voluntarily self-disclosed.</p> <p>https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/126/20221128_kraken.pdf</p>
7	RO ASF	<p>[24/November/2022] S.S.I.F. Voltinvest S.A. sanctioned with warnings</p> <p>The Romanian Financial Supervision Authority (ASF) sanctioned compliance officers from S.S.I.F. Voltinvest S.A with warnings (Decision no. 1594/24.11.2022, 1595/24.11.2022, 1596/24.11.2022) because the internal rules did not contain the mandatory provisions regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - international sanctions (detection and blocking / freezing / reporting of persons and assets) in accordance with secondary legislation ASF Regulation no. 25/2020; - ML/TF customers/products risk rating, enterprise wide risk assessment, appetite and risk tolerance, internal control and reporting in accordance with secondary legislation ASF Regulation no. 13/2019. <p>https://asfromania.ro/uploads/articole/attachments/63860d116b6ba738055447.pdf</p> <p>https://asfromania.ro/uploads/articole/attachments/63860d1a82ef9997448917.pdf</p> <p>https://asfromania.ro/uploads/articole/attachments/63860d20c87c4413312176.pdf</p>

7	UK FCA	<p>[18/November/2022] FCA issues Final Notice to former CEO for anti-money laundering failings.</p> <p>The Financial Conduct Authority has publicly censured Mohammad Ataur Rahman Prodhan, the former Chief Executive Officer of Sonali Bank (UK) Limited (SBUK) for anti-money laundering (AML) failings. Mr Prodhan failed to take reasonable steps to assess and mitigate the AML risks arising from a culture of non-compliance among SBUK's staff. He failed to ensure that there was a clear allocation of responsibilities to oversee SBUK's branches, and he also failed to properly oversee, manage, and resource SBUK's Money Laundering Reporting Officer (MLRO) function. As a result of these failings, SBUK's staff did not appreciate the need to comply with AML requirements, and the MLRO function was ineffective in monitoring their compliance. This led to systemic failures in SBUK's AML systems and controls throughout the business.</p> <p>https://www.fca.org.uk/news/press-releases/fca-issues-final-notice-former-ceo-anti-money-laundering-failings</p>
7	RO NBR	<p>[18/November/2022] CEC Bank sanctioned with warning</p> <p>National Bank of Romania (NBR) sanctioned CEC Bank with warning (Order of the First Deputy Governor of the NBR no. 147/21.10.2022) because it did not comply with the Romanian AML Law, as following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - deficiencies at the level of the internal regulatory and control framework; - automated transaction monitoring application vulnerabilities; - failure to ante-factum report a client's transactions to the FIU; - improper monitoring of the business relationship, in the case of some private individual customers. <p>https://www.bnro.ro/Sanc%C8%9Biuni-emise-de-BNR-pentru-nerespectarea-legisla%C8%9Biei-incidente--20132.aspx#peloc</p>
8	Bell	<p>Reports regarding threats, alerts and typologies</p> <p>[29/November/2022] European Public Prosecutor's Office, uncovers organised crime groups responsible for VAT fraud estimated at €2.2 billion in Admiral Operation</p> <p>European Public Prosecutor's Office, in cooperation with law enforcement agencies of 14 EU Member States, carried out simultaneous investigative measures, including more than 200 searches, in relation to a complex VAT fraud scheme based on the sale of popular electronic goods. This action took place in Belgium, Cyprus, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Spain. Within the framework of this flagship EPPO operation, searches were already conducted in Czechia, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Slovakia and Sweden on 12 and 13 October 2022. In April 2021, the Portuguese Tax Authority in Coimbra was looking into a company selling mobile phones, tablets, earphones and other electronic devices, on suspicion of VAT fraud.</p> <p>https://www.eppo.europa.eu/en/news/operation-admiral-eppo-uncovers-organised-crime-groups-responsible-vat-fraud-estimated-eu22</p>
8	USA	<p>[21/November/2022] Two Estonian Citizens Arrested in \$575 Million Cryptocurrency Fraud and Money Laundering Scheme</p> <p>Two Estonian citizens were arrested in Tallinn, Estonia, yesterday on an 18-count indictment for their alleged involvement in a \$575 million cryptocurrency fraud and money laundering conspiracy. Sergei Potapenko and Ivan Turõgin, both 37, allegedly defrauded hundreds of thousands of victims through a multi-faceted scheme. They induced victims to enter into fraudulent equipment rental contracts with the defendants' cryptocurrency mining service called HashFlare. They also caused victims to invest in a virtual currency bank called Polybius Bank. In reality, Polybius was never actually a bank, and never paid out the promised dividends. Victims paid more than \$575 million to Potapenko and Turõgin's companies. Potapenko and Turõgin then used shell companies to launder the fraud proceeds and to purchase real estate and luxury cars.</p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/two-estonian-citizens-arrested-575-million-cryptocurrency-fraud-and-money-laundering-scheme</p>
8	USA	<p>[18/November/2022] Two Indicted in Cryptocurrency Money Laundering Conspiracy</p> <p>According to the indictment, Rule and Nysewander are alleged to have conspired with others to launder the proceeds of wire fraud and mail fraud schemes through cryptocurrency. The defendants converted funds from romance scams, business email compromises, and real estate scams, and other fraudulent schemes into cryptocurrency and sent the cryptocurrency to accounts controlled by foreign and domestic co-conspirators. The defendants and their co-conspirators made false representations and concealed material facts, in order to avoid discovery of the fraudulent nature of deposits, wires, and transfers, such as providing instructions to co-conspirators and victims to label wire transfers as "loan repayments" and "advertising."</p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-edtx/pr/two-indicted-cryptocurrency-money-laundering-conspiracy</p>

		[18/November/2022] 10 Charged in Business Email Compromise and Money Laundering Schemes Targeting Medicare, Medicaid, and Other Victims
8	USA	<p>The U.S. Department of Justice announced charges against 10 defendants in multiple states in connection with multiple business email compromise (BEC), money laundering, and wire fraud schemes that targeted Medicare, state Medicaid programs, private health insurers, and numerous other victims and resulted in more than \$11.1 million in total losses. The charges stem primarily from BEC schemes in which individuals posing as business partners are alleged to have fraudulently diverted money from victims' bank accounts into accounts they or co-conspirators controlled (sometimes through the use of recruited "money mules") by using spoofed email addresses, bank account takeovers, and similar fraudulent methods designed to deceive victims into believing they were making legitimate payments.</p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/10-charged-business-email-compromise-and-money-laundering-schemes-targeting-medicare-medicaid</p>
9	🔔	Corruption Perception Indices and Country Reports
9	Global Risk Profile	<p>[18/November/2022] Global Risk Profile - Corruption Index 2022</p> <p>[1/Norway 2/Finland 3/Sweden [20/Switzerland 43/Malta 55/Bulgaria [59/Grenada 63/Romania 123/Turkey [127/Albania 141/Algeria 162/Lebanon [177/Myanmar 186/Somalia 196/Syria</p> <p>https://risk-indexes.com/services/index-statistics/ https://risk-indexes.com/about-gci/</p>
10	🔔	Mutual evaluation reports or lists of states or jurisdictions that have KYC/AML/CTF deficiencies
10	FATF	<p>[02/December/2022] FATF countries consolidated table of assessment ratings</p> <p>This table provides an up-to-date overview of the ratings that assessed 205 countries obtained for effectiveness and technical compliance. These should be read in conjunction with the detailed mutual evaluation reports, which are available on FATF website.</p> <p>https://www.fatf-gafi.org/media/fatf/documents/4th-Round-Ratings.pdf</p>
10	FATF	<p>[29/November/2022] FATF Follow-up Report on China</p> <p>China has made progress in addressing some of the technical compliance deficiencies identified in its Mutual Evaluation report. The country has been upgraded on two recommendations:</p> <p>Recommendation 7 - Targeted financial sanctions related to proliferation Recommendation 24 - Transparency and beneficial ownership of legal persons</p> <p>China is now compliant on 9 Recommendations, largely compliant on 22 and partially compliant on 5 Recommendations. The country remains non compliant on four recommendations.</p> <p>https://www.fatf-gafi.org/media/fatf/content/images/Follow-Up-Report-China-2022.pdf</p>
10	Moneyval	<p>[29/November/2022] MONEYVAL Follow-up Report on Isle of Man</p> <p>The Council of Europe's committee of experts on money laundering and the financing of terrorism, MONEYVAL, has again called for internal control requirements to be extended in the Isle of Man. In its previous follow-up report (September 2020), MONEYVAL considered the Isle of Man to comply or mostly comply with 39 out of 40 Financial Action Task Force (FATF) recommendations, which are international standards for tackling money laundering and the financing of terrorism. According to MONEYVAL, the Isle of Man retained moderate deficiencies implementing just one recommendation – Recommendation 23 – with which the Isle of Man was only "partially compliant" on the basis that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There was no specific requirement in the AntiMoney Laundering (AML)/Counter-Terrorist Financing (CTF) or Gambling Codes in relation to having an independent audit function - There was no specific requirement in the AML/CFT Code for groups to have groupwide programmes against money laundering or terrorist financing <p>https://rm.coe.int/moneyval-2022-13-fur-iom/1680a93100</p>

	10	Moneyval	<p>[29/November/2022] MONEYVAL Follow-up Report on Georgia</p> <p>Georgia has improved its measures to combat money laundering and terrorist financing; it has demonstrated good progress and has been upgraded from "partially compliant" to "largely compliant" with the FATF (Financial Action Task Force) Recommendation 29, related to Financial Intelligence Units. The report also examines a range of legislative, regulatory, and institutional measures, such as introducing a central electronic reporting for online casinos, requiring a clean criminal record for beneficial owners of casinos, making sanctions for AML/CFT (Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism) breaches applicable to casinos, as well introducing a broad regulatory framework for the investment fund sector. However, these measures were not sufficient to upgrade the ratings of Recommendations 22, 28 or 35, as moderate deficiencies in relation to the scope of covered designated non-financial businesses and professions and the sanctioning regimes remain.</p> <p>https://rm.coe.int/moneyval-2022-12-fur-ge/1680a92f17</p>
	10	Moneyval	<p>[24/November/2022] MONEYVAL Follow-up Report on Cyprus</p> <p>Cyprus has made some progress in improving its level of compliance with Financial Action Task Force (FATF) standards on combatting money laundering and the financing of terrorism. The Cypriot authorities took further measures aimed at improving the level of compliance with the FATF Recommendations concerning non-profit organizations, virtual asset services providers (VASPs) and powers of investigative and law enforcement authorities, however, moderate shortcomings still remain. As a result, Cyprus remains "compliant" with 16 of the 40 FATF Recommendations, "largely compliant" with 20 Recommendations and "partially compliant" with four Recommendations (non-profit organisations, correspondent banking, new technologies, and powers of law enforcement and investigative authorities). Cyprus has no "non-compliant" ratings.</p> <p>https://rm.coe.int/moneyval-2022-17-fur-cy/1680a92582</p>
	10	Moneyval	<p>[24/November/2022] MONEYVAL Follow-up Report on Slovakia</p> <p>The Republic of Slovakia has improved measures to combat money laundering (ML) and terrorist financing (TF), demonstrating good progress in the level of compliance with the FATF (Financial Action Task Force) standards. However, in the field of new technologies, where international requirements for virtual assets have recently been introduced, Slovakia's rating has been downgraded.</p> <p>https://rm.coe.int/moneyval-2022-16-fur-sk/1680a9211a</p>
	10	Moneyval	<p>[22/November/2022] MONEYVAL Follow-up Report on Czech Republic</p> <p>The Czech Republic has taken some steps to enhance its level of compliance with the FATF (Financial Action Task Force) standards to combat money laundering and terrorist financing, in particular concerning the physical cross-border transportation of currency and bearer negotiable instruments. Also Czech Republic is making progress to address most of the technical compliance deficiencies identified by MONEYVAL's mutual evaluation report (MER) adopted in 2018 within three years, although more efforts remain necessary for the country to meet this general expectation.</p> <p>https://rm.coe.int/moneyval-2022-15-fur-cz/1680a91c5f</p>
11			Relevant information from credible and reliable organizations
	11	Global Initiative	<p>[13/December/2022] Trade and transit - Dubai's role in illicit environmental supply chains</p> <p>Dubai's location and post-oil economic diversification and development strategy have reshaped the emirate from a small fishing village to a global leader in finance, trade and transport logistics. As a result, the emirate has also become a prime target for illicit actors moving goods such as wildlife, flora, and precious stones and metals to destinations all over the world. Emblematic of the emirate's dual role are its numerous free trade zones, developed to attract foreign businesses and investors, while unintentionally serving as hotbeds for criminal actors to not only transport environmental commodities with impunity, but to reap the profits from these illicit activities by taking advantage of regulatory loopholes and the lack of oversight.</p> <p>https://globalinitiative.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Trade-and-transit-Dubais-role-in-illicit-environmental-supply-chains-GI-TOC-2022.pdf</p>

11	OCCRP	<p>[12/December/2022] Ukraine Top Court Issues Arrest Warrant for Former Banker</p> <p>Ukraine's top court has issued an arrest warrant in absentia against Kyrylo Shevchenko, the former head of Ukrgazbank, who is suspected of leading a corruption ring that embezzled more than US\$5.5 million from the bank. The scheme siphoned more than \$5.5 million from the bank by paying individuals and legal entities to attract clients to the bank. Although these services were never provided, Ukrgasbank paid monthly fees to various entities for the alleged services. The scheme is said to have created at least 52 fake agents, who received more than 1,000 payments from 2014 to 2020.</p> <p>https://www.occrp.org/en/daily/17139-ukraine-top-court-issues-arrest-warrant-for-former-banker</p>
11	Global Initiative	<p>[08/December/2022] Terror and taxes Inside al-Shabaab's revenue-collection machine</p> <p>The Somali Islamist group Harakat al-Shabaab al-Mujaahidiin, commonly known as al-Shabaab, is the 'largest, wealthiest and most deadly' al-Qaeda affiliate remaining in the world. Al-Shabaab's resilience can be attributed in great part to the sophisticated and efficient 'taxation' apparatus it has established throughout southern Somalia. The militant group is believed to generate a significant budget surplus, and by some estimates it generates more revenue than the Federal Government of Somalia.</p> <p>https://globalinitiative.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/AS-protection-economies.-WEB.pdf</p>
11	OCCRP	<p>[05/December/2022] OCCRP - Mexican Prosecutor Who Led Investigations Into Violent Crimes of Romanian Gang is Accused of Being on Their Payroll</p> <p>The prosecutor name appears on a list of people whose bank accounts were frozen by Mexican financial investigators over suspicions they were financially entangled with the gang. Also one gang insider told reporters that the prosecutor was "getting presents" of USD\$5,000-\$6,000 at a time from the head of the gang.</p> <p>https://www.occrp.org/en/how-a-crew-of-romanian-criminals-conquered-the-world-of-atm-skimming/mexican-prosecutor-who-led-investigations-into-violent-crimes-of-romanian-gang-is-accused-of-being-on-their-payroll</p>
11	ICIJ	<p>[01/December/2022] ICIJ - Key plaintiff in landmark European corporate transparency case owned companies in notorious tax havens</p> <p>A business executive in Luxembourg behind a successful effort to roll back corporate transparency in Europe owned companies in high-profile tax havens, leaked documents show. Patrick Hansen, 50, was one of two plaintiffs who last week persuaded the highest court in Europe to rule that making public the names of company owners violates personal privacy and the right to the protection of personal data. Records from the 2021 Pandora Papers investigation show Hansen owned a holding company in the British Virgin Islands with activities in Luxembourg, Cyprus and Russia and assets valued at more than \$3 million. Hansen also co-owned a company registered in the Central American tax haven of Belize, records show.</p> <p>https://www.icij.org/investigations/luxembourg-leaks/key-plaintiff-in-landmark-european-corporate-transparency-case-owned-companies-in-notorious-tax-havens/</p>
11	Wolfsberg Group	<p>[01/December/2022] Wolfsberg Principles for Using Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in Financial Crime Compliance</p> <p>Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning (AI/ML) can have, and are already having, a significant impact on improving the effectiveness and efficiency of financial crime compliance and risk management programmes. The Wolfsberg Group supports the leveraging of AI/ML by Financial Institutions to detect, investigate, and manage the risk of financial crime, as long as appropriate data ethics principles inform the use of these technologies to ensure fair, effective, and explainable outcomes. The document identifies five elements that support an ethical and responsible use of AI/ML: i. Legitimate Purpose; ii. Proportionate Use; Design and Technical Expertise; iii. Accountability and Oversight; iv. Openness and v. Transparency.</p> <p>https://www.wolfsberg-principles.com/sites/default/files/wb/Wolfsberg%20Principles%20for%20Using%20Artificial%20Intelligence%20and%20Machine%20Learning%20in%20Financial%20Crime%20Compliance.pdf</p>

		[28/November/2022] Passively Funding Crimes Against Humanity: How Your Savings May Be Financing Internment Camps and Forced Labor in China
11	Hong Kong Watch	<p>This report, issued by Hong Kong Watch and Sheffield Hallam University's Helena Kennedy Centre for International Justice, exposes the depth of exposure of leading fund managers from around the world to human rights abuses in China tied to the Uyghur region. In 2022, the European Commission proposed to prohibit products made with forced labor on the EU market. Although it is not explicitly related to the Uyghur Region, it could be very effective in banning the import of goods made in this region and can be a precedent for an investment ban. The report recommends in addition to banning the import of goods made from forced labor, extend the proposal to include banning investments in companies complicit in directly engaging state-imposed forced labor</p> <p>https://www.shu.ac.uk/-/media/home/research/helena-kennedy-centre/projects/pdfs/patterson-goodman-murphy-geller-passively-investing-nov-2022.pdf</p>
11	UK NCA	<p>[25/November/2022] NCA secures £50m identified by Barclays as the proceeds of crime</p> <p>The National Crime Agency (NCA) has obtained a ruling from the High Court that allows Barclays to hand over criminal funds to the NCA in a first-of-its-kind civil recovery case. The money - amounting to over £50m - was identified by the bank in a number of accounts and transferred to secure holding accounts. The civil recovery order means that for the first time, legal powers were used to recover the proceeds of crime where the account holders were not named in the court action.</p> <p>https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/nca-secures-50m-identified-by-barclays-as-the-proceeds-of-crime</p>
11	Tax Justice Network	<p>[23/November/2022] Tax Justice Network - UN adopts historic decision to take on new tax leadership</p> <p>The UN General Assembly has adopted by unanimous consensus a resolution that mandates the UN to set course for a global tax leadership role. The historic decision is likely to mark the beginning of the end of the OECD's sixty-year reign as the world's leading rule maker on global tax, and will now kick off a power struggle between the two institutions with implications for global and local economies, businesses and people everywhere for decades to come.</p> <p>https://taxjustice.net/press/un-adopts-historic-decision-to-take-on-new-tax-leadership/</p>
11	UN	<p>[23/November/2022] UN - Humanitarian exemptions in unilateral sanctions regimes ineffective and inefficient</p> <p>While acknowledging efforts by sanctioning countries to provide for humanitarian carve-outs or exemptions in unilateral sanctions regimes, UN human rights experts have called on the international community to pay heed to their ineffectiveness, structural weaknesses and superficial character in relation to the multifaceted negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the lives and rights of millions of people. Humanitarian actors, as well as donors and financial institutions, often do not have the expertise or the financial and human resources to navigate the complex and interlinked sanctions regimes, and the current humanitarian carve-outs are often too technical and open to various interpretations, exacerbating existing uncertainties and fear for unintended transgressions, and thus leading to instances of over-compliance and de-risking. De-risking policies by banks, producers and donors vis-à-vis humanitarian actors may not be waived by proof of an approved humanitarian exemption license. Thus the otherwise authorised financial transactions may still be refused due to generalised fear of potential sanctions violations.</p> <p>https://www.ohchr.org/en/statements/2022/11/humanitarian-exemptions-unilateral-sanctions-regimes-ineffective-and-inefficient</p>
11	Human Rights First	<p>[15/November/2022] Multilateral Magnitsky Sanctions at Five Years</p> <p>The report, Multilateral Magnitsky Sanctions at Five Years, authored by Human Rights First, Open Society Foundations, Raoul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights, and REDRESS, details many of the current gaps in the implementation of these sanctions programs, which can undermine their impact and effectiveness. In the five years since the first Magnitsky-style sanctions were introduced in 2017, the U.S., Canada, UK, and EU have used these programs to sanction more than 760 individuals and entities in 46 countries across 5 continents for human rights abuses and corruption. The report recommends the U.S., Canada, UK, and EU work to strengthen the use of their respective Magnitsky-style sanctions programs and better coordinate their responses to human rights abuses and corruption.</p> <p>https://humanrightsfirst.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Multilateral-Magnitsky-Sanctions-at-Five-Years_November-2022.pdf</p>
12		Information from statistical organizations and academia
13		Relevant information on ML/FT risks from mass - media

	13 Mass media	<p>[12/December/2022] Sam Bankman-Fried, FTX's founder, is arrested in the Bahamas</p> <p>Sam Bankman-Fried, the founder of failed crypto exchange FTX, was arrested in the Bahamas after US prosecutors filed criminal charges against him, according to a statement from the government of the Bahamas. Shortly after the SDNY confirmed his arrest, the Securities and Exchange Commission said it had authorized separate charges relating to Bankman-Fried's "violations of securities laws. The New York Times, citing a person familiar with the matter, reported that the charges against Bankman-Fried included wire fraud, wire fraud conspiracy, securities fraud, securities fraud conspiracy and money laundering.</p> <p>https://edition.cnn.com/2022/12/12/business/sam-bankman-fried-arrested/</p>
	13 Mass media	<p>[10/December/2022] Panama ex-president Ricardo Martinelli faces trial for money laundering</p> <p>Martinelli, who was in office from 2009 to 2014, is accused of laundering public funds through the purchase of a news outlet during his term. Nearly 20 others are charged in connection with what is known as the "New Business" case. Martinelli and his sons, Luis and Ricardo, are also charged in Panama for their alleged involvement in laundering millions of dollars in bribes from the Brazilian construction company Odebrecht. The two sons are serving prison sentences in the United States for their involvement in the scandal, which rocked South America.</p> <p>https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/dec/10/panama-ex-president-ricardo-martinelli-faces-trial-for-money-laundering</p>
	13 Mass media	<p>[09/December/2022] Eva Kaili: Senior EU lawmaker arrested over alleged bribery by Gulf state</p> <p>European Parliament Vice President Eva Kaili has been arrested in an investigation into suspected bribery by a Gulf state. Belgian prosecutors believe the unnamed country tried to influence the parliament with money or other gifts. Cash worth about €600,000 (\$632,000; £515,000) was seized by Belgian police in 16 searches in Brussels on Friday. Computers and mobile phones were also taken by police in order to examine their contents. Investigators had suspected that a Gulf state had been influencing economic and political decisions of the parliament for several months, a spokesperson for the Belgian federal prosecutor said in a statement.</p> <p>https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-63921002</p>
	13 Mass media	<p>[08/December/2022] France Fines Credit Agricole After Analyzing 750 Million Transactions Using AI</p> <p>France's financial regulator fined Credit Agricole €1.5 million for anti-money laundering violations in its first enforcement action stemming from the use of an artificial intelligence tool that allowed examiners to analyze hundreds of millions of the bank's transactions and other data.</p> <p>https://www.moneylaundering.com/news/france-fines-credit-agricole-after-analyzing-750-million-transactions-using-ai/</p>
	13 Mass media	<p>[07/December/2022] Rabobank investigated for suspected Dutch money laundering violations</p> <p>Dutch co-operative bank Rabobank said it is under investigation by public prosecutors in the Netherlands for suspected violations of national money laundering laws. "The Dutch Public Prosecution Service has informed Rabobank that it is considered a suspect in connection with violation of the Dutch Anti-Money Laundering and Anti-Terrorist Financing Act," the company said in a statement. The disclosure follows a 2021 warning by the bank that it had been instructed by the Dutch central bank (DNB) to fix its customer due diligence practices and that it was facing a "punitive enforcement procedure."</p> <p>https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/rabobank-investigated-suspected-dutch-money-laundering-violations-2022-12-07/</p>
	13 Mass media	<p>[06/December/2022] Bosnian Human Rights Minister Arrested for Alleged Corruption</p> <p>Bosnia and Herzegovina's state-level Minister for Human Rights and Refugees, Milos Lucic, was arrested for allegedly spending public money for his own private purposes.</p> <p>https://balkaninsight.com/2022/12/06/bosnian-human-rights-minister-arrested-for-alleged-corruption/</p>

	13 Mass media	[06/December/2022] The rise and fall of Wirecard Payments company Wirecard collapsed in 2020 in Germany's biggest post-war fraud scandal. A trial will start in Munich on Thursday, with former Chief Executive Markus Braun facing charges. Braun denies wrongdoing. The article chronologically summarizes the key moments that led to the collapse of the company. https://www.reuters.com/business/finance/rise-fall-wirecard-2022-12-06/
	13 Mass media	[06/December/2022] Ex-congressman charged with money laundering over \$50m Venezuela deal A former Miami congressman who signed a \$50m consulting contract with Venezuela's socialist government was arrested on charges of money laundering and representing a foreign government without registering. https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2022/dec/06/david-rivera-venezuela-money-laundering-agent
	13 Mass media	[05/December/2022] Credit Suisse Fights \$600 Million Damages Award Over Mishandling of Rogue Banker The lawyer for a Credit Suisse Group AG unit fighting a \$600 million damages award over its mishandling of a former star banker turned fraudster suggested the size of the ruling exaggerates what the returns would have been if the money had been invested properly. A Bermuda judge awarded the damages to bank client and Georgian billionaire Bidzina Ivanishvili in March after ruling that Credit Suisse Life had turned a "blind eye" to convicted fraudster Patrice Lescaudron's misuse of Ivanishvili's money. https://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/credit-suisse-fights--600-million-damages-award-over-mishandling-of-rogue-banker/48109196
	13 Mass media	[05/December/2022] Miner Glencore pays \$180m in latest corruption case The Swiss-based mining company, Glencore, has said it will pay \$180m to the Democratic Republic of Congo to settle corruption claims. The agreement covers an 11-year period from 2007 to 2018. It is the latest in a series of corruption cases which has seen Glencore agree to pay out more than \$1.6bn in fines this year. https://www.bbc.com/news/business-63858295
	13 Mass media	[03/December/2022] Wealthy Russian businessman arrested in London on suspicion of multiple offenses, including money laundering A wealthy Russian businessman has been arrested as part of a "major operation" on suspicion of multiple offenses, the United Kingdom's National Crime Agency said in a statement. The 58-year-old man was arrested at his "multi-million-pound residence in London by officers from the NCA's Combatting Kleptocracy Cell" on suspicion of committing offenses including money laundering, conspiracy to defraud the Home Office – the UK government department for immigration and passports – and conspiracy to commit perjury, the agency said. A 35-year-old man, employed at the premises, was also arrested "nearby" on suspicion of money laundering and obstruction of an officer "after he was seen leaving the address with a bag found to contain thousands of pounds in cash," according to the statement. A third man, aged 39, who the agency said is the former boyfriend of the businessman's current partner, was arrested at his home in Pimlico, London, for offenses including money laundering and conspiracy to defraud, according to the statement. https://edition.cnn.com/2022/12/03/world/wealthy-russian-businessman-arrested-london/index.html
	13 Mass media	[01/Decembrie/2022] Banks failing to comply with anti-corruption rules and sanctions lists Criminals including terrorists and tax evaders, as well as government officials subject to sanctions, can easily breach regulations meant to bar them from the international finance system, a study has found. Banks and other financial firms around the world, including in the UK, are failing to comply with international anti-corruption rules, according to research by the University of Cambridge and the University of Texas at Austin. The study found one in 30 banks did not comply with international regulations, increasing to one in 10 if discounting those that did not respond to the researchers' emails. The results for the Magnitsky sanctions test found one in 20 companies did not comply, rising to one in-six if discounting non-responses. https://www.theguardian.com/business/2022/dec/01/banks-failing-to-comply-with-anti-corruption-rules-and-sanctions-lists-magnitsky

		[01/December/2022] Interpol confirms red notice for Angolan billionaire Isabel dos Santos
13	Mass media	<p>Global police agency Interpol confirmed it had issued a red notice for Angolan billionaire Isabel dos Santos, daughter of the country's former president, asking global law enforcement authorities to locate and provisionally arrest her. Dos Santos, who has repeatedly denied wrongdoing, has faced corruption accusations for years, including allegations by Angola in 2020 that she and her husband had steered \$1 billion in state funds to companies in which they held stakes during her father's presidency, including from oil giant Sonangol.</p> <p>https://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/interpol-confirms-red-notice-for-angolan-billionaire-isabel-dos-santos/48099470</p>
13	Mass media	<p>[01/December/2022] Former CEO of a jewellery company sentenced for theft, fraud, and money laundering</p> <p>The Bellville Commercial Crimes Court - South Africa, has sentenced Shaun Norman Currin who is a former CEO of Oro Africa to an effective nine-year imprisonment for theft, fraud, and money laundering. The perpetrator created multiple fraudulent entries into unlawful loan account, made false narrations on the bank accounts of Oro Africa, petty cash payments were unaccounted for, and personal expenses were incurred on company costs.</p> <p>https://www.iol.co.za/news/south-africa/western-cape/former-ceo-of-a-jewellery-company-sentenced-for-theft-fraud-and-money-laundering-e7fb4381-6773-446f-a4dc-28e0b495b90a</p>
13	Mass media	<p>[30/November/2022] Venezuelan oil exports flow using false documents, ships linked to Iran</p> <p>Six shipping and oil trading specialists told Reuters the use of false documents to conceal cargoes originating in sanctioned countries including Venezuela and Iran has increased compliance risks for oil and trading companies, amid a proliferation of international sanctions. The use of a wide array of tactics - including false documentation, fake vessel names and ship-to-ship transfers of cargoes at sea - has enabled Venezuela to export more than 360 million barrels of crude and fuel since the imposition of U.S. sanctions, according to Reuters calculations based on PDVSA's internal documents and ship tracking data.</p> <p>https://www.reuters.com/business/energy/venezuela-exports-oil-despite-us-sanctions-using-false-documents-ships-linked-2022-11-30/</p>
13	Mass media	<p>[30/November/2022] Fraud is causing Companies House to crumble. It needs a stronger footing.</p> <p>Between 2017 and 2019, the anti-corruption group, Transparency International UK, found 929 British companies listed on Companies House that had been involved in 89 cases of corruption and money laundering. Through using Companies House data, they also found 17,000 legal entities controlled by at least one individual or company found to be involved in an economic crime. While it's hard to measure exactly how much fraud has been facilitated via Companies House, it has amounted to an estimated £137 billion pounds in economic damage so far. Companies House needs stronger foundations and more assured footing so that banks and any other regulated entities who perform AML or KYB checks as part of their onboarding, or general screening processes, are able to act with confidence in who they are doing business with.</p> <p>https://www.finextra.com/blogposting/23320/fraud-is-causing-companies-house-to-crumble-it-needs-a-stronger-footing</p>
13	Mass media	<p>[30/November/2022] Airbus agrees to pay millions to close Libya, Kazakhstan bribery probe</p> <p>Airbus and the French financial prosecution office have agreed to settle an investigation related to bribery in Libya and Kazakhstan more than a decade ago, with the planemaker paying a fine of about 16 million euros, the two parties said at a court hearing.</p> <p>https://www.france24.com/en/africa/20221130-airbus-agrees-to-pay-millions-to-close-libya-kazakhstan-bribery-probe</p>
13	Mass media	<p>[30/November/2022] Financial watchdog Austrac alleges Star casino breaking anti-money laundering laws</p> <p>Star Entertainment faces more civil penalties for allegedly allowing customers to move cash through risky back channels and continuing business with "higher-risk customers" in breach of federal anti-money laundering law</p> <p>https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2022/nov/30/financial-watchdog-austrac-alleges-star-casino-breaking-anti-money-laundering-laws</p>

		[30/November/2022] Opinion - FTX's Collapse Was a Crime, Not an Accident
13	Mass media	<p>It is now clear that what happened at the FTX crypto exchange and the hedge fund Alameda Research involved a variety of conscious and intentional fraud intended to steal money from both users and investors.</p> <p>Executives at FTX reportedly received a total of \$4.1 billion in loans from Alameda Research, including massive personal loans that were likely unsecured. As revealed by bankruptcy proceedings, Bankman-Fried received an incredible \$1 billion in personal loans, as well as a \$2.3 billion loan to an entity called Paper Bird in which he had 75% control. Director of Engineering Nishad Singh was given a loan of \$543 million, while FTX Digital Markets co-CEO Ryan Salame received a \$55 million personal loan.</p> <p>https://www.coindesk.com/layer2/2022/11/30/ftxs-collapse-was-a-crime-not-an-accident/</p>
13	Mass media	[28/November/2022] Despite UN sanctions, Germany did research with North Korea
13	Mass media	<p>A DW investigation found that one Berlin institute continued without flagging the risks to help North Korea to modernize his nuclear weapons. Despite the high-profile UN sanctions, no one questioned the MBI(Born Institute for Nonlinear Optics and Short Pulse Spectroscopy) researcher's cooperation with North Korea. Scientific self-regulation failed to identify a possible dual-use case, and communication by all parties was inadequate, even though the MBI as an institution is funded by the state. If it is possible for failures like these to take place over a longer period of time, even with a case as flagrant as North Korea, it is clear that the system is vulnerable to exploitation.</p> <p>https://www.dw.com/en/despite-un-sanctions-german-research-institute-worked-with-north-korean-scientists/a-63890089</p>
13	Mass media	[28/November/2022] New Italian government seeks to raise cash ceiling
13	Mass media	<p>A new bill introduced this week by the League party, a member of Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni's coalition, would raise the cash payment ceiling for Italians to 10,000 euros from 2,000 euros today. The ceiling was already scheduled to decrease further to 1,000 euros as of January 1. The Bank of Italy report found that because small business owners were more susceptible to bureaucratic burdens and high taxes, they were "more prone to shifting into the shadow economy".</p> <p>https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20221028-new-italian-government-seeks-to-raise-cash-ceiling</p>
13	Mass media	[28/November/2022] Danish regulator reminds operators of enhanced checks for grey list countries
13	Mass media	<p>Danish gambling regulator Spillemyndigheden has issued a reminder to licensed operators over a requirement to carry out additional customer due diligence procedures for grey-listed countries. The reminder comes after Spillemyndigheden in September was awarded court approval to continue blocking 82 unlicensed websites that offer illegal forms of gambling to Danish consumers.</p> <p>https://igamingbusiness.com/legal-compliance/danish-regulator-reminds-operators-of-enhanced-checks-for-grey-list-countries/</p>
13	Mass media	[28/November/2022] Danish FSA reports Jyske Bank to police for possible breach of anti-money laundering act
13	Mass media	<p>Denmark's financial watchdog has reported lender Jyske Bank to the police for possible breach of anti-money laundering legislation. The Financial Supervisory Authority said in a statement it among other things had found "significant shortcomings" in the bank's customer due diligence measures.</p> <p>https://www.reuters.com/markets/europe/danish-fsa-reports-jyske-bank-police-possible-breach-anti-money-laundering-act-2022-11-28/</p>
13	Mass media	[27/November/2022] How Europe systematically turned the Caribbean into a tax haven
13	Mass media	<p>All countries on the European blacklists are small and relatively underdeveloped; most are territories or ex-European colonies with small GDPs. The amount of money laundered through these countries is tiny in comparison to that of the money laundering cities of Europe.</p> <p>https://tfiglobalnews.com/2022/11/27/how-europe-systematically-turned-the-caribbean-into-a-tax-haven/</p>
13	Mass media	[25/November/2022] Jeffrey Epstein victims sue several major banks
13	Mass media	<p>Two women who accused Jeffrey Epstein of sexual abuse have filed lawsuits against JP Morgan Chase and Deutsche Bank. They accuse the banks of ignoring "red flags" about their client and benefiting from the late financier's alleged sex-trafficking operations. The disgraced financier took his own life in a prison cell while awaiting trial on sex-trafficking charges.</p> <p>https://www.bbc.com/news/business-63750504</p>

	[25/November/2022] Police text 70,000 victims in UK's biggest anti-fraud operation
13	Mass media The Metropolitan Police is sending text messages to mobile phone users it believes spoke with fraudsters pretending to be their bank. The scam involved fraudsters calling people at random, pretending to be a bank and warning of suspicious activity on their account. They would pose as employees of banks including Barclays, Santander, HSBC, Lloyds, Halifax, First Direct, NatWest, Nationwide and TSB. The fraudsters would then encourage people to disclose security information and, through technology, they may have accessed features such as one-time passcodes to clear accounts of funds. As many as 200,000 people in the UK may have been victims of the scam, police said, with victims losing thousands of pounds, and in one case £3m. The 70,000 people being contacted are connected to calls made by individuals known to police, Sir Mark said, and their evidence could be used to prosecute cases. https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-63736573
13	Mass media [25/November/2022] Slovakia central bank governor Kazimir faces renewed bribery charges The head of Slovakia's central bank, Peter Kazimir, is facing bribery charges for a second time. In June, the special prosecutor's office dropped the charge, and asked prosecutors to review the case. The central bank governor's lawyer said the National Criminal Agency's decision to resurrect the charges disrespected the prosecutors' decision. https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-63744283
13	Mass media [24/November/2022] Why casinos are still failing to crack down on money laundering and how they can tackle it Historically casinos have been a target for money launderers. They are exposed to significant money laundering risks, including quick or high turnover of cash with minimal betting. Gaming accounts can also be used to store illicit money outside the banking system. Plus, with the growth of the Metaverse and the risks associated with this, companies need to be on high alert. With gambling giants like Entain recently being fined over £17 million for violating AML protocol, fraudulent activity via the casino system is a recurring issue that has been ignored for too long. To counter this, the Gambling Commission in the UK promises to "ensure adequate controls are in place to prevent casinos in this country being used for money laundering or terrorist funding." However, it also recognises that its risk-based approach is not a zero-failure regime. Although it raises awareness around the risks for gambling operators, financial criminals are still seeping through the cracks. https://www.finextra.com/blogposting/23284/why-casinos-are-still-failing-to-crack-down-on-money-laundering-and-how-they-can-tackle-it
13	Mass media [24/November/2022] Russian Lawmakers Want to Create a State-run Crypto Exchange The media outlet quoted a "source close to the State Duma" as claiming that talks about the exchange have been ongoing since "mid-November." The sources claimed that MPs had "discussed" the matter with "market participants" – likely Russian crypto industry players. One of the MPs – a Duma's Economic Policy Committee member – confirmed that the draft amendment had been discussed. https://cryptonews.com/news/russian-lawmakers-want-to-create-a-state-run-crypto-exchange.htm
13	Mass media [24/November/2022] ING strengthens money laundering controls after AUSTRAC probe AUSTRAC said ING had agreed to strengthen its AML and CTF program and risk assessment, its international funds transfer instructions and suspicious matter reporting, as well as its transaction monitoring. The remedial action plan will take until December next year to complete and is understood to involve a significant but undisclosed investment. https://www.afr.com/companies/financial-services/ing-strengthens-money-laundering-controls-after-austrac-probe-20221124-p5c0wt
13	Mass media [23/November/2022] Ukraine FA head accused of money laundering over artificial grass factory The head of Ukraine's football association, who served on Fifa's disciplinary body until 2020, has been accused of fraud and money laundering related to the construction of an artificial grass factory. Andriy Pavelko was served with papers by Ukraine's national police on Tuesday, notifying him that he was suspected of abuse of power and conspiracy to misappropriate and launder funds. https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/nov/23/ukraine-fa-head-accused-of-money-laundering-over-artificial-grass-factory

		[23/November/2022] Belgium Has Seized More Cocaine Than It Can Destroy
13	Mass media	<p>The amount of cocaine being seized at the Belgian port of Antwerp is so massive that authorities are worried smugglers could steal it back because police can't burn it fast enough. Officials said there is not enough incinerator capacity to cope with rising seizures of the drug at the port, creating what has been dubbed a "cocaine-berg". As a result, Belgian port authorities and ministers are worried the backlog of cocaine being stored at secret depots near the port could be targeted by organised crime gangs, who are known to have corrupt police and port workers on their books.</p> <p>https://www.vice.com/en/article/5d3amq/belgium-cocaine-incinerators</p>
13	Mass media	<p>[23/November/2022] CEO of NAB supplier found guilty of fraud and bribery</p> <p>The chief executive of a supplier to National Australia Bank has been found guilty of multiple charges of fraud and bribery. Helen Mary Rosamund, CEO of event management company Human Group, was accused of defrauding the bank by sending false and inflated invoices and paying up to \$5.4 million in kickbacks to Rosemary Rogers, a former chief of staff to ex-NAB CEO Andrew Thorburn.</p> <p>https://www.finextra.com/newsarticle/41367/ceo-of-nab-supplier-found-guilty-of-fraud-and-bribery</p>
13	Mass media	<p>[22/November/2022] Starling Bank cuts customers off from crypto-related payments</p> <p>Starling Bank has decided to block all card payments to crypto merchants and restrict other outgoing and incoming crypto-related bank transfers, the bank said in a message to customers on Tuesday. Starling customers have never been able to hold cryptocurrencies with the neobank, but the announcement means they'll no longer be able to use a Starling account to withdraw or deposit fiat money into or out of crypto exchanges.</p> <p>https://sifted.eu/articles/starling-bank-crypto-payments-news/</p>
13	Mass media	<p>[21/November/2022] Brussels' uphill battle to confiscate Russian assets</p> <p>The European Commission is exploring legal options to confiscate Russian state and private assets as a way to pay for Ukraine's reconstruction. The goal would be "identifying ways to strengthen the tracing, identification, freezing and management of assets as preliminary steps for potential confiscation". The potential bounty would consist of nearly \$300 billion frozen Russian central bank assets, as well as assets and revenues of individuals and entities on the EU's sanctions list</p> <p>https://www.politico.eu/article/brussels-russia-eu-commission-ukraine-uphill-battle-to-confiscate-assets/</p>
13	Mass media	<p>[21/November/2022] Two Estonian citizens arrested in \$575 mln cryptocurrency fraud, money laundering scheme</p> <p>two Estonian citizens were arrested in Tallinn, Estonia, on an 18-count indictment for their alleged involvement in a \$575 million cryptocurrency fraud and money laundering conspiracy. Sergei Potapenko and Ivan Turõgin, both 37, allegedly defrauded hundreds of thousands of victims through a multi-faceted scheme, wherein they induced them to enter fraudulent equipment rental contracts with the defendants' cryptocurrency mining service called HashFlare, the department said in a statement. They also made victims invest in a virtual currency bank called Polybius Bank, which in reality was not a bank and never paid out the promised dividends.</p> <p>https://www.reuters.com/legal/two-estonian-citizens-arrested-575-mln-cryptocurrency-fraud-money-maundering-2022-11-21/</p>
13	Mass media	<p>[20/November/2022] Former US Regulator Likens FTX and Sam Bankman-Fried to Bernie Madoff and His Ponzi Scheme</p> <p>Former Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) Chair Sheila Bair likens the fall of crypto exchange FTX and its former CEO Sam Bankman-Fried to the infamous Ponzi Scheme of Bernie Madoff. "It felt very Bernie Madoff-like in that way," she said. She explained that both Bankman-Fried and Madoff proved adept at seducing sophisticated investors and regulators into ignoring red flags hiding in plain sight. Madoff ran the largest Ponzi scheme in history, worth about \$64.8 billion. He promised investors high returns but rather than investing, he deposited their money into a bank account and paid, upon request, from existing and new investors' funds. Convicted of fraud, money laundering, and other related crimes, he was sentenced to 150 years in federal prison. Madoff died in prison on April 14, last year, at the age of 82. Bankman-Fried secretly transferred about \$10 billion of customer funds from FTX to his other trading firm Alameda Research and reportedly used a "backdoor" to avoid triggering accounting red flags. FTX garnered its \$32 billion valuation with investments from major companies and venture capital firms, including Blackrock, Softbank, and Sequoia.</p> <p>https://news.bitcoin.com/former-us-regulator-likens-ftx-and-sam-bankman-fried-to-bernie-madoff-and-his-ponzi-scheme/</p>

	13 Mass media	[20/November/2022] 'Heist of the century': how \$2.5bn was plundered from Iraqi state funds The theft of \$2.5bn was apparently facilitated by some of the highest offices in the land, according to sources and a series of government letters issued in the summer of 2021. The documents, signed by various government institutions including the then prime minister's office, cancelled the audit of withdrawals from the Iraqi tax commission's accounts. The scheme was allegedly masterminded by a well-connected businessman and executed by employees in the tax commission, who enjoyed the support of an Iran-aligned political faction called Badr. https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/nov/20/heist-century-iraq-state-funds-tax-embezzlement
	13 Mass media	[18/November/2022] Pharmacy Owners Plead Guilty to COVID Fraud and Money Laundering Scheme The involved persons used the pharmacies to submit millions of dollars in fraudulent claims to Medicare, including by using COVID-19 billing codes to submit claims for expensive cancer treatments that were not actually provided. They then allegedly used shell companies to conceal their criminal proceeds, which totaled over \$18 million https://www.natlawreview.com/article/pharmacy-owners-plead-guilty-to-covid-fraud-and-money-laundering-scheme
	13 Mass media	[18/November/2022] The Middle East's crypto paradox The Middle East, the region where crypto use is growing faster than anywhere else, is also the one that offers the starker contrasts between cryptocurrency's origins as anti-government money, and the growing desire of governments to use the underlying technology to modernize markets and monitor financial activity. On the one hand, Gulf State regulators have been among the most eager to work with and attract crypto entrepreneurs, with a vision of integrating the technology into mainstream financial markets. On the other hand, the Middle East features a high concentration of authoritarian regimes, rapidly inflating currencies and sanctioned entities — conditions ripe for the original use of crypto: to evade government control of money. https://www.politico.com/news/2022/11/18/the-middle-eastss-crypto-paradox-00069461
	13 Mass media	[18/November/2022] Co-Founder of Russia's Largest Crypto Pyramid Finiko Arrested in UAE One of the founders of Russia's most notorious Ponzi scheme in recent times, Finiko, is in detention in the United Arab Emirates. The close associate of the crypto pyramid's mastermind left the Russian Federation as the scam collapsed last summer. Zygmont Zygmuntovich (24-year-old man, a German national) was put on an international wanted list when Russian law enforcement launched a criminal investigation into the fraudulent investment scheme, along with Marat Sabirov and Edward Sabirov, two other associates of Finiko's founder Kirill Doronin, who has been in jail since July 2021. The three men managed to leave Russia as the financial Pyramid was crumbling. https://news.bitcoin.com/co-founder-of-russias-largest-crypto-pyramid-finiko-arrested-in-uae/
	13 Mass media	[17/November/2022] Ex-FIFA vice president Warner loses appeal against extradition from Trinidad Former FIFA vice-president Jack Warner can be extradited from his homeland of Trinidad to the United States to face corruption charges. Suspicion and rumours have surrounded the 2010 votes by FIFA's executive to hand the 2018 World Cup to Russia and the 2022 edition to Qatar. In 2020 a U.S. Department of Justice indictment said bribes were paid to soccer officials to secure their votes for hosting rights. The DOJ alleged that then FIFA vice-president Warner was paid \$5 million through various shell companies to vote for Russia to host the 2018 World Cup. https://www.reuters.com/lifestyle/sports/ex-fifa-vice-president-warner-loses-appeal-against-extradition-trinidad-2022-11-17/
	13 Mass media	[16/November/2022] Austrian banker fights extradition to U.S. on money laundering charges The former chief executive of an Austrian bank who faces charges in the United States in relation to a bribery and money laundering conspiracy involving Brazilian construction company Odebrecht asked a London court on Wednesday to refuse to extradite him. Peter Weinzierl – former chief executive of Meinl Bank, later renamed Anglo Austrian AAB Bank – is accused of helping launder hundreds of millions of dollars in a scheme involving the use of slush funds to pay bribes to public officials around the world. https://www.reuters.com/world/austrian-banker-fights-extradition-us-money-laundering-charges-2022-11-16/

	13	Mass media	<p>[15/November/2022] Bankrupt crypto exchange FTX may have over 1 million creditors as 'dozens' of regulators probe collapse</p> <p>Bankrupt crypto exchange FTX could have more than 1 million creditors and has been in contact with "dozens" of regulators around the world, according to court documents, underlining the far-reaching impact from the stunning collapse of one of the industry's biggest players.</p> <p>The new bankruptcy court filings also offer new details into the liquidity crisis that caused FTX to implode and called out the role of Sam Bankman-Fried, the exchange's 30-year-old founder and one of the faces of the crypto industry</p> <p>https://edition.cnn.com/2022/11/15/business/ftx-bankruptcy-one-million-customers/index.html</p>
	14	RO ASF	<p>[22/November/2022] Romanian Financial Supervision Authority (ASF) published the Draft for updating the KYC/AML Regulation no.13/2019 in accordance with EBA/GL/2021/02 & EBA/GL/2021/16.</p> <p>The updates mainly consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -definition of some terms/sentences ; -modification of the time interval in which the firm risk assessment must be carried out, from a time interval of two years to a time interval of one year; -internal control and ML/FT risk management procedures; -AML/CFT governance framework outlining the role and responsibilities of the various AML/CFT functions (management structure, board, executive/senior management, AML/CFT manager and AML/CFT compliance officer); -ML/TF training of employees ; -data and information to be used for the purpose of applying CDD measures; -requirements regarding non face to face business relationships and occasional transactions -ML/TF data and information that must be provided to the supervisory authority -requirements for suppliers of innovative solutions in the case of outsourcing the KYC measures ; -content of the compliance officer's annual report. <p>https://asfromania.ro/uploads/articole/attachments/637cb69157d4b215157300.pdf</p> <p>https://asfromania.ro/uploads/articole/attachments/637cb68c3acb0128122137.pdf</p>