



Source		The most important events of the period [15/07/2023 - 14/08/2023]	Autor: Radu Ion, lector AS Financial Markets
1	☐	Emerging trends and risks	
1	CANADA FINTRAC	<p>[27/July/2023] Laundering the proceeds of crime through underground banking schemes</p> <p>Underground banking refers to banking activities that run parallel to and operate outside of the formal banking system, commonly in the form of informal value transfer. Informal value transfer systems involve dealers who facilitate the transfer of value to a third party in another jurisdiction without having to physically move the items. Underground banking and the formal banking system inevitably intersect as certain transactions demand the use of the formal banking system, such as the purchase of financial instruments used to launder funds through various sectors such as the real estate or automotive industries.</p> <p>https://fintrac-canafe.canada.ca/intel/operation/ml-rec-eng.pdf</p>	
1	US	<p>[31/July/2023] Support Provided by People's Republic of China to Russia</p> <p>The report find out that PRC has become an even more critical partner for Rusia since its invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. Beijing is pursuing a variety of economic support mechanisms for Russia that mitigate both the impact of Western sanctions and export controls. Beijing has also significantly increased the use of its currency, the yuan, and its financial infrastructure in commercial interactions with Russia, allowing Russian entities to conduct financial transactions unfettered of Western interdiction.</p> <p>https://democrats-intelligence.house.gov/uploadedfiles/odni_report_on_chinese_support_to_russia.pdf</p>	
1	UK	<p>[26/July/2023] Guns for gold: the Wagner Network exposed</p> <p>Russia's renewed illegal invasion of Ukraine confirmed long-standing but contested assumptions about the Russian Government's support, funding and facilitation of the Wagner Network. Recent events in Russia following Prigozhin's march on Moscow left significant questions over the future of the network and its founder, Yevgeny Prigozhin. Wagner's activities in Ukraine are not representative of the network's operations globally. A collection of individuals and entities globally make up the 'Wagner Network', engaged in military, economic, political and influencing operations — on several occasions with the consent and invitation of national authorities. The network's military operations can be mapped in at least seven countries (Ukraine; Syria; the Central African Republic; Sudan; Libya; Mozambique; and Mali), with medium or high confidence that the network has been involved in a non-military capacity in 10 further countries since 2014. There are many more countries where the network's presence is rumoured. Even when the Wagner Network has not acted as a direct proxy of the Russian Government, the Kremlin is likely to have benefited from its presence.</p> <p>https://committees.parliament.uk/publications/41073/documents/200048/default/</p>	
1	EUROPOL	<p>[17/July/2023]Internet Organised Crime Assessment (IOCTA) 2023</p> <p>Cybercrime, in its various forms, represents an increasing threat to the EU. Cyber-attacks, online child sexual exploitation, and online frauds, are highly complex crimes and manifest in diverse typologies. Offenders continue showing high levels of adaptability to new technologies and societal developments, while constantly enhancing cooperation and specialisation. Cybercrimes have a broad reach and inflict severe harm on individuals, public and private organisations, and the EU's economy and security</p> <p>https://www.europol.europa.eu/cms/sites/default/files/documents/IOCTA%202023%20-%20EN.pdf</p>	
2	☐	Warnings and reports, thematic analyzes of national and international authorities	

2	EBA	<p>[10/August/2023] Report on the functioning of anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism (AML/CFT) colleges.</p> <p>This Report sets out findings and observations from the monitoring of AML/CFT colleges in 2022 done by EBA staff. This suggests that college members had taken important steps to improve the effectiveness of AML/CFT colleges. More specifically, members were approaching the organisation of AML/CFT colleges in a more structured manner, which contributed to the exchange of more substantive and actionable information than was the case in the previous years.</p> <p>AML/CFT colleges are permanent structures that serve to enhance cooperation between different supervisors involved in the supervision of cross-border institutions. As of 31 December 2022, competent authorities had reported 229 fully operating colleges to the EBA. An additional 54 colleges had yet to hold their first meeting.</p> <p>https://www.eba.europa.eu/sites/default/documents/files/document_library/Publications/Reports/2023/1061535/Report%20on%20the%20functioning%20of%20AMLCFT%20colleges%20in%202022.pdf</p>
2	EGMONT GROUP	<p>[31/July/2023] Annual Report 2021/2022</p> <p>The report presents the strategic objectives and achievements.</p> <p>https://egmontgroup.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Egmont-Group_AnnualReport_2021-22_FINAL_07-31-23_SINGLE-PGS_WEB.pdf</p>
2	US	<p>[31/July/2023] Risk Alert: Observations from Anti-Money Laundering Compliance Examinations of Broker-Dealers</p> <p>The US SEC Division of Examinations published a Risk Alert presenting examination observations about key AML requirements. It reiterates the critical importance of AML compliance to the Commission and law enforcement's pursuit of misconduct that could threaten the safety of investor assets and the integrity of the financial markets. The Risk Alert presents examination observations about key AML requirements, such as independent testing of firms' AML programs and training of their personnel, and identification and verification of customers and their beneficial owners.</p> <p>https://www.sec.gov/files/risk-alert-aml-compliance-examinations-bd-073123.pdf</p>
2	UN	<p>[25/July/2023] Thirty-second report of the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team submitted pursuant to resolution 2610 (2021) concerning ISIL (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals and entities</p> <p>The threat of terrorism remains high in conflict zones and relatively low elsewhere. The situation is dynamic and, while the threat is suppressed in some conflict zones, the resilience of terrorist groups means that there is a risk of resurgence in certain circumstances. Terrorist groups continue to demonstrate an ability to generate significant revenues and agility and innovation in the use of new financial technologies.</p> <p>https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N23/189/74/PDF/N2318974.pdf</p>
2	UK	<p>[20/July/2023] The Serious Fraud Office's Annual Report and Accounts for the financial year 2022-23</p> <p>The objective of SFO is to investigate and prosecute the most serious or complex cases of fraud, bribery and corruption.</p> <p>https://www.sfo.gov.uk/download/annual-report-accounts-2022-23/?ind=1689689116382&filename=SFO%20Annual%20Report%20and%20Accounts%202022-23-compressed.pdf&wpdmdl=35729&refresh=64bf3815379471690253333</p>
2	AUSTRIA	<p>[19/July/2023] Priorities and Trends in the Prevention of Money Laundering/Terrorist Financing 2022</p> <p>In 2022 the Austrian Financial Market Authority (FMA) supervised compliance with statutory provisions and due diligence obligations for the prevention of money laundering and terrorist financing at more than 1,000 financial services providers. The findings of the FMA's supervisory activities during 2022 are presented in this report.</p> <p>https://www.fma.gv.at/wp-content/plugins/dw-fma/download.php?d=6438&nonce=f7e10e726eb172b7</p>

2	FSB	<p>[17/July/2023] High-level Recommendations for the Regulation, Supervision and Oversight of Global Stablecoin Arrangements</p> <p>The Financial Stability Board (FSB) High-level Recommendations seek to promote consistent and effective regulation, supervision and oversight of global stablecoin arrangements (GSCs) across jurisdictions to address the potential financial stability risks they pose, both at the domestic and international level, while supporting responsible innovation and providing sufficient flexibility for jurisdictions to implement domestic approaches.</p> <p>The recommendations are addressed to financial regulatory, supervisory and oversight authorities at a jurisdictional level. They should be applied by individual authorities to the extent they fall within the authorities' remits.</p> <p>https://www.fsb.org/2023/07/high-level-recommendations-for-the-regulation-supervision-and-oversight-of-global-stablecoin-arrangements-final-report/</p>
2	International Organization for Migration	<p>[15/July/2023] Twenty years of IOM child trafficking</p> <p>This report, based on analysis of extensive, globally sourced data, is the first of its kind and analyses primary data from more than 69,000 victims of trafficking of 156 nationalities, trafficked in 186 countries, who registered with IOM in its 113 countries of operation, using the IOM Victims of Trafficking Database (VoTD) - the largest available international database of individual victims of trafficking. The report shows that child trafficking is a multifaceted and complex phenomenon that continues to spread and evolve within and across borders. No age range, no gender and no nationality are immune to child trafficking; it is a truly global phenomenon. However, the study provides evidence of important trends and dynamics, linked to factors such as age, gender and geography, that help further our understanding of the phenomenon, with the potential to inform policy and programming.</p> <p>https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/PUB2023-021-EL-From-Evidence-to-Action_0_0.pdf</p>
3	□	<p>Terrorism and International Sanctions updates</p>
3	US	<p>OFAC-Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons (SDN) List https://www.treasury.gov/ofac/downloads/sdnlist.pdf</p> <p>OFAC-Sectoral Sanctions Identifications (SSI) List https://www.treasury.gov/ofac/downloads/ssi/ssilist.pdf</p> <p>OFAC-List of Foreign Financial Institutions Subject to Correspondent Account or Payable-Through Account Sanctions (CAPTA List) https://www.treasury.gov/ofac/downloads/capta/captalist.pdf</p>
3	EU	<p>European Union Consolidated Financial Sanctions List https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fsd/fsf/public/files/pdfFullSanctionsList/content?token=n002g3ky</p> <p>https://data.europa.eu/data/datasets/consolidated-list-of-persons-groups-and-entities-subject-to-eu-financial-sanctions?locale=en</p>
3	UN	<p>United Nations Security Council Consolidated List https://scsanctions.un.org/consolidated/</p>
3	US	<p>[11/August/2023] OFAC - Russia-related Designations; Publication of Russia-related Frequently Asked Question</p> <p>The SDN* list has been updated with added 4 individual and 1 entity from Russia related to Alfa Group Consortium - one of the largest financial and investment conglomerates in Russia.</p> <p>https://ofac.treasury.gov/recent-actions/20230811</p>
3	US	<p>[10/August/2023] OFAC - Lebanon Designations; Issuance of Russia-related General License</p> <p>The SDN* list has been updated with (added) 5 individual from Lebanon: Riad Salameh former governor of Lebanon's central bank and four of his close associates, including members of Salameh's family and his primary assistant, who helped to conceal and facilitate corrupt activities</p> <p>https://ofac.treasury.gov/recent-actions/20230810</p>

3	US	<p>[09/August/2023] OFAC - Counter Narcotics Designations; Belarus Designations; Issuance of Belarus General Licenses</p> <p>The SDN* list has been updated with (added) 8 individ, 5 entities and 1 aircraft from Belarus</p> <p>https://ofac.treasury.gov/recent-actions/20230809</p>
3	US	<p>[04/August/2023] Mali Sanctions Regulations updated</p> <p>The Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) is amending the Mali Sanctions Regulations and reissuing them in their entirety. This regulatory amendment takes effect upon publication in the Federal Register on August 7, 2023.</p> <p>https://ofac.treasury.gov/media/932051/download?inline</p>
3	EU	<p>[04/August/2023] COUNCIL DECISION (CFSP) 2023/1598 amending Decision 2012/285/CFSP concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Guinea-Bissau COUNCIL REGULATION (EU) 2023/1593 amending Regulation (EU) No 377/2012 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Guinea-Bissau</p> <p>Restrictions shall not apply to the provision, processing or payment of funds, other financial assets or economic resources or to the provision of goods and services, which are necessary to ensure the timely delivery of humanitarian assistance or to support other activities that support basic human needs when provided by UN and International organisations.</p> <p>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32023D1598</p> <p>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32023R1593</p>
3	EU	<p>[04/August/2023] COUNCIL DECISION (CFSP) 2023/1601 amending Decision 2012/642/CFSP concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Belarus and the involvement of Belarus in the Russian aggression against Ukraine COUNCIL REGULATION (EU) 2023/1594 amending Regulation (EC) No 765/2006 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Belarus and the involvement of Belarus in the Russian aggression against Ukraine</p> <p>Prohibits the sale, supply, transfer or export, directly or indirectly, of firearms, their parts and essential components and ammunition. it also extends the prohibitions on dual-use goods. three annexes have been updated</p> <p>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32023D1601</p> <p>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32023R1594</p>
3	EU	<p>[03/August/2023] COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING DECISION (CFSP) 2023/1592 implementing Decision 2012/642/CFSP concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Belarus and the involvement of Belarus in the Russian aggression against Ukraine COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2023/1591 implementing Article 8a(1) of Regulation (EC) No 765/2006 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Belarus and the involvement of Belarus in the Russian aggression against Ukraine</p> <p>38 individuals and 3 legal persons, entities or bodies from Belarus were added to sanction list related to serious human rights violations, contribute to the repression of civil society and democratic forces, as well as those who benefit from and support the Lukashenko regime. Altogether, EU restrictive measures on Belarus now apply to a total of 233 individuals and 37 entities. Those designated are subject to an asset freeze and EU citizens and companies are forbidden from making funds available to them. Natural persons are additionally subject to a travel ban, which impedes them from entering or transiting through EU territories.</p> <p>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32023D1592</p> <p>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32023R1591</p>

3	EU	<p>[31/July/2023] COUNCIL DECISION (CFSP) 2023/1574 amending Decision (CFSP) 2022/2319 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Haiti COUNCIL REGULATION (EU) 2023/1569 amending Regulation (EU) 2022/2309 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Haiti</p> <p>Updates regarding complementary criteria on the basis of which the Union can autonomously apply travel restrictions, asset freezes and prohibitions to make resources available to natural or legal persons, entities or bodies ('complementary measures').</p> <p>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32023R1569</p> <p>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32023D1574</p>
3	US	<p>[31/July/2023] OFAC - Counter Terrorism Designations and Designation Update; Balkans-related Designations</p> <p>The SDN* list has been updated with : added 20 individuals from Maldives, key leaders and financial facilitators of ISIS, ISIS-Khorasan (ISIS-K) and al-Qa'ida operatives ; added 29 companies associated with the individuals of Maldives-based terrorist-affiliated criminal gangs; added 1 state-level official of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) and 3 government officials from the Republika Srpska (RS).</p> <p>https://ofac.treasury.gov/recent-actions/20230731</p>
3	EU	<p>[28/July/2023] COUNCIL DECISION (CFSP) 2023/1566 amending Decision 2014/145/CFSP concerning restrictive measures in respect of actions undermining or threatening the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2023/1563 implementing Regulation (EU) No 269/2014 concerning restrictive measures in respect of actions undermining or threatening the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine</p> <p>7 individuals and 5 legal persons, entities or bodies were added to sanction list related to a digital information manipulation campaign named 'RRN' (Recent Reliable News) aiming at manipulating information and disseminating propaganda in support of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine</p> <p>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32023D1566</p> <p>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32023R1563</p>
3	EU	<p>[28/July/2023] COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING DECISION (CFSP) 2023/1567 implementing Decision 2010/788/CFSP concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2023/1564 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1183/2005 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo</p> <p>9 individuals were added to sanction list related to the armed conflict, instability and insecurity in the DRC</p> <p>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32023D1567</p> <p>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32023R1564</p>
3	EU	<p>[28/July/2023] OFAC - Venezuela-related Designations Removals; Global Magnitsky Designation Update</p> <p>The SDN* list has been updated with : 3 individual Venezuela related deleted ; 1 US entity updated</p> <p>https://ofac.treasury.gov/recent-actions/20230728</p>
3	EU	<p>[28/July/2023] COUNCIL REGULATION (EU) 2023/1565 amending Regulation (EC) No 1183/2005 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo</p> <p>Prohibits the provision of support to natural or legal persons, entities or bodies responsible for maintaining armed conflict, instability or insecurity in the DRC.</p> <p>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32023R1565</p>

3	US	<p>[27/July/2023] OFAC - Counter Terrorism Designation</p> <p>The SDN* list has been updated (add) with : 1 individual - the head of the finance office of the Somalia-based affiliate of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS)</p> <p>https://ofac.treasury.gov/recent-actions/20230727</p>
3	US	<p>[24/JuLY/2023] OFAC - Russia-related Designations; Ukraine-related Designation Update; Russia-related Designations Removals; Issuance of Russia-related General Licenses</p> <p>The SDN* list has been updated (add) with : 3 individuals from Mali linked to PRIVATE MILITARY COMPANY 'WAGNER'</p> <p>https://ofac.treasury.gov/recent-actions/20230724</p>
3	EU	<p>[20/July/2023] COUNCIL DECISION (CFSP) 2023/1500 amending Decision (CFSP) 2020/1999 concerning restrictive measures against serious human rights violations and abuses COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2023/1495 implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1998 concerning restrictive measures against serious human rights violations and abuses</p> <p>12 individuals and 5 legal persons, entities or bodies were added to sanction list related to serious human rights violations and abuses in Russia</p> <p>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32023D1500 https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32023R1495</p>
3	EU	<p>[20/July/2023] COUNCIL DECISION (CFSP) 2023/1501 amending Decision 2014/145/CFSP concerning restrictive measures in respect of actions undermining or threatening the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2023/1496 implementing Regulation (EU) No 269/2014 concerning restrictive measures in respect of actions undermining or threatening the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine</p> <p>6 individuals from Iran were added to sanction list related to actions undermining or threatening the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine</p> <p>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32023D1501 https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32023R1496</p>
3	EU	<p>[20/July/2023] COUNCIL DECISION (CFSP) 2023/1502 amending Decision 2013/184/CFSP concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Myanmar/Burma COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2023/1497 implementing Regulation (EU) No 401/2013 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Myanmar/Burma</p> <p>6 individuals and 1 entity were added to sanction list related to overthrow of Myanmar's democratically-elected government by the Myanmar armed forces</p> <p>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32023D1502 https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32023R1497</p>
3	EU	<p>[20/July/2023] COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING DECISION (CFSP) 2023/1503 implementing Decision 2013/255/CFSP concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Syria COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2023/1498 implementing Regulation (EU) No 36/2012 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Syria</p> <p>1 individual from Iran was added to sanction list related to Iran providing military support to the Syrian regime</p> <p>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32023D1503 https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32023R1498</p>

3	EU	<p>[20/July/2023] COUNCIL DECISION (CFSP) 2023/1504 amending Decision (CFSP) 2020/1999 concerning restrictive measures against serious human rights violations and abuses COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2023/1499 implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1998 concerning restrictive measures against serious human rights violations and abuses</p> <p>6 individuals were added to sanction list related to serious human rights violations and abuses</p> <p>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32023D1504</p> <p>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32023R1499</p>
3	EU	<p>[20/July/2023] COUNCIL DECISION (CFSP) 2023/1514 updating the list of persons, groups and entities subject to Articles 2, 3 and 4 of Common Position 2001/931/CFSP on the application of specific measures to combat terrorism, and repealing Decision (CFSP) 2023/422 COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2023/1505 implementing Article 2(3) of Regulation (EC) No 2580/2001 on specific restrictive measures directed against certain persons and entities with a view to combating terrorism, and repealing Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/420</p> <p>The sanction list has been updated and contains 13 individuals and 21 entities</p> <p>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32023D1514</p> <p>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32023R1505</p>
3	EU	<p>[20/July/2023] COUNCIL DECISION (CFSP) 2023/1517 amending Decision 2014/512/CFSP concerning restrictive measures in view of Russia's actions destabilising the situation in Ukraine</p> <p>The Council decided to extend the framework for imposing targeted restrictive measures in view of Russia's actions destabilising the situation in Ukraine until 31 January 2024</p> <p>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32023D1517</p>
3	EU	<p>[20/July/2023] COUNCIL DECISION (CFSP) 2023/1519 amending Decision (CFSP) 2021/1277 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Lebanon</p> <p>The Council decided to extend the framework for imposing targeted restrictive measures to address the situation in Lebanon for an additional year, until 31 July 2024.</p> <p>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32023D1519</p>
3	US	<p>[20/June/2023] OFAC - Russia-related Designations; Ukraine-related Designation Update; Russia-related Designations Removals; Issuance of Russia-related General Licenses</p> <p>The SDN* list has been updated (add) with : 18 individuals 95 entities of which 5 banks and 14 vessels related to Russian access to battlefield supplies and target revenue generators</p> <p>https://ofac.treasury.gov/recent-actions/20230720</p>
3	US	<p>[19/June/2023] OFAC - Balkans-related Designation; Counter Narcotics Designations; Issuance of Venezuela-related General License</p> <p>The SDN* list has been updated (add) with : 1 corrupt businessman in North Macedonia, 3 Belgian nationals and 1 Mexican national for international drug trafficking, including cocaine and fentanyl</p> <p>https://ofac.treasury.gov/recent-actions/20230719</p>
3	EU	<p>[17/July/2023] COUNCIL REGULATION (EU) 2023/1462 amending Regulation (EU) No 36/2012 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Syria</p> <p>Exemptions related to humanitarian crisis in Syria exacerbated by the earthquake and with a view to facilitating the rapid delivery of aid was extended until 24 February 2024</p> <p>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32023R1462</p>

3	US	<p>[15/June/2023] OFAC - Non-Proliferation Designation; North Korea Designation; Russia-related Designation Update</p> <p>The SDN* list has been updated with : 2 individuals added and 1 entity updated related to procurement of equipment and materials that support the DPRK ballistic missile program.</p> <p>https://ofac.treasury.gov/recent-actions/20230615</p>
4	□	EU ML/TF SupraNational Risk Assessment
4	EBA	<p>EBA Opinion on money laundering and terrorist financing risks across the EU was published on [13/July/2023]</p> <p>https://www.eba.europa.eu/sites/default/documents/files/document_library/Publications/Opinions/2023/1058335/EBA%20Op%202023%2008%20Opinion%20on%20MLTF%20risks%20EBA%20REP%202023%2021.pdf</p>
4	EU	<p>The 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 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
5	Seychelles	<p>[07/August/2023] Seychelles Financial Crime Assessment</p> <p>Overall National Vulnerability to ML is "Medium High" as a result of poor ratings on criminal asset, forfeiture, criminal prosecution, criminal conviction, and lack of capacity of financial crime investigators, challenges caused by lack of tax records, beneficial ownership, & due to Overall Sector Vulnerability rated at "High". "The main priority areas...to improve are: Banking sector, (0.7/1 High), Bureaux de Change [& Remittance Providers] (0.7/1 High). Fiduciary (securities/TCSP) (0.7/1 High, Real Estate (0.6/1 Medium High), Motor Vehicle Dealers (0.6/1 Medium High) & Lawyers & Notaries (0.6/1 Medium High) & Gambling (0.5/1 Medium). NRA 2017. "Proceeds of drug trafficking are laundered through cash intensive businesses, such as car rental businesses, real estate deals, and businesses that rely on the exchange of foreign currency"... "Seychelles has a [Golden Visa] Program..which has contributed to ML." "Several international investigations on VC trading scams have been traced to Seychelles."- US INCSR</p> <p>https://thefinancialcrimenews.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Seychelles-August-2023-Pbd.pdf</p>
5	UK SRA	<p>[24/July/2023] Sectoral Risk Assessment - Antimoney laundering and terrorist financing</p> <p>UK Solicitors Regulation Authority published the AML&CTF sectorla risk assessment.</p> <p>https://www.sra.org.uk/pdfcentre/?type=Id&data=697721737</p>
5	ROMANIA	<p>The main findings and conclusions of the Romania ML/TF National Risk Assessment (NRA) was published on [22/November/2022]</p> <p>RO: http://www.onpcsb.ro/pdf/Rezumat%20NRA%20Public.pdf EN: http://www.onpcsb.ro/pdf/Summary%20of%20the%20National%20Risk%20Assessment%20Report%20on%20Money%20Laundering%20and%20Terrorism%20Financing.pdf</p>
6	□	Specific guidelines, guides, instructions or warnings
6	US	<p>[26/July/2023] Voluntary Self-Disclosure of Potential Violations</p> <p>U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), the U.S. Department of Commerce's Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS), and the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), issued a Tri-Seal Compliance Note: Voluntary Self-Disclosure of Potential Violations to summarize procedures for voluntarily self-disclosing violations of U.S. sanctions and export control laws to DOJ, BIS, and OFAC. The Compliance Note explains that self-disclosing potential violations can provide significant mitigation of civil or criminal liability, while also alerting key national security agencies to activities that may pose a threat to the national security and foreign policy objectives of the United States.</p> <p>https://ofac.treasury.gov/media/932036/download?inline</p>

6	LITHUANIA	<p>[17/July/2023] Detecting and Preventing Sanctions Evasion and Circumvention in Trade - Practical Guidance for Economic Operators</p> <p>The aim of the guidance is to support companies in their responsible business. The document presents due diligence recommendations and red-flags for detecting potential sanctions evasion and circumvention by so far identified in co-operation of European authorities. The document suggests practical ways to investigate and detect sanctions evasion and circumvention.</p> <p>https://urm.lt/uploads/default/documents/2023_07_17%20%20Practical%20Guidance%20Sanctions%20Circumvention%20Detection%20and%20Prevention%20in%20Foreign%20Trade.pdf</p>
6	Denmark	<p>15/July/2023] The Danish Gambling Authority's guidance on preventive measures against money laundering of criminal proceeds and financing of terrorism</p> <p>This guidance is aimed at gambling operators, their employees, and other relevant stakeholders. This guidance provides guidelines for and interpretations of how the rules should be met by gambling operators, their managers, and employees. In the areas where it is left to the gambling operator to carry out a risk assessment, the guidance includes instructions on how to be compliant.</p> <p>https://www.spillemyndigheden.dk/uploads/2023-07/The%20Danish%20Gambling%20Authority%E2%80%99s%20guidance%20on%20preventive%20measures%20against%20money%20laundering%20of%20criminal%20proceeds%20and%20ofinancing%20of%20terrorism%20version%201.3.pdf</p>
6	Guernsey	<p>[15/July/2023] Handbook on Countering Financial Crime and Terrorist Financing</p> <p>This Handbook is issued to assist the firm in complying with the requirements of the relevant legislation concerning ML and FT.</p> <p>This Handbook has the following additional purposes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1/ to outline the legal and regulatory framework for AML and CFT requirements and systems; 2/ to interpret the requirements of the Relevant Enactments and provide guidance on how they may be implemented in practice; 3/ to indicate good industry practice in AML and CFT procedures through a proportionate, risk-based approach; and 4/ to assist in the design and implementation of systems and controls necessary to mitigate the risks of the firm being used in connection with ML and FT and other financial crime <p>https://www.gfsc.gg/sites/default/files/media/helix-file/20230710%20-%20Handbook.pdf</p>
6	UK	<p>[15/July/2023] UK General guidance for financial sanctions</p> <p>The General Guidance document has been updated to include changes to Sections 6.9 and 6.11 in relation to the licence application process.</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1169348/Financial_Sanctions_General_Guidance.pdf</p>
6	ICC	<p>[15/July/2023] How does global trade and receivables finance mitigate against proliferation financing?</p> <p>International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) addresses the challenges of dual-use goods in the financial services industry, providing guidance on implementing controls and risk-based approaches for identifying and managing associated risks in trade finance. The paper seeks to summarise best practices and recommendations for financial institutions engaged in trade finance, acknowledging the validity of various approaches based on the individual circumstances of institutions.</p> <p>https://iccwbo.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2019/06/2023-ICC-Financial-crime-risk-controls-Dual-use-goods-and-proliferation-financing.pdf</p>

6	EU	<p>[26/July/2023] European Commission updated numerous FAQs related to the Russia sanctions regime.</p> <p>The updates cover: 02 August 2023 : Oil imports 02 August 2023 : Oil price cap 26 July 2023 : Transit of listed goods via Russia 26 July 2023 : Imports, purchase and transfer of listed goods 26 July 2023 : Customs related matters 26 July 2023 : Luxury goods 24 July 2023 : Asset freeze and prohibition to provide funds or economic resources 24 July 2023 : Access to EU ports 24 July 2023 : Provision of services 24 July 2023 : Oil price cap 18 July 2023 : Imports, purchase and transfer of listed goods 18 July 2023 : Media</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=fags-sanctions-russia-consolidated_en.pdf</p>
7	☐	<p>Warnings, fines and convictions for violating the KYC/AML/CTF/FiSa/Compliance legislation in financial market</p>
7	Romania	<p>[28/July/2023] BRD – GROUPE SOCIÉTÉ GÉNÉRALE S.A. fined 100.000 RON</p> <p>BRD – GROUPE SOCIÉTÉ GÉNÉRALE S.A. was fined 100.000 RON (20.000 EUR) by National Bank of Romania (Order of the First Deputy Governor of the National Bank of Romania no.87/20.07.2023) for the for the following breaches of the KYC/AML/CFT legislation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - inadequate functioning of internal control mechanisms, including software used to manage money laundering risk; - weaknesses identified with regard to internal control actions, i.e. management controls; - inadequate IT system to ensure the extraction of complete data needed in SB/FT risk management processes; - failure to implement adequate controls to verify how alerts generated for PEP customers are analysed and solved; - misclassification of PEP customers; - inadequate implementation of standard know-your-customer measures - failure to implement appropriate measures to mitigate the risk of money laundering and terrorist financing associated with some customers whose transactional activity has been reported to the FIU - failure to apply additional know-your-customer measures in all cases which, by their nature, could pose an increased risk of money laundering and terrorist financing; - failure to report to FIU the suspicious ML transactions - non-updating of the list of countries for which KYC/AML/CFT approval is required; - failure to provide information requested by the National Bank of Romania; - not implementing some measures ordered by Order of the First Deputy Governor of the National Bank of Romania No 43/09.03.2022 - shortcomings in the methodology for conducting and updating risk assessments; - shortcomings in thei KYC/AML/CFT regulations. <p>https://www.bnr.ro/Sanc%C8%9Biuni-emise-de-BNR-pentru-nerespectarea-legisla%C8%9Biei-incidente--20132.aspx#peloc</p>
7	Romania	<p>[14/August/2023] CITIBANK EUROPE PLC, DUBLIN – Sucursala România sanctioned with a warning</p> <p>CITIBANK EUROPE PLC, DUBLIN – Sucursala România sanctioned with a warning by National Bank of Romania (Order of the First Deputy Governor of the National Bank of Romania no..81/06.07.2023) for the for the following breaches of the KYC/AML/CFT legislation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - failure to implement the supervisory measure required by the Order of the First Deputy Governor of the National Bank of Romania No 125/19.09.2022, consisting in the appointment of the Compliance Officer <p>https://www.bnr.ro/Sanc%C8%9Biuni-emise-de-BNR-pentru-nerespectarea-legisla%C8%9Biei-incidente--20132.aspx#peloc</p>

7	Romania	<p>[10/August/2023] MIKRO KAPITAL IFN S.A. sanctioned with a warning</p> <p>MIKRO KAPITAL IFN S.A. sanctioned with a warning by National Bank of Romania (Order of the First Deputy Governor of the National Bank of Romania no..81/06.07.2023) for the for the following breaches of the KYC/AML/CFT legislation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - shortcomings in internal control system - inappropriate KYC measures - inadequate customer risk rating - insufficient procedures for monitoring customers transactions to detect unusual and suspicious transactions - failure to update annually the methodology for ML&TF risk assessment and others deficiencies in this area <p>https://www.bnr.ro/Sanc%C8%9Biuni-emise-de-BNR-pentru-nerespectarea-legisla%C8%9Biei-incidente--20132.aspx#peloc</p>
7	UAE	<p>[01/August/2023] Mirabaud Limited bank fined US\$ 3,022,500 for inadequate anti-money laundering systems</p> <p>The DFSA found that weaknesses in Mirabaud’s AML systems and controls meant that it processed transactions, for a group of nine interconnected client accounts managed by the same Relationship Manager, which raised a number of red flags related to suspicions of money laundering. The activities of the relevant customer accounts exhibited characteristics similar to those commonly seen in the layering phase of a money laundering operation. Although Mirabaud put in place AML policies and procedures, they were ineffective. When processing transactions for this group of interconnected customers, Mirabaud failed to consider information it held about them, including that which had been obtained as part of the bank’s customer due diligence.</p> <p>https://www.wam.ae/en/details/1395303182968</p>
7	Romania	<p>[28/July/2023] Unicredit Bank S.A. Romania fined 100.000 RON</p> <p>Unicredit Bank S.A. Romania was fined 100.000 RON (20.000 EUR) by National Bank of Romania (Order of the First Deputy Governor of the National Bank of Romania no.79/06.07.2023) for the for the following breaches of the KYC/AML/CFT legislation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - failure to identify and assess ML/TF risks associated with the ATM foreign exchange for non-customers; - failure to identify and verify the identity of non-customers who carry out occasional transactions at ATM, in order to identify cash connected transactions with over 10,000 in equivalent for reporting to the FIU; - failure to define and implement warning mechanisms to ensure the identification of connected transactions by occasional customers. <p>https://www.bnr.ro/Sanc%C8%9Biuni-emise-de-BNR-pentru-nerespectarea-legisla%C8%9Biei-incidente--20132.aspx#peloc</p>
7	US	<p>[19/July/2023] Deutsche Bank fined \$186 million</p> <p>Federal Reserve Board issued a consent order and a \$186 million fine based on unsafe and unsound practices and violations of the Board's 2015 and 2017 consent orders with Deutsche Bank relating to sanctions compliance and anti-money laundering controls. The Board found that Deutsche Bank made insufficient remedial progress under the 2015 and 2017 consent orders and had deficient anti-money laundering internal controls and governance processes relating to its prior relationship with the Estonian branch of Danske Bank. This consent order requires Deutsche Bank to prioritize completion of several critical requirements of the Board's prior orders. The Board issued a distinct Written Agreement to address other general deficiencies relating to Deutsche Bank's governance, risk management, and controls.</p> <p>https://www.federalreserve.gov/newsevents/pressreleases/files/enf20230719a1.pdf</p> <p>https://www.federalreserve.gov/newsevents/pressreleases/files/enf20230719a2.pdf</p>
8	□	<p>Law enforcement actions for money laundering and international sanctions crimes</p>
8	EPPO Romania	<p>[03/August/2023] €1.6 million fraud involving employment funds</p> <p>According to the investigation, the organised crime group had set up seven fictitious companies, in order to fraudulently obtain EU and national subsidies, aimed at helping unemployed people to improve their skills and job prospects. The suspects are believed to have hired 197 people under false pretences, thus defrauding the EU and national budgets of a total of €1.67 million (85% pertaining to the budget of the European Union and 15% to Romania’s national budget).</p> <p>https://www.eppo.europa.eu/en/news/eppo-cracks-down-criminal-group-suspected-eu16-million-fraud-involving-employment-funds</p>

8	US	<p>[25/July/2023] Virginia Man Sentenced to Federal Prison for Conspiring to Violate Iranian Sanctions</p> <p>Behrouz Mokhtari, 72, of McLean, Virginia, was sentenced today to 41 months in prison followed by three years of supervised release for violating U.S. sanctions against Iran by conspiring to engage in prohibited business activities on behalf of persons and entities in Iran. In addition, Mokhtari was ordered to forfeit approximately \$2,862,598 in proceeds derived from his criminal activity as well as a residence he purchased in Campbell, California, for over \$1.5 million using such proceeds. Mokhtari held management positions and/or maintained ownership control of numerous businesses in Iran and the United Arab Emirates (UAE), collectively referred to as "the FSR Network." Using the FSR Network, he and his co-conspirators illegally provided services to Iranian entities such as the refinement and transport of petrochemical products. Mokhtari and his co-conspirators used FSR Network bank accounts in the UAE, including Bitubiz FZE, to process these U.S. dollar transactions.</p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/virginia-man-sentenced-federal-prison-conspiring-violate-iranian-sanctions</p>
8	US	<p>[17/July/2023] International Cyber Fraudster Sentenced to More Than 8 Years in Federal Prison</p> <p>A resident of the United Arab Emirates who orchestrated an \$8 million cyber fraud scheme targeting several United States-based companies has been sentenced to more than eight years in a U.S. prison. OLALEKAN JACOB PONLE, also known as "Mr. Woodbery," and "Mark Kain," 31, was living in the UAE in 2019 when he worked with co-schemers to engage in numerous business email compromise schemes. The co-schemers used phishing links to gain unauthorized access to email accounts and then created false instructions directing employees of the victim companies to wire money to bank accounts opened by money mules at Ponle's direction. The fraudulent emails often claimed to be from the company or a known business contact and were nearly identical to prior legitimate emails sent over the company's email account. After unwitting employees wired money, in some cases millions of dollars, to the bank accounts, Ponle instructed the money mules to convert the proceeds to Bitcoin and send them to him. As a result of Ponle's scheme, victim companies suffered more than \$8.03 million in actual losses and more than \$51.3 million in intended losses.</p> <p>https://www.justice.gov/usao-ndil/pr/international-cyber-fraudster-sentenced-more-8-years-federal-prison</p>
8	US	<p>[15/July/2023] SEC Charges Celsius Network Limited and Founder Alex Mashinsky with Fraud and Unregistered Offer and Sale of Securities</p> <p>The Securities and Exchange Commission charged Celsius Network Limited (Celsius) and its founder and former CEO, Alex Mashinsky, for violating registration and anti-fraud provisions of the federal securities laws, including by failing to register the offers and sales of Celsius's crypto lending product, the Earn Interest Program; making false and misleading statements to investors of the Earn Interest Program and Celsius's own crypto asset security, CEL; and engaging in market manipulation as it relates to CEL.</p> <p>The SEC's complaint alleges that Celsius and Mashinsky manipulated the market of CEL. Starting in at least 2020, according to the complaint, Celsius and Mashinsky engaged in a fraud to artificially increase and support the price of CEL through manipulative buy backs of CEL far in excess of its publicly disclosed purchases. As alleged, Celsius and Mashinsky - the single largest holder of CEL other than Celsius - structured the scheme to have the greatest impact on the market and induce others to buy CEL, to the benefit of Celsius and Mashinsky.</p> <p>In parallel actions, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York announced charges against Mashinsky and a non-prosecution agreement with Celsius, and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) announced charges against Celsius and Mashinsky.</p> <p>https://www.sec.gov/files/litigation/complaints/2023/comp25779.pdf</p>
9	☐	Threats, alerts and typologies
10	☐	Corruption Perception Indices and Country Reports
10	Transparency International	<p>2022 Corruption Perceptions Index was issued on [31/January/2023]</p> <p>The 2022 Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) was published by Transparency International. The global average remains unchanged for over a decade at just 43 out of 100. More than two-thirds of countries score below 50, while 26 countries have fallen to their lowest scores yet. 155 countries out of 180 have made no significant progress against corruption or have declined since 2012. Here is the score for some relevant countries from each risk class : Denmark 90(88in2021); Austria 75(74in2021); Lithuania 62(61in2021); Malta 51(54in2021); Romania 46(45in2021); Moldova 39(36in2021); Pakistan 27(28in2021); Somalia 12(13in2021). The average score of Western Europe&EU is 66, with max Denmark 90 and min Hungary 42.</p> <p>https://images.transparencycdn.org/images/Report_CPI2022_English.pdf</p>
11	☐	Mutual evaluation reports or lists of states or jurisdictions that have KYC/AML/CTF deficiencies

11	FATF	<p>[07/August/2023] FATF consolidated countries assessment ratings</p> <p>This table provides an up-to-date overview of the FATF ratings that assessed countries obtained for effectiveness and technical compliance with the 40 recommendations.</p> <p>https://www.fatf-gafi.org/content/fatf-gafi/en/publications/Mutualevaluations/Assessment-ratings.html</p>
11	FATF	<p>[07/August/2023] Benin's progress in strengthening measures to tackle money laundering and terrorist financing</p> <p>Benin has made significant progress in addressing the technical compliance deficiencies identified in its MER. Recommendation 6 is upgraded from Partially Compliant to Largely Compliant. Recommendation 7 is upgraded from Partially Compliant to Largely Compliant. The Republic of Benin is rated NC/PC on 18 Recommendations. The country will be maintained under the enhanced follow up regime.</p> <p>https://www.fatf-gafi.org/content/dam/fatf-gafi/fsrb-fur/Benin-Follow-Up-Report-2023.pdf.coredownload.pdf</p>
11	FATF	<p>[07/August/2023] Burkina Faso's progress in strengthening measures to tackle money laundering and terrorist financing</p> <p>Burkina Faso has made progress in addressing some of the technical compliance deficiencies identified in its MER. The country has been upgraded on 3 recommendations. Recommendation 2 is upgraded from Partially Compliant to Largely Compliant. Recommendation 28 is upgraded from Non Compliant to Partially Compliant. Recommendation 34 is upgraded from Partially Compliant to Largely Compliant. Burkina Faso has 12 Recommendations rated NC/PC.</p> <p>https://www.fatf-gafi.org/content/dam/fatf-gafi/fsrb-fur/Burkina-Faso-GIABA-FUR-2023.pdf.coredownload.inline.pdf</p>
11	FATF	<p>[07/August/2023] Liberia's measures to combat money laundering and terrorist financing</p> <p>Liberia has implemented an AML/CFT system that is moderately effective in one area. Moderate level of effectiveness has been achieved in the area of understanding of ML/TF risks and national co-ordination. However, fundamental improvements are required in the areas of confiscation, TF investigation and prosecution, investigation and prosecution of ML, particularly regarding the conduct of parallel financial investigations. Liberia has a good understanding of its money laundering (ML) risks and a fairly good understanding of its terrorism financing (TF) risks. Although the new AML/CFT Act and the AS-AP demonstrate Liberia's commitment to pursue confiscation as a policy objective, these frameworks are relatively new and are yet to yield the expected results. The identification, location and tracing of proceeds of crime is limited by weak compliance with public officials' assets declarations. Liberia has robust measures to prevent criminals from controlling or managing a financial institution (FI), but these need to be improved to extend to beneficial owners (BOs) and ongoing controls.</p> <p>https://www.fatf-gafi.org/content/dam/fatf-gafi/fsrb-mer/Liberia-Giaba-Mutual-Evaluation-2023.pdf.coredownload.inline.pdf</p>
11	FATF	<p>[27/July/2023] Dominica's measures to combat money laundering and terrorist financing</p> <p>Dominica has made significant improvements to strengthen its anti-money laundering/combating the financing of terrorism (AML/CFT) regime since the last MER. The 2020 NRA triggered the creation of a National Strategy, National Policy and National Implementation Action Plan (NIAP). In relation to technical compliance, Dominica has taken steps to amend the majority of its AML/CFT legislative framework. However, several technical compliance deficiencies remain in relation to TFS for TF and PF, non-profit organisations, new technologies, the regulation and supervision of DNFBPs and transparency and beneficial ownership of legal persons.</p> <p>https://www.fatf-gafi.org/content/dam/fatf-gafi/fsrb-mer/Dominica-CFATF-Mutual-Evaluation-2023.pdf.coredownload.inline.pdf</p>

11	FATF	<p>[25/July/2023] Turkmenistan's measures to combat money laundering and terrorist financing</p> <p>Turkmenistan has made some improvements in the overall level of technical compliance with the FATF Recommendations, although many deficiencies remain. Since the previous mutual evaluation (2011), most of the legal acts and other legislation relevant to the issues under review have undergone significant changes. Legislation regulating the powers of the LEAs and the competence of the FIU in general is in line with AML/CFT/CPF standards. ML and TF offences have been criminalized and asset freezing and confiscation mechanisms have been established, which however need to be improved. The powers of competent authorities to coordinate and cooperate in the field of AML/CFT/CPF at both the national and international levels have been regulated. Measures on the application of CDD, data storage and STR reporting by reporting entities have been legislated.</p> <p>https://www.fatf-gafi.org/content/dam/fatf-gafi/fsrb-mer/Turkmenistan-EAG-Mutual-Evaluation.pdf.coredownload.inline.pdf</p>
11	FATF	<p>[25/July/2023] Kazakhstan's measures to combat money laundering and terrorist financing</p> <p>This report represents a summary of anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism (AML/CFT) measures in effect in Kazakhstan at the time of the EAG assessors' mission to the county (September 12-30 2022). The report analyses Kazakhstan's AML/CFT system for compliance with the 40 FATF Recommendations and assesses its effectiveness. The report also contains recommendations for strengthening the existing AML/CFT regime. The Republic of Kazakhstan has achieved a substantial level of effectiveness in terms of identifying, understanding and minimizing risks, as well as coordination and interaction. Also at a significant level is the activity of the FIU and the use of operational financial information for the purpose of detecting, investigating and suppressing, as well as adjudicating ML/TF crimes and predicate offences.</p> <p>https://www.fatf-gafi.org/content/dam/fatf-gafi/fsrb-mer/Kazakhstan-EAG-Mutual-Evaluation-2023.pdf.coredownload.inline.pdf</p>
11	FATF	<p>[24/July/2023] Uzbekistan's progress in strengthening measures to tackle money laundering and terrorist financing</p> <p>The Republic of Uzbekistan has demonstrated considerable progress in addressing the TC deficiencies identified in the MER. Considering the progress of the Republic of Uzbekistan in improving the national AML/CFT system after the approval of the MER, the TC ratings under the FATF Recommendations have been upgraded as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Recommendation 6 was upgraded from Partially Compliant to Largely Compliant -Recommendation 7 was upgraded from Partially Compliant to Largely Compliant -Recommendation 22 was upgraded from Partially Compliant to Largely Compliant <p>Therefore, the Republic of Uzbekistan is transferred from enhanced to regular follow-up</p> <p>https://www.fatf-gafi.org/content/dam/fatf-gafi/fsrb-fur/Uzbekistan-Follow-Up-Report.pdf.coredownload.pdf</p>
11	FATF	<p>[20/July/2023] Türkiye's progress in strengthening measures to tackle money laundering and terrorist financing</p> <p>As a result the country has been re-rated on six recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommendations 8, 22 and 28 are re-rated from Partially Compliant to Largely Compliant Recommendation 12 is re-rated from Non Compliant to Compliant Recommendation 15 is re-rated from Largely Compliant to Partially Compliant Recommendation 26 is re-rated from Partially Compliant to Compliant <p>The three follow-up reports and subsequent re-ratings since the 2019 assessment of Türkiye' s AML/CFT framework highlight the progress that Türkiye has made to strengthen its measures to combat money laundering and terrorist financing.</p> <p>Türkiye now only has one Recommendation left rated PC (R.15) and no recommendations rated NC.</p> <p>https://www.fatf-gafi.org/content/dam/fatf-gafi/fur/T%C3%BCrkiye-Follow-Up-Report-2023.pdf.coredownload.pdf</p>
11	Moneyval	<p>[18/July/2023] Romania MONEYVAL Mutual Evaluation Report</p> <p>The report provides a comprehensive assessment of the country's level of compliance with standards set by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF). Since 2014, when MONEYVAL last evaluated Romania, the country has taken a number of actions to strengthen its legal and institutional framework to tackle money laundering and the financing of terrorism (AML/CTF) and has started to put in place the elements of an effective AML/CTF system. MONEYVAL notes that Romania has achieved moderate levels of effectiveness in all areas assessed except for international cooperation, where it has achieved a substantial level of effectiveness and has been commended by other countries for its constructive assistance. MONEYVAL's mutual evaluation of Romania highlights that the country demonstrates a fair understanding of ML risks and, to a lesser degree, of TF risks. Romania needs to immediately start implementing mitigating actions that target the highest risks to which the country is exposed.</p> <p>https://rm.coe.int/moneyval-2023-5-mer-romania/1680abfd1c</p>

11	FATF	<p>FATF black and gray lists as of [23/June/2023]</p> <p>FATF has reviewed and published :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the lists of jurisdictions subject to a Call for Action(BLACK), list remained unchanged : North Korea; Iran; Myanmar; - list of jurisdictions under Increased Monitoring(GREY), the updates are:, no exit but 3 countries enter in the list : Cameroon, Croatia and Vietnam. The list contains 26 countries : 1/Albania [Feb.20] 2/Barbados [Feb.20] 3/Burkina Faso [Feb.21] 4/Cameroon [Jun.23] 5/Cayman Islands [Feb.21] 6/Congo D.R.[Oct.22] 7/Croatia [Jun.23] 8/Gibraltar [Jun.22] 9/Haiti [Jun.20] 10/Jamaica [Feb.20] 11/Jordan [Oct.21] 12/Mali [Oct.21] 13/Mozambique [Oct.22] 14/Nigeria [Feb.23] 15/Panama [Jun.19] 16/Philippines [Jun.21] 17/Senegal [Feb.21] 18/South Africa [Feb.23] 19/South Sudan[Jun.21] 20/Syria [Feb.10] 21/Tanzania [Oct.22] 22/Turcia [Oct.21] 23/Uganda [Feb.20] 24/United Arab Emirates [Feb.22] 25/Vietnam [Jun.23] 26/Yemen [Feb.10] <p>https://www.fatf-gafi.org/content/fatf-gafi/en/publications/Fatfgeneral/Increased-monitoring-june-2023.html</p> <p>https://www.fatf-gafi.org/content/fatf-gafi/en/publications/Fatfgeneral/Call-for-action-June-2023.html</p>
11	EU	<p>EU list of non-cooperative jurisdictions for tax purposes has been issued on [14/February/2023]</p> <p>The EU list of non-cooperative jurisdictions for tax purposes has been updated. The black list contains the following countries: 1/American Samoa; 2/Anguilla; 3/Bahamas; 4/British Virgin Islands(new); 5/Costa Rica(new); 6/Fiji; 7/Guam; 8/Marshall Islands(new); 9/Palau; 10/Panama; 11/Russia(new); 12/Samoa; 13/Trinidad and Tobago; 14/Turks and Caicos Islands; 15/US Virgin Islands; 16/Vanuatu. For the grey list see Annex II</p> <p>https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-6375-2023-INIT/en/pdf</p>
11	EU	<p>The EU high-risk third countries with strategic deficiencies list has been updated on [24/February/2023]</p> <p>The Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2016/1675 regarding high-risk third countries with strategic deficiencies has been updated by C.D.Reg. 2023/410 as follows: exit : Nicaragua, Pakistan & Zimbabwe, new entries: D.R.Congo, Gibraltar, Mozambique, Tanzania & United Arab Emirates.</p> <p>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32023R0410</p> <p>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32016R1675</p>
12	□	<p>Relevant information from credible and reliable organizations</p>
12	OCCRP	<p>[08/August/2023] Pakistan Sentences Former Prime Minister Imran Khan for Graft</p> <p>Pakistani police arrested the former Prime Minister of Pakistan, Imran Khan, in the eastern city of Lahore on Saturday after a court in Islamabad sentenced him to three years in prison for illegally selling state gifts. The 70-year-old former popular cricket star turned politician with a playboy past in London, was accused of misusing his powers from 2018 to 2022 as the premier by selling state gifts worth more than 140 million Pakistani rupees (cca US\$500,000). Imran Khan joins a list of former Pakistani leaders who have ended up facing court trials and incarceration in recent decades. Notable figures like Nawaz Sharif, Benazir Bhutto, Asif Ali Zardari, and Shahid Khaqan Abbasi have also spent time in jails.</p> <p>https://www.occrp.org/en/daily/17911-pakistan-sentences-former-prime-minister-imran-khan-for-graft</p>
12	Tax Justice Network	<p>[25/July/2023] World to lose \$4.7 trillion to tax havens over next decade unless UN tax convention adopted, countries warned</p> <p>Countries are on course to lose nearly US\$5 trillion in tax to multinational corporations and wealthy individuals using tax havens to underpay tax over the next 10 years, the Tax Justice Network warns. The future losses of public money would be equivalent to losing a year of worldwide spending on public health. Campaigners are urging countries to vote this winter in favour of beginning negotiations on a UN tax convention at the UN General Assembly to avert the astronomic losses.</p> <p>https://taxjustice.net/press/world-to-lose-4-7-trillion-to-tax-havens-over-next-decade-unless-un-tax-convention-adopted-countries-warned/</p>

12	Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime	<p>[24/July/2023] Cash is king - Impact of the Ukraine war on illicit financial flows in South Eastern Europe</p> <p>The primary goal of this report is to assess the major enablers and vulnerabilities of illicit finance in the eight Balkan countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia) after Russia's invasion of Ukraine. More concretely, the study aims to analyze the primary IFFs sources and channels in the region, and identify any emerging trends concerning modus operandi, routes, business models, use of information and communications technology. In addition, the study intends to inspect the pressing challenges to border control, police and anti-money laundering authorities to effectively prevent, investigate and counter organized crime involved in cash smuggling and money laundering.</p> <p>https://globalinitiative.net/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Vanya-Pretova-Cash-is-King-Impact-of-the-Ukraine-War-on-illicit-financial-flows-in-South-Eastern-Europe-GI-TOC-July-2023.pdf</p>
12	OCCRP	<p>[22/July/2023] US Sanctions Four Kyrgyz Companies for Evading Russian Sanctions</p> <p>Entities based in the Kyrgyz Republic have been frequent exporters of controlled electronics components and other technology to Russia since Russia began its full-scale invasion of Ukraine. All four sanctioned companies were registered in Kyrgyzstan soon after the beginning of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, and they all supply dual-use goods to Russia, including to firms that have supplied electronics to Russia-based defense companies. There were warning signs long before sanctions were finally introduced. Several Western diplomats visited the country to discuss concerns over its trade with Russia and the possibility of sanction evasions.</p> <p>https://www.occrp.org/en/daily/17865-us-sanctions-four-kyrgyz-companies-for-evading-russian-sanctions</p>
12	Elliptic	<p>[21/July/2023] Crypto and the Global Fentanyl Trade</p> <p>The investigation in this report set out with the aim of further understanding the illicit fentanyl trade and the role of crypto within it. Throughout this report, the geographic attributes and role of cryptoassets are detailed with a number of case study examples. The report also consider the role of dark web markets as an income source to suppliers, despite many exclusively banning the trade of fentanyl.</p> <p>https://www.elliptic.co/hubfs/Elliptic_Report_Crypto%20and%20the%20Global%20Fentanyl%20Trade.pdf</p>
12	Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime	<p>[20/July/2023] Illicit economies and the UN Security Council</p> <p>The Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime (GI-TOC) researches the political economy of organized crime in many countries, including those on the United Nations Security Council's agenda.</p> <p>https://globalinitiative.net/analysis/illicit-economies-unsc/</p>
12	Global Financial Integrity	<p>[19/July/2023] Trade Based Money Laundering in Uganda</p> <p>The joint publication, titled "Trade-Based Money Laundering in Uganda" provides an overview of sectors that are particularly susceptible to TBML, including but not limited to import and export, the extractive industry, and the agricultural sector. By uncovering these vulnerabilities, the report aims to enhance understanding and awareness among stakeholders, policymakers, and law enforcement agencies.</p> <p>https://gfintegrity.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/TRADE-BASED-MONEY-LAUNDERING-TBML-IN-UGANDA-19TH-2023.pdf</p>
12	Global Initiative	<p>[15/July/202] Challenges in international law enforcement cooperation in wildlife crime in Asia and Africa</p> <p>The consequences of wildlife trafficking go beyond the threat it poses to ecological integrity and the survival of many wild species. Wildlife trafficking is also a public health threat, through its role in the emergence of zoonotic pathogens, and a national and local security threat, generating revenues for organized criminal groups and militias, and contributing to the breakdown in rule of law that exacerbates local conflict and undermines livelihoods.</p> <p>https://globalinitiative.net/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Alastair-MacBeath-and-Julia-Stanyard-Uniting-the-response-GI-TOC-July-2023.pdf</p>
13	<input type="checkbox"/>	Information from statistical organizations and academia & others
14	<input type="checkbox"/>	Relevant information on ML/FT risks from mass - media

14	Mass-media	<p>[14/August/2023] SkyCity targets \$90m hit to its bottom line in the wake of AUSTRAC civil action</p> <p>Adelaide Casino operator SkyCity Entertainment Group has factored a financial hit of more than \$90 million to bottom line in the expected fallout from civil proceedings launched by the Australian financial crimes watchdog late last year. The New Zealand-headquartered casino group has decided to write down the value of its Adelaide casino licence by \$45.6 million and has made provisions for a \$45 million penalty from the civil action brought by AUSTRAC (Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre). The company notes that while its provision of \$45 million for the FY23 accounts is an estimate, the actual figure could be 'significantly higher or lower' than this. SkyCity, like its interstate counterparts Crown Resorts and The Star Entertainment Group, is alleged to have fallen foul of its obligations under anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing (AML/CTF) laws, leading AUSTRAC to launch civil action against the company in the Federal Court last December.</p> <p>https://www.businessnewsaustralia.com/articles/skycity-targets--90m-hit-to-its-bottom-line-in-the-wake-of-austrac-civil-action.html</p>
14	Mass-media	<p>[11/August/2023] Preliminary audit report slams Lebanon central bank, governor</p> <p>A preliminary forensic audit of Lebanon's central bank by professional services firm Alvarez & Marsal (A&M) has painted a damning picture of the institution under long-serving former governor Riad Salameh. A&M's preliminary audit report said "there is evidence of the payment of illegitimate commissions during the period totalling \$111 million". "This appears to be a continuation of the commission scheme under investigation by Lebanese and international prosecuting authorities," the report said. "We have identified no records to confirm that a service was actually performed to justify the commission payments," it added.</p> <p>https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20230811-preliminary-audit-report-slams-lebanon-central-bank-governor</p>
14	Mass-media	<p>[11/August/2023] Dutch lender De Volksbank faces fine over money laundering safeguards</p> <p>De Volksbank's systems to prevent money laundering have been deemed insufficient by the Dutch central bank (DNB) and it will likely face a fine, the Dutch state-owned bank said on Friday. The bank, which incorporates several smaller Dutch banks such as SNS and ASN, disclosed the findings along with its first-half results. "We regret that we were not able to fulfil our gate watcher role with respect to client integrity and that we are at this moment in violation of certain legal obligations with respect to money laundering" laws, Chairman Martijn Gribnau said in a statement. The bank said it was working to make changes required by the DNB before April 1.</p> <p>https://www.reuters.com/business/finance/dutch-lender-de-volksbank-faces-fine-over-money-laundering-safeguards-2023-08-11/</p>
14	Mass-media	<p>[10/August/2023] US set to unveil long-awaited crackdown on real estate money laundering</p> <p>The U.S. Treasury Department will soon propose a rule that would effectively end anonymous luxury-home purchases, closing a loophole that the agency says allows corrupt oligarchs, terrorists and other criminals to hide ill-gotten gains. The long-awaited rule is expected to require that real estate professionals such as title insurers report the identities of the beneficial owners of companies buying real estate in cash to the Treasury's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN). Criminals have for decades anonymously hidden ill-gotten gains in real estate, Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen said in March, adding that as much as \$2.3 billion was laundered through U.S. real estate between 2015 and 2020.</p> <p>https://www.reuters.com/world/us/us-set-unveil-long-awaited-crackdown-real-estate-money-laundering-2023-08-10/</p>
14	Mass-media	<p>[08/August/2023] TransferGo hit with €310,000 fine from Bank of Lithuania for AML failings</p> <p>Electronic money institution UAB TransferGo Lithuania has landed a €310,000 fine from the Bank of Lithuania after the central bank deemed the firm "violated the requirements of the Republic of Lithuania Law on the Prevention of Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing". The country's central bank says it unearthed deficiencies in how the firm identified, assessed and managed money laundering and terrorist financing risks.</p> <p>https://www.fintechfutures.com/2023/08/transfergo-hit-with-e310000-fine-from-bank-of-lithuania-for-aml-failings/</p>
14	Mass-media	<p>[09/August/2023] Siemens cooperating with Austrian authorities in corruption probe</p> <p>Siemens is cooperating with authorities in Austria on an investigation into allegations of possible corruption related to hospital building contracts. Several people are being investigated for serious fraud, the prosecutor's office in Feldkirch said, adding that the sums involved are believed to be less than 10 million euros (\$10.99 million). Siemens said the investigation was based on information the company had provided to the public prosecutor's office in the course of an ongoing compliance investigation.</p> <p>https://uk.finance.yahoo.com/news/siemens-cooperating-austrian-authorities-corruption-064354615.html</p>

14	Mass-media	<p>[03/August/2023] 'Bitcoin Bonnie and Clyde' plead guilty to money laundering</p> <p>A husband and wife, whose eccentricities and alleged crimes earned them the nickname "Bitcoin Bonnie and Clyde," pleaded guilty to orchestrating a \$4.5 billion money-laundering scheme linked to the 2016 hack of crypto exchange Bitfinex. The couple, Russian-born tech entrepreneur Ilya Lichtenstein and Heather Morgan, an aspiring rapper who goes by the alias "Razzlekhan," were arrested in 2022 in what the Justice Department called its "largest financial seizure ever."</p> <p>https://edition.cnn.com/2023/08/03/investing/crypto-couple-plead-guilty/index.html</p>
14	Mass-media	<p>[31/July/2023] Bendigo Bank Eliminates Payments To Cryptocurrency Service Providers</p> <p>In a pioneering move to enhance customer security, Australia's Bendigo Bank has established itself as the latest domestic banking giant to implement restrictions on "high-risk crypto payments." This unprecedented decision is framed as a response to the escalating concerns about investment fraud. The methodology by which Bendigo Bank discerns these high-risk transactions remains a secret. Although the bank acknowledges using "a combination of factors," it has chosen to remain silent on the specifics. Additionally, it has yet to disclose which crypto exchanges might be impacted by these new measures. This new shift in policy from Bendigo Bank is not an isolated incident. It follows similar measures undertaken by three of Australia's "Big Four" banks – Commonwealth Bank, National Australia Bank (NAB), and Westpac – over the recent months.</p> <p>https://cryptomode.com/bendigo-bank-eliminates-payments-to-cryptocurrency-service-providers/</p>
14	Mass-media	<p>[30/July/2023] SEC Chief Unleashes Fury On Crypto Industry, Says It's 'Rife With Fraud'</p> <p>Gary Gensler, the chairman of the US Securities and Exchange Commission, continues to express deep concerns about the cryptocurrency sector and its lack of regulatory oversight. In an interview, Gensler once again criticized cryptocurrencies' decentralized nature, making it a headache of sorts for the SEC to enforce regulations and protect investors effectively. Gensler's primary message to investors is clear: be cautious when dealing with cryptocurrencies. He highlighted the prevalence of fraud and unscrupulous actors in the crypto market, describing it as "rife with fraud" and "hucksters."</p> <p>https://bitcoinist.com/sec-chief-unleashes-fury-on-crypto/</p>
14	Mass-media	<p>[27/July/2023] More than £36m in UK property seized in Riad Salameh money laundering probe</p> <p>France requested the seizure of £36.5 million worth of UK real estate from Lebanon's central bank governor, accused of syphoning off \$330 million from his financially stricken country</p> <p>https://www.thenationalnews.com/mena/lebanon/2023/07/27/riad-salemech-uk-property-seized/</p>
14	Mass-media	<p>[27/July/2023] Six banks fined huge Rs 350 million by Pakistan State Bank</p> <p>Penalties of Rs. 350.7 million were levied by the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) on six major commercial banks between April and June of 2023. The financial watchdog noted in its quarterly enforcement order that these institutions had been discovered to be in violation of regulatory requirements pertaining to customer due diligence and know your customer, anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism, foreign exchange, and general banking operations.</p> <p>https://techx.pk/six-banks-fined-huge-rs-350-million-pakistan-state-bank/</p>
14	Mass-media	<p>[26/July/2023] Nicaraguan Government Freezes Catholic Church's Accounts On Money Laundering Accusations</p> <p>The police reported that they found "hundreds of thousands of dollars" in Church facilities across the country. The police also stated that their investigations "confirmed the unlawful removal of resources from bank accounts that had been ordered by law to be frozen." Within the police statement released about the issue, they claim that the bank accounts being frozen were linked to religious figures convicted of treason and other crimes, and that investigators have confirmed that the money entered the country irregularly. On the opposing side, Cardinal Leopoldo Brenes stated that they are, "analyzing the situation" and that the bishops will meet and later provide more information.</p> <p>https://theowp.org/nicaraguan-government-freezes-catholic-churchs-accounts-on-money-laundering-accusations/</p>

14	Mass-media	<p>[26/July/2023] Puerto Rican bank sues NY Fed for suspending account in Venezuela-linked crackdown</p> <p>The New York Federal Reserve was sued on Tuesday by a Puerto Rican bank that said its access to the U.S. central banking system could be improperly cut off following a federal crackdown on banks with links to Venezuela. Banco San Juan Internacional (BSJI) said in a complaint in Manhattan federal court that the Fed's New York branch informed the bank earlier this year that its "master account" - which lets banks access the Fed's electronic payment systems - would be terminated due to concerns about its compliance with U.S. sanctions and anti-money laundering rules.</p> <p>https://uk.sports.yahoo.com/news/puerto-rican-bank-sues-ny-232514317.html</p>
14	Mass-media	<p>[24/July/2023] Actress Isabelle Adjani, who was named in the Panama Papers, to be tried for tax evasion</p> <p>French actress Isabelle Adjani is facing tax fraud and money laundering charges partly tied to Panama Papers revelations. The star, who reportedly denies any wrongdoing, will be tried in Paris in October. She has been called to appear in court on Oct. 19. Judicial sources told French media that Adjani, 68, is accused of separate financial crimes. In the first instance, she is alleged to have received a donation of two million euros from a Senegalese businessman, Mamadou Diagna Ndiaye, "under the guise of a loan." This is said to have enabled Ndiaye, who is also an Olympic official, to evade transfer duties. In the second, she is accused of passing 119,000 euros to an unknown beneficiary via an offshore company in 2014. Adjani was revealed to be a shareholder of the offshore company, Deckert Investments Limited, by the 2016 Panama Papers investigation. Based on that information, France's National Financial Prosecutor's Office reportedly opened its investigation into her at the end of 2016.</p> <p>https://www.icij.org/investigations/panama-papers/actress-isabelle-adjani-who-was-named-in-the-panama-papers-to-be-tried-for-tax-evasion/</p>
14	Mass-media	<p>[23/July/2023] Maldives transit point for shipments circumventing sanctions against Russia</p> <p>Maldives is a transit point for shipments that circumvent sanctions against Russia, Nikkei Asia reported, adding that it includes shipments of US-made semiconductors to Russia. Approximately 400,000 US-made semiconductors, worth a total of USD 53.6 million, were shipped to Russia via the Maldives, in the year after Russia invaded Ukraine, as per Russian customs clearance data obtained from the Indian research firm Export Genius and analyzed by Nikkei. The records analyzed covered shipments valued at over USD 50,000 (approximately seven million yen) each. The Maldives was second only to China, including Hong Kong, in terms of such imports in the year after the invasion. Records for the year before the invasion covering transactions of the same minimum value show no such shipments of chips from the Maldives to Russia, according to Nikkei Asia.</p> <p>https://timesofoman.com/article/133826-maldives-transit-point-for-shipments-circumventing-sanctions-against-russia</p>
14	Mass-media	<p>[19/July/2023] U.S. sanctions 14 Iraqi banks in crackdown on Iran dollar trade - WSJ</p> <p>The United States has barred 14 Iraqi banks from conducting dollar transactions. The ban, which was imposed by the Treasury Department and the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, is part of a crackdown on the siphoning of U.S. currency to Iran, the report added. The United States uncovered information that the Iraqi banks engaged in money laundering and fraudulent transactions, some of which may have involved sanctioned individuals and raised concerns that Iran could benefit.</p> <p>https://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/reuters/u-s--sanctions-14-iraqi-banks-in-crackdown-on-iran-dollar-trade---wsj/48674524</p>
14	Mass-media	<p>[18/July/2023] Man arrested for dodging sanctions against Russia</p> <p>Police have arrested a 41-year-old man from Ettenleur for dodging trade sanctions against Russia by selling computers via third countries. "Considerable numbers" of computers and computer parts had been shipped to Russia via Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Mongolia, Turkey, Kyrgyzstan, and the United Arab Emirates, officials found.</p> <p>https://www.dutchnews.nl/2023/07/man-arrested-for-dodging-sanctions-against-russia/</p>
14	Mass-media	<p>[18/July/2023] Betfred to pay £3.25m for social responsibility and anti-money laundering failures</p> <p>Betfred has been told to pay £3.25 million by the industry regulator after an investigation revealed social responsibility and anti-money laundering failures. The Gambling Commission said Betfred, registered as Done Bros (Cash Betting) Limited, breached licence conditions between January 2021 and December 2022. The firm runs 1,750 high street betting shops, as well as a website and an app. Anti-money laundering failures included poor record-keeping and failing to consistently obtain appropriate "know your customer" identification and "source of funds" documentation from customers.</p> <p>https://www.largsandmillportnews.com/news/national/23663187.betfred-pay-3-25m-social-responsibility-anti-money-laundering-failures/</p>

14	Mass-media	<p>[17/July/2023] Russia seizes control of Danone, Carlsberg assets</p> <p>Moscow has seized control of the Russian subsidiaries of French yogurt maker Danone and Danish brewer Carlsberg, highlighting risks facing foreign firms that continue to do business in the country. In a decree signed by Russian President Vladimir Putin Sunday, foreign-owned stakes in Danone's Russia business, and Carlsberg's stake in local brewer Baltika were put under the "temporary management" of Russia's federal property agency. The decision follows a decree Putin signed in April that allows the government to place foreign assets in the country under its temporary control if Russian assets abroad are seized or threatened.</p> <p>https://edition.cnn.com/2023/07/17/business/russia-danone-carlsberg-control/index.html</p>
14	Mass-media	<p>[17/July/2023] German watchdog extends measures at N26 to prevent money laundering</p> <p>German financial regulator BaFin said it had extended its measures in place with online bank N26 to prevent money laundering, the latest episode of stepped-up scrutiny of one of Europe's most valuable fintechs. Constraints since 2021 that have now been extended include a special monitor at the bank and a limit on new customers at 50,000 per month. BaFin said that despite "some progress, the institution still has deficiencies in its systems". N26 said that it has made "made significant investments in anti-money laundering measures" and is "committed to comply with all aspects of the order as quickly as possible". N26, which reports more than 8 million customers, says it does business in 24 countries, mainly in Europe.</p> <p>https://www.reuters.com/business/finance/german-watchdog-bafin-extends-measures-n26-prevent-money-laundering-2023-07-17/</p>
14	Mass-media	<p>[15/July/2023] Bank of America Faces Scrutiny After Coinbase User Alleges the Bank Closed His Account Over Bitcoin Transactions</p> <p>Bank of America (BOFA) came under scrutiny when Muneeb Ali, co-founder of Stacks, a Bitcoin layer for smart contracts, revealed on Twitter that the bank unexpectedly closed his bank account, which he had been using for 15 years, without giving a reason. He strongly suspects that the closure was due to him using the bank account for bitcoin transactions through Coinbase. "This is a war on bitcoin & crypto," he tweeted. Coinbase CEO Brian Armstrong responded to the tweet, asking if other Bank of America customers have encountered similar issues. "If so, not ok," the Coinbase boss tweeted. He subsequently conducted a Twitter poll, inquiring whether Bank of America had closed the accounts of any other individuals due to their transactions with his crypto exchange. The poll closed with 16,701 votes, 8.9% of which said yes while 19.3% said no.</p> <p>https://news.bitcoin.com/bank-of-america-faces-scrutiny-after-coinbase-user-alleges-the-bank-closed-his-account-over-bitcoin-transactions/</p>
14	Mass-media	<p>[15/July/2023] UAE suspends Emirates Gold over money laundering allegations</p> <p>The United Arab Emirates suspended the license of a major gold refinery in the country over suspected money laundering ties. Emirates Gold DMCC was suspended on July 7 from the UAE's Good Delivery List, according to the government entity's website. The Bullion Committee, which is chaired by the Ministry of Economy, removed the refinery due to concerns that its owners were connected to alleged money launderers. On Friday, the London Bullion Market Association, which regulates the United Kingdom capital's metals market, suspended Emirates Gold DMCC's affiliate membership after conducting a review. Two of the ultimate beneficial owners of Emirates Gold are relatives of Zimbabwean businessmen Simon Rudland and Howard Baker.</p> <p>https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2023/07/uae-suspends-emirates-gold-over-money-laundering-allegations</p>
14	Mass-media	<p>[15/July/2023] BNP Paribas Fortis receives €15 million fine for breaching anti-money laundering policies</p> <p>The Belgian National Bank's Sanction Committee gave a €15 million fine to BNP Paribas Fortis for breaches of anti-money laundering legislation. The National Bank conducted an investigation into the Belgian subsidiary of BNP Paribas and found that insufficient measures were implemented to combat money laundering between 2014 and 2019. BNP Paribas Fortis, Belgium's largest bank, had failed to develop effective internal control policies and had a poor verification process for customers trading in precious metals. According to a statement from BNP Paribas Fortis, the investigation by the NBB related to a period prior to June 2019 and the "reported shortcomings have since been resolved".</p> <p>https://www.brusselstimes.com/595836/bnp-paribas-fortis-receives-e15-million-fine-due-to-anti-money-laundering-policies</p>
15	□	Legislative changes

15

UK

[20/July/2023] Unfair bank account closures

Banks will be forced to explain and delay any decision to close an account under new rules, protecting freedom of expression.

The government has stepped in to address fears that banks are terminating accounts because they disagree with someone's political beliefs.

The changes will increase the notice period to 90 days – giving customers more time to challenge a decision through the Financial Ombudsman Service, or find a replacement bank.

Banks will also be required to spell out why they are terminating a bank account – boosting transparency for customers and aiding their efforts to overturn decisions.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-clamps-down-on-unfair-bank-account-closures>

*) Note: all property and interests in property of the designated individuals and entities that are in the United States or in the possession or control of U.S. persons must be blocked and reported to OFAC. In addition, any entities that are owned, directly or indirectly, 50 percent or more by one or more blocked persons are also blocked. OFAC's regulations generally prohibit all dealings by U.S. persons or within the United States (including transactions transiting the United States) that involve any property or interests in property of designated or otherwise blocked persons.

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