
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2020 No. 707

The Iraq (Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020

PART 5

Exceptions and licences

Finance: exceptions from prohibitions

30.—(1) The prohibitions in regulations 8 and 9 (partial asset-freeze and asset-freeze) are not contravened by an independent person (“P”) transferring to another person a legal or equitable interest in funds or economic resources where, immediately before the transfer, the interest—

- (a) is held by P, and
- (b) is not held jointly with the designated person.

(2) In paragraph (1) “independent person” means a person who—

- (a) is not the designated person, and
- (b) is not owned or controlled directly or indirectly (within the meaning of regulation 7) by the designated person.

(3) The prohibitions in regulation 8 (partial asset-freeze) and regulations 9 to 11 (asset-freeze in relation to, and making funds available to, or for the benefit of, persons connected with the former Iraqi regime) are not contravened by a relevant institution crediting a frozen account or a relevant account with interest or other earnings due on the account.

(4) The prohibitions in regulations 10 and 11 (making funds available to, or for the benefit of, persons connected with the former Iraqi regime) are not contravened by a relevant institution crediting a frozen account where it receives funds transferred to that institution for crediting to that account.

(5) The prohibitions in regulations 10 and 11 are not contravened by the transfer of funds to a relevant institution for crediting to an account held or controlled (directly or indirectly) by a designated person, where those funds are transferred in discharge (or partial discharge) of an obligation which arose before the date on which the person became a designated person.

(6) The prohibitions in regulations 8 to 11 are not contravened in relation to a designated person (“P”) by a transfer of funds from account A to account B, where—

- (a) account A is with a relevant institution which carries on an excluded activity within the meaning of section 142D of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 ^{M1},
- (b) account B is with a ring-fenced body within the meaning of section 142A of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 ^{M2}, and
- (c) accounts A and B are held or controlled (directly or indirectly) by P.

(7) In this regulation—

“designated person” has the same meaning as it has in regulation 6(1) or (2);

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“frozen account” means an account with a relevant institution which is held or controlled (directly or indirectly) by a designated person within the meaning of regulation 6(2);

“relevant account” means an account with a relevant institution which—

- (a) is held or controlled (directly or indirectly) by a designated person within the meaning of regulation 6(1), and
- (b) which contains “relevant funds or economic resources” within the meaning given to these terms in regulation 8(4);

“relevant institution” means a person that has permission under Part 4A of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 ^{M3} (Permission to carry on regulated activities).

(8) The definition of “relevant institution” in paragraph (7) is to be read with section 22 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 ^{M4}, any relevant order under that section ^{M5} and Schedule 2 to that Act ^{M6}.

Commencement Information

- I1** Reg. 30 not in force at made date, see [reg. 1\(2\)](#)
- I2** [Reg. 30](#) in force at 31.12.2020 by [S.I. 2020/1514](#), [reg. 14\(2\)](#)

Marginal Citations

- M1** 2000 c.8. Section 142D was inserted by the [Financial Services \(Banking Reform\) Act 2013 \(c.33\)](#), [section 4\(1\)](#).
- M2** [Section 142A](#) was inserted by the [Financial Services \(Banking Reform\) Act 2013](#), [section 4\(1\)](#).
- M3** [Part 4A](#) was inserted by the [Financial Services Act 2012 \(c.21\)](#), [section 11\(2\)](#) and most recently amended by [S.I. 2018/546](#); it is prospectively amended by [S.I. 2019/632](#).
- M4** [Section 22](#) was amended by the [Financial Guidance and Claims Act 2018 \(c.10\)](#), [section 27\(4\)](#); the [Financial Services Act 2012 \(c.21\)](#), [section 7\(1\)](#); and [S.I. 2018/135](#).
- M5** [S.I. 2001/544](#), as most recently amended by [S.I. 2019/679](#); [S.I. 2020/117](#); and [S.I. 2020/480](#); and it is prospectively amended by [S.I. 2018/1149](#); [S.I. 2108/1403](#); [S.I. 2019/632](#); [S.I. 2019/660](#); [S.I. 2019/710](#); and [S.I. 2019/1361](#).
- M6** [Schedule 2](#) was amended by the [Regulation of Financial Services \(Land Transactions\) Act 2005 \(c.24\)](#), [section 1](#); the [Dormant Bank and Building Society Accounts Act 2008 \(c.31\)](#), [section 15](#) and [Schedule 2](#), paragraph 1; the [Financial Services Act 2012](#), sections 7(2) to (5) and 8; the [Financial Guidance and Claims Act 2018](#), [section 27\(13\)](#); [S.I. 2013/1881](#); [S.I. 2018/135](#); and it is prospectively amended by [S.I. 2019/632](#).

[^{F1}Finance: humanitarian exception

30A.—(1) The prohibitions in regulations 8 to 13 (partial asset-freeze and asset-freeze etc.) are not contravened by a person (“P”) carrying out a relevant activity which is necessary—

- (a) to ensure the timely delivery of humanitarian assistance, or
- (b) to support other activities that support basic human needs,

where Conditions A and B are met.

(2) Condition A is that the humanitarian assistance or other activities mentioned in paragraph (1) are carried out by—

- (a) the United Nations, including its—
 - (i) programmes and funds,
 - (ii) other entities and bodies, and

- (iii) specialised agencies and related organisations,
 - (b) international organisations,
 - (c) humanitarian organisations having observer status with the United Nations General Assembly and members of those humanitarian organisations,
 - (d) bilaterally or multilaterally funded non-governmental organisations participating in the United Nations Humanitarian Response Plans, Refugee Response Plans, other United Nations appeals, or humanitarian clusters coordinated by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs,
 - (e) any grantee, subsidiary, or implementing partner of any organisation falling within subparagraphs (a) to (d) while and to the extent that they are acting in those capacities,
 - (f) any other persons authorised by the Committee for the purposes of resolution 2664.
- (3) Condition B is that P believes that carrying out the relevant activity is so necessary and there is no reasonable cause for P to suspect otherwise.
- (4) For the purposes of this regulation—
- “relevant activity” means any activity which would, in the absence of this regulation, contravene the prohibitions in regulations 8 to 13;
- “resolution 2664” means resolution 2664 (2022) adopted by the Security Council on 9th December 2022.]

Textual Amendments

- F1** [Reg. 30A](#) inserted (9.2.2023) by [The Sanctions \(Humanitarian Exception\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/121\)](#), [regs. 1\(2\)](#), [11\(2\)](#)

Finance: exceptions for return of frozen funds to Iraq

31. The prohibitions in regulations 8 to 13 (partial asset-freeze and asset-freeze etc.) are not contravened by anything done in connection with the transfer of funds or economic resources owned, held or controlled by a designated person (within the meaning of regulation 6(1) or (2)) to the successor account to the Development Fund for Iraq put in place by the Government of Iraq under the conditions set out in resolution 1483 and resolution 1956.

Commencement Information

- I3** [Reg. 31](#) not in force at made date, see [reg. 1\(2\)](#)
- I4** [Reg. 31](#) in force at 31.12.2020 by [S.I. 2020/1514](#), [reg. 14\(2\)](#)

Trade: exception for the return of Iraqi cultural property

32. The prohibitions in Chapter 3 of Part 4 (Trade: illegally removed Iraqi cultural property) are not contravened by any thing done to facilitate the safe return of items to Iraqi institutions in accordance with the objectives of paragraph 7 of resolution 1483.

Commencement Information

- I5** [Reg. 32](#) not in force at made date, see [reg. 1\(2\)](#)
- I6** [Reg. 32](#) in force at 31.12.2020 by [S.I. 2020/1514](#), [reg. 14\(2\)](#)

Exception for authorised conduct in a relevant country

33.—(1) Where a person's conduct in a relevant country would, in the absence of this regulation, contravene a prohibition in any of regulations 8 to 13 (partial asset-freeze and asset-freeze etc.) or Chapters 2 and 3 of Part 4 (Trade) (“the relevant prohibition”), the relevant prohibition is not contravened if the conduct is authorised by a licence or other authorisation which is issued—

- (a) under the law of the relevant country, and
- (b) for the purpose of disapplying a prohibition in that jurisdiction which corresponds to the relevant prohibition.

(2) In this regulation, “relevant country” means—

- (a) any of the Channel Islands,
- (b) the Isle of Man, or
- (c) any British overseas territory.

(3) Nothing in this regulation affects the application of a prohibition in a case where it would be incompatible with a UN obligation for the prohibition not to apply.

Commencement Information

- 17** Reg. 33 not in force at made date, see [reg. 1\(2\)](#)
- 18** [Reg. 33](#) in force at 31.12.2020 by [S.I. 2020/1514](#), [reg. 14\(2\)](#)

Exception for acts done for purposes of national security or prevention of serious crime

34.—(1) Where an act would, in the absence of this paragraph, be prohibited by any prohibition in Part 3 (Finance) or 4 (Trade), that prohibition does not apply to the act if the act is one which a responsible officer has determined would be in the interests of—

- (a) national security, or
- (b) the prevention or detection of serious crime in the United Kingdom or elsewhere.

(2) Where, in the absence of this paragraph, a thing would be required to be done under or by virtue of a provision of Part 6 (Information and records) or Part 8 (Maritime enforcement), that requirement does not apply if a responsible officer has determined that not doing the thing in question would be in the interests of—

- (a) national security, or
- (b) the prevention or detection of serious crime in the United Kingdom or elsewhere.

(3) In this regulation “responsible officer” means a person in the service of the Crown or holding office under the Crown, acting in the course of that person's duty.

(4) Nothing in this regulation affects the application of a prohibition or requirement in a case where it would be incompatible with a UN obligation for the prohibition or requirement not to apply.

Commencement Information

- 19** Reg. 34 not in force at made date, see [reg. 1\(2\)](#)
- 110** [Reg. 34](#) in force at 31.12.2020 by [S.I. 2020/1514](#), [reg. 14\(2\)](#)

Treasury licences

35.—(1) The prohibitions in regulations 8 to 13 (partial asset-freeze and asset-freeze etc.) do not apply to anything done under the authority of a licence issued by the Treasury under this paragraph.

(2) The Treasury may issue a licence which authorises acts in relation to a designated person which would otherwise be prohibited by regulation 8 or 9 (partial asset-freeze and asset-freeze) only where the Treasury considers that it is appropriate to issue the licence for the purpose set out in Part 2 of Schedule 2.

(3) The Treasury may issue a licence which authorises acts in relation to a designated person which would otherwise be prohibited by regulations 10 to 13 (making funds or economic resources available to, or for the benefit of, persons connected with the former Iraqi regime) only where the Treasury considers that it is appropriate to issue the licence for a purpose set out in Part 3 of Schedule 2.

[^{F2}(4) In this regulation, “designated person” has the same meaning as it has in regulation 6(1) or (2)]

Textual Amendments

F2 Reg. 35(4) inserted (9.8.2022) by The Sanctions (EU Exit) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2022 (S.I. 2022/819), regs. 1(2), 12(2)

Commencement Information

I11 Reg. 35 not in force at made date, see reg. 1(2)

I12 Reg. 35 in force at 31.12.2020 by S.I. 2020/1514, reg. 14(2)

Trade licences

36. The prohibitions in Chapter 2 of Part 4 (Trade: military goods and military technology) do not apply to anything done under the authority of a licence issued by the Secretary of State under this regulation.

Commencement Information

I13 Reg. 36 not in force at made date, see reg. 1(2)

I14 Reg. 36 in force at 31.12.2020 by S.I. 2020/1514, reg. 14(2)

Licences: general provisions

37.—(1) This regulation applies in relation to Treasury licences and trade licences.

(2) A licence must specify the acts authorised by it.

(3) A licence may be general or may authorise acts by a particular person or persons of a particular description.

(4) A licence may —

- (a) contain conditions;
- (b) be of indefinite duration or a defined duration.

(5) A person who issues a licence may vary, revoke or suspend it at any time.

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(6) A person who issues, varies, revokes or suspends a licence which authorises acts by a particular person must give written notice to that person of the issue, variation, revocation or suspension of the licence.

(7) A person who issues, varies, revokes or suspends a general licence or a licence which authorises acts by persons of a particular description must take such steps as that person considers appropriate to publicise the issue, variation, revocation or suspension of the licence.

Commencement Information

I15 Reg. 37 not in force at made date, see [reg. 1\(2\)](#)

I16 [Reg. 37](#) in force at 31.12.2020 by [S.I. 2020/1514](#), [reg. 14\(2\)](#)

Finance: licensing offences

38.—(1) A person (“P”) commits an offence if P knowingly or recklessly—

(a) provides information that is false in a material respect, or

(b) provides or produces a document that is not what it purports to be,

for the purpose of obtaining a Treasury licence (whether for P or anyone else).

(2) A person who purports to act under the authority of a Treasury licence but who fails to comply with any condition of the licence commits an offence.

Commencement Information

I17 Reg. 38 not in force at made date, see [reg. 1\(2\)](#)

I18 [Reg. 38](#) in force at 31.12.2020 by [S.I. 2020/1514](#), [reg. 14\(2\)](#)

Trade: licensing offences

39.—(1) A person (“P”) commits an offence if P knowingly or recklessly—

(a) provides information that is false in a material respect, or

(b) provides or produces a document that is not what it purports to be,

for the purpose of obtaining a trade licence (whether for P or anyone else).

(2) A person who purports to act under the authority of a trade licence but who fails to comply with any condition of the licence commits an offence.

(3) A licence in respect of which an offence under paragraph (1) has been committed is to be treated as void from the time at which it was issued.

Commencement Information

I19 Reg. 39 not in force at made date, see [reg. 1\(2\)](#)

I20 [Reg. 39](#) in force at 31.12.2020 by [S.I. 2020/1514](#), [reg. 14\(2\)](#)

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Instrument associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Instrument (including any effects on those provisions):

- [reg. 55\(3A\)-\(3D\)](#) inserted by [S.I. 2024/644 reg. 12\(2\)](#)