
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2023 No. 1314

The Iran (Sanctions) Regulations 2023

PART 1

General

Citation, commencement and extent

- 1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Iran (Sanctions) Regulations 2023.
- (2) These Regulations come into force on 14th December 2023.
- (3) These Regulations extend to England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Interpretation

2. In these Regulations—

“the Act” means the Sanctions and Anti-Money Laundering Act 2018;

“armed group backed by the Government of Iran” includes any armed group which—

- (a) is being or has been armed, trained or funded by the Government of Iran,
- (b) is taking or has taken direction from the Government of Iran, or
- (c) is acting or has acted for the benefit of the Government of Iran;

“arrangement” includes any agreement, understanding, scheme, transaction or series of transactions, whether or not legally enforceable (but see paragraph 12 of Schedule 1 for the meaning of that term in that Schedule);

“CEMA” means the Customs and Excise Management Act 1979⁽¹⁾;

“the Commissioners” means the Commissioners for His Majesty’s Revenue and Customs;

“conduct” includes acts and omissions;

“director disqualification licence” means a licence under regulation 61;

“document” includes information recorded in any form and, in relation to information recorded otherwise than in legible form, references to its production include producing a copy of the information in legible form;

“the Dual-Use Regulation” means Council Regulation (EC) No 428/2009 of 5 May 2009 setting up a Community regime for the control of exports, transfer, brokering and transit of dual-use items;

“the Government of Iran” includes its public bodies, corporations or agencies, its armed forces or any person acting on its behalf or at its direction;

“serious human rights violation or abuse” means a serious violation or abuse of any of the human rights specified in regulation 4;

⁽¹⁾ 1979 c. 2. Amendments have been made to this Act and are cited, where relevant, in respect of the applicable regulations.

“trade licence” means a licence under regulation 62;

“Treasury licence” means a licence under regulation 60(1);

“United Kingdom person” has the same meaning as in section 21 of the Act.

Application of prohibitions and requirements outside the United Kingdom

3.—(1) A United Kingdom person may contravene a relevant prohibition by conduct wholly or partly outside the United Kingdom.

(2) Any person may contravene a relevant prohibition by conduct in the territorial sea.

(3) In this regulation a “relevant prohibition” means any prohibition imposed—

- (a) by regulation 11(2) or 13(2) (confidential information),
- (b) by Part 3 (Finance),
- (c) by Part 6 (Trade),
- (d) by or under Part 7 (Ships), or
- (e) by a condition of a Treasury licence or a trade licence.

(4) A United Kingdom person may comply, or fail to comply, with a relevant requirement by conduct wholly or partly outside the United Kingdom.

(5) Any person may comply, or fail to comply, with a relevant requirement by conduct in the territorial sea.

(6) In this regulation a “relevant requirement” means any requirement imposed—

- (a) by or under Part 9 (Information and records), or by reason of a request made under a power conferred by that Part,
- (b) by a condition of a Treasury licence or a trade licence, or
- (c) by a direction under regulation 48 (movement of ships).

(7) Nothing in this regulation is to be taken to prevent a relevant prohibition or a relevant requirement from applying to conduct (by any person) in the United Kingdom.

Purposes

4.—(1) The purposes of the regulations contained in this instrument that are made under section 1 of the Act are—

- (a) to encourage the Government of Iran to comply with international human rights law and to respect human rights, including in particular, to—
 - (i) respect the right to life of persons in Iran, for example by refraining from the execution of juvenile offenders in all circumstances;
 - (ii) respect the right of persons not to be subjected to torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment in Iran, including—
 - (aa) torture or other inhuman or degrading treatment with a view to extracting information from detained persons,
 - (bb) inhuman and degrading conditions in prisons, and
 - (cc) forms of punishment such as flogging and amputation;
 - (iii) respect the right to liberty and security, including refraining from the arbitrary arrest and detention of persons in Iran;
 - (iv) afford persons in Iran charged with criminal offences the right to a fair trial;

- (v) afford journalists, human rights defenders and other persons in Iran the right to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly;
 - (vi) secure the human rights of persons in Iran without discrimination, including on the basis of a person's sex, race, colour, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, association with a national minority, property, birth or other status;
- (b) to deter the Government of Iran or an armed group backed by the Government of Iran from conducting hostile activity against the United Kingdom or any other country.
- (2) For the purposes of paragraph (1)(b), "hostile activity" means activity falling within regulation 8(3).