

NAVIGATING EU/US/UK SANCTIONS AGAINST RUSSIA,

24 JUNE 2025

Objective

International sanctions laws are fast-moving and have wide-ranging ramifications for all areas of financial services, corporate service providers and the legal and financial industries generally - including potential criminal penalties for getting them wrong. In this session, we look at what you need to know about the EU sanctions regime, but also the key developments in the US and UK over the last year. We will draw together key global sanctions trends and look at how approaches are changing during President Trump's second term. The session will also work through some examples of common sanctions issues we see in practice.

Topics to be covered:

EU Sanctions Framework (Salomé Lemasson, Outer Temple Chambers)

- Overview and political context of EU sanctions
- Types of sanctions and the concept of EU Operators
- Rules on ownership, control, and asset freeze prohibitions
- Sectoral and professional service restrictions under Regulation 833/2014
- Challenges to EU sanctions and licensing issues
- Compliance strategies, red flags, and record-keeping obligations
- Implications of Directive 2024/1226 on criminal penalties

US Sanctions Framework (Josh Ray, Outer Temple Chambers)

- US approach and enforcement policies under OFAC
- Jurisdictional reach and key court cases (e.g., Bonham-Carter)
- Corporate structures, liquidators, and SDNs
- Contesting OFAC actions and securing awards

UK Sanctions Framework (Maggie Christiansen, Mishcon de Reya)

- Recent updates in UK sanctions policy and designations
- Role of the new regulator (OTSI) and enforcement trends
- Case law developments, including force majeure and control cases
- General and special licences under the UK regime

Case Study Discussion

- Cross-jurisdictional scenario involving banking compliance, licensing, and enforcement in the EU, UK, and US
- Interactive panel discussion with all speakers.

Participants' Profile:

This seminar is addressed to professionals involved in legal, compliance and regulatory functions in financial sector. It is particularly relevant for those working in banking, corporate services, investment and trust structures, and those advising on or overseeing AML/CFT and sanctions compliance. It also targets Regulators and Supervisory Authorities, and any practitioner dealing with cross-border transactions that may be impacted by EU, UK, or US sanctions against Russia.

Seminar – DETAILS:

Date: 24 June 2025 – Physical presence is required

Time: 9:15 am – 12:30 pm

Venue: CCCI building, 38 Grivas Dhigenis Ave. & 3 Deligiorgis Street, 1509 Nicosia

Language: English

Duration: 3 hours/CPD Units/Certificate awarded

Cost: €125.00 plus VAT

The webinar is not subsidized by HRDA

Participants are invited to submit any questions they may have for the speakers before the event, by June 20th, 2025.

REGISTRATION / CONTACT DETAILS

Please use the Registration Form

For more information and registrations please contact

Cyprus Institute of Financial Services (CIFS)

Phone: +35799515846 / +35799496452

Email: info@cifs.com.cy; elkoutpap@gmail.com;

Eleni.papadopoulou@cifs.com.cy

<https://www.cifs.com.cy/>

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Speakers:

Shaistah Akhtar

Shaistah is a Partner in the Commercial Dispute Resolution team at Mishcon de Reya. She also heads the Sanctions practice at the firm and is a recognised expert in this area, regularly contributing to the public and professional debate in print and radio (including The Times, The Financial Times, and the BBC). Her practice includes advising on sanctions involving Russia, Iran, the Middle East and North Africa, in addition to many other jurisdictions where sanctions are in operation, in both an advisory and contentious capacity. She has led internal investigations relating to alleged sanctions violations and advised on regulatory challenges involving sanctions in numerous sectors such as financial services, energy and commodities, including making reports to HM Treasury and OFAC. She has recently featured as The Times' 'Lawyer of the Week', was included in The Lawyer Hot 100 2024 and is also ranked as a leading individual in Legal 500.

Maggie Christiansen

Maggie is a Legal Director in the Commercial Dispute Resolution at Mishcon de Reya, being a specialist in the application and interpretation of the UK Sanctions Regulations. She regularly provides both contentious and non-contentious advice to clients in a wide spectrum of industry sectors, including oil and gas, insurance, funding, capital markets, corporate services and trusts, banking, shipping and logistics. Her instructions have covered the ever-evolving Russia Regulations, as well as those applying elsewhere including Iraq, Libya, Syria and Belarus, and often involve complex cross-jurisdictional issues. Maggie has recently assisted a BVI fund with obtaining a licence from OFSI to release funds frozen under the UK, US, BVI and Cypriot sanctions regimes, as well being instructed in an on-going dispute between Turkish shipowners and a UAE logistics firm which is anchored in sanctions issues. Maggie is ranked in Who's Who Legal as a "Rising Star".

Salomé Lemasson

Salomé Lemasson is a French qualified business crime lawyer, admitted to practice in France and Germany. She is a Professional Associate at Outer Temple Chambers. Splitting her time between Berlin, Paris and London, Salomé has extensive cross-border experience in complex international criminal matters and sanctions cases. Her practice focuses on representing top tier companies and high net worth individuals in sensitive, high stakes matters involving international sanctions advice and delisting (EU, UN), investigations by multilateral development banks (World Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development) and criminal proceedings into allegations of fraud, corruption and money laundering. As a seasoned and highly versatile lawyer, she has deep substantive knowledge of various countries' legal systems and regulatory regimes. She also serves as a board member of the European Criminal Bar Association.

Joshua Ray

Josh Ray is a dual-qualified American attorney and English barrister at Outer Temple Chambers in London. Josh is regularly engaged to advise international companies on UK and US sanctions and export control issues, especially those pertaining to Russia. His practice also involves representing businesses and individuals in cross-border commercial disputes, financial crime investigations, and arbitrations. Josh has acted for clients in connection with prosecutions and investigations brought by American and English regulators such as the DOJ, SFO, SEC, CFTC, OFAC, and OFSI. He is the author of *White-Collar Criminal Prosecutions in the US and UK*, a textbook published by the American Bar Association in 2022.