

How to trace complex forms of ownership and control of assets related to 'kleptocrats' and sanctioned entities

Training session

8 April 2024 – Online

h. 12:30 – 12:40 CET | Welcome and training objectives

Introduction of training objectives, agenda, speakers

Speakers: Michele Riccardi and Giovanni Nicolazzo, Transcrime – Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

1. Sanction tracing, asset ownership and control

12:50 – 13:10 CET | Fundamentals of sanctions and their impact

Exploration of EU and US OFAC sanction regimes, types, rationale, and impact on international relations and business operations, focusing on their use in foreign policy.

Speakers: Matthew Happold and Iryna Bogdanova, University of Luxembourg

13:10 – 13:30 CET | Sanctions and asset ownership and control

A discussion of the 'sanctioned by extension' principle and on the recent jurisprudence regarding definitions of ownership and control of assets related to sanctioned entities. Insights on legal interpretations and implications for asset control mechanisms.

Speaker: Matteo Anastasio, Transcrime – Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

13:30 – 13:50 CET | Coffee Break

13:50 – 14:20 CET | Interactive session to assess ownership and control

Hands-on exercises on applying ownership and control definitions and rules in practical scenarios. Enhancing understanding of sanction compliance and risk management.

Speaker: Giovanni Nicolazzo, Transcrime – Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

2. Latest trends and case studies on financial crime and sanction evasion

14:20 – 14:40 CET | European financial and economic crime threat assessment

Outline of the latest trends in financial and economic crime according to the Europol's European Financial and Economic Crime Threat Assessment (EFECTA).

Speaker: Orsolya Erdélyi, Europol

14:40 – 15:00 CET | European companies and sanctioned entities: a mapping

Mapping and analysis of European companies with ownership and control links with entities sanctioned as a consequence of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. An overview.

Speaker: Giovanni Nicolazzo, Transcrime – Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

15:00 – 15:45 CET | Case-studies of sanction evasion and sanction

circumvention: the perspective of national authorities

Case studies illustrating the use of complex ownership structures for financial crime and sanction evasion, with a focus on the challenges in investigating these complex schemes.

Speakers: Col. Roberto Ribaudò, Head of ARO, Ministero dell'Interno – Dipartimento della Pubblica Sicurezza, DCPC – Italy | Kārlis Līmežs, Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) – Latvia | Sergej Chaniutko, Financial Crime Investigation Service (FNTT) – Lithuania | Other authorities

15:45 – 16:15 | Case-studies of sanction evasion and sanction circumvention:

the perspective of investigative reporters

Case studies illustrating the use of complex ownership structures for concealing sanction evasion schemes. Challenges for investigative reporting

Speakers: Lorenzo Bagnoli, IRPI | Attila Biro, CONTEXT.RO

16:15 – 16:40 CET | Coffee Break

3. Data and tools

16:40 – 17:00 | Data on sanctions

Discussion of the role of open data in ensuring the tracing of sanctioned entities, related assets and for combating sanction circumvention.

Speaker: Friedrich Lindenberg, OpenSanctions

17:00 – 17:20 | Data and tools on asset control/ownership

Discussion of the variety of data and tools usable in this domain. Their benefits, limitations, accessibility and usability by authorities, private sectors, academics and journalists.

Speaker: Antonio Bosisio, Transcrime – Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

17:20 – 17:35 | Q&A and Open Discussion

All participants

17:35 – 17:45 | Closure of the meeting and key takeaways

Speakers: Michele Riccardi and Giovanni Nicolazzo, Transcrime – Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

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