

EU targets Russia's shadow fleet and China in its 15th sanctions package

For the first time, Chinese companies are sanctioned for their contribution to Russia's war in Ukraine, while the EU also targets another 52 ships from the shadow fleet.



Photo: Maxim Shemetov/Reuters/Ritzau Scanpix

by [DANIEL LOGAN BERG-MUNCH](#), RITZAU

16 December 2024 at 15:13

The EU has adopted the 15th package of sanctions against Russia, according to a press release from the Council of Ministers.

The decision was taken at a meeting of EU foreign ministers in Brussels on Monday.

The 15th sanctions package targets Russia's shadow tanker fleet and Chinese companies that produce drones for Russia.

The European Commission adds another 52 ships from the shadow fleet carrying sanctioned oil from Russia, bringing the total number of ships on the EU sanctions list to 79.

"These (non-EU) ships are subject to a port access ban and a ban on the provision of services. These ships have been found to be involved in high-risk shipping when transporting Russian oil or oil products, supplying weapons, stealing grain or supporting the Russian energy sector," the announcement of the new sanctions states.

NATO secretary general Mark Rutte has highlighted the increasingly close cooperation between Russia, China, Iran and North Korea.

As a result, North Korea now has soldiers directly involved in the fighting against Ukraine.

The challenge from China is particularly serious given its status as the world's second largest economy. China is therefore highly capable of supplying Russia with crucial equipment for the war in Russia.

(English edit by Kristoffer Grønbaek)