

**EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO
THE RUSSIA, CRIMEA AND SEVASTOPOL (SANCTIONS) (OVERSEAS
TERRITORIES) (AMENDMENT) ORDER 2015**

2015 No. 213

1. This Explanatory Memorandum has been prepared by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and is laid before Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

2. Purpose of the instrument

2.1 This Order amends the Russia, Crimea and Sevastopol (Sanctions)(Overseas Territories) Order 2014 (S.I. 2014/2710 as amended by S.I. 2014/2919).

2.2 This Order gives effect in specified Overseas Territories to provisions specified in Council Decision 2014/872/CFSP of 4 December 2014, which amends certain restrictive measures imposed on Russia by Council Decision 2014/512/CFSP of 23 June 2014, as amended by EU Council Decision 2014/659/CFSP of 8 September 2014.

2.3 In addition, this Order gives effect in specified Overseas Territories to further sanctions imposed on Crimea and Sevastopol by Council Decision 2014/933/CFSP of 18 December 2014, which amends Council Decision 2014/386/CFSP of 23 June 2014.

3. Matters of special interest to the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments

None

4. Legislative Context

4.1 This Order is made in exercise of statutory powers under the Saint Helena Act 1833, the British Settlements Acts 1887 and 1945 and the legislative power of the Royal Prerogative.

4.2 The statutory and prerogative powers to legislate for the Overseas Territories, to implement sanctions measures, are applicable to the Overseas Territories as follows:

(i) the Saint Helena Act 1833 applies to St Helena;

(ii) the British Settlements Acts 1887 and 1945 are applicable to Ascension and Tristan da Cunha, British Antarctic Territory, the Falkland Islands, Pitcairn (including Henderson, Ducie and Oeno Islands), and South Georgia and the South Sandwich islands);

(iii) the prerogative legislative power is applicable to Anguilla, British Indian Ocean Territory, Cayman Islands, Montserrat, the Sovereign Base Areas of Akrotiri and Dhekelia, Turks and Caicos Islands, and the Virgin Islands.

5. Territorial Extent and Application

This Order applies to the following territories: Anguilla, British Antarctic Territory, British Indian Ocean Territory, Cayman Islands, the Falkland Islands, Montserrat, Pitcairn (including Henderson, Ducie and Oeno Islands), St Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands, the Sovereign Base Areas of Akrotiri and Dhekelia, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the Virgin Islands. Bermuda legislates separately to apply the EU sanctions. These measures are implemented in Gibraltar by Council Regulation (EU) No. 833/2014, as amended, Council Regulation (EU) 692/2014 and local legislation.

6. European Convention on Human Rights

As this Order is not subject to Parliamentary procedure and does not amend primary legislation, no statement is required.

7. Policy background

In response to the continuing illegal annexation of Crimea and Sevastopol and the continuing unprovoked violation of Ukrainian sovereignty and territorial integrity by the Russian Federation, the EU Council decided to impose further sanctions on Crimea and Sevastopol. The EU Council also decided to clarify some of the existing

EU restrictions against Russia so as to ensure a consistent implementation of these sanctions across the EU.

8. Consultation outcome

The Overseas Territories were consulted on this Order in draft.

9. Guidance

No guidance will be issued.

10. Impact

10.1 There is no impact on business, charities or the voluntary sector in the United Kingdom.

10.2 There is no impact on the public sector in the United Kingdom.

10.3 An Impact Assessment has therefore not been prepared for this instrument.

11. Regulating small business

The legislation does not apply to small business in the United Kingdom.

12. Monitoring and Review

EU sanctions are monitored and reviewed by Member States of the EU. Amendments will be made to this legislation following any further modifications to the sanctions regime by the Council of the European Union.

13. Contact

José Martínez-Soto at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office can answer queries regarding the instrument. Telephone: 020 7008 6139. Email: jose.martinez-soto@fco.gov.uk.