

New OFAC designations signal continued U.S. sanctions pressure on Russia

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Last week, the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) blacklisted [21 individuals and nine entities](#) for various reasons, including involvement in the ongoing conflict in eastern Ukraine, connections to the Crimea region (which is subject to a complete U.S. embargo), and links to the Russian government. Several of the newly minted Specially Designated Nationals (SDNs), including Russian engineering company Technopromexport, were allegedly involved in [diverting Siemens-made gas turbines to Crimea](#) in potential violation of European Union sanctions rules. OFAC also added twelve subsidiaries of Surgutneftegaz to the Sectoral Sanctions Identification List, clarifying that the entities are subject to the energy-sector sanctions described in [Directive 4 to E.O. 13662](#).

The new sanctioned parties are a sign of continuing U.S. pressure on Russia to implement the Minsk agreements and help end the conflict in Ukraine. The designations also came just before today's statutory deadline [to implement new sanctions](#) on Russia, which include the release of the "Kremlin Report" or "oligarch list" that will name Kremlin-connected Russian nationals and their overseas assets and business interests. We will provide an update when and if that list is released.