

The *Saeima*¹ has adopted and the President has proclaimed the following Law:

Law On International Sanctions and National Sanctions of the Republic of Latvia

Section 1. Terms Used in this Law

The following terms are used in this Law:

1) **international sanctions** – restrictions imposed in accordance with the international law in relation to subjects of sanctions, which have been adopted by the United Nations Organization or the European Union, or another international organisation, to which the Republic of Latvia is a member state, and which are directly applicable or introduced in Latvia in accordance with the procedures laid down in this Law;

2) **national sanctions** – restrictions imposed in accordance with the laws and regulations of Latvia and international law in relation to subjects of sanctions, which have been stipulated by the Cabinet in accordance with the procedures laid down in this Law;

3) **competent authority** – an institution of a public person, which, in accordance with the competence specified for it in laws and regulations, is responsible for execution of international or national sanctions;

4) **subjects of sanctions** – a subject of international public law, a natural or legal person, or another identifiable subject, in relation to which international or national sanctions have been imposed.

Section 2. Purpose of this Law

The purpose of the Law is to ensure peace, security, and rule of law in accordance with the international obligations and national interests of Latvia, introducing international sanctions or imposing national sanctions.

Section 3. Imposition of National Sanctions

The Cabinet may, upon its initiative, as well as on the basis of a proposal of the Minister for Foreign Affairs or a recommendation of the National Security Council, impose national sanctions, if it is not in contradiction with the international obligations of Latvia arising from participation of Latvia in an international organisation, and if it is necessary to achieve any of the following objectives:

1) to achieve peace or to prevent international crimes or human rights violations outside the territory of Latvia;

2) to prevent harm to external policy interests or national security of Latvia;

3) to combat international terrorism or manufacture, storage, movement, use, or proliferation of weapons of mass destruction;

4) to prevent justification of such actions or invitation to such actions, which are directed towards the objectives referred to in Clauses 1-3 of this Section.

Section 4. Types of International and National Sanctions

The following international or national sanctions may be introduced or imposed in Latvia:

¹ The Parliament of the Republic of Latvia

- 1) financial restrictions;
- 2) civil legal restrictions;
- 3) restrictions on admission;
- 4) restrictions on circulation of goods of strategic significance and other goods;
- 5) restrictions on provision of tourism services.

Section 5. Financial Restrictions

If financial restrictions have been imposed in relation to a subject of sanctions, participants of the financial and capital market of Latvia have a duty to take the following actions:

- 1) to freeze all financial resources and financial instruments, which are in the ownership, possession or under control of the subject of sanctions;
- 2) to deny access for the subject of sanctions to financial resources and financial instruments;
- 3) not to provide the financial services specified in international or national sanctions to the subject of sanctions.

Section 6. Civil Legal Restrictions

- (1) A subject of sanctions, in relation to which civil legal restrictions have been imposed, is prohibited to acquire and alienate tangible and intangible objects, to which ownership rights or other economic rights must be registered, corroborated, or published in public registers.
- (2) It is prohibited to register, corroborate, or publish ownership rights or other economic rights in public registers, which are restricted in accordance with Paragraph one of this Section.

Section 7. Restrictions on Admission

A subject of sanctions, in relation to which a restriction on admission has been imposed, is prohibited to enter and reside in Latvia or to cross the territory of Latvia in transit.

Section 8. Restrictions on Circulation of Goods of Strategic Significance and Other Goods

If in relation to a subject of sanctions an arms embargo or a prohibition of import, export, transit, or brokering services of other goods has been imposed, the subject governed by private or public law is prohibited to sell, supply, transfer, export goods of strategic significance of specific kind to the subject of sanctions, or otherwise alienate them or other goods specified in law, or allow access to them.

Section 9. Restrictions on Provision of Tourism Services

A subject governed by private law is prohibited to provide services, which are directly related to tourism activities in a territory specified in international or national sanctions or to a subject of sanctions, in relation to which specific restrictions for provision of tourism services have been imposed.

Section 10. Application of Exceptions in Execution of Sanctions

- (1) If international or national sanctions provide for specific exceptional cases in execution of sanctions, the competent authority may take a decision to apply such exceptions to the subject of sanctions upon request of the subject of sanctions.

- (2) The competent authority shall take a decision to apply exceptional cases in execution of sanctions on the basis of the opinions provided by State security authorities or other institutions.
- (3) The civil legal restrictions imposed in international or national sanctions in relation to tangible or intangible objects in ownership or possession of a subject of sanctions are not an obstacle for directing recovery towards such objects in carrying out decisions of courts and other institutions.

Section 11. Introduction, Imposition, and Execution of Sanctions

- (1) The sanctions imposed in regulations of the European Union are binding and directly applicable in the Republic of Latvia.
- (2) The Cabinet may issue regulations regarding introduction of international sanctions, if international sanctions that are not directly applicable have been imposed.
- (3) The Cabinet may issue regulations regarding imposition of national sanctions, if any of the grounds referred to in Section 3 of this Law is established. The sanctions imposed by the Cabinet regulations are applicable to specific subjects of sanctions by a Cabinet order, which includes the list of subjects of sanctions.
- (4) The Cabinet shall determine general procedures for execution of sanctions.
- (5) The Cabinet shall determine separate procedures for execution of national sanctions specified in accordance with Section 3, Clause 3 of this Law.

Section 12. Circulation of Information Related to Imposition and Introduction of Sanctions

- (1) The Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall inform:
- 1) international organisations regarding introduction of the sanctions imposed thereby in Latvia, as well as regarding exceptions applied by the competent authority in accordance with Section 10 of this Law;
 - 2) the Cabinet regarding international sanctions, amending of their term of validity, and revocation;
 - 3) the competent authorities regarding imposition of international and national sanctions, amending or revocation of such sanctions, and provide the information necessary for execution thereof;
 - 4) the subject of sanctions regarding national sanctions imposed in relation to such subject, and regarding their revocation.
- (2) Upon request of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs the competent authority shall inform it regarding execution and supervision of sanctions. The competent authority is entitled to transfer the information at its disposal to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs regarding a natural person, if such information is related to execution of international sanctions and is necessary for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to be able to fulfil its liabilities to international organisations in relation to the sanctions imposed thereby, which are applied in Latvia.
- (3) The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is the co-ordinating institution in communication with international organisations and foreign competent authorities regarding imposition and introduction of sanctions and application of exceptions in Latvia.

Section 13. Competent Authorities

- (1) The competent authorities shall perform any activities, which are necessary to ensure execution of international and national sanctions.
- (2) The Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs as the competent authority shall be responsible for the person in relation to whom the restriction on admission has been specified

in accordance with Section 11 of this Law, to be included in the list of such persons who are prohibited to enter Latvia.

(3) The Ministry of Economics as the competent authority shall provide information and consult regarding entering into effect, execution, or revocation of restrictions on provision of tourism services introduced or specified in accordance with the procedures laid down in Section 11 of this Law.

(4) The Financial and Capital Market Commission as the competent authority shall supervise the provision of restrictions provided for in international or national sanctions in relation to the participants of the financial and capital market. The Financial and Capital Market Commission is entitled to take the decisions necessary for execution of sanctions, including decisions binding to the participants of the financial and capital market regarding freezing of financial resources.

(5) The Land Registry Office of a district (city) court as the competent authority shall carry out the prohibition specified in international or national sanctions to corroborate the economic rights to immovable property or record a prohibition endorsement, which hinders voluntary corroboration of any rights (except rights obtained as a result of inheriting) in relation to immovable property in the ownership of the subject of sanctions.

(6) If the sanctions imposed in relation to the subject of sanctions are amended or revoked, the competent authorities shall carry out all actions necessary for amending or revocation of the imposed restrictions in accordance with the competence specified for such institutions in laws and regulations.

Section 14. Revocation of International and National Sanctions

(1) The Minister for Foreign Affairs may, upon his or her initiative or on the basis of the recommendation of the National Security Council, or after evaluating the application of the subject of sanctions, express a proposal to the international organisation to revoke international sanctions, insofar as they apply to the subject of sanctions, if the relevant subject is a natural or legal person under jurisdiction of the Republic of Latvia.

(2) The Cabinet may, upon its initiative or on the basis of the proposal of the Minister for Foreign Affairs or recommendation of the National Security Council, decide on amending or revocation of the Cabinet regulations issued in accordance with the procedures laid down in Section 11, Paragraph three of this Law and the Cabinet order issued on their basis. The Cabinet may, upon proposal of the subject of sanctions, decide on amending or revocation of the Cabinet order issued in accordance with the procedures laid down in Section 11, Paragraph three of this Law, insofar as it applies to the subject of sanctions.

Section 15. Appeal and Revision of National Sanctions

(1) The Cabinet order issued on the basis of the Cabinet regulation regarding national sanctions, insofar as it applies to the subject of sanctions, may be appealed to the District Administrative Court in accordance with the procedures laid down in law.

(2) The Cabinet shall, not less than once a year, revise the Cabinet regulations issued in accordance with the procedures laid down in Section 11, Paragraph three of this Law and Cabinet orders with lists of subjects of sanctions and, if necessary, amend or partially or completely revoke them.

Transitional Provision

With the coming into force of this Law the Law On Introduction in the Republic of Latvia of the Sanctions Specified by International Organisations (*Latvijas Vēstnesis*, 2006, No. 171), is repealed.

The Law shall come into force on 1 March 2016.

This Law has been adopted by the *Saeima* on 4 February 2016.

Acting for the President, Speaker of the *Saeima*

I. Mūrniece

Riga, 15 February 2016