

# ClientAlert

## International Trade

25 January 2012

### New persons and entities added to EU Syria sanctions list (including 5 banks and 3 petroleum companies)

On 23 January 2012, the Council of the European Union (EU) added new names to its list of designated parties under the Syria sanctions regime through **Council Decision 2012/37/CFSP**.<sup>1</sup> This Decision, along with the accompanying **Council Implementing Regulation 55/2012**<sup>2</sup> (which implements Article 33(1) of Regulation 36/2012 (“the new Syria Sanctions Regulation”))<sup>3</sup>, was published in the Official Journal of the EU on 24 January 2012 and entered into force that same day.

For more information on the new Syria Sanctions Regulation published earlier this month, see our previous [alert](#) of 20 January 2012.

The following **8 entities** have been added to **Annex II** of the new Syria Sanctions Regulation which contains the EU’s list of parties subject to the provisions requiring the freezing of funds and banning the making available of economic resources: four **state-owned Syrian banks** (Industrial Bank, Popular Credit Bank, Saving Bank and Agricultural Cooperative Bank); the **Syrian Lebanese Commercial bank** (which is a subsidiary of the already listed Commercial bank of Syria but is now listed in its own right); and **three joint ventures of General Petroleum Corporation (GPC)**, namely Deir ez-Zur Petroleum Company, Ebla Petroleum Company and Djila Petroleum Company.

In addition, **22 natural persons** involved in the violent repression of the civilian population of Syria have been added to Annex II, including commanders involved in military operations, officials responsible for the detention and torture of detainees, and persons providing logistical support to the repression of the population of Syria.

Parties under EU jurisdiction **cannot make any funds or economic resources** (broadly interpreted to include goods as well) **available, directly or indirectly**, to or for the benefit of these listed persons or entities (except within limited circumstances, subject to authorisation from the competent EU Member State). Assets belonging to, owned or controlled by listed parties held by parties falling under EU jurisdiction (e.g. EU banks) are frozen (with limited exceptions).



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<sup>1</sup> [Council Implementing Decision 2012/37/CFSP](#) of 23 January 2012 implementing Decision 2011/782/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Syria

<sup>2</sup> [Council Implementing Regulation \(EU\) No 55/2012](#) of 23 January 2012 implementing Article 33(1) of Regulation (EU) No 36/2012 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Syria

<sup>3</sup> [Council Regulation \(EU\) 36/2012](#) of 18 January 2012 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Syria and repealing Regulation (EU) No 442/2011