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Answer given by Ms McGuinness
on behalf of the European Commission
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From the outset, EU sanctions have been designed and implemented to impose a heavy price on Russia, whilst minimising adverse effects on the EU, its citizens and businesses. When developing sanctions packages, the Commission always carefully considers their impact on the EU economy and internal market, including on specific industries and Member States. Overall, the data confirms the EU's longstanding principle: that sanctions hurt the other side far more than they hurt us.

It is true that EU sanctions on Russia can – and sometimes do – have significant financial consequences for some of our companies and industries that have exposure to that country, in spite of best efforts to mitigate undesired impacts.

The EU does not provide compensation for losses of EU operators resulting from sanctions. Should a Member State wish to compensate its operators affected by EU sanctions financially, this should be done in full compliance with EU state aid rules (in particular the Temporary Crisis and Transition Framework) providing for a level-playing field for operators in all Member States.