

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003266/25
to the Commission
Pina Picierno (S&D)
(20 August 2025)**

Subject: Adding Sergey Matviyenko, a Russian agent of influence residing in Italy, to the EU's sanctions list.

In August 2025, the Anti-Corruption Foundation (or ACF, an organisation founded by Sakharov Prize laureate Alexei Navalny) called on the Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs to adopt restrictive measures against Sergey Matviyenko, the son of Valentina Matviyenko, who is the Speaker of the Russian Federation Council and who has been sanctioned by the EU for publicly supporting Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

The ACF's investigations — the findings of which have been confirmed by Italian journalists — indicate that Sergey Matviyenko lives in Italy, where he is bolstering Russia's networks of influence in Europe by using the luxury properties he owns to hold meetings with figures close to the Kremlin. In addition, Mr Matviyenko has, through a number of companies that have been traced back to him, received billions of roubles' worth of Russian state contracts to support Vladimir Putin's regime.

In spite of this, Mr Matviyenko continues to operate freely within the EU and is not subject to European sanctions, even though he features on the sanctions lists published by the United States, Canada and Japan.

Given that Council Decision 2014/145/CFSP explicitly provides for restrictive measures against natural persons who materially support or benefit from the Government of the Russian Federation — which is responsible for the attack on Ukraine — what measures will the Commission take with a view to including Sergey Matviyenko's name in the EU's sanctions list and preventing him from operating in EU territory and hiding his assets there?

Submitted: 20.8.2025

**Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas on behalf of the European Commission
(25 September 2025)**

EU sanctions adopted on the basis of Council Decision 2014/145/CFSP ⁽¹⁾ are carefully targeted and aimed at those responsible for policies or actions undermining the territorial integrity of Ukraine.

Decisions designating specific individuals are taken by the Council and require the unanimous approval of all Member States. When it comes to listing specific individuals or entities, every listing needs to fulfil the criteria defined in the respective sanctions framework and to be backed by evidence.

EU restrictive measures under Council Decision 2014/145/CFSP already apply to a total over 2500 individuals and entities. The High Representative/Vice-President will continue to work with Member States in order to further strengthen EU sanctions, including individual designations.

⁽¹⁾ [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dec/2014/145\(1\)/oj/eng](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dec/2014/145(1)/oj/eng).