

EN

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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas
on behalf of the European Commission
(29.4.2026)

Countering Russian propaganda targeting the EU, its Member States and its partners is a priority for the High Representative /Vice-President and the Commission.

The Council has taken significant measures to curb Russia's propaganda machine. In March 2022, under the third sanctions package¹, the Council has adopted a broadcasting ban prohibiting any content of the Russian state-sponsored media outlets Russia Today and Sputnik². With the following packages, the broadcasting ban has been extended to more than 30 media outlets spreading and supporting Russian propaganda about the war against Ukraine within the EU and beyond.

Additionally, the Council has listed more than 120 individuals and 30 entities involved in disseminating Kremlin-aligned disinformation, including media actors targeting European and global audiences with manipulated narratives.

To address broader hybrid threats, including Foreign Information Manipulation and Interference, the EU established a dedicated sanctions regime in 2024. It targets individuals and entities undermining EU values, security, and stability, including activities affecting third countries and international organisations. The latest listings, covering four individuals, were adopted in March 2026³.

Imposing any additional restrictive measures require a unanimous decision by the Council. Negotiations on new sanctions are confidential and neither the European External Action Service nor the Commission can comment on them.

¹ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2022/03/02/eu-imposes-sanctions-on-state-owned-outlets-russia-today-and-sputnik-s-broadcasting-in-the-eu/>.

² Council Decision (CFSP) 2022/351, amending Decision 2014/512/CFSP and imposing new restrictive measures against Russian media outlets engaged in propaganda actions.

³ Council Decision (CFSP) 2026/646 of 16 March 2026 amending Decision (CFSP) 2024/2643 concerning restrictive measures in view of Russia's destabilising activities.