

EN

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Answer given by Mr Šefčovič
on behalf of the European Commission
(29.4.2026)

In response to Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, the EU has adopted a wide range of restrictive measures, including far-reaching trade restrictions which have played a significant role in reducing imports of strategic commodities from Russia. The measures in place reflect a careful balance between the EU's determination to impact Russia's ability to finance its war of aggression and to limit to the extent possible negative impacts on Member States and industry, taking into account shortages of certain critical raw materials.

As regards aluminium, the 16th sanctions package¹ expanded the restrictions already in place to cover also primary aluminium, resulting in a ban on imports of primary aluminium from Russia as of 26 February 2026 with a remaining small quota of 50 000 metric tonnes to allow imports for contracts concluded before 25 February 2025 (i.e. one-year old contracts) still to be delivered only until the end of 2026. The Commission closely monitors the aluminium market situation, including EU imports of processed aluminium and is ready to consider appropriate actions, if necessary.

EU sanctions are kept under regular review. Any decision to amend any of the existing sanctions in place or to add new sanctions is for the Council to take by unanimity.

¹ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:L_202500394.