

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001133/26
to the Commission
Jan Farský (PPE)
(18 March 2026)**

Subject: European technology in Russian weapons despite sanctions

Despite extensive European Union sanctions against Russia, technological components that can be used in the military industry continue to flow from the EU to Russia. New research by the Committee for Freedom in Hong Kong Foundation (CFHK) shows that electronic components manufactured by European technology companies such as STMicroelectronics, NXP and Infineon Technologies have been found in Russian weapons used in the war in Ukraine.

The analysis shows that these components reach Russia through a network of intermediaries and trading companies in Hong Kong, which act as a key transit hub for trade in dual-use technologies.

The research also suggests that the current EU sanctions regime often targets individual companies, while broader trade and financial networks, including logistics companies, banks and distributors, remain outside the reach of sanctions. This allows export controls to be bypassed and enables the continued supply of technologies that may strengthen Russia's military industrial complex.

1. How can the Commission strengthen export controls on dual-use goods in order to prevent their circumvention through third countries such as Hong Kong?
2. What new tools could the Commission introduce to monitor global supply chains in semiconductors and other critical technologies?

Submitted: 18.3.2026

**Answer given by Ms Albuquerque on behalf of the European Commission
(15 June 2026)**

Preventing the circumvention of EU restrictive measures (sanctions) against Russia is a priority for the EU, in particular with respect to sensitive goods and technologies.

The Commission takes note of the outcome of the research by the Committee for Freedom in Hong Kong Foundation and observes that the competent authorities of the Member States are actively monitoring the export of dual-use items, including semiconductors, to third countries and denying, as appropriate, exports which display risk of diversions.

Over the last few years, the EU has actively deployed several new tools to counter the circumvention of EU sanctions, including the imposition of targeted export controls on entities involved in the diversion of sensitive items to Russia ⁽¹⁾.

The EU has also taken measures against banks and financial institutions in third countries as well as crypto currencies and platforms, that facilitate trade in sanctioned goods and technologies.

The Commission actively supports cooperation between Member States on implementation of these measures through the exchange of licensing information and making use of the tools established by Regulation (EU) 2021/821 ⁽²⁾ for the exchange of information on enforcement, such as the Enforcement Coordination Mechanism.

⁽¹⁾ Annex IV of Council Regulation (EU) No 833/2014, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2014/833/oj/eng>.

⁽²⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/821/oj/eng>.