

EN

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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas
on behalf of the European Commission
(31.7.2026)

EU sanctions on Venezuela provide for exemptions and derogations from the restrictions on admission established under this regime.

In particular, Article 6 of Council Decision (CFSP) 2017/2074 provides for such an exemption when a Member State is bound by an obligation of international law, namely (a) as a host country to an international intergovernmental organisation; (b) as a host country to an international conference convened by, or under the auspices of, the UN; (c) under a multilateral agreement conferring privileges and immunities; or (d) under the 1929 Treaty of Conciliation concluded by the Holy See and Italy¹.

The Council shall be duly informed when a Member State grants such an exemption².

That Article also allows Member States to grant exemptions from the the restrictions on admission where travel of the listed person is justified on the grounds of urgent humanitarian need, or on grounds of attending intergovernmental meetings and meetings promoted by the Union, or hosted by a Member State holding the chairmanship in office of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe, where a political dialogue is conducted that directly promotes democracy, human rights and the rule of law in Venezuela³.

Member States wishing to grant such exemptions have an obligation to notify the Council in writing and respect the procedure set out by that same Article⁴.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dec/2017/2074/oj/eng> - Article 6, paragraph 3, of Council Decision (CFSP) 2017/2074 of 13 November 2017 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Venezuela, OJ L 295, 14.11.2017, p. 60.

² Article 6, paragraph 5, of Council Decision (CFSP) 2017/2074.

³ Article 6, paragraph 6, of Council Decision (CFSP) 2017/2074.

⁴ Article 6, paragraph 7, of Council Decision (CFSP) 2017/2074.