

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY WASHINGTON, D.C. 20220

## OFFICE OF FOREIGN ASSETS CONTROL

## DIRECTIVE 1A<sup>1</sup> UNDER EXECUTIVE ORDER 14024

## **Prohibitions Related to Certain Sovereign Debt of the Russian Federation**

Pursuant to sections 1(a)(iv), 1(d), and 8 of Executive Order 14024, "Blocking Property With Respect To Specified Harmful Foreign Activities of the Government of the Russian Federation" (the "Order"), the Director of the Office of Foreign Assets Control has determined, in consultation with the Department of State, that the Central Bank of the Russian Federation, the National Wealth Fund of the Russian Federation, and the Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation are political subdivisions, agencies, or instrumentalities of the Government of the Russian Federation, and that the following activities by a U.S. financial institution are prohibited, except to the extent provided by law, or unless licensed or otherwise authorized by the Office of Foreign Assets Control:

- (1) as of June 14, 2021, participation in the primary market for ruble or non-ruble denominated bonds issued after June 14, 2021 by the Central Bank of the Russian Federation, the National Wealth Fund of the Russian Federation, or the Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation;
- (2) as of June 14, 2021, lending ruble or non-ruble denominated funds to the Central Bank of the Russian Federation, the National Wealth Fund of the Russian Federation, or the Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation; and
- (3) as of March 1, 2022, participation in the secondary market for ruble or non-ruble denominated bonds issued after March 1, 2022 by the Central Bank of the Russian Federation, the National Wealth Fund of the Russian Federation, or the Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation.

For the purposes of this Directive, the term "U.S. financial institution" means any U.S. entity (including its foreign branches) that is engaged in the business of accepting deposits, making, granting, transferring, holding, or brokering loans or credits, or purchasing or selling foreign exchange, securities, futures or options, or procuring purchasers and sellers thereof, as principal or agent. It includes depository institutions, banks, savings banks, money services businesses, operators of credit card systems, trust companies, insurance companies, securities brokers and dealers, futures and options brokers and dealers, forward contract and foreign exchange merchants, securities and commodities exchanges, clearing corporations, investment companies, employee benefit plans, dealers in precious metals, stones, or jewels, and U.S. holding companies, U.S. affiliates, or U.S. subsidiaries of any of the foregoing. This term includes those

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A prior version of this Directive, which was issued on April 15, 2021 and which is replaced and superseded by this version, prohibited the same activities with respect to participation in the primary market for ruble or non-ruble denominated bonds issued after June 14, 2021 by the entities determined to be subject to the Directive, and with respect to lending ruble or non-ruble denominated funds to the entities determined to be subject to the Directive.

branches, offices, and agencies of foreign financial institutions that are located in the United States, but not such institutions' foreign branches, offices, or agencies.

All other activities with entities determined to be subject to the prohibitions of this Directive, or involving their property or interests in property, are permitted, provided that such activities are not otherwise prohibited by law, the Order, or any other sanctions program implemented by the Office of Foreign Assets Control.

Except to the extent otherwise provided by law or unless licensed or otherwise authorized by the Office of Foreign Assets Control, the following are also prohibited: (1) any transaction that evades or avoids, has the purpose of evading or avoiding, causes a violation of, or attempts to violate any of the prohibitions of this Directive; and (2) any conspiracy formed to violate any of the prohibitions of this Directive.

A listing of entities determined to be subject to the prohibitions of this Directive can be found in the Office of Foreign Assets Control's Non-SDN Menu-Based Sanctions (NS-MBS) List on the Office of Foreign Assets Control website (www.treas.gov/ofac).

> Andrea M. Gacki

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Andrea M. Gacki

Director

Office of Foreign Assets Control

February 22, 2022