

PRESS RELEASE

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Chemical weapons: the EU places nine persons and one entity under new sanctions regime

The Council imposed today sanctions on **nine persons and one entity** under the new regime of **restrictive measures against the use and proliferation of chemical weapons** created on 15 October 2018.

These designations include **the two GRU officials, and the Head and Deputy Head of the GRU** (also known as the G.U., or the Main Directorate of the General Staff of the Russian Armed Forces) **responsible for possession, transport and use in Salisbury (UK) of a toxic nerve agent** on the weekend of 4 March 2018. Sanctions are also imposed on the Syrian entity responsible for the development and production of chemical weapons, the Scientific Studies and Research Centre (SSRC), as well as five Syrian officials directly involved in the SSRC's activities. These persons and entity are the first one being listed under the new chemical weapons sanctions regime. The SSRC was already listed under the Syria sanctions regime.

Sanctions consist of a travel ban to the EU and an asset freeze for persons, and an asset freeze for entities. In addition, EU persons and entities are forbidden from making funds available to those listed. This decision contributes to the EU's efforts to **counter the proliferation and use of chemical weapons which poses a serious threat to international security**.

The legal acts, including the names of the persons concerned, are available in the EU Official Journal.

- [Council decision of the 21 January, Official Journal of the EU](#)
- [Chemical weapons: the Council adopts a new sanctions regime, 15 October 2018](#)
- [Sanctions: how and when the EU adopts restrictive measures](#)

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