

## GENERAL LICENCE: SYRIA HUMANITARIAN ACTIVITY

INT/2025/5810196

1. This licence is granted under regulation 61 of the Syria (Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (“the Syria Regulations”).
2. Any act which would otherwise breach the prohibitions in regulations 11-15 and 16(1)(a) and (b) of the Syria Regulations is exempt from those prohibitions as set out below.
3. In this licence:

<b>“Designated Person”</b> means	Any person designated under the Syria Regulations
<b>“Designated Financial Institution”</b> means	Any person(s) listed in Annex I to this licence
<b>“Relevant Person”</b> means	<p>The United Nations, including its programmes, funds and other entities and bodies, and its specialised agencies and related organisations;</p> <p>Humanitarian organisations having observer status with the United Nations General Assembly and members of those humanitarian organisations;</p> <p>Bilaterally or multilaterally funded non-governmental organisations participating in the United Nations Humanitarian Response Plans, Refugee Response Plans, other United Nations appeals, or humanitarian clusters coordinated by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs;</p> <p>International organisations carrying out relief activities in Syria;</p> <p>Any organisation that receives funding from any part of the Government of the United Kingdom for the purpose of providing humanitarian assistance or supporting basic human needs;</p> <p>Any employee, grantee, subsidiary, or implementing partner of any organisation falling within the above list while and to the extent that they are acting in those capacities</p>
<b>“Relevant Activities”</b> means	<p>Activities necessary to provide humanitarian assistance, other activities that support basic human needs and facilitate the timely provision of those activities in Syria.</p> <p>This includes the provision, processing and payment of funds, or economic resources, and the provision of goods and services necessary to ensure the timely delivery of such assistance or to support such activities.</p>
<b>“Relevant Institution”</b> means	<p>A person that has permission under Part 4A of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (permission to carry on regulated activity).</p> <p>A person that is authorised or registered under Part 2 of the Payment Services Regulations (SI 2017/752).</p>

	<p>A person that is authorised or registered under Part 2 of the Electronic Money Regulations (SI 2011/99).</p> <p>A person that is a “recognised clearing house”, “third country central counterparty”, “recognised CSD” or “third country CSD” for the purposes of s.285 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000.</p> <p>A person that is an operator of a recognised payment system (or that is a service provider in relation to recognised payment systems) for the purposes of Part 5 of the Banking Act 2009.</p>
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### Permissions

4. Under this licence, subject to the conditions in paragraphs 5 to 7, a Relevant Person may perform Relevant Activities.
5. Any funds used to effect the permissions set out in paragraph 4 must not be from funds or economic resources that are owned, held or controlled by a Designated Person.
6. The permission set out in paragraph 4 does not permit the use of economic resources owned, held or controlled by a Designated Person except where a Designated Person has received funds, goods or services in exchange for those economic resources from a Relevant Person to perform Relevant Activities.
7. Paragraph 5 does not apply to funds that are controlled by a Designated Financial Institution in the event that those funds are not owned, held or controlled by any other Designated Person or where the transfer of funds is otherwise licensed.
8. Any Relevant Institution may carry out any activity necessary to affect the permissions listed in paragraph 4, subject to paragraph 5, 6 and 7.

### Notification Requirement

9. A Relevant Person conducting Relevant Activities in Syria in accordance with paragraphs 5-7 above must provide written notice to HM Treasury within 30 days of commencing the activity. Notification may be provided by email to [ofsi@hmtreasury.gov.uk](mailto:ofsi@hmtreasury.gov.uk) and should include details of the Relevant Person (organisation name, address, and contact information).
10. Notification provided in accordance with paragraph 9 above does not constitute verification by HM Treasury that activity purporting to be permitted under this licence is permitted.

### General

11. The permissions in this licence are without prejudice to the permissions provided by any other licence, whether general or in respect of particular acts, that have been or may be issued by HM Treasury from time to time.
12. The permissions in this licence do not authorise any act which the person carrying out the act knows, or has reasonable grounds for suspecting, will result in a breach of the Syria Regulations save as permitted under licences granted under the Syria Regulations.

13. Information provided to HM Treasury in connection with this licence shall be disclosed to third parties only in compliance with the UK General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Act 2018.
14. This licence takes effect from 12 February 2025.
15. HM Treasury may vary, revoke or suspend this licence at any time.

**Signed:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of the letters 'GFS' in a stylized, cursive font.

**Office of Financial Sanctions Implementation  
HM Treasury  
12 February 2025.**

## **Annex I: Designated Financial Institutions**

AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE BANK

CENTRAL BANK OF SYRIA

COMMERCIAL BANK OF SYRIA

INDUSTRIAL BANK

POPULAR CREDIT BANK

REAL ESTATE BANK OF SYRIA (REB)

SAVING BANK

SYRIAN LEBANESE COMMERCIAL BANK

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