



General Licence – Publication Notice

General licence - INT/2025/5810196

OFSI has the power to issue General Licences for country sanctions regimes under the Sanctions and Anti-Money Laundering Act 2018 (“the Sanctions Act”).

On 12 February 2025, OFSI issued General Licence INT/2025/5810196 under all the Syria (Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (the Syria Regulations) which allows for payments to be made in respect of relevant humanitarian assistance activities.

Any persons intending to use General Licence INT/2025/5810196 should consult the copy of the Licence on this page for full details of the definition, permissions, and usage requirements.

For the purposes of General Licence INT/2025/5810196:

A **Designated Person** is any person designated under the Syria Regulations.

A **Designated Financial Institution** is any person(s) listed in Annex I to this licence.

A **Relevant Person** means:

The United Nations, including its programmes, funds and other entities and bodies, and its specialised agencies and related organisations;

Humanitarian organisations having observer status with the United Nations General Assembly and members of those humanitarian organisations;

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;

International organisations carrying out relief activities in Syria;

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

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.

Relevant Activities are:

Activities necessary to provide humanitarian assistance, other activities that support basic human needs and facilitate the timely provision of those activities in Syria.

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.

Person means an individual or a body of persons corporate or unincorporate, any organisation or any association or combination of persons.

A Relevant Institution is:

- A person that has permission under Part 4A of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (permission to carry on regulated activity).
- A person that is authorised or registered under Part 2 of the Payment Services Regulations (SI 2017/752).
- A person that is authorised or registered under Part 2 of the Electronic Money Regulations (SI 2011/99).
- 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.
- 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.

Under General Licence INT/2025/5810196:

- Subject to the conditions of the General Licence, a Relevant Person may perform Relevant Activities; and
- Any Relevant Institution may carry out any activity necessary to affect the permissions of the General Licence.

Notification Requirement

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 and should include details of the Relevant Person (organisation name, address, and contact information).

A single notification from each Relevant Person would be considered sufficient to comply with the General Licence. Notification does not constitute verification by HM Treasury that activity purporting to be permitted under this licence is permitted.

General

The permissions in General Licence INT/2025/5810196 do not authorise any act which the person carrying out the act knows, or has reasonable grounds for suspecting, will result in funds or economic resources being made available in breach of the Syria Regulations, save as permitted under licences granted under those Regulations.

General Licence INT/2025/5810196 took effect from 12 February 2025.

In the event of the General Licence being revoked, OFSI would aim to provide a minimum of 3 months’ notice.

Office of Financial Sanctions Implementation

HM Treasury