

General Licence – Publication Notice

General licence - INT/2025/7159960

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 19 September 2025, OFSI issued General Licence INT/2025/7159960 under all UK Autonomous Sanctions Regulations (see Annex 1 of the General Licence) which permits Persons providing News Media Services (and any Person who provides any goods or services to another Person which are necessary for the provision of News Media Services by that other Person) to carry out any activity reasonably necessary to effect the receipt or provision of News Media Services, including making or receiving Permitted Payments.

Any persons intending to use General Licence INT/2025/7159960 should consult the copy of the Licence for full details of the definitions, permissions, and usage requirements.

For the purposes of General Licence INT/2025/7159960:

News Media Services means News reporting and journalistic services by a recognised UK news publisher.

A Person means an individual or a body of persons corporate or unincorporate but does not include a DP.

UK Autonomous Sanctions Regulations means those statutory instruments specified in the table in Annex 1 of the General Licence.

A Designated Person means those individuals or entities designated (or owned or controlled by an individual or entity designated) for the purposes of an asset freeze by the UK under the UK Autonomous Sanctions Regulations, excluding those designated for the purpose of compliance with United Nations obligations.

A designated Credit or Financial Institution means any credit or financial institution designated under any of the UK Autonomous Sanctions Regulations.

Permitted Payments means Payments to, from or via a designated person (including a designated Credit or Financial Institution), providing these involve the receipt or provision of News Media Services.

Payments include but are not limited to:

- Rent, utility bills, and fixer charges.
- Regulatory payments including taxes.
- Receipt of licensing fees, paid to providers of News Media Services.
- Payment of salaries, invoices or fees to third parties.

A Relevant UK 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/2025/7159960:

- A Person providing News Media Services (and any Person who provides any goods or services to another Person which are necessary for the provision of News Media Services by that other Person) may carry out any activity reasonably necessary to effect the receipt or provision of News Media Services, including making or receiving Permitted Payments.
- A Relevant UK Institution may process payments made in accordance with the above paragraph.

General Licence INT/2025/7159960 is subject to the following conditions:

- This licence does not permit payment directly or indirectly to, from or for the benefit of any person designated for the purpose of compliance with United Nations obligations.

The reporting and record-keeping requirements are set out in the General Licence.

General

The permissions in General Licence INT/2025/7159960 do not authorise any act which will result in a breach of any part of the Regulations listed in Annex 1 of the General Licence, save as permitted under this or other licences granted under the Regulations listed in Annex 1.

General Licence INT/2025/7159960 takes effect from 0.01 19 September 2025.

Office of Financial Sanctions Implementation

HM Treasury