

Smarter EU Sanctions

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Over the last decade or so, the European Union has become a significant global actor in imposing 'smart' sanctions, targeted at individuals and entities. Some of these sanctions regimes are part of the EU's counter-terrorism policy and others are inspired by a range of foreign policy goals, such as pressurising regimes, countering nuclear proliferation and returning misappropriated State funds. They are sometimes linked to action by the UN Security Council, but the EU also adopts many 'autonomous' sanctions.

The EU's policies in this field have raised problems. They have triggered extensive litigation (including the well known *Kadi* case) in which those subject to sanctions are often successful. Questions arise as to the protection of fundamental rights, in particular rights of defence; access to evidence (including classified evidence); the processes of listing and de-listing; the use of similar instruments for different policy objectives; divergence between different regimes and the Court's approach to them; relations and cooperation between the Member States' authorities and with the UN; remedies; the effect of UN Charter obligations in EU law; and so on.

The aim of this workshop is to review EU sanctions, and to identify areas of reform that might make EU sanctions 'smarter'. It seeks to bring together judges, EU and national officials / decision and policy makers, practising lawyers, academics, and civil society. Attendance is limited to around 60 people, by invitation, and the discussions will be subject to Chatham House rules in order to stimulate an open and productive debate.

The workshop is organised by Piet Eeckhout and Maya Lester, and by the UCL Centre of Law and Governance in Europe, and is supported by the European Society of International Law interest group on the EU as a Global Actor. It is to some extent a sequel, in Europe, to last year's NYU roundtable on Sanctions and the Rule of Law organised by Maya Lester and Professor Grainne de Burca (NYU Law School): http://www.law.nyu.edu/news/DE_BURCA_GRAINNE_SMART_SANCTIONS.

We are grateful to Carter-Ruck Solicitors for supporting the workshop.