



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS  
**MINISTRY OF  
COMMUNICATIONS AND WORKS**



**DEPARTMENT  
OF MERCHANT SHIPPING  
LEMESOS**

Circular No. 62/2012

14 November 2012

TEN 5.13.09  
TEN 4.2.12.3.13

To all Registered owners, Registered bareboat charterers  
Managers and Representatives of ships flying the Cyprus Flag

To all Owners, Managers, Representatives and Agents in Cyprus of Ships, irrespective of flag they are flying, calling at Cyprus ports  
*c/o Cyprus Shipping Chamber*  
*c/o Cyprus Union of Shipowners*  
*c/o Cyprus Shipping Association*

**Subject: New European Union restrictive measures against Belarus: Council Decision 2012/642/CFSP of 15 October 2012 concerning restrictive measures against Belarus**

I refer to the above matter and I wish to inform you of the recent adoption of **Council Decision 2012/642/CFSP** of 15 October 2012 concerning restrictive measures against Belarus.

2. Council Decision 2012/642/CFSP **prohibits** the transfer of arms and related material of all types, including weapons and ammunition, military vehicles and equipment, paramilitary equipment and spare parts for the aforementioned, as well as equipment which might be used for internal repression, to Belarus by nationals of Member States or from the territories of Member States or using their flag vessels (Article 1 of said Council Decision is of relevance).

3. The above prohibition **does not apply** to the transfer of –

- (a) non-lethal military equipment or of equipment which might be used for internal repression, intended solely for humanitarian or protective use, or for institution building programmes of the United Nations (UN) and the Union, or for EU and UN crisis management operations;
- (b) non-combat vehicles which have been manufactured or fitted with materials to provide ballistic protection, intended solely for protective use of personnel of the Union and its Member States in Belarus;

*provided that such exports have been approved in advance by the relevant competent authority,*



(c) protective clothing, including flak jackets and military helmets, temporarily exported to Belarus by UN personnel, personnel of the Union or its Member States, representatives of the media and humanitarian and development workers and associated personnel, for their personal use only.

4. It is noted that the **equipment which might be used for internal repression** is contained in Annex III of **Regulation (EC) No 765/2006** concerning restrictive measures in respect of Belarus as particularly amended by **Council Regulation (EU) No 588/2011** of 20 June 2011.

5. The text of the aforesaid EU instruments may be obtained from <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/>. A regularly updated list of all the European Union restrictive measures in force can be found at [http://eeas.europa.eu/cfsp/sanctions/docs/measure\\_en.pdf](http://eeas.europa.eu/cfsp/sanctions/docs/measure_en.pdf).

6. It is recalled that EU instruments have a direct effect and are binding on shipowners /ship operators and any violation may expose them to relevant penalties under the Cyprus legislation or the legislation of any other Member State.

7. All recipients of the present Circular are invited to abide by the EU Instruments imposing restrictive measures against Belarus.

**This Circular must be placed on board vessels flying the Cyprus flag.**



Costas Costaras  
Acting Director  
Department of Merchant Shipping

**Cc: -Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Communications and Works**

- Attorney General of the Republic
- Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Defence
- Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Justice and Public Order
- Diplomatic Missions and Honorary Consular Officers of the Republic
- Maritime Offices of the Department of Merchant Shipping abroad
- General Manager, Cyprus Ports Authority
- Director, Department of Customs and Excise
- Registrar of Companies
- Commander, Cyprus Marine Police
- Cyprus Shipping Chamber
- Cyprus Union of Shipowners
- Cyprus Shipping Association
- Cyprus Bar Association