Council Implementing Decision (CFSP) 2020/2130 of 17 December 2020 implementing Decision 2012/642/ CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Belarus

COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING DECISION (CFSP) 2020/2130

of 17 December 2020

implementing Decision 2012/642/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Belarus

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on European Union, and in particular Article 31(2) thereof,

Having regard to Council Decision 2012/642/CFSP of 15 October 2012 concerning restrictive measures against Belarus⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 6(1) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy,

Whereas:

- (1) On 15 October 2012, the Council adopted Decision 2012/642/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Belarus.
- On 9 August 2020, Belarus conducted presidential elections, which were found to be inconsistent with international standards and marred by the repression of independent candidates and a brutal crackdown on peaceful protesters in the wake of those elections. On 11 August 2020, the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy issued a declaration on behalf of the Union, assessing that the elections were neither free nor fair. It was also stated that measures against those responsible for violence, unjustified arrests and falsification of election results could be taken.
- (3) On 2 October 2020, the Council adopted Implementing Decision (CFSP) 2020/1388⁽²⁾ which designated 40 persons identified as responsible for the repression and intimidation of peaceful demonstrators, opposition members and journalists in the wake of the 2020 presidential elections in Belarus, as well as for the Central Electoral Commission's misconduct of the electoral process for those elections.
- (4) On 6 November 2020, in view of the gravity of the situation in Belarus, the Council adopted Implementing Decision (CFSP) 2020/1650⁽³⁾, which designated Alexandr Lukashenko and 14 other persons, among them persons from his close circle.
- (5) On 19 November 2020, the Council agreed to proceed with the preparation of a further round of sanctions, as a response to the brutality of the Belarusian authorities and in support of the democratic rights of the Belarusian people.
- (6) In view of the ongoing repression of civil society in Belarus, 29 persons and 7 entities should be included in the list of natural and legal persons, entities and bodies subject to restrictive measures set out in the Annex to Decision 2012/642/CFSP.

(7) The Annex to Decision 2012/642/CFSP should therefore be amended accordingly, HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The Annex to Decision 2012/642/CFSP is hereby amended as set out in the Annex to this Decision.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its publication in the *Official Journal* of the European Union.

Done at Brussels, 17 December 2020.

For the Council

The President

S. SCHULZE

ANNEX

The Annex to Decision 2012/642/CFSP is amended as follows:

- (1) the following title is added:
 - List of natural and legal persons, entities and bodies referred to in Articles 3(1) and 4(1);
- (2) the heading to the table is replaced by:
 - A. Natural persons referred to in Articles 3(1) and 4(1);
- (3) the following natural persons are added:

	NamesTran of Belarusian spellingTran of Russian spelling	spelling)	nr iksiam es(Rus spelling)	si åd entifying Information	J
'60.	Anatol Aliaksandrav SIVAK Anatoli Aleksandrovi SIVAK	CIBAK	Анатолий ві А лександроі СИВАК	Deputy Minister, former Chairman of the Minsk City Executive Committee DOB: 19.7.1962 POB: Zavoit, Narovlya District, Gomel/ Homyel Oblast, former USSR (now Belarus) Gender: male	In his former leadership capacity as Chairman of the Minsk City Executive Committee, he was responsible for the repression and intimidation campaign run by the local apparatus in Minsk under his oversight in the wake of the 2020 presidential election, in particular with arbitrary arrests and ill-treatment,

					including torture, of peaceful demonstrators as well as intimidation and violence against journalists. He made numerous public statements criticising peaceful protests taking place in Belarus. In his current leadership position as Deputy Prime Minister he continues to support the Lukashenka regime.
61.	Ivan Mikhailavich EISMANT Ivan Mikhailavich EISMONT	ЭЙСМАНТ	Иван Михайлович ЭЙСМОНТ	Chairman of the Belarusian State Television and Radio Company, Head of Belteleradio Company DOB: 20.1.1977 POB: Grodno/ Hrodna, former USSR (now Belarus) Gender: male	In his current position as Head of the Belarusian State Television and Radio Company, he is responsible for the dissemination of state propaganda in public media and continues to support the Lukashenka regime. This includes using media

62.	Uladzimir	Уладзімір	Владимир	Governor of	channels to support the President's continuation of his term in office, despite the fraudulent presidential elections that took place on 9 August 2020, and the subsequent and repeated violent crackdown on peaceful and legitimate protests. Eismont made public statements criticising the peaceful protesters and refused to provide media coverage of the protests. He also fired striking employees of Belteleradio Company under his management, thereby making him responsible for human rights violations. In his
02.	Stsiapanavich KARANIK		Степанович КАРАНИК	the Grodno/ Hrodna	former leadership