Council Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/2129 of 17 December 2020 implementing Article 8a(1) of Regulation (EC) No 765/2006 concerning restrictive measures in respect of Belarus

COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2020/2129

of 17 December 2020

implementing Article 8a(1) of Regulation (EC) No 765/2006 concerning restrictive measures in respect of Belarus

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 765/2006 of 18 May 2006 concerning restrictive measures in respect of Belarus[(1)], and in particular Article 8a(1) thereof,

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

Whereas:

(1) On 18 May 2006, the Council adopted Regulation (EC) No 765/2006 concerning restrictive measures in respect of Belarus.

(2) 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 Regulation (EU) 2020/1387[(2)] which designated 40 persons identified as responsible for 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 Regulation (EU) 2020/1648[(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 Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 765/2006.

Changes to legislation: *There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Council Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/2129. (See end of Document for details)*

(7) Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 765/2006 should therefore be amended accordingly,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 765/2006 is hereby amended as set out in the Annex to this Regulation.

Article 2

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

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 17 December 2020.

For the Council

The President

S. SCHULZE

***Changes to legislation:** There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Council Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/2129. (See end of Document for details)*

ANNEX

Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 765/2006 is amended as follows:

(1) the following title is added:

List of natural and legal persons, entities and bodies referred to in Article 2(1);

(2) the heading to the table is replaced by:

A. Natural persons referred to in Article 2(1);

(3) the following natural persons are added:

	Names of Belarusian spelling	**Transcription of Russian spelling**	**Name (Belarusian spelling)**	**Name (Russian spelling)**	**Identifying Information**	**Reasons for listing**
‘60.	Anatol Aliaksandravich SIVAK Anatoli Aleksandrovich SIVAK	Transcription (Belarusian spelling) Анатоль Аляксандравіч СІВАК		Name (Russian spelling) Анатолий Александрович СИВАК	Deputy Prime 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

Changes to legislation: *There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Council Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/2129. (See end of Document for details)*

					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	Іван Міхайлавіч 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 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.
62.	Uladzimir Stsiapanavich KARANIK	Уладзімір Сцяпанавіч КАРАНІК	Владимир Степанович КАРАНИК	Governor of the Grodno/ Hrodna Oblast,	In his former leadership capacity