Council Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1480 of 14 October 2020 implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/1542 concerning restrictive measures against the proliferation and use of chemical weapons

COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2020/1480

of 14 October 2020

implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/1542 concerning restrictive measures against the proliferation and use of chemical weapons

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

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

Having regard to Council Regulation (EU) 2018/1542 of 15 October 2018 concerning restrictive measures against the proliferation and use of chemical weapons[(1)], and in particular Article 12 thereof,

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

Whereas:

(1) On 15 October 2018, the Council adopted Regulation (EU) 2018/1542.

(2) On 20 August 2020, Alexei Navalny, a prominent opposition leader in Russia, was admitted to a hospital in Omsk, Russian Federation, due to his serious health condition.

(3) On 22 August 2020, Alexei Navalny was transported to Berlin, Germany, where he was thoroughly examined.

(4) On 2 September 2020, the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany announced that a specialised laboratory of the Federal Armed Forces had found evidence that Alexei Navalny had been subject to poisoning with a toxic nerve agent of the Novichok group. That finding was subsequently corroborated by laboratories in France and Sweden, as announced on 14 September 2020.

(5) The European Council, in its conclusions of 1 and 2 October 2020, condemned the assassination attempt on Alexei Navalny. The use of chemical weapons constitutes a serious breach of international law. The European Council called upon the Russian Federation's authorities to fully cooperate with the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons to ensure an impartial international investigation and to bring those responsible to justice.

(6) In that context, and in view of the continued threat posed by the proliferation and use of chemical weapons, six persons and one entity 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 (EU) 2018/1542.

(7) Annex I to Regulation (EU) 2018/1542 should therefore be amended accordingly,

Changes to legislation: *There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Council Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1480. (See end of Document for details)*

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Annex I to Regulation (EU) 2018/1542 is 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, 14 October 2020.

For the Council

The President

M. ROTH

***Changes to legislation:** There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Council Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1480. (See end of Document for details)*

ANNEX

The following persons and entity are added to the list set out in Annex I to Regulation (EU) 2018/1542:

A. **NATURAL PERSONS**

Name	Identifying information	Grounds for designation	Date of listing
‘10. Andrei Veniaminovich YARIN (Андрей Вениаминович ЯРИН)	Gender: male; Date of birth: 13 February 1970; Place of birth: Nizhny Tagil; Nationality: Russian; Title: Chief of the Presidential Domestic Policy Directorate	Andrei Yarin is Chief of the Presidential Domestic Policy Directorate in the Presidential Executive Office in the Russian Federation. In this function, he is in charge of designing and implementing internal political orientations. Andrei Yarin was also appointed to a task force inside the Presidential Executive Office whose role was to counter Alexei Navalny’s influence in Russian society including through operations meant to discredit him. Alexei Navalny has been the target of systematic harassment and repression by State and judicial actors in the Russian Federation due to his prominent role in the political opposition.	15.10.2020
		Alexei Navalny’s activities were closely monitored by the authorities of the Russian Federation during his journey to Siberia in August 2020. On 20 August	

Changes to legislation: *There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Council Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1480. (See end of Document for details)*

		2020, he was taken seriously ill and admitted to a hospital in Omsk, Russian Federation. On 22 August 2020, he was transported to a hospital in Berlin, Germany. A specialised laboratory in Germany subsequently found clear evidence, also corroborated by laboratories in France and Sweden, that Alexei Navalny had been poisoned with a toxic nerve agent of the Novichok group. This toxic agent is accessible only to State authorities in the Russian Federation. In these circumstances, it is reasonable to conclude that the poisoning of Alexei Navalny was only possible with the consent of the Presidential Executive Office. Given his senior leadership role in that Office, Andrei Yarin is therefore responsible for inducing and providing support to the persons who carried out or were involved in the poisoning of Alexei Navalny with the Novichok nerve agent, which constitutes a use of chemical weapons under the Chemical Weapons Convention.	

***Changes to legislation:** There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Council Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1480. (See end of Document for details)*

11. Sergei Vladilenovich KIRIYENKO (Сергей Владиленович КИРИЕНКО)	Gender: male; Date of birth: 26 July 1962; Place of birth: Sukhumi; Nationality: Russian; Title: First Deputy Chief of Staff of the Presidential Executive Office	Sergei Kiriyenko is the First Deputy Chief of Staff of the Presidential Executive Office of the Russian Federation. In this function, he is responsible for domestic affairs, including political groups and activities. Alexei Navalny has been the target of systematic harassment and repression by State and judicial actors in the Russian Federation due to his prominent role in the political opposition. Alexei Navalny's activities were closely monitored by the authorities of the Russian Federation during his journey to Siberia in August 2020. On 20 August 2020, he was taken seriously ill and admitted to a hospital in Omsk, Russian Federation. On 22 August 2020, he was transported to a hospital in Berlin, Germany. A specialised laboratory in Germany subsequently found clear evidence, also corroborated by laboratories in France and Sweden, that Alexei Navalny had been poisoned with a toxic nerve agent of the Novichok group. This toxic agent is accessible only to State authorities	15.10.2020