

**Question for written answer E-003581/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Is PwC helping to break EU sanctions?

Leaks and reports in the press¹ indicate that the Cyprus branch of the international consultancy PwC reportedly assisted a Russian national who was placed under EU sanctions in an attempt to move more than EUR 1 billion worth of assets in order to avoid these sanctions.

If this is true, it is a very serious matter and should, needless to say, have immediate and severe consequences for any relations between PwC and the EU institutions, including banning the company from EU premises.

Following these serious allegations, can the Commission kindly answer the following three questions (and explain its reasoning):

1. Will the Commission immediately suspend all ongoing and future contracts with PwC, and keep them suspended for as long an investigation is ongoing?
2. If it is found that a branch of PwC has indeed actively helped one or more Russian nationals to avoid EU sanctions and asset-freezing, will the Commission take measures to exclude PwC from any ongoing or future contracts with the EU, directly or indirectly?
3. Can the Commission explain what other measures could potentially be taken against PwC, in addition to criminal charges, for helping to circumvent EU sanctions?

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¹ <https://www.theguardian.com/business/2023/nov/14/pwc-cyprus-russian-tycoons-ukraine-invasion-sanctions>.