



BORD TA' SORVELJANZA DWAR IS-SANZJONIJIET  
SANCTIONS MONITORING BOARD  
MALTA

## **The Malta Sanctions Compliance Nexus 3.0: Compliance in Motion, Reform, Risk and Sector Resilience**

Monday 26 January 2026  
Mediterranean Conference Centre Malta

**08:30**    **Registration and Breakfast**

**09:30**    **Keynote Speech**  
*Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Tourism of Malta*

**09:40**    **Opening Remarks**  
*Chair, Sanctions Monitoring Board Malta*

**Recent Amendments to Sanctions Legislation**  
*Dr Alessia Carbone, Director for Transnational Threats and Sanctions, Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Trade*

**09:50**

Overview of recent changes in EU and national sanctions legislation, with a focus on their impact on operators and compliance professionals.

**Reporting, Requests and Rulings: Sanctions Monitoring Board and EU Sanctions Helpdesk in Practice**  
*Ms. Gabrielle Caligari Conti, Assistant Director for Transnational Threats and Sanctions, Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Trade & Mr. Ian Matthews, EU Helpdesk*

**10:35**

The Sanctions Monitoring Board delivers guidance on completing derogation and reporting templates, tackling frequent challenges and questions. The EU Helpdesk presents how to engage with their team and the specific support they offer for compliance needs of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises.

**Coffee Break: Women in Sanctions**

**11:00**

An informal networking session celebrating the role of women in sanctions compliance and policy. Converse on experiences, challenges and opportunities in this specialised field.



**11:30 Enhancing the National Supervision Regime**

*Panel Discussion: Ms. Maria Callus, Malta Financial Services Authority, Ms. Elena Attard, Financial Intelligence Analysis Unit, Ms. Brenda Caruana, Malta Gaming Authority.*

*Moderator: Ms. Stephania Aquilina, Sanctions Unit, Directorate for Transnational Threats and Sanctions, Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Trade*

This panel brings together MFSA, MGA, and FIAU to share practical insights and experiences from sanctions supervision. Panellists will discuss sector-specific risks, challenges identified during onsite examinations, and cross-sector lessons to help operators strengthen sanctions compliance.

**Sanctions enforcement in the European Union**

*Mr. Mark Handley*

**12:00**

An overview of notable enforcement actions and cases across the European Union highlighting lessons learned and best practices for compliance.

**Sanctions enforcement in the UK and Malta**

*Panel Discussion: HM Revenue and Customs and the Sanctions Monitoring Board*

**12:20**

A focused discussion comparing how Malta's Sanctions Monitoring Board and the UK's HM Revenue & Customs enforce sanctions in practice.

**12:45 Networking Lunch**

**13:45**

**Sector-Based Scenario Workshops**

*Squire Patton Boggs (UK) LLP*

**Financial Services: Sanctions Compliance in Banking and Finance**

**1**

The session will explore how sanctions affect onboarding, payments, and transaction controls across banks, CASPs/VASPs, payment institutions, and fintechs. Drawing on recent cases and regulatory developments, it will illustrate practical compliance challenges and solutions.

**Shipping and Logistics: Managing Sanctions in Maritime Trade**

**2**

The session will outline how sanctions and export controls on advanced technologies, dual-use goods, and critical components shape the day-to-day operations of firms. Drawing on a real-life case study, it will explore challenges from due diligence and licensing through to common control failures and examples of best practice.

**Energy and Commodities: Sanctions on Oil, Gas and Key Commodities**

**3**

The session will examine how sanctions affect maritime transport, including vessel movements, ownership structures, and freight arrangements, and how these considerations shape day-to-day operations. Drawing on practical examples, it will explore how firms detect and manage evasion risks, highlighting common weaknesses and emerging good practice.

**4**

**Technology and Manufacturing: Export Controls and Technology Restrictions**



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The session will review sanctions affecting energy and commodity supply chains, including price caps, transport limitations, and trade finance constraints, and their impact on commercial planning and daily decision-making. Through real-world illustrations, it will consider how companies are adapting, noting typical operational challenges and effective responses.

**15:15 Coffee Break**

**Proliferation Financing A Practical Approach**

*Squire Patton Boggs (UK) LLP*

**15:30**

This session provides a focused, practical overview of Proliferation Financing and why it remains a critical risk for both financial and non-financial sectors in Malta.

**16:45 Closing Remarks**