



SNAPSHOT

HAITI SANCTIONS FRAMEWORK

Why are sanctions imposed?

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) has imposed sanctions in relation to Haiti. The sanctions were initially imposed in 2022 in the context of high levels of gang violence and other criminal activities undermining the peace, stability and security of Haiti and its region.

Australia implements the UNSC sanctions concerning Haiti by incorporating them into Australian law.

What is prohibited by the Haiti sanctions framework?

The Haiti sanctions framework imposes the following sanctions measures:

Sanctions measures	Sanctions imposed by
restrictions on supplying arms or related matériel, and related services	UNSC
restrictions on providing assets to designated persons or entities	UNSC
restrictions on dealing with the assets of designated persons or entities	UNSC
travel bans on designated persons	UNSC

Restrictions on supplying arms or related matériel

It is prohibited to do the following without a sanctions permit:

- directly or indirectly supply, sell or transfer arms or related matériel to Haiti
- provide technical assistance, training, financial or other assistance if those services relate to
 - military activities, or
 - the provision, maintenance or use of any arms or related matériel.

Arms or related matériel includes, but is not limited to, weapons, ammunition, military vehicles and equipment, paramilitary equipment, and spare parts for any of those things. While each case will be considered individually, goods on the [Defence and Strategic Goods List](#) are likely to be considered arms or related matériel. Depending on the context, end user and end use, other goods may also be considered arms or related matériel.

Restrictions on providing assets to designated persons or entities

It is prohibited to directly or indirectly make an asset available to, or for the benefit of, a designated person or entity.

Restrictions on dealing with the assets of designated persons or entities (requirement to freeze assets)

It is prohibited to use or deal with an asset, or allow or facilitate another person to use or deal with an asset, if the asset is owned or controlled by a designated person or entity (the assets are 'frozen' and cannot be used

or dealt with). The prohibition on 'dealing' with assets includes using, selling or moving assets. An 'asset' includes an asset or property of any kind, whether tangible or intangible, movable or immovable.

Go to the [Consolidated List](#) to search the names of designated persons and entities.

If you become aware that you are holding an asset of a designated person or entity, you are required to freeze (hold) that asset and notify the AFP as soon as possible.

Travel bans

All persons designated for the Haiti sanctions framework are prohibited from transiting through or entering Australia.

Who must comply with sanctions?

Australian sanction laws apply to activities in Australia and to activities undertaken overseas by Australian citizens and Australian-registered bodies corporate. In some circumstances, it may be possible to obtain a permit from the Minister for Foreign Affairs to engage in an activity that would otherwise be prohibited by a sanctions measure. Information on planning an activity and submitting an application for a [sanctions permit](#) is available on the DFAT website. It is a serious criminal offence to contravene a sanctions measure (or a condition of a sanctions permit). The penalties include up to ten years in prison and substantial fines.

Relevant legislation

The relevant legislation for the Haiti sanctions regime includes the following:

- [Charter of the United Nations Act 1945](#)
- [Charter of the United Nations \(Dealing with Assets\) Regulations 2008](#)
- [Charter of the United Nations \(Sanctions – Haiti\) Regulations 2025](#)

Other resources

- [UNSC Resolutions relating to the Haiti sanctions framework](#)
- [UNSC Haiti Sanctions Committee](#)
- [DFAT country page for Haiti](#)

Where can I get more information?

[Australia and sanctions](#) webpage.

Enquiries can be made to DFAT by emailing sanctions@dfat.gov.au

DFAT maintains a [mailing list](#) for people interested in receiving updates on Australian sanctions laws.

This document provides a summary only of relevant sanctions laws. It should not be relied upon as a substitute for legal advice. It is your responsibility to ensure you do not contravene sanctions law, including by obtaining your own legal advice.